



**Learning Workshop on Women, Land and Housing Rights:
Assessing the Impacts of Dispossession**
27–29 August 2020
Harare, Zimbabwe



**Zimbabwe Peoples Land Rights Movement, in cooperation with
Housing and Land Rights Network • Habitat International Coalition**

Programme

Day 1

The first day of training will introduce the human rights approach to adequate housing and land, particularly focusing on the gender-equality dimension in implementing the corresponding obligations of states. It will provide an overview to human rights legislative framework and protection mechanisms in the international, regional and national spheres, and, introduce the theory and practice of the human rights in pursuit of both effective remedy and prevention of violations affecting women.

Session 1: 10:00–10:30

Welcome and introductions

Hilary Zhou, ZPLRM and Joseph Schechla, HIC-HLRN (Egypt)

The introductory session will provide a brief description of the project background, activities and objectives and briefly explain the structure, sessions and objectives of the three days of the workshop.

Introduction of participants

Session 2: 10:30–12:05

Contextualizing the question of land and housing in Zimbabwe

Mr. Terence Chitapi, University of Johannesburg, South Africa, and Agricultural Policy Research in Africa at the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK

In the first half of the session, the presenter will examine the current state of housing and land governance in Zimbabwe, in general. The focus is on the policy and institutional frameworks operating in the country.

Break: 12:05–12:20

Session 3: 12:20–13:40

Gender equality and women's rights approach to housing and land rights

Mr. Norman Munyikwa, Women and Land in Zimbabwe

The second half of the session will introduce provisions for gender equality and women's equal rights to land, housing and property, as well as provide the key aspects, characteristics and impacts of gender discrimination and violation of women's right to land, housing and property.

Each speaker will have 30 minutes to make the presentation, then the session will end with a 15-minute discussion for questions and answers (Q&A) and general commentary from participants' experience.

Session 4: 13:40– 14:45

International human rights legislative framework and protection mechanisms

Joseph Schechla

The first 40 minutes of the session seeks to provide a common basis of understanding of the legislative framework of human rights under international law, including treaties to which Zimbabwe is a party, and the monitoring mechanisms concerning gender equality, women, non-discrimination and economic, social and cultural rights, particularly rights to adequate housing, land and property in the UN Human Rights System. The session focuses on the observations issued for Zimbabwe's compliance with its state obligations under human rights treaty.

Discussion and administrative issues: 14:45–15:00

Lunch: 15:00–

Day 2

Session 1: 09:00 AM – 09:15

Summary of the first day and introduction to the second day

ZPLRM/Zimbabwe participants

Session 2: 09:15 AM – 10:15

Regional human rights legislative framework and protection mechanisms

Ahmed Mansour, HIC-HLRN (Egypt)

The session provides an overview of the African Union and SADCC legislative frameworks of human rights concerning gender equality, women, non-discrimination and economic, social and cultural rights, particularly human rights to adequate housing, land and property. Furthermore, it is an opportunity to review the African Union protection mechanisms of human rights in force and to discuss civil society entities' and local communities' access to these mechanisms of protection against forced evictions, other violations of the right to housing and land-related rights and women's rights violations.

Session 3: 10:15–11:00

Zimbabwe's human rights legislative framework and protection mechanisms

Lucy Rumbidzai (Zimbabwe)

The session will explore Zimbabwe's legislative framework of human rights concerning gender equality, women, non-discrimination and economic, social and cultural rights, particularly rights concerning housing, land and property. It is designed to describe the Zimbabwean protection mechanisms of human rights in force as well as the relationship of civil society entities and local communities to these protection mechanisms against forced evictions, other violations of the human right to housing and land-related human rights and women's rights violations. Beyond the theoretical frame, this session will provide a general overview of the human rights situation and the sociocultural practices relevant to human rights in Zimbabwe.

Break: 11:00–11:15

Greeting from Ify Ofong, Member of HIC Executive Board for Africa and National Coordinator for Women in Development and Environment—WorldWIDE (Nigeria)

Session 4: 11:15–12:00

The human right concept of victims and their effective remedy: theory and practice

Joseph Schechla

The session will focus on the international law-based norms for recognizing victims of gross violations of human rights and providing for remedy, including the constituent elements of reparations and how to understand the corresponding entitlements.

Session 5: 12:15 – 13:00

Strategic monitoring, quantifying and reporting human rights violations

Joseph Schechla

HLRN will share the theoretical background to monitoring, reporting and intervening in cases of human rights violations, tracing the logical steps toward resolution, based on previous learning about human rights norms, remedy for victims and available mechanisms. The session will describe the main methodologies available to civil society and local communities to monitor, document and report on the local situation corresponding to a variety of potential interventions.

Then HLRN presents the diverse countries, experiences and contexts in which the Violation Impact-assessment tool (VIAT) has been applied, resulting in a typology of housing and land rights violations. The session will explain the VIAT's background, development process and objectives, in order to contextualize it and to build on successes and other lessons learnt, including the need to develop the method further to capture the values at stake for women and girls.

Lunch: 13:00– 14:00

Session 6: 14:00 –15:00

Participants' exchange of learning from experiences in Kenya, Uganda and Zimbabwe

Davinder Lamba and Diana Lee-Smith, Mazingira Institute (Kenya); Dorothy Baziwe, SSA: UHSNET (Uganda)

Representatives from Mazingira Institute (Kenya), Pamoja Trust (Kenya) and Shelter and Settlements Alternatives: Uganda Human Settlements Network (Uganda) share cases and experience of dispossession and mitigation strategies, quantifying impacts of housing and land rights violations affecting women.

Session 7: 15:00– 16:00

The Power of Data in Making Your Case Globally and Locally

Heather Elaydi, HIC-HLRN (Egypt/Canada)

The first part of the session relates the HLRN experience of monitoring and documenting housing and land rights violations, with examples drawn from specific countries, regions, types of violation and trends. The session explores the vital assessment and documentation of the actual and/or potential values at stake impacting housing and land rights in the HLRN Urgent Action System and Violation Database, focusing on Zimbabwe as an illustration. The second part highlights the literature review for Zimbabwe to introduce an open discussion with Q&A and general commentary from the Zimbabwe experience.

Day 3

The third day of the learning workshop will be an organized debate and in-depth discussion to develop a typology of contexts and cases in Zimbabwe that reflect the overall situation of women's housing and land rights issues. That outcome will be the basis for selection of five priority cases to be analyzed in the follow-up.

Session 1: 09:00–09:30

Summary of the second day and introduction to the third day

Participants, moderated by ZPLRM

Session 2: 09:30–11:00

Toward a Zimbabwe typology of violations

Moderated by Joseph Schechla and Hilary Zhou

Participants will develop the inventory of case from across Zimbabwe, following a methodology of identifying the instance, type of violation, the context, the current stage and the type of remedy to be pursued. Participants will subject these instances to a “triage,” determining the relative priority and strategic potential of the cases into a set of five (proposed) representative priority violations that would benefit from quantification of the values at stake for affected women and girls. Of these emblematic cases, the discussion will focus on the potential strategic outcomes envisioned for each, including the potential for “upstreaming” outcomes for policy relevance.

Break: 11:00–11:15

Session 3: 11:15–12:30

Toward a Zimbabwean typology of violations (cont'd), Way forward and closing

Maddock Chivasa, ZPLRM Chairperson, and Joseph Schechla

In this wrap-up session, the presenters will lead the discussion of further strategic steps in the project and take decisions about how to pursue the next steps, including the second Technical Workshop on application of the VIAT to be customized on the basis of inputs from this workshop.

In preparation for the second Technical Workshop, the follow-up to the Learning Workshop will involve write-ups, profiling each of the priority cases, and consultation to identify which one is to be eligible for an in-depth application of the VIAT.