Promoting Targeted and Effective Land Transparency

**Background**

Public access to information can help make investments more responsible and lead to inclusive outcomes with greater accountability. Current approaches to transparency are mostly supply-driven, often overlooking environmental and social concerns. CCSI seeks to establish an evidence-based understanding of the transparency needs, demands, and uses of communities affected by investments and host governments.

**Key findings of the lit. review (cont.)**

**What hinders transparency?**

**Govts:**
- Disclosed information is often incomplete, inaccessible, inaccurate, long and too technical.
- Local officials are selective with the information they disseminate.
- Not all countries have an appropriate framework to disclose beneficial ownership.

**Investors:**
- Opaque corporate structures.

**What disincentivizes transparency?**

- Information helps with initial decision making, prepare and negotiate responsible contracts, and monitoring.
- Less risk of conflict, but longer lead time when allocating land.
- Fear of repelling investors, who may want to keep their information private.

**Research methodology**

- Literature review of 21 publications.
- Interviews with government officials.

**Key findings of the lit. review**

- FOI Legislation
- Mkt. Based instruments
- Donors and lenders’ requirements
- Int. human rights frameworks
- Parliametary approval
- Civil society initiatives
- Exploit resources without accusations
- Secrecy = Protection
- Not granting favorable conditions more than once

**Host government actors mapping: attitude towards transparency (cont.)**

- Ministries of Agriculture and of Land
  - Information helps with initial decision making, prepare and negotiate responsible contracts, and monitoring.
  - Less risk of conflict, but longer lead time when allocating land.
  - Fear of repelling investors, who may want to keep their information private.

- Ministry of Finance
  - Background information about investors can influence fiscal incentives granting.
  - Corrupt practices around public spending hinder public accountability.

- Inv. Promotion Agencies
- Inv. Screening Entities
- Ntl. HR Institutions
- PPP Agencies/Units
- President/PM Office
- Ntl. HR Institutions
- Local Govts + Parliament

**Conclusions / What’s next?**

- Barriers are both technical and power-related.
- Research was influenced by reports from technical orgs like FAO and WB and their approaches.
- Mapping of government actors enables CCSI to focus in political economy analysis next.