



**Brussels Rural Development Briefings**  
**A series of meetings on ACP-EU development issues**

**Briefing session n° 9: Land access and rural development:  
new challenges, new opportunities**

*25 February 2009*

**Biodata of speakers**

**Cécile Broutin - Groupe de recherche et d'échanges technologiques (GRET)**

Agro-economist, Cécile Broutin was based in Senegal since 1990 as program manager and representative of the French NGO GRET (Research and Technological Exchange Group). She joined the headquarters of GRET in August 2008, as coordinator of the Sustainable Food and Agriculture Cluster (AAD). She has a thorough knowledge of Senegal and other countries in the sub region, where she has been conducting missions for 15 years (Mali, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Benin and Madagascar). She is in charge of the implementation of development projects, researches and studies, particularly in the fields of agricultural development, promotion of networks, processing and marketing of agricultural products and food. The GRET, as part of its land program, housed at the AAD, provides the secretariat and the scientific coordination of the Technical Committee on land tenure of the French development cooperation, including the drafting of the White Paper of French development cooperation "Land Governance and security of tenure in developing countries", and the animation of the portal on land tenure issues in developing countries ([www.foncier-developpement.org](http://www.foncier-developpement.org)).

**Lorenzo Cotula – International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)**

Lorenzo Cotula is Senior Researcher in Law and Sustainable Development at the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), a policy research institute based in the UK. Together with partners in lower and middle income countries, IIED works to promote a fairer and more sustainable world through research, capacity building and policy advocacy. Lorenzo's work focuses on the role of law in sustainable development, particularly in the areas of land, investment and governance.

Before joining IIED in 2002, Lorenzo worked on assignments with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN and with two Italian NGOs. He holds a Law Degree from the University "La Sapienza" of Rome and a Master in Development Studies from the London School of Economics. He is completing a PhD at the School of Law of the University of Edinburgh.

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**Olivier De Schutter - Special Rapporteur on the right to food, United Nations Human Rights Council**

Professor De Schutter was appointed by the Human Rights Council of the United Nations as Special Rapporteur on the right to food in March 2008, and he inaugurated his mandate on May 1st, 2008. His three-year mandate is to monitor and report on the right to food to the UN General Assembly and Human Rights Council.

A specialist in human rights, Olivier De Schutter teaches at the University of Louvain (Belgium) and the College of Europe (Natolin Campus, Poland). He is a Visiting Professor at Columbia University and a Member of the Global Law School Faculty of New York University. He was also previously Secretary General of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH).

More info on [www.srfood.org](http://www.srfood.org)

**Marc Debois – European Commission/DG Development**

Marc Debois is Head of Sector for Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Security at the DG Development of the European Commission.

He is a chemical agronomist from the University of Louvain la Neuve in Belgium. He has a 20 years experience in working with European institutions, dealing with chemical legislation, environment and development policies.

#### **Marius Dia – Réseau des organisations paysannes et de producteurs de l’Afrique de l’Ouest (ROPPA)**

Marius Dia is the coordinator of the technical group of the CNCR (National Council of Cooperation of Rural Organisations) and founding member of the ROPPA (West African farmers Network). The CNCR is a platform which comprises 26 national farmers federations in Senegal and which aims at promoting and defending family agriculture. Marius is in the farmer's movement for more than 20 years and he is socioeconomist by training.

#### **Joan Kagwanja - United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)**

Joan Kagwanja is an Economic Affairs Officer at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the focal person for the AU-ECA-AfDB Land Policy Initiative. She holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics, University of Missouri-Columbia, U.S.A. Her current work covers international agricultural development with a special focus on transforming African agriculture through the development of agricultural product value chains within a regional integration context. For the last eight years she has focused her work on land tenure and land policy reforms, exploring the linkages between land tenure, agriculture and natural resource management and the role of policy, institutional and administrative reforms in this regard. She is now leading an ECA team that in a continental initiative, which aims to support national policy processes by building partnerships that enhance political, donor and other stakeholder support for land policy formulation and implementation in Africa. This initiative, which is being implemented in collaboration with the AU, AfDB and other partners, has developed a draft Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa, to be endorsed at the AU Summit in July. Before working for ECA, Joan worked for the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI).

#### **Philip Kiriro – Eastern African Farmers Federation (EAFF)**

Philip M. Kiriro is the president of Eastern Africa farmers Federation. He is a farmer and in training, he is a livestock producer with a Bsc and Msc in livestock production from TEXAS A&M University, USA and a diploma in Animal Husbandry and disease control from Egerton University. He has been a farmer leader since 1997 first as chairman of Kenya National Farmer Union (KNFU) and later Kenya National Federation of Agricultural Producers (KENFAP). Currently apart from being president of EAFF is also a member of the Board of Directors of Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA) a member of the steering committee of Pan African Farmers Forum and Vice patron of KENFAP.

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#### **Paul Mathieu – FAO**

Paul Mathieu is Senior Officer, Land Tenure, in the Land Tenure and Management Unit of FAO's Natural Resources and Environment Department. An economist and social scientist by training, he has a PhD in Environmental Studies and has been working as an academic and researcher (Institute of Development Studies, Catholic University of Louvain la Neuve, Belgium; visiting academic at the University of Madison, Wisconsin) before joining FAO in 2002. He has also worked on short term assignments with numerous NGOs (from Belgium and UK) and published extensively on land tenure, local management of natural resources in Africa, sustainable development, as well as on conflicts and institutional dynamics in Africa.

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#### **Hansjörg Neun - CTA**

Since May 2005, German-born Dr Hansjörg Neun, became Director of CTA. He holds a PhD. in social and economic sciences. He is the author of a thesis on "transfers of technical cooperation development projects to developing countries". With considerable field experience in Africa (especially in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia and Egypt), Dr Neun has managed projects and major programmes for German and European technical development agencies. He is also skilled in negotiating with governments, donors and international institutions. In addition, he has a wide-ranging knowledge of rural development, food security and natural resource management issues.

He also has hands-on experience of agriculture - while still very young he worked on his family's flower and vegetable market garden in Germany.

Before taking the helm at CTA, Dr Neun was employed as Advisor at Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

#### **Julian Quan - Natural Resources Institute (NRI)**

Julian Quan has been principal researcher and consultant in international development studies at the Natural Resources Institute, University of Greenwich since 1993. From 1998 – 2003 he worked for DFID as a land policy adviser and has spent 30 years working as a consultant and adviser to a variety of international development agencies and projects, national and local government, voluntary sector and civil society organisations mainly in sub-Saharan Africa and also in Latin America and UK. A graduate in Social and Political Sciences from Cambridge University with a Masters in Environmental Policy from University of London, he specialises in lusophone countries, notably Brazil and Mozambique. Julian's current focus is research in the areas of rural governance and territorial development, land reform and agrarian change and local economic development, and is currently undertaking a PhD combining disciplines of sociology, economics, political science and human geography. He is a British citizen, fluent in Portuguese also speaking and reading well in Spanish and French in addition to his native English. He is married with a 15 year old son and lives in Whitstable, Kent, in southeast England.

#### **Wilson A. Songa - Ministry of Agriculture, Republic of Kenya**

Dr. Wilson A. Songa currently is Agriculture Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture in the Republic of Kenya, in charge of technical matters in the ministry. He also is a member of the Board of the African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF) and Chairman of the Executive Board of the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) from October 2008.

Dr. Songa previously served as the Managing Director of the Horticultural Crops Development Authority (HCDA) from October 2004 to June 2005, Chief Executive and Secretary of the Pest Control Products Boards (PCPB) from July 2003 to September 2004, General Manager in charge of Phytosanitary Services from January to July 2003 at the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate (KEPHIS) and Assistant Director in charge of Plant Protection Services at KEPHIS from 1999 to 2002.

Dr. Songa holds a PhD in Plant Pathology from the University of Reading, UK, a Masters in Crop Science from the Wageningen Agricultural University in the Netherlands and a BSc in Agriculture from the University of Nairobi. He extensively worked in the area of plant protection, biological control, plant pathology, applied entomology, virology, nematology, integrated pest management, research management, experimental design and analysis, communication skills, phytosanitary measures and procedures; international treaties regarding the application of sanitary and phytosanitary measures to international trade and the environment. Dr Songa has represented the Government of Kenya at many international forums.

#### **Michael Taylor – International Land Coalition (ILC)**

Michael Taylor is the Programme Manager for Global Policy and Africa Programmes at the secretariat of the International Land Coalition (ILC), based at IFAD in Rome. ILC is a global alliance of civil society and intergovernmental organizations working together to promote secure and equitable access to and control over land for poor women and men through advocacy, dialogue and capacity building.

Mr. Taylor is a citizen of Botswana, and has worked for 15 years on community-based natural resource management and land tenure questions in Botswana, Kenya and Mali, for intergovernmental organizations, NGOs and government. He has a BSc in Environmental Science and BSocSci(Hons) in African Studies from University of Cape Town, and a PhD in Social Anthropology from University of Edinburgh.

#### **Lionel Vignacq – Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MAE), France**

Lionel Vignacq is graduated in economics and management (PhD), head of the modernization of the state and local governance at the Mission on the governance of the management of the Global Economy and Development Strategies of the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs since August 2007. He was Deputy Adviser of cooperation and cultural activities with the Embassy of France in Mali from 2003 to 2007, cooperation attaché with the Embassy of France in Benin from 1999 to 2003 and expert at the office of Law and civil liberties of the Ministry of Cooperation from 1995 to 1999.