



**Moving towards transparent land governance: Evidence-based next steps**  
**Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty 2013**

April 8 to 11, 2013

World Bank Headquarters, Washington, D.C.

**Call for abstracts/papers**

Every year, the World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty brings together representatives from governments, the development community, civil society, academia, and the private sector to discuss issues of concern to communities, land practitioners and policymakers worldwide. The conference aims to foster dialogue and sharing of good practices around the diversity of reforms, approaches and experiences that are being implemented in the land sector around the world (see the 2012 conference website at [www.landandpoverty.com](http://www.landandpoverty.com) for details on format of the conference).

Under the theme of “Moving towards transparent land governance: Evidence-based next steps”, the 2013 conference will promote evidence-based discussion of innovative approaches to implement recent global and regional initiatives. It will also highlight concrete steps to improve country-level land governance in ways that contribute to poverty reduction, gender equality, and sustainable economic growth.

Papers are invited for presentations at the conference in five thematic areas:

- Securing land rights and improving land use at the grassroots;
- Adjusting laws and institutions to address urban expansion and governance;
- Innovative approaches towards spatially enabling land administration and management;
- Supporting a continuum of rights in a decentralized environment;
- Mobilizing the private sector to improve land governance; and
- Sharing benefits from exploitation of land-based resources.

Individuals interested in presenting at the conference are requested to submit an initial 800- to 1,500-word abstract. The final paper should be between 6,000 and 12,000 words. Submission of an abstract implies the author’s willingness to review up to four other abstracts. A technical committee will decide on paper acceptance based on the following criteria:

- Innovative nature and policy relevance
- Contribution to the literature and body of knowledge in general
- Quality of methodology and analytical rigor
- Links to capacity building

Abstracts should be submitted electronically using the form <https://www.conftool.com/landandpoverty2013/> or through the conference website <http://goo.gl/D7ezq>. The deadline for abstract submission is **November 15, 2012**. The outcome of the selection process will be communicated by **December 15, 2012**. Individuals that have been selected to present will be required to submit the final version of their paper with a 200-word summary by **March 1, 2013**. Submission information will be communicated to authors of selected abstracts.

Upon request, the conference organizers will be able to provide a letter of attestation to presenters in an effort to allow them to seek funding from other sources. Depending on the availability of funds, a limited number of travel grants may be available to enable presenters from developing countries to participate at the conference. Final selection of presenters requiring financial support to participate at the conference will be conditional on secured funding. Please indicate in your application in the field “*Remark / Message to the Program Committee and Chairs*” whether your participation is conditional on such funding. Note that there is no guarantee of funding becoming available.