

Presented at the FIG e-Working Week 2021,
21-25 June 2021 in Virtually in the Netherlands

SMART SURVEYORS FOR LAND AND WATER MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES IN A NEW REALITY



eWORKING WEEK 2021
20-25 JUNE

Eastern Africa Land Administration Network (EALAN): Impact of Covid-19
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02.1 - Regional Academic Networks: Lessons from COVID-19 for SDG Goal 4 (education)
Monday, 21 June, 10:30–12:00

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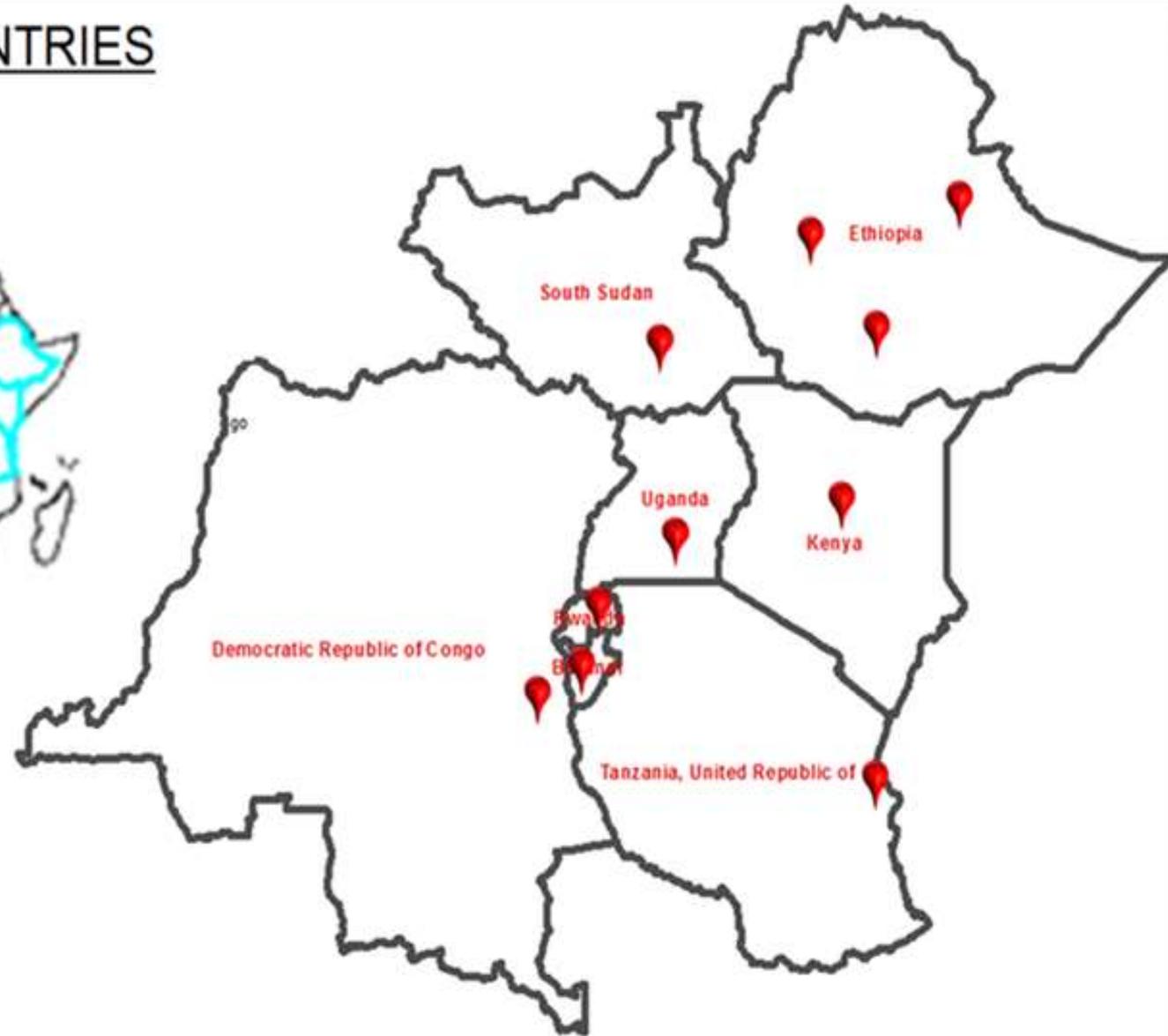


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1. Successes 2016-2020 (under SEALAN Project & Support from GIZ) & Contributions to SDG4
2. Covid-19 Effects (Focus on -ve), and Innovative ways the network has adapted to work together under Covid-Restrictions (Focus on +ve)
3. Implications of covid-19 on the network operations and contribution to SDG 4

EALAN COUNTRIES

Member Institutions



What is EALAN?

The Eastern African Land Administration Network (EALAN) is a platform for academic and knowledge exchange constituting of mainly academic institutions in the **Eastern Africa region**.

The network has had major strides in various aspects such as developing or reviewing and harmonizing land administration related curricula in the Eastern Africa region, executing collaborative researches across the region and providing short courses for land professionals.



Successes of the EALAN Network

- **Network cohesion**
 - Inter-university collaboration in knowledge sharing in the field of Land Administration – Bachelor, MSc and PhD levels
- **Education**
 - Curricula Development BSC, MSc levels
 - Revision and peer reviewing curricula
 - Staff Exchange
 - Student Exchange
- **Research**
 - Project acquisition
 - International-Inter-university collaborative research – two books just published
- **Short courses for land professionals & community outreach**
 - Refresher courses for land professionals
 - Land clinic for community outreach
 - Trainings for communities in partnership with FAO, GIZ, etc. on FFP LA



EALAN's contribution to the SDG 4 (Quality Education)

- How EALAN addresses inequalities by promoting **gender inclusion**
 - Provision of scholarships to girls
 - Advertisements and encouraging girls to participate in surveying and land administration courses
 - Many universities have open days, students are informed of their career opportunities upon completion of education
- How EALAN is delivering well **trained/prepared graduates**
 - By involving students to real-life problems and solutions, for example the LAND Clinic in INES-ruhengeri
- How EALAN addresses inequalities in graduation/**dropouts**: is education only for those who can afford to pay the fees?
 - Addressing the issue of dropouts – due to funding challenges; or due to other challenges





EALAN & COVID-19: Challenges & Coping Strategies

| CHALLENGES | COPING STRATEGIES |
|--|---|
| Network Cohesion | |
| 1. 2020 AGM cancelled – interfered with network cohesion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Virtual meetings for urgent issues |
| 2. Donors diverted AGM funding - Network has no budget | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members contributing annual fees for Network activities |
| 3. Coordination/logistical challenges | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Few activities are done online while others are postponed |
| Education | |
| 1. Online education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Internet stability, or lack of internet due to costs or network issues, and limited or lack of internet gadgets to students etc |
| 2. Digital/internet literacy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Training teachers and students on skills to use internet for teaching and learning |
| 3. Graduation of students in 2020 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Physical/on site and virtual graduation were used |
| Research cross the region | |
| 1. Lockdown halted data collection & research | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This was postponed, since travel restrictions are still there within member states |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Target respondents (land owners in rural areas) unreachable (phone number missing, no travels to fieldwork). |
| Short courses for land professionals & community Outreach | |
| 1. Short courses for land professionals cancelled | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Both short courses all cancelled |
| 2. Land clinic stopped | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Land clinic can only work live |



Implications of Covid-19 and EALAN's link with SDG4

1: Network & Secretariat

2: Short Courses

3: Education

4: Research

- COVID-19 has mainly negative influence on higher education and subsequently to contribution to SDG 4
- Despite challenges, some universities in the EALAN Network have restarted teaching and learning through various platforms as coping strategies
- Extent to which EALAN Network universities' coping strategies can enable achieving SDG4 – under covid restrictions is unknown.



Thank you