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Opportunities for Female Land Surveyors in Emerging Economies



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Introductions



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Women In Surveying (WIS) Nigeria

- Founded in 1934, Nigerian Institution of Surveyors is one of the oldest professional associations in Nigeria.
- Women in Surveying (WIS) in Nigeria was pioneered by Surv (Mrs) FK Omatsola in 2004, has now over 500 members and counting, and inspired other WIS groups in Africa (Wis Ghana in 2012 by Surv Mrs Angela Etuonovbe) and worldwide.
- In Nigeria, women have been trailblazers in the field of surveying, both nationally and internationally. Including Surveyor (Mrs) Olayinka, the first female surveyor general of Nigeria. There have also been female surveyors general in Lagos, Ogun, Akwa Ibom, and Taraba states.

HER LAND
HER STORY

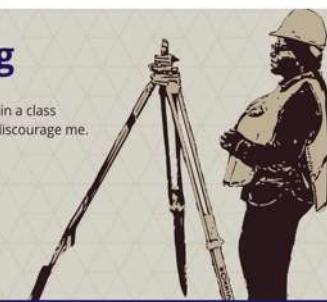
ABOUT HER STORIES WEBINAR TAKE ACTION GET INFORMED CONTACT

Meet Emem Isang

"What is a girl doing here in Survey school, and in a class with twenty one boys? People asked, trying to discourage me. But I was not discouraged nor distracted."

- Emem Isang, Surveyor General, Nigeria

Location: Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria
Profession: Surveyor



WIS Nigeria is committed to :

1. Empowering and encouraging the girl child through its project "catch them young"
2. Upholding the ethical practice of surveying and mapping profession.
3. Encourage professional integrity of women.
4. Economic empowerment of women and poverty alleviation.
5. Sensitize the general public on the need to engage the services of surveyors to prevent developmental errors, save time and money.
6. Promoting the economic, social, political and professional growth and development in the society.



Cadasta Foundation



Advancing global land and resource rights through innovative solutions

- Founded in 2015, Cadasta is committed to empowering individuals, organizations, communities, and governments with the information they need to make data-driven decisions to secure their land rights and improve resource governance.
- We develop and promote the use of simple digital tools, technology, and approaches to help partners efficiently document, map, analyze, store, and share critical land and resource rights information.
- Cadasta is committed to strengthening women's and vulnerable people's land and resource rights in all of its projects and partnerships.



Women's Land Rights in Emerging Economies



- Lack of financial and human resources prevent governments from building and maintaining land administrations
- Only the wealthiest people have the means to navigate a cumbersome and expensive bureaucracy to acquire legal titles and secure land tenure
- The most vulnerable people often rely on commonly unrecorded informal and/or customary practices
- In many societies, even if women inherit land, they are not recognized by men as landowners
- Women often lack knowledge about their rights, face male-dominated land agencies, and even in instances where women can register their property in their name, the process is often hijacked by male relatives



Lack of Female Intermediaries in Land Formalization



- Research has established that secure land rights increase productivity by as much as 50 percent, doubles the rate of high school graduation, and increases environmental conservation; this impact is even more pronounced when women gain secure rights to land.
- To be recognized as landowners, women need access to tenure security.
- The **lack of female intermediaries** to facilitate the formalization of tenure for female landowners **presents an opportunity for women** in emerging economies **to become land professionals**.
- In certain areas of the world, it is necessary to involve women:
 - In the land documentation process to enter homes
 - In certain conflict resolution projects related to women and inheritance
 - To talk to other women more easily and to be trusted by female head of households.

Barriers for Women to Become Land Professionals

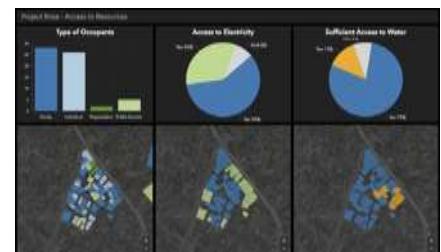
5 GENDER EQUALITY



- **Culture:** At the moment, there are no clear global figures regarding the number of female surveyors or cartographers and how that compares to male surveyors, but it is certainly a male dominant profession in most countries.
- **Education:** The limited access to education and the real gap in the education system between male and female students in emerging economies affects the women's access to surveying and other land professions.
- **Time:** It takes years to become a land surveyor: 2 years for a technician, 5 years for an engineer, 7 years for a chartered surveyor
- **Advanced mapping methodologies and technologies are required to understand land systems.**
 - **Need a pragmatic way** to involve women in land registration process so they can develop as land professionals **in compliance with** the Land Administration Domain Model (LADM) standards



Becoming a Surveyor from the Bottom-Up



Formal System

Chartered Surveyors

Access to specific trainings in order to improve survey skills, geomatic engineering, and land administration knowledge

Enter in the realm of the chartered surveyors framework through professional training

Mapping and documentation of informally held properties

Para-surveyors



In Other Words



Para-surveyors

Chartered Surveyors

Train educated female community members,
use the Women In Surveying (WIS) network as
a framework of intervention



Women In Surveying - WIS

- Initiated in Nigeria in 2004, has become a reference in this country
- Presented to FIG in Bulgaria in 2016 after which **FIG Commission 1.2 Women In Surveying** was created
- Australia has a strong women group but Nigeria has the largest number
- A first WIS meeting held in Turkey in 2018 to chat the way forward
- **FGF created the francophone network**
- More progress is expected by April 2019 at the Fig Working Week in Vietnam
- Three vectors:
 - Bring **women and men together around the concept of female surveyors or in geomatics**
 - **Encourage women to become land surveyors or land professionals**
 - Help **women around the world to secure their land and resource rights**



Women In Surveying - WIS

- Purpose: **Act globally** along the same standards and methodologies, **coordinate actions**, and support compliance with the Gender Equality SDG 5
- Male surveyors and land professionals are more than welcome to join the movement to **help develop WIS, especially in countries where women are currently absent from the land profession**
- Countries are strongly encouraged to create WIS groups or associations affiliated to FIG



WIS Benefits in Emerging Economies

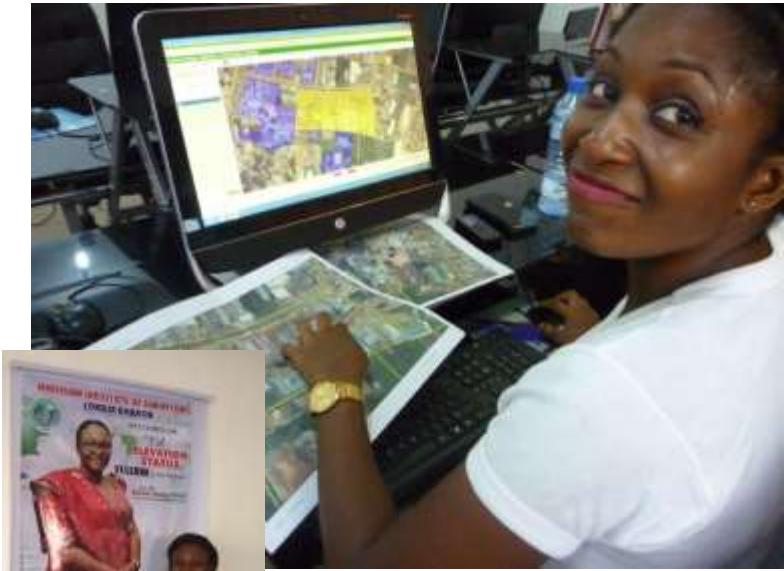
- For the **female community members**: get trained, improve, influence
 - Have access to land professions through **dedicated training programs** instead of the long and inaccessible academic channel
 - Feel more comfortable in a network where the women land professionals are the center of attention
- For the **existing land surveyors and the land administration**: work differently
 - Offer a comfortable network of intervention and **opportunities for women in disadvantaged areas** to access land professions
 - **Monitor tools and techniques** used by the chain of surveyors from the local community to document and map unrecorded land, to the higher level of land administration
 - **Be close to the realities of the field**, better understand the land issues to be processed (especially women's land issues) and influence
 - Better interact with land actors in general, and monitor the evolution of the profession towards a **gender equitable sector**

A woman in a man's job is inspirational for other women (and men too)!



WIS Nigeria: An inspiration

- WIS is the only institution that caters exclusively to the needs and challenges of the female surveyors in Nigeria.
- It has become a **beacon of hope to young Nigerian girls** to prove that with hard work nothing is impossible.
- It has helped to **break down social barriers** in a male dominated work environment.
- The “**catch them young**” programme has helped to educate, empower, and train young girls giving them the much needed tools both mentally and educationally to succeed.
- Regardless of various challenges like lack of funding, infrastructure, education, male ego (acceptance and non acceptance), cultural barriers, lack of adequate technology and modern equipment, **WIS has been able to overcome and achieve great exploits in the surveying world.**



When Artists Become Mappers

- Collaborative Media Advocacy Platform is a collaboration between community organisers, filmmakers, broadcasters, **surveyors**, urban planners, architects, designers, university researchers and—most importantly—**ordinary people** from across Port Harcourt's informal settlements. CMAP shares the skills and technologies that allow communities to record their experiences, tell their stories and change their lives.
- Cadasta and CMAP have settled a partnership to **train artists and journalists, including 6 women, to collect, host, and manage land-related data** to develop the waterfront communities
- WIS has joined the partnership and initiated a data sharing process with the government.



Emem's story of fulfilling her dream to become a surveyor since she was a little girl was so inspirational !

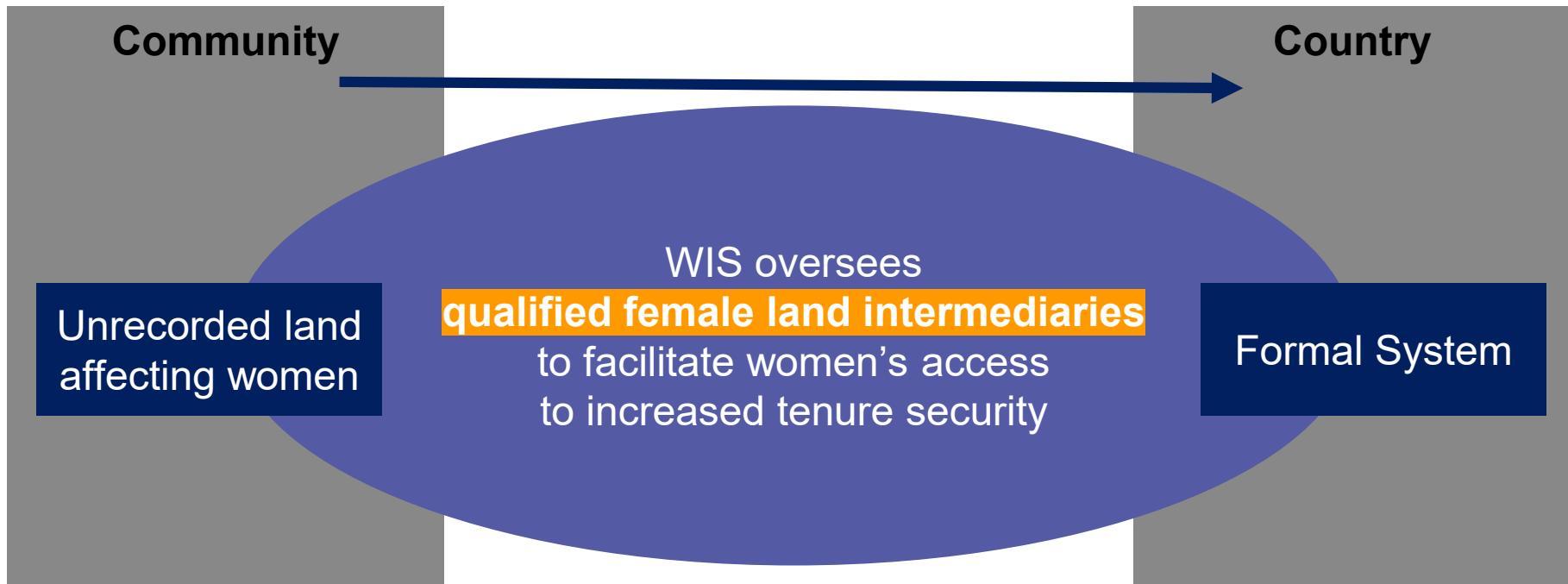


When Motorcyclists Become Mappers

- Pikilili, an organisation dedicated to delivering **motorcycle** ambulance services, safe motorcycle training and **female empowerment** across Africa
- The Women's International Motorcycle Association (WIMA) is initiating a project supporting Pikilili to improve road maps and therefore navigation to facilitate the delivery of services
- **Female motorcyclists will be mapping themselves!**



Conclusion



Thank You

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#landmatters #landrights

