

## Press Release June 17, 2015

## **Landesa Announces New Director for Landesa Center for Women's Land Rights**

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Landesa announced today that the organization has hired Tzili Mor to serve as the new Director of the Landesa Center for Women's Land Rights.

Mor comes to Landesa with over 15 years of experience in international, regional, and national-level advocacy on women's rights, having worked in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.

Mor previously worked with the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative, Amnesty International, International Development Law Organization, the Center for Reproductive Rights, and was a fellow and acting director of the International Women's Human Rights Clinic at Georgetown Law. Most recently, she was a visiting scholar at the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law and the Center for the Study of Women. Mor, who has a J.D., M.S., and LL.M. from Georgetown University focused on international law and development, will begin her new role in August.

She joins Landesa at a time of unprecedented global support for women's land rights. The issue of secure tenure rights is increasingly seen as a critical foundation for efforts to empower women, improve food security, public health, and conservation efforts, and break the cycle of poverty and marginalization.

"Economically empowering women is smart economics. Providing women with secure, legal rights to land is one of the most powerful tools for helping women, their children and families, and ultimately the broader society," said Tim Hanstad, Landesa CEO. "Tzili is uniquely qualified to help Landesa capitalize on the growing interest in the issue of women's land rights and leverage it to achieve lasting change."

Mor will lead a team of land tenure and gender experts around the world who are working on innovative and impactful projects from India to Rwanda.

"I have, for many years, followed Landesa's work around the world," said Mor. "I'm honored that I can now call Landesa's committed and experienced staff my colleagues and be a part of the change this organization is fostering and linking with a global gender empowerment movement."



Landesa established the Landesa Center for Women's Land Rights almost six years ago to help elevate the issue of women's land rights globally and build a global network of women's land rights experts.

Founded as the Rural Development Institute, Landesa has partnered with governments on reforms that have provided secure land rights to more than 100 million families since 1967. When women and men have secure rights to land, they can invest in their land to sustainably increase their harvests and reap the benefits – improved nutrition, health, and education– for generations.

To learn more about Landesa, please visit Landesa.org.

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