





LETTER

DEAR COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS,

Land is the starting point.

It is where we live, where we grow. It is our most important asset.

It is the starting point for so many of the largest, most stubborn problems facing the world today.

War, environmental destruction, hunger, displacement.

Likewise, it is the starting point for solutions to these same problems.

That's why over the last four decades Landesa has used a land-centered approach to help the world's poorest. Because we know that the promise of secure rights to land is much greater than the mere acreage it provides.

Securing rights to land brings food, security, power, opportunity, a stake in the future.

This year, Landesa has worked with partners around the world to bring those benefits to millions:

IN CHINA, Landesa's top policy recommendations were incorporated into the this year's "No. 1 Document" — the most important annual policy document in the country. This was the first major modern Chinese policy document to highlight the need for improving women's rights to rural land. Propelled by the document, provinces have moved forward with plans to include both men's and women's names in new provincial land registries. Up to 100 million women stand to benefit.

IN RWANDA, Landesa and local partners designed and are implementing a program to train hundreds of community legal aid workers on basic land tenure laws — especially on women's rights to own and inherit land — and conflict resolution. The new legal aid workers have already met with 746 women and men to help resolve land disputes and improve awareness of women's land rights in rural communities.

Securing rights to land brings food, security, power, opportunity, and a stake in the future.



IN WEST BENGAL, INDIA, more than 40,000 girls are learning gardening skills and their rights to land. Thanks to a partnership between Landesa and the state government of West Bengal, these girls are able to participate in a program that aims to keep girls in school, reduce childhood marriage, and position them to gain secure land rights as women.

There are dozens of other accomplishments we could share. From Ghana to Odisha, India, from the halls of Kenya's capital to the halls of the U.N., Landesa's partnerships have led to change around the world. In this report, we'd like to focus on the impact of just one remarkable project.

During a single week in February of this year, an extraordinary joint effort between the West Bengal government and Landesa resulted in more than 50,000 women and their families gaining legal rights to their own plot of land.

In the pages of this annual report, you'll follow a few of these 50,000 new landowners as they use their new property to build a more prosperous, secure, and just future for themselves, their families, and their communities. Their stories are unique, but not unusual. They illustrate just what secure land rights can do.

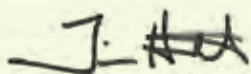
All they needed was the security and opportunity that accompany legal rights to land. They did the rest by the sweat of their brow. They've built permanent homes. They've planted trees and terraced fields. They've invested their savings in improved fertilizer and their labor in improved irrigation. And they've used the proceeds to better feed and educate their children.

Likewise, the government of West Bengal has seized this opportunity to provide these now permanent communities of former migrants and squatters with toilets, electricity, and wells with clean drinking water.

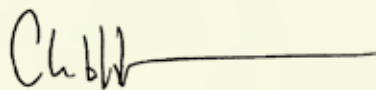
The portraits of hope in the following pages illustrate the kind of impact your support for Landesa has helped generate. Please continue to share with others the Landesa story that starts with the transformative power of secure rights to a small plot of land.

Thanks to your support, we've had a remarkable year. With your partnership, we're looking forward to more.

Sincerely,



Tim Hanstad
Landesa President and CEO



Chris Grumm
Board Chair

Watch [this short video](#), which captures the excitement in the field as 50,000 families each receive secure rights to a micro-plot of land.





IMPACT

LAWS AND POLICIES CHANGED:

6

**PEOPLE WHO STAND TO GAIN IMPROVED
LAND RIGHTS FROM THESE POLICY CHANGES:**

691.4 MILLION



**POLICY MAKERS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS WHO
RECEIVED LAND-RELATED LEGAL AWARENESS TRAINING:**

10,360

**RURAL POOR INDIVIDUALS WHO RECEIVED
LAND-RELATED LEGAL AWARENESS TRAINING:**

31,021



**MEN AND WOMEN WHO GAINED SECURE
RIGHTS TO LAND:**

2.23 MILLION



FOCUS ON PERSONAL IMPACT:

ROOPKUMAR AND ANITA



GROWING HOPE ON THEIR LAND

Hope grows on Roopkumar's and Anita's new micro-plot of land.

Anita, 25 and a mother of three, grew up without schooling, without a home, without hope. Her landless parents never had enough money to send her to school and married her off when she was 16.

Though she desperately wanted her daughters to get the education she was denied, she feared that circumstances would force her hand.

Anita and her husband lived on land owned by a powerful local landlord. They worked in his fields in return for housing and a small daily wage. The landlord forbade them from working for other local landowners. And the family, despite their labors, never seemed to have enough money to meet even their most basic needs.

Roopkumar began migrating to other states where he could earn a higher wage, but he worried about the safety of Anita and the children.

In February, Anita and Roopkumar became the owner of a micro-plot of land. Anita's name is listed first on the land title.

"Now I have hope," said Anita. "I have hope that my husband may come back home and stop migrating as there are improved employment opportunities here."

"I have hope that I can support my daughters' education," she added. "I really want my daughters to be educated."

She has resolved to keep her daughters in school through standard ten, the equivalent of 10th grade.

"The electric light helps my daughters to study even during the evening."

"I have started nurturing so many dreams after getting this land."

"I have hope that I can support my daughters' education. I really want my daughters to be educated."



FOCUS ON PERSONAL IMPACT:

PRADIP AND SANTOLIA



NO LONGER AFRAID

Less than one year ago Santolia and Pradip and their granddaughter, Puja, were fundamentally powerless. The family was living in a makeshift thatch hut on land owned by a local landlord. The landlord determined when they worked, how much they earned, who they could work for and what, if anything, they would eat.

They had no way out.

Then their family, through a joint partnership between the government of West Bengal and Landesa, gained title to a small plot of land with 44 other formerly landless families.

A new beginning.

Armed with secure rights to that small plot of land, and newfound security, opportunity and incentive, they built a small house out of tin and thatch, a goat shed, and pigeon coop. "When we received this land, it was small, but big enough to start our life again," said Santolia. "This land helped me to get back the hope that we'll be able to take proper care of our granddaughter's education and we can feed her well."

Now, they can decide where and for whom they labor. Now, they can negotiate a better wage with employers. And now they can eat or sell the produce from their new garden to supplement their wages.

"I am no longer afraid we will starve" said Pradip. "We have our kitchen garden and can earn more money by selling goats and pigeons."

Puja now eats three meals a day, drinks goat milk, and attends school.

"I feel proud that we have electric lights and a fan at our home," she said. "My grandfather told me that all of these things happened because the government has given us this land and nobody will be able to evict us from here."



"This land helped me to get back the hope that we'll be able to take proper care of our granddaughter's education and we can feed her well."



FOCUS ON PERSONAL IMPACT:

MANGIRAM AND CHILIA



SETTLED AT LAST

Less than one year ago, Chilia and Mangiram and their two youngest daughters were squatting on a river embankment with nothing to shield them from the elements except a plastic tarp strung between trees.

The family ate only twice a day. There was no money for medicine when the children fell ill. And there were constant fights with landowners whose property the family was squatting on.

“Our life was like running from one place to another,” said Chilia. “Wherever we tried to settle, we were chased by the landowner.”

“We are settled now, at last,” said Chilia.

Her family received legal control over a small plot of land in the hamlet of Harchandrapur where 114 other formerly landless families have also received micro-plots of land this year.

Mangiram, who migrates to construction jobs in Delhi or Punjab for six months each year, was finally able to put his construction skills to work for his own family. He built them a sturdy thatch and a bamboo hut and is now confident that his wife and children will be safe while he is away.

In their new micro-plot, Chilia raises chickens, ducks, and goats and has a thriving garden to feed her family. The family can eat three full meals a day. A few times a week those meals include fish or eggs — an unimaginable luxury just one year ago.

“Though our land is small, we have planted many vegetables and bananas and my daughters planted bamboo.”



“Our life was like running from one place to another. Wherever we tried to settle, we were chased by the landowner.”





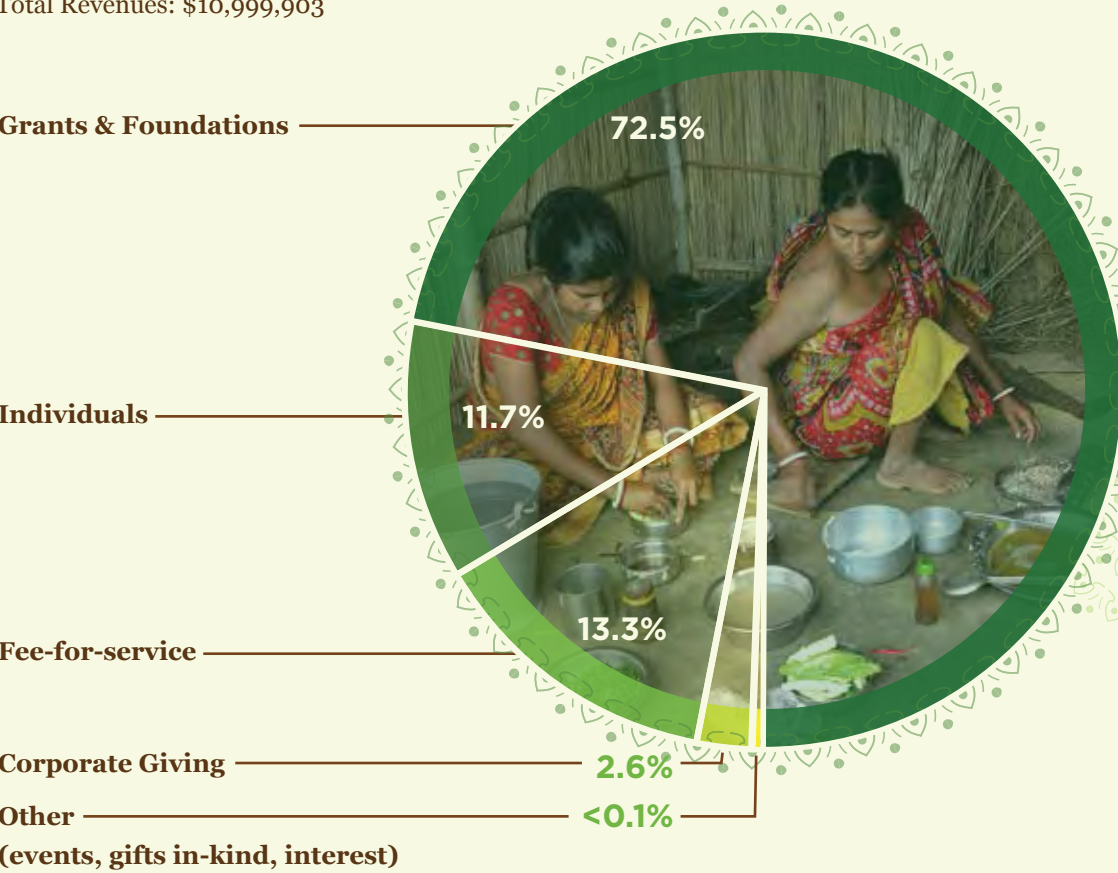
FINANCIALS

FINANCIALS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

Download Audited Financial Statements [July 1, 2013 –June 30, 2014]

TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES

Total Revenues: \$10,999,903



FUNCTIONAL ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES

Total Expenses: \$9,708,695

Program Services

77%

Management & General

13%

Fundraising

10%

ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES BY PROGRAM AREA

Global Advocacy,
Communications, & Learning

15.8%

Landesa Center for
Women's Land Rights

15.4%

Global Projects

7.9%

28.0%

India

18.6%

Africa

14.3%

China

DONORS

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

OVER \$1 MILLION

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Ford Foundation

Google Foundation

IKEA Foundation

Nike Foundation

Omidyar Network

River Star Foundation

Skoll Foundation

Anonymous (1)



\$100,000 – \$999,999

Araceli and David Barclay

Laura Lee Grace

M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust

Moccasin Lake Foundation

Neukom Family Foundation

Doug and Emilie Ogden/The North Ridge Foundation

Ronald B. Rankin

Rights and Resources Group

Jill and Bill Ruckelshaus

Stewardship Foundation

World Resources Institute



\$25,000 – \$99,999

All-China Women's Federation

The Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation

Jim Greenbaum

Institute of International Education, Inc.

Patricia Kern-Cardillo and Jim Cardillo

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Anonymous (1)



\$10,000 – \$24,999

Matthew Bannick
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Kiran and Vikesh
Mahendroo

Kathleen Pierce
Quiet Harbor Trust
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Seattle International
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Lawrence Wilkinson
Anonymous (1)

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Adam J. Weissmann
Foundation
COSTCO Wholesale
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and Nathan Myhrvold
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Peter Miller

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Mahendroo
Hemaxi Patel
Yvonne Pigott

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The Sister Fund
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VandenBrink
Elisabeth Wendt
Anonymous (1)

\$2,500 – \$4,999

Alta and Stanley Barer
Janice D'Amato
Elizabeth Roberts
Christine Grumm
Savita and Dinesh
Khosla

Margaret Niles and
Stephen Garratt
Posner-Wallace
Foundation
Jennifer Potter and
John Winton

Roy L. Prosterman
Anonymous (2)

\$1,500 – \$2,499

William H. Gates Sr.
Greater Kansas City
Community Foundation
Nancy and Earl Grout
Joan Hsiao and Jim
Bromley

International
Community School
Alida and Christopher
Latham
Sara and Andrew Litt
Christina Lockwood

Julie and Paul
Pottinger
Stephen Propper
RECONCILE
Susan Schlatter



UNDER \$1,499

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