

A photograph of two farmers working in a field at sunset. The farmer on the left is wearing a plaid shirt and dark pants, bending over to plant seedlings. The farmer on the right is wearing a floral hat, a plaid shirt, and a floral skirt, also bending over to plant. The field is filled with rows of young green plants in the foreground and middle ground. In the background, there is a body of water and a line of trees under a sky with soft, colorful clouds from the setting sun.

NEW HOPE, NEW, HORIZONS

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Our world has changed, but land is a constant.

Wherever Landesa works, we are helping to ensure that individuals, families and communities have access to a critical resource for improving lives and livelihoods. Land rights are at the foundation of wealth and income, food security, social status, and stability around the world. Land is also at the root of building more resilient ecosystems and landscapes that can withstand and even fight the most harmful effects of climate change.

Our work is growing in exciting ways, with new investments in the Stand For Her Land campaign to strengthen women's land rights and our work with women's self-help groups in India to expand women's ownership of land. We've also deepened our engagement with climate change actors to ensure that land rights, and particularly the rights of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and women, play a central



role in future efforts to mitigate and adapt to change. With new support from donors, we are expanding our work in Southeast Asia and sub-Saharan Africa that will help us reach millions more people. You'll learn about all this and more inside our 2021 Annual Report.

Despite the many challenges, we have momentum on our side and I am as optimistic as ever that our work will continue to revitalize communities, restore landscapes, and build hope for millions of people worldwide. Thank you for joining us on this transformational journey.

Sincerely,



A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large 'C' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Chris Jochnick,
President & CEO



Growing Our Impact

Learn about our expanding areas of work

Going Global with Stand For Her Land

Closing the gap on women's land rights

Around the world, social and legal barriers severely limit women's land and inheritance rights. This dangerously delays climate action and sustainable development, and denies women their human rights and the economic empowerment that comes from land. There is momentum for gender justice in land rights, and Landesa along with a coalition of partners have launched the Stand for Her Land Campaign (S4HL) to drive and amplify this global energy for equality. As the campaign Secretariat, Landesa leads campaign efforts to strengthen women's land rights through global and regional level advocacy, and national-level implementation activities.



As 2021 drew to a close, we were excited to receive two significant investments in S4HL. **This has allowed us to establish campaign coalitions in four new countries that span Africa, Asia, and Latin America.** These coalitions – in Bangladesh, Colombia, Senegal, and Uganda – will provide critical resources to support national and local civil society to achieve shared goals, multiplying impact for women's land rights at national and grassroots levels, and amplifying the powerful stories of these efforts on national, regional, and global stages to drive greater momentum and impact.

Emerging Opportunities

Advancing the power of land rights

Landesa's experts have engaged in **55 countries and counting:**

In **Cambodia**, a nation with an exceedingly high rate of landlessness among its 12 million rural residents, Landesa is working with the government to enhance allocation of land and agricultural services to landless rural farmers. This partnership also bolsters protections for coastal communities and upland Indigenous communities by amending land, forest, and fishery laws.

High-value crops like coffee and cocoa offer economic freedom for **Ghanaians**, but youth and women often encounter barriers to full participation in the agricultural sector. Alongside local partner COLANDEF, Landesa is conducting an assessment to understand land-related challenges to formal agricultural employment for women and youth, as a first step towards facilitating land access and

tenure security for up to 50,000 young women and men smallholder farmers across Ghana.

In **Indonesia**, home to the largest collection of mangrove forests in the world, the government is reforming national agrarian laws and policies that will impact these ecosystems. Landesa is collaborating with the government to ensure that women in coastal communities can equally access and benefit from Indonesia's mangrove forests and sustain their livelihoods, a critical step in mitigating climate change.





“Sometimes, as I am a woman, some people will still look at me as a weak person, but I will overcome this word and do the best thing for my community because I am a person who can be flexible.”

”

After joining an advocacy and leadership training by Landesa partner PDP-Center in Cambodia, Mrs. Ut Sreyleak won an election to lead her community in demanding for land registration. Mrs. Sreyleak plans to collaborate closely with her community colleagues as she discusses the land titling request with government authorities, and cites the training as helping her learn about working with stakeholders, develop talking points, and grow confidence.



Photo credit: BDStall

Mangrove Forests, Climate Change, and Rural Livelihoods

Growing mitigation and resilience

The 4.6 million hectares of mangrove forests surrounding the Bay of Bengal and Southeast Asia store vast amounts of carbon, harbor rare biodiversity, shield communities from extreme weather events, and support vital coastal livelihoods. Landesa is embarking on an ambitious initiative to strengthen gender-equitable and socially inclusive tenure rights for these communities so they can defend and restore these indispensable mangrove forests. **With engagement in six countries and the greater region, this work seeks to sequester 947 million metric tons of carbon and sustain the livelihoods of 73 million people.**

A photograph of a farmer wearing a traditional conical hat and a plaid shirt, bent over and working in a lush green rice paddy field. The farmer is holding a small basket and appears to be planting or tending to the rice seedlings. The background is a dense field of tall rice plants under bright sunlight.

A Resounding Victory for China's Farmers

New legislation protects farmers from unjust development practices

Across China, property development has been a pillar of the government's strategy for economic development. But the zeal for growth has increasingly put rural farmland in the crosshairs, as developers seek more land for their projects. One particularly egregious method is land banking, which involves taking land for future development. In practice, farmers receive only paltry compensation in such cases, and land may stand unused for years, frustrating rural economic development.

Recent changes to Chinese law have effectively ended the practice of land banking for urbanization, helping to protect farmers' rights to land. **These changes, developed by Chinese lawmakers in line with Landesa recommendations to the government, closed a legal loophole that had allowed developers to practice land banking.** Future expropriations will require a more rigorous process, ensuring that an estimated 200 million farm households have more secure control over their most important asset.



Community-Smart Consultation and Consent

Better outcomes for businesses and communities

As demand for natural resources increases, sustainable governance of these resources and the land on which they're developed is critical. There is, however, a global implementation gap around well-designed and executed consultation and consent with Indigenous and other local peoples whose livelihoods and identities depend upon these resources — and the land on which they're found.

Through the Community-Smart Consultation and Consent Project, Landesa leads a consortium of organizations working to strengthen inclusive and effective natural resource governance by developing, testing, and amplifying tools and resources that improve implementation of good consultation and consent practices for the benefit of all stakeholders, including Indigenous Peoples, local communities, civil society, government, and the private sector.



A Global Landesa

Our distributed
approach

Landesa's work is based on the belief that people should be empowered to be active agents in their own development. This means working with and investing in local actors to build their capacity around land rights. To ensure that our organizational structure aligns with these values, Landesa has embarked upon a journey to move more resources and authority to our local staff and offices and to broaden their programmatic and operational

responsibilities. We want our country offices to drive decisions at the local levels and to have more voice within our global structures. We are also seeking to accomplish more through partnerships at both global and local levels. We view these efforts to distribute capacity, authority, and responsibility (a "distributed approach") as essential to working more equitably and effectively and have made them an institutional priority.

By the Numbers

Our FY2021 programmatic impact

Stronger land rights for **over 1 million people**

Working with our partners in government, civil society, and companies, and within rural communities, Landesa promotes gender-equal land rights in a variety of ways. This past year, we focused on strengthening institutions, distributing authority across our offices to create stronger country-level programming, and developing new opportunities for our work.



67,081 people

HAVE DOCUMENTS IN THEIR NAME



400,000 people

STAND TO BENEFIT FROM BETTER LAWS
AND POLICIES



182,377 women

RECEIVED LAND RIGHTS TRAINING AND
EDUCATION



494,850 women

STAND TO BENEFIT FROM IMPROVED
GOVERNMENT OR CSO CAPACITY



Total: 1,038,405 people

STAND TO BENEFIT FROM LANDESA'S PROGRAMS

Because the same person may benefit from multiple programs, the combined total may be less than the sum of all program outcomes to avoid double-counting.

2021 Media Highlights

Check out some of Landesa's top news mentions from last year:



We Must Listen to Women to Tackle Our Changing Climate

November 5, 2021 | Ms. Magazine

Landesa Women's Land Rights Director Beth Roberts explains how women are sidelined in climate leadership at COP26 and beyond despite their pivotal role in fighting climate change.

[Read the article ->](#)



How Land Reform Became Uganda's Most Controversial Problem

Oct. 15, 2021 | Foreign Policy

Landesa's Africa Region Director Margaret Rugadya spoke to Foreign Policy for a piece on land reform challenges in Uganda.

[Read the article ->](#)



Evergrande and Beijing's Addiction to Expropriation

Oct. 14, 2021 | Wall Street Journal

The Wall Street Journal published a letter by Landesa CEO Chris Jochnick on new legislation in China that reins in land expropriation and provides greater protections for farmers.

[Read the article ->](#)



How China's landmark law changes help protect farmland and farmers' rights

Oct. 7, 2021 | South China Morning Post

Landesa's Li Ping writes about how amendments to the Land Management Law and implementing regulations create guardrails for farmers' land rights in the context of land expropriation.

[Read the article ->](#)



Securing Land Rights for Indigenous Peoples & Rural Communities Can Activate Critical Change Agents in the Fight Against Climate Change

June 29, 2021 | Skoll Foundation

Landesa's Climate Change and Land Tenure Specialist Rachel McMonagle highlights the links between land rights and climate justice, mitigation, and adaptation efforts.

[Read the article ->](#)

Financials

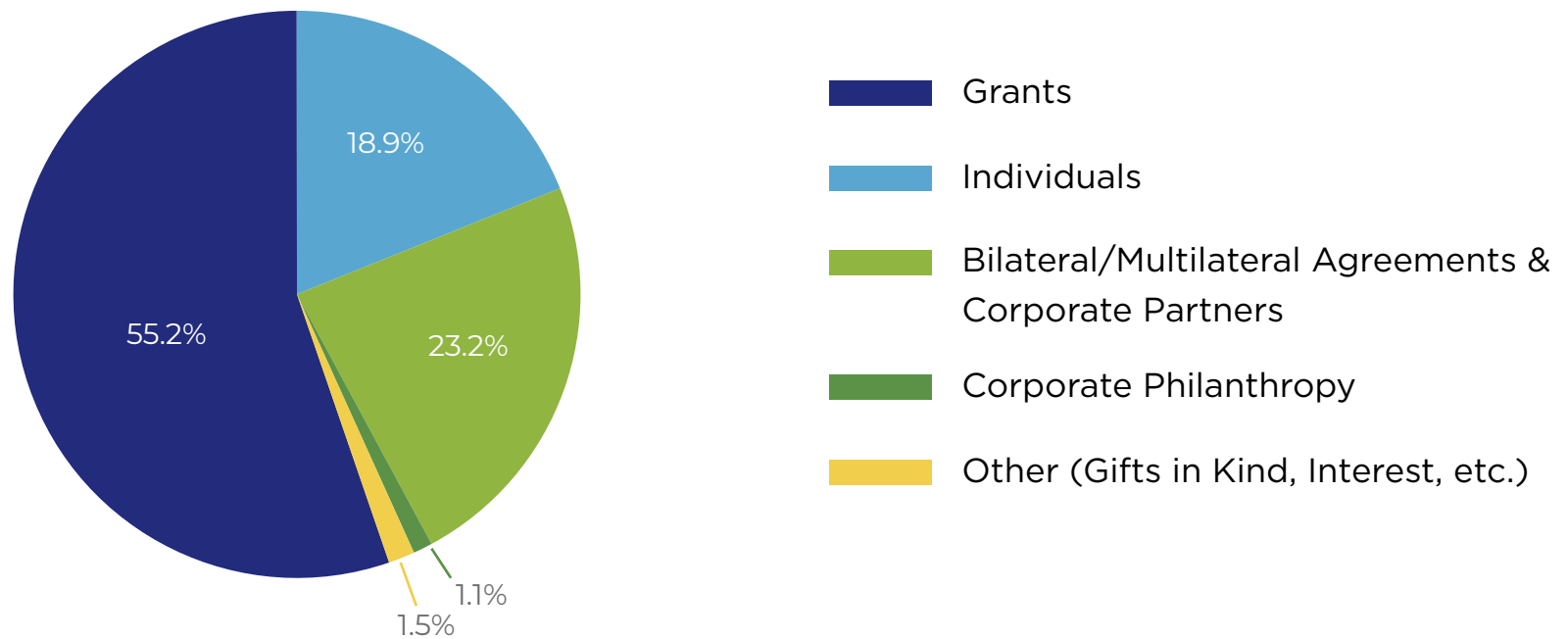
FY2021 | July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021



Total Revenue

\$9,034,823

Revenue Sources
(as a percentage)

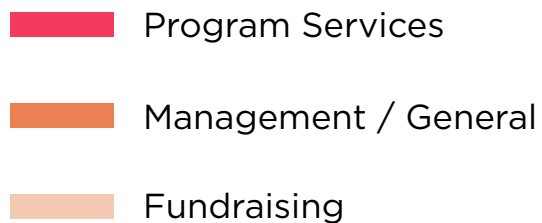
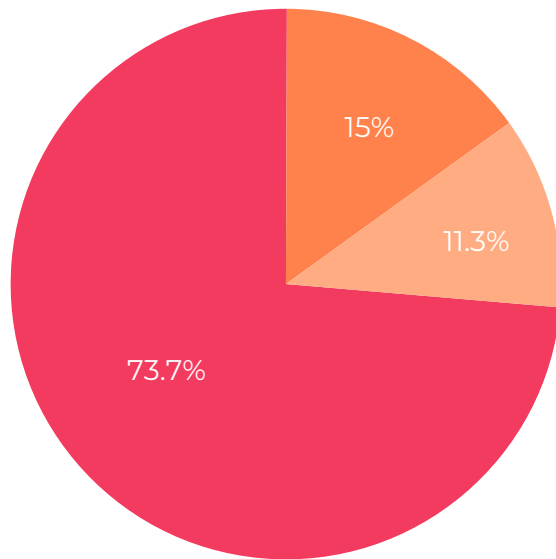


*Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States require Landesa to recognize the full amount of unconditional multi-year grants in the year in which they are awarded. Expenses, however, are recorded in the year they are incurred.

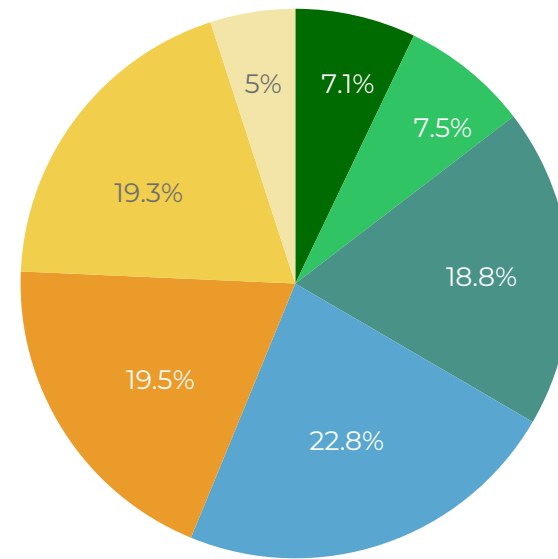
Total Expenses

\$9,903,349

Functional Allocation of Expenses
(as a percentage)



Program Services by Area
(as a percentage)



Our Supporters

FY2021 | July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021



Our work would not
be possible without
our supporters.

Thank you to all of the individual
donors, foundations, corporations,
and partners who made
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(July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021).

Over \$1 Million

Ford Foundation

King Philanthropies

River Star Foundation

\$100,000 - \$999,999

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\$10,000 - \$24,999

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Up to \$99

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Gina Alvarado	Patrick Burke	Diane Dew	Heather Hwalek
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Up to \$99 (continued)

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Kristen Mitchell	Deborah Propp	Gerald Smith	
Marlee Moffatt	Elizabeth Rolfes	Katie Somers	



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We are especially grateful for the current members of Gardeners for Growth, Landesa's monthly giving club. Their donations provide a consistent, stable foundation of support for Landesa's global mission, allowing us to respond to opportunities to strengthen land rights as they arise.

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