

EiWG meeting  
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## Integrated Land Rights for Sustainable Development and Peace: ZOA's approach



**ZOAC**  
from relief to recovery

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# Introduction ZOA

ZOA is an international relief and recovery organisation. We provide relief to people affected by violent conflicts and natural disasters in fragile contexts. But we also assist them during their recovery from the crisis.

Strategic priorities 2023-2026: **Peace Nexus, Localization, Climate Resilience**

Cross cutting theme: **Gender, Diversity and Inclusion**

## Sectors of intervention

- Peacebuilding (incl. Land Rights)
- Food Security & Livelihoods
- Water, Sanitation, Hygiene
- Education
- Shelter





# Global Refugee Forum

Dec 2023

Title:

‘ZOA supports Burundi & Uganda in securing land rights for displaced individuals through expertise in land registration’

- Improve land administration
- Access to land
- Advocating for land rights
- Formalizing land tenancy agreements

# Pledge Submission Date

1/1/2019

12/31/2024

Click or hover over any image on the dashboard to find out more

Search pledges

Show receiving entities

Multistakeholder pledges

Reset filters

Number of pledges

3,284

Submitting entity

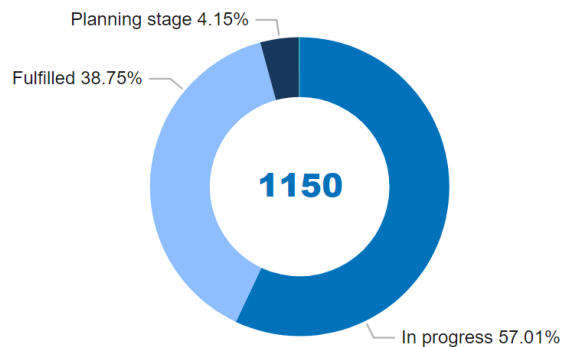
Submitting region

Type of actor (submitting)

Multistakeholder pledge

To find ZOA's pledge, search 'ZOA' in this box.

Implementation status (where reported)

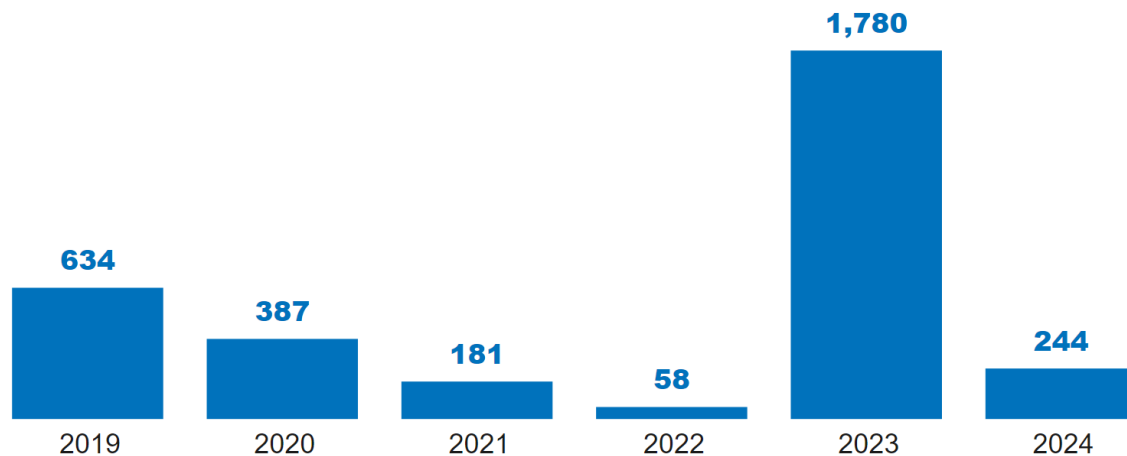


Pledges for matching  
**154**

Pledges in support of a host country policy pledge  
**442**

Click on the buttons above to see matching / support data

Number of pledges by year



## Information on pledges

Pledge ID	Submitting entity	Multistakeholder pledge	Pledge name	Pledge submission date	Pledge description	Click icon below to update pledge
GRF-07303	Government of Belgium	Resettlement and complementary pathways –	Belgium will continue and refine its resettlement	11/28/2023	- Belgium will continue and refine its resettlement programme to increase its predictability, effectiveness and continuity. Belgium sets ambitious but realistic pledges: in 2024 500 persons will be resettled and in 2025 the number will further increase to 1000 persons. This pledge is part of the collective EU pledge relating to the 2024-2025 EU resettlement and humanitarian admission scheme.	



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## Triple Nexus approach to land rights

- Land rights are **vital in the transition from relief to recovery**, from humanitarian crisis to development
  - Short term: Settling refugees, recovering livelihoods and rebuilding housing and other property
  - Longer term: Sustainable land use planning, climate smart investments in agricultural land, and market-oriented investments
- Land rights are **not a goal in itself**, but foundation for sustainable development
- Impact on **peace, food security and livelihoods, reducing inequality**
- **ZOA's approach**:
  - Aim to contribute to peace and improved food security & livelihoods
  - **Integrating** land tenure registration with peacebuilding / conflict mediation with, gender and disability inclusion, food security & livelihoods and in some cases with Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM)

# 10 years of experience in supporting land tenure security

## Burundi

- Returnee context
- Conflict mediation
- Protection of women's land rights
- Systematic LTR
- Improving sustainable agricultural productivity

## D.R. Congo

- Group titling
- Land lease agreements
- Integrating with IWRM and sustainable agriculture
- Contributing to improved land governance / reform

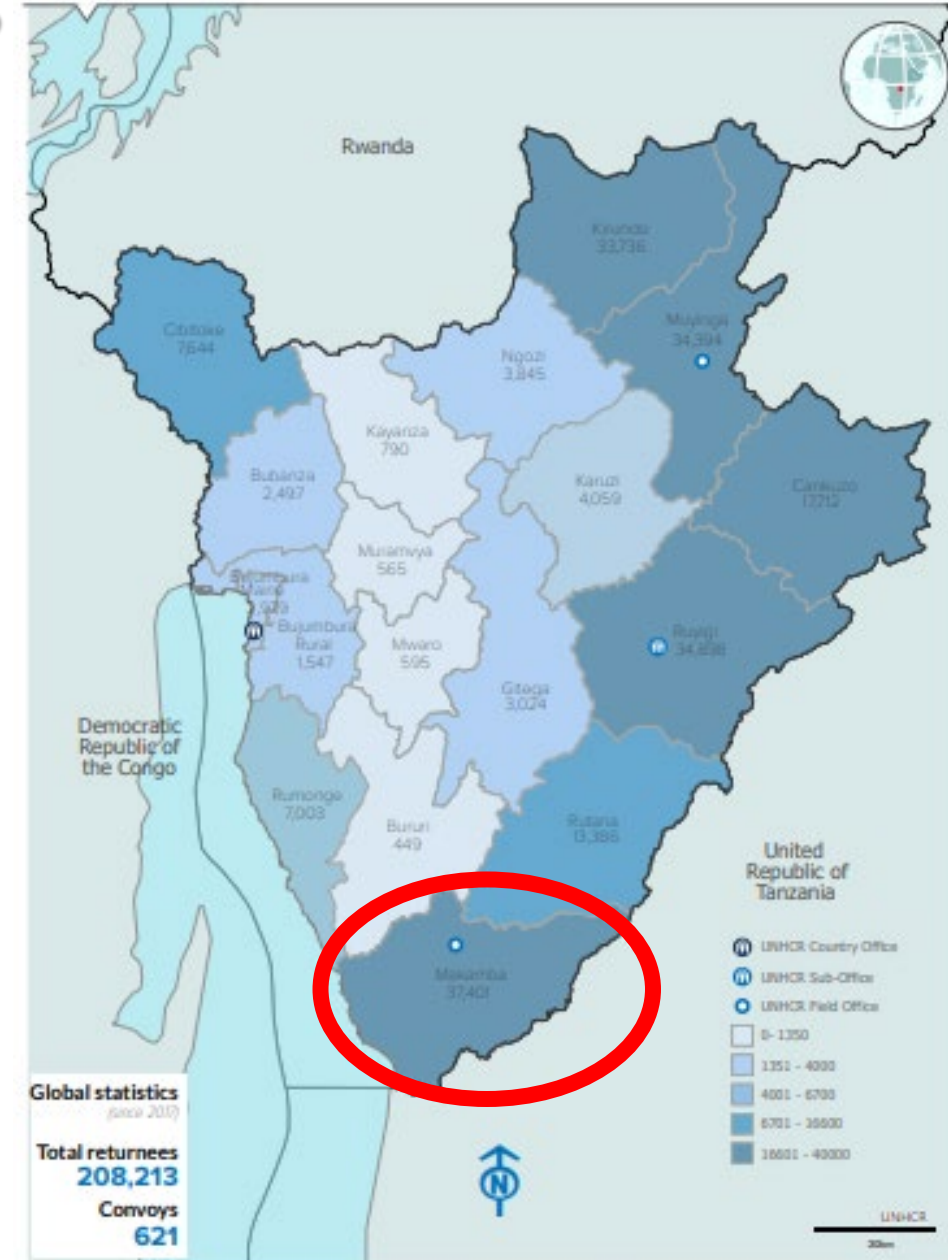
## Uganda

- Refugee-hosting context
- Certificates of Customary Ownership (CCO)
- Land tenancy agreements
- Disability inclusion

# Burundi context – ZOA interventions

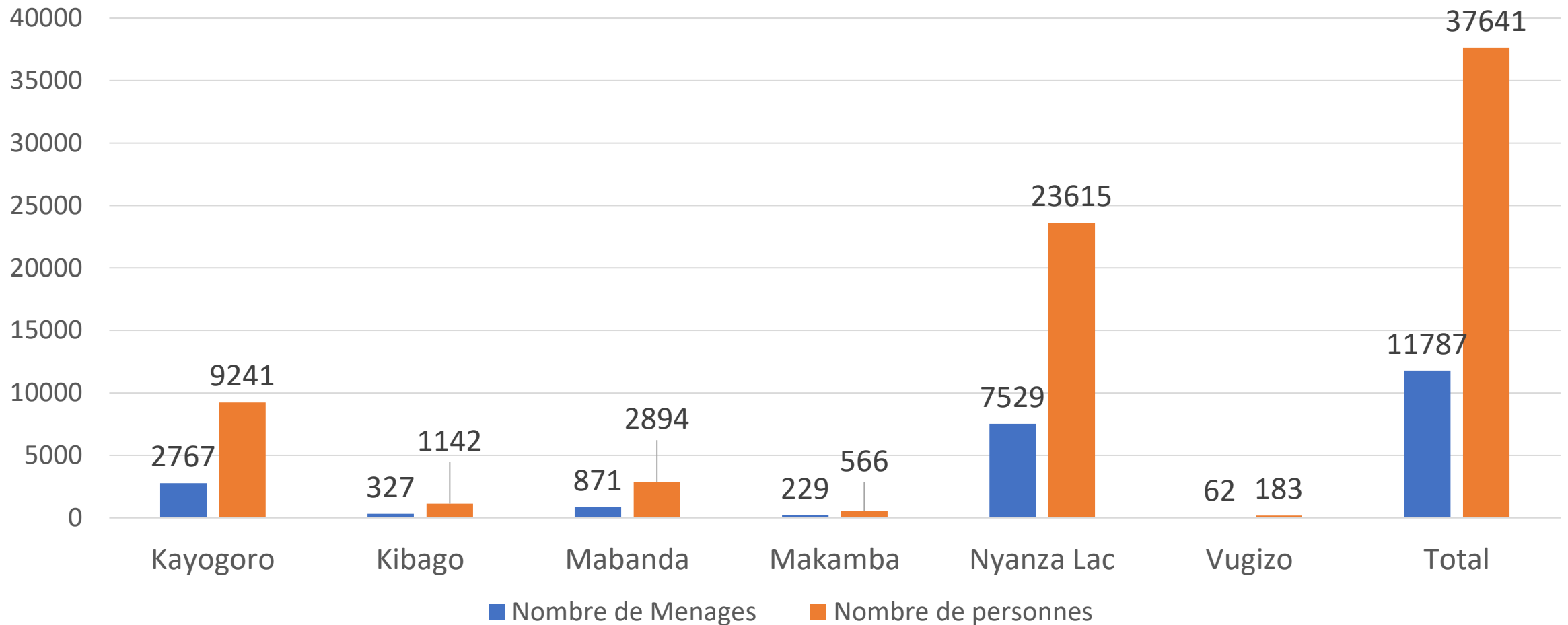
## History of interventions

- Makamba Province, since 2011
- Many land conflicts between returnees and residents blocked agricultural development
- Conflict mediation towards land sharing (with local partner MiPAREC)
- Supporting both parties to increase their agricultural productivity
- Since 2013: Supporting district administration in systematic land certification (OGR)
- Objectives :
  - Contribute to peace & stability (reduction of land conflicts)
  - Contribute to improved land use and food security



# Returnees per district in Makamba

Number of repatriates per district in Makamba Province







# Nyanza Lac - changing trends

- Nyanza Lac is characterized by population movements (returnees, economic)
- 59% of land is bought in Nyanza Lac
- “Union libre” and extra-marital relations
- Different type of land conflicts between returnees from crises of '72/'93 than from 2015.
  - From '72/'93 : Land occupied by others, conflicts not family related.
  - From 2015: Often occupied by family members who stayed, creating intrafamily conflicts.
  - People returning to other districts than native.

# Current intervention



- Improving land tenure security and land governance in Burundi
- Focus on Nyanza Lac district for support to systematic land certification (OGR)
- Extensive awareness raising
- Capacity building
- Conflict mediation
- Promoting the protection of women's land rights
- Combining with the PIP approach for improved land use management / planning
- Developing a model for scaling
- Longitudinal study for learning & adaptive programming



# Opportunities for returnees

- Securing their land, awareness raising on rights and procedures
- Resolving conflicts between returnees and returning communities and prevention of future conflicts
- Improved social cohesion between returnees and returning communities
- Combination of the PIP approach and land security: Improved agricultural production and household income
- Stimulating investment on land without conflict
- Promoting (disability) inclusion in land tenure registration
- MIPAREC conducts sensitizations once a week at the transit center in Gitara, Mabanda district and in Ruyigi, on
  1. the certification process and its importance
  2. the management of transfers / mutations
  3. the land rights of women





# Some results to date

**57.423** plots registered

**12.276** certificates established

**1.047** certificates issued

**70.5%** registered in the names of households (husband and wife)

**7%** registered in the names of women

**14%** registered in the name of succession (undivided)

Total <u>identified</u> land conflicts	<b>5.713</b>
Total <u>resolved</u> land conflicts	<b>2.565</b>
<u>Identified</u> land conflicts related to <u>repatriation</u>	<b>2.538</b>
<u>Resolved</u> land conflicts related to <u>repatriation</u>	<b>849</b>

# Challenges and remedial actions



- Relatively low conflict resolution rate, especially related to repatriation:
  - Continue land demarcation (but no certification unless dispute is resolved)
  - Extra campaign of conflict resolution with public mediation sessions
- Protection of women's land rights (absence of a law on succession)
  - Encouraging registration of husband and wife together on the certificate
  - Mentioning "*igiseke*" right on the land certificate
  - Community dialogues on gender challenges (including how to handle "second wives" during land tenure registration)
- Access to justice for the most vulnerable
  - Capacitating local conflict mediation structures
  - Linking up with / referring to other actors who provide legal assistance
- Withdrawal of land certificates
  - Proximity service (going towards *colline* level)
  - Publishing costs
- Registration of mutations / transactions
  - Awareness raising



THANK YOU

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