



<sup>b</sup>  
**UNIVERSITÄT  
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CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT  
AND ENVIRONMENT

# Using evidence from the Land Matrix and other data repositories to investigate impacts of large-scale land investments on common-pool resources

Markus Giger, Kerstin Nolte, Ward Anseeuw, Peter Messerli

**IASC Regional European Meeting,  
Bern, Switzerland, 10-13 May 2016**  
IASC Regional European Meeting,  
Bern, Switzerland, 10-13 May 2016

# Structure of presentation

What is the Land Matrix?

Overview of data available globally and for Eastern Europe

Relevance of the Land Matrix for the study of the commons

How to get involved



**LAND MATRIX**  
[www.landmatrix.org](http://www.landmatrix.org)

The Land Matrix Initiative (LMI) is a global and independent initiative that monitors competition over land use in the Global South

## Objectives:

- to improve transparency and accountability regarding Land Acquisitions
- to provide data for research, policy-making and advocacy
- to contribute towards more equitable decision-making



**LAND MATRIX**  
[www.landmatrix.org](http://www.landmatrix.org)



[www.landmatrix.org](http://www.landmatrix.org)

# Partners and Donors



Federal Ministry  
for Economic Cooperation  
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Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
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Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra  
  
Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC





**LAND MATRIX**  
[www.landmatrix.org](http://www.landmatrix.org)

## What is covered by the Land Matrix?

Large Scale Land acquisitions (LSLA):  
Concessions, leases, sales of land

### **Criteria:**

Investment size > 200ha

Recent transaction (2000-...)

Involvement of foreign investors

Conversion of land owned by communities or small scale farmers or  
pastoralists

Deals that target low- and middle-income countries



### The Online Public Database on Land Deals

The Land Matrix is a global and **independent land monitoring initiative** that promotes **transparency** and **accountability** in decisions over land and investment.

This website is our **Global Observatory** - an open tool for collecting and visualising information about large-scale land acquisitions.

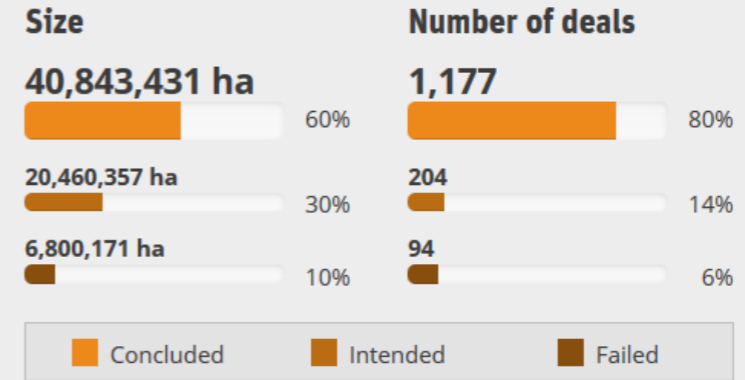
The data represented here is **constantly evolving**; to make this resource more accurate and comprehensive, we encourage your **participation**.

[Read more](#)

### Watch the video introduction



### We currently have information about: <sup>2</sup>

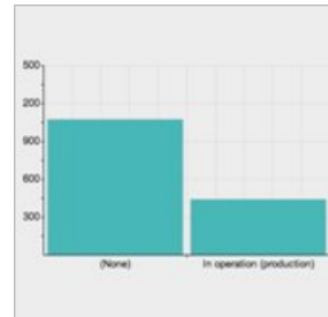


## GET THE IDEA

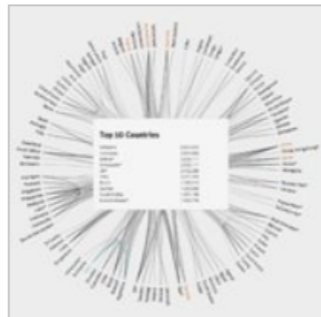
## GET THE DETAIL

## GET INVOLVED

Data is at the core of our project, but numbers alone can't tell a good story. These interactive visualizations are here to help you grasp the phenomenon of large-scale land acquisitions. Through them, we try to provide answers to questions such as how much land we're talking about, who's buying where, how much of the land is used for growing food, etc.



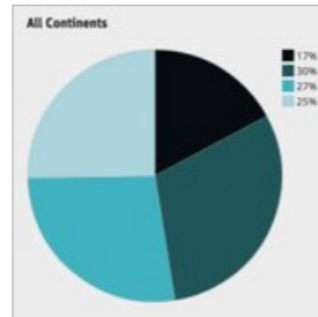
Dynamics overview



Web of transnational deals



Global map of investments



Agricultural drivers



It's a big deal



Compare the size

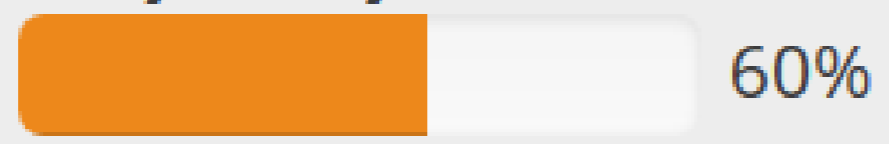
# We currently have information about:

## Size

## Number of deals

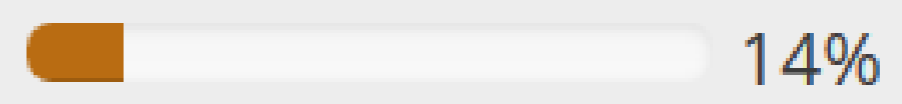
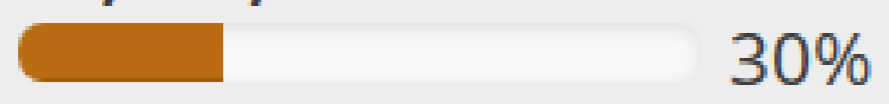
**40,843,431 ha**

**1,177**



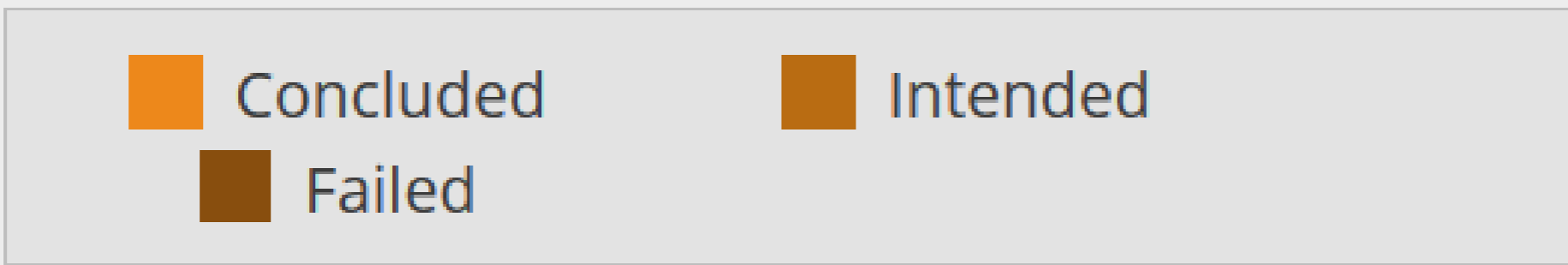
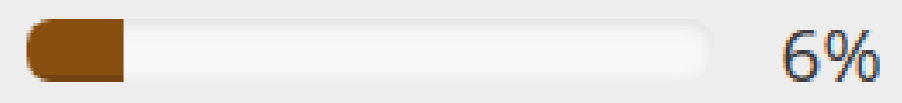
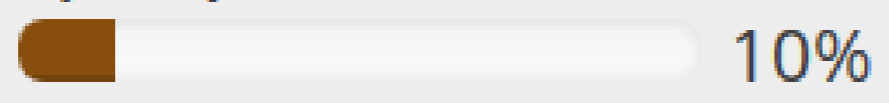
**20,460,357 ha**

**204**



**6,800,171 ha**

**94**





# IT'S A BIG DEAL

Enter a location to set the center of a circle that displays an area equal to the size of the intended, concluded or failed land acquisitions (according to the selected option).

Area equal to the size of the intended, concluded or failed land acquisitions (41,124,529 ha)

Concluded deals Intended deals Failed deals

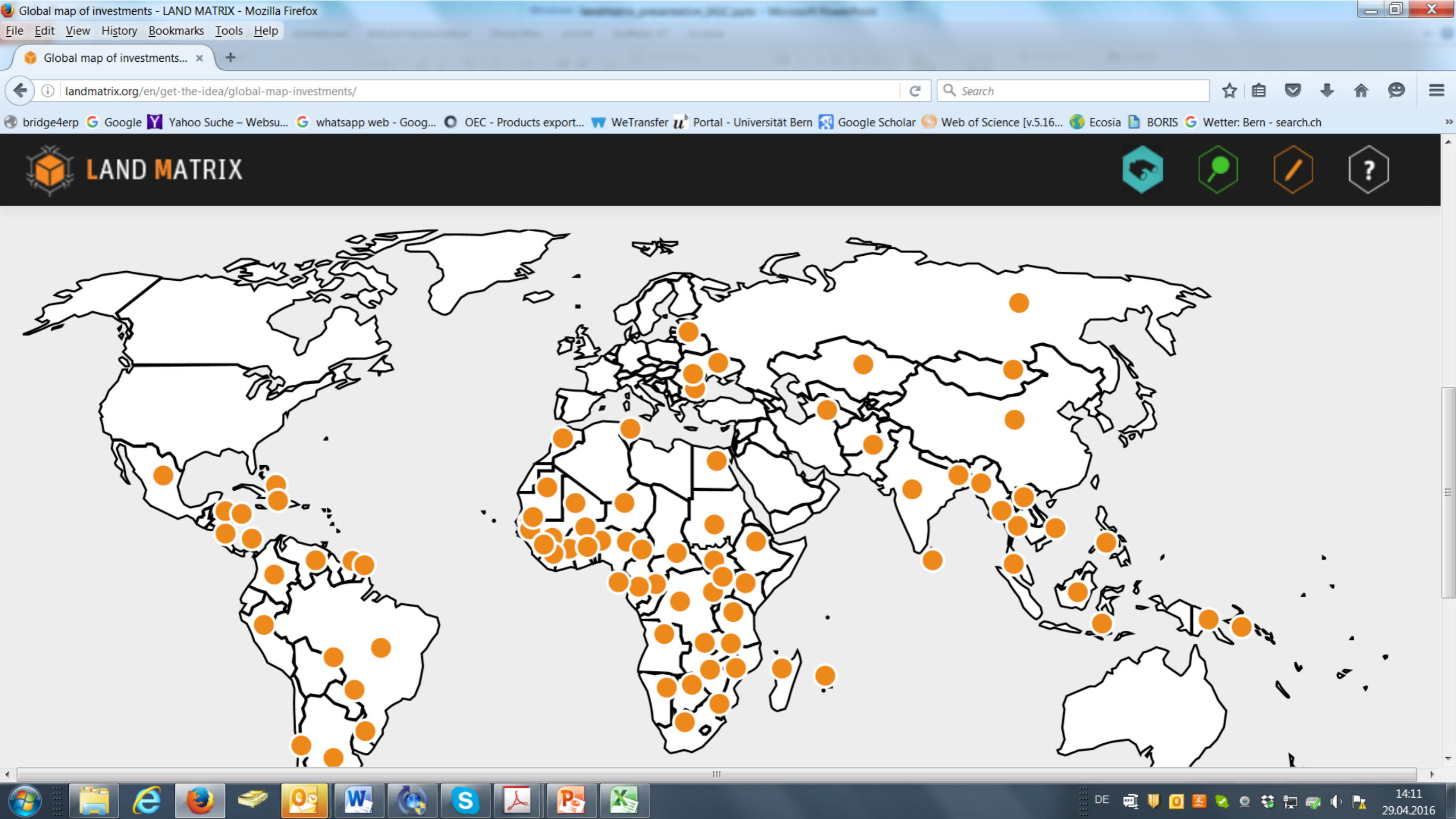
Transnational deals Domestic deals

Exclude media reports





# Global map of investments



www. landmatrix.org, accessed 3.11.2015





## Top 10 Countries



### Investor countries

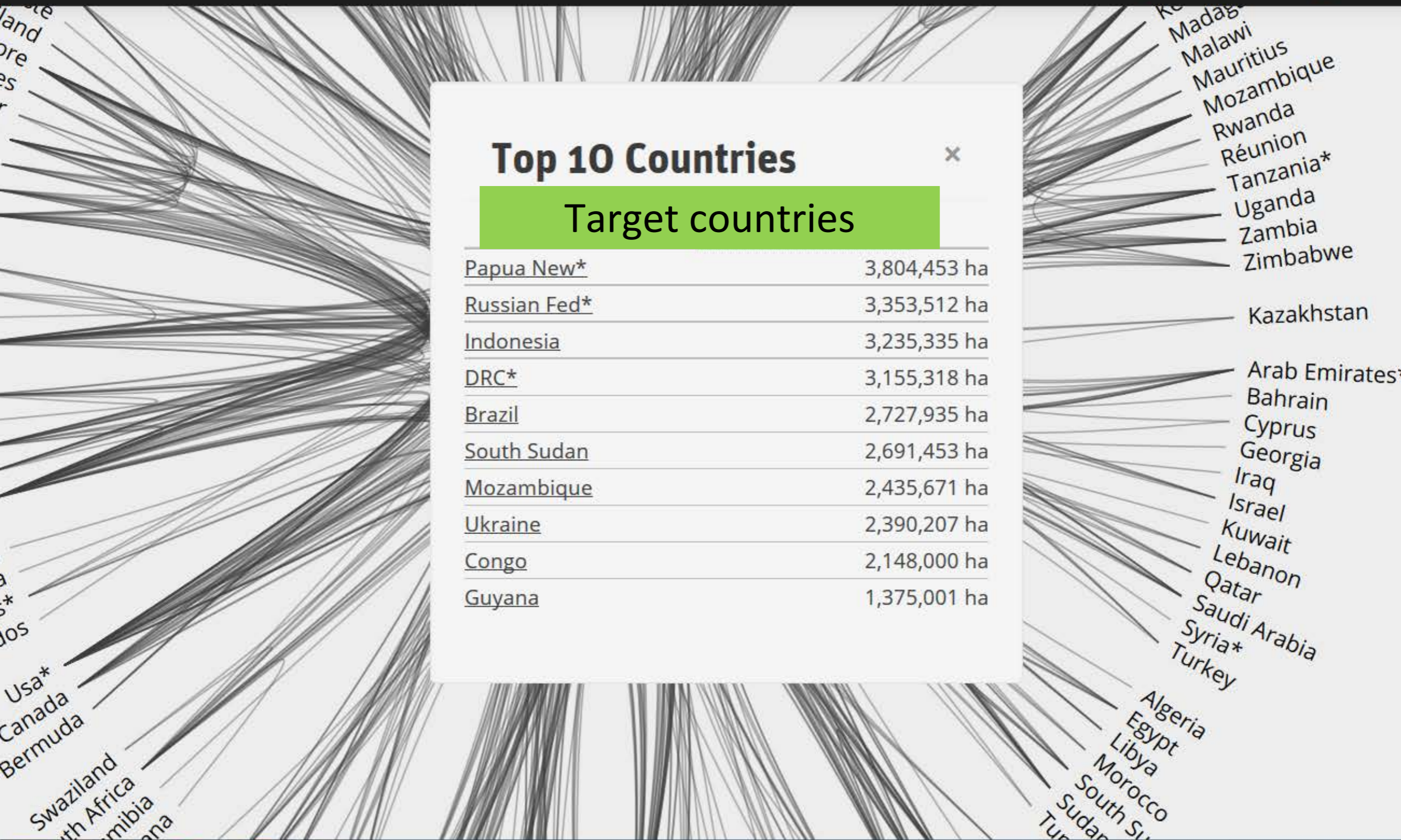
<u>Usa*</u>	7,909,262
<u>Uk*</u>	5,974,224
<u>Malaysia</u>	5,483,021
<u>China</u>	5,188,960
<u>Saudi Arabia</u>	4,560,056
<u>Singapore</u>	3,758,113
<u>Brazil</u>	3,181,438
<u>India</u>	3,173,614
<u>Arab Emirates*</u>	2,900,202
<u>South Korea*</u>	2,492,667

\*  
ada  
nuda  
waziland  
Africa  
ibia

Algeria  
Egypt  
Libya  
Morocco  
South  
Sud

Ken  
Madaga  
Malawi  
Mauritiu  
Mozam  
Rwanc  
Réuni  
Tanz  
Uga  
Zan  
Zim  
Ka  
Ar  
Ar  
Ba  
Cyp  
Geo  
Iraq  
Israe  
Jorda  
Kuwa  
Leban  
Qatar  
Saudi Ara  
Syria\*  
Turkey





# Top 10 Countries

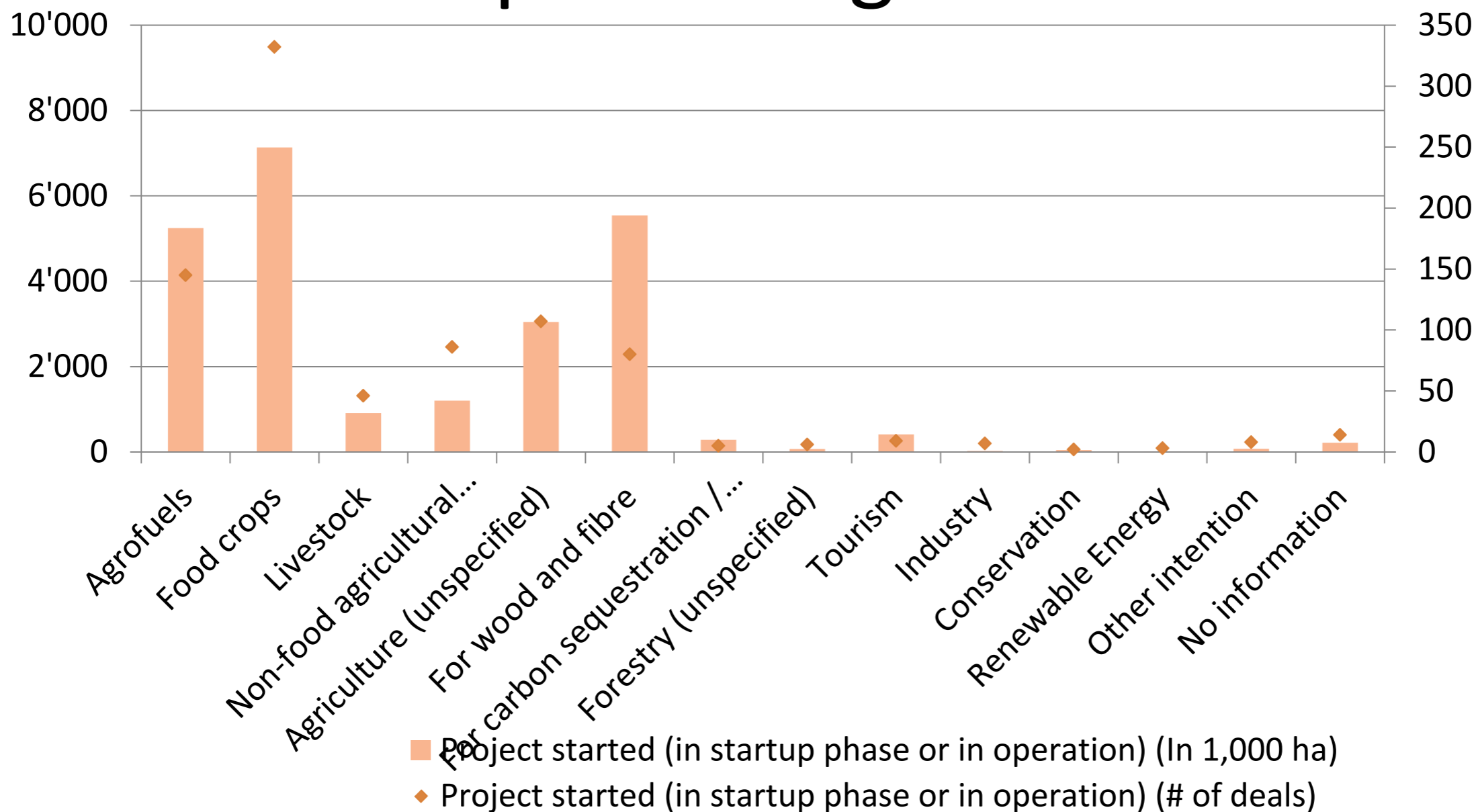
## Target countries

<u>Papua New*</u>	3,804,453 ha
<u>Russian Fed*</u>	3,353,512 ha
<u>Indonesia</u>	3,235,335 ha
<u>DRC*</u>	3,155,318 ha
<u>Brazil</u>	2,727,935 ha
<u>South Sudan</u>	2,691,453 ha
<u>Mozambique</u>	2,435,671 ha
<u>Ukraine</u>	2,390,207 ha
<u>Congo</u>	2,148,000 ha
<u>Guyana</u>	1,375,001 ha





# Food crops beat agro-fuels





# Land Matrix Data for Eastern Europe

Total concluded deals: 96

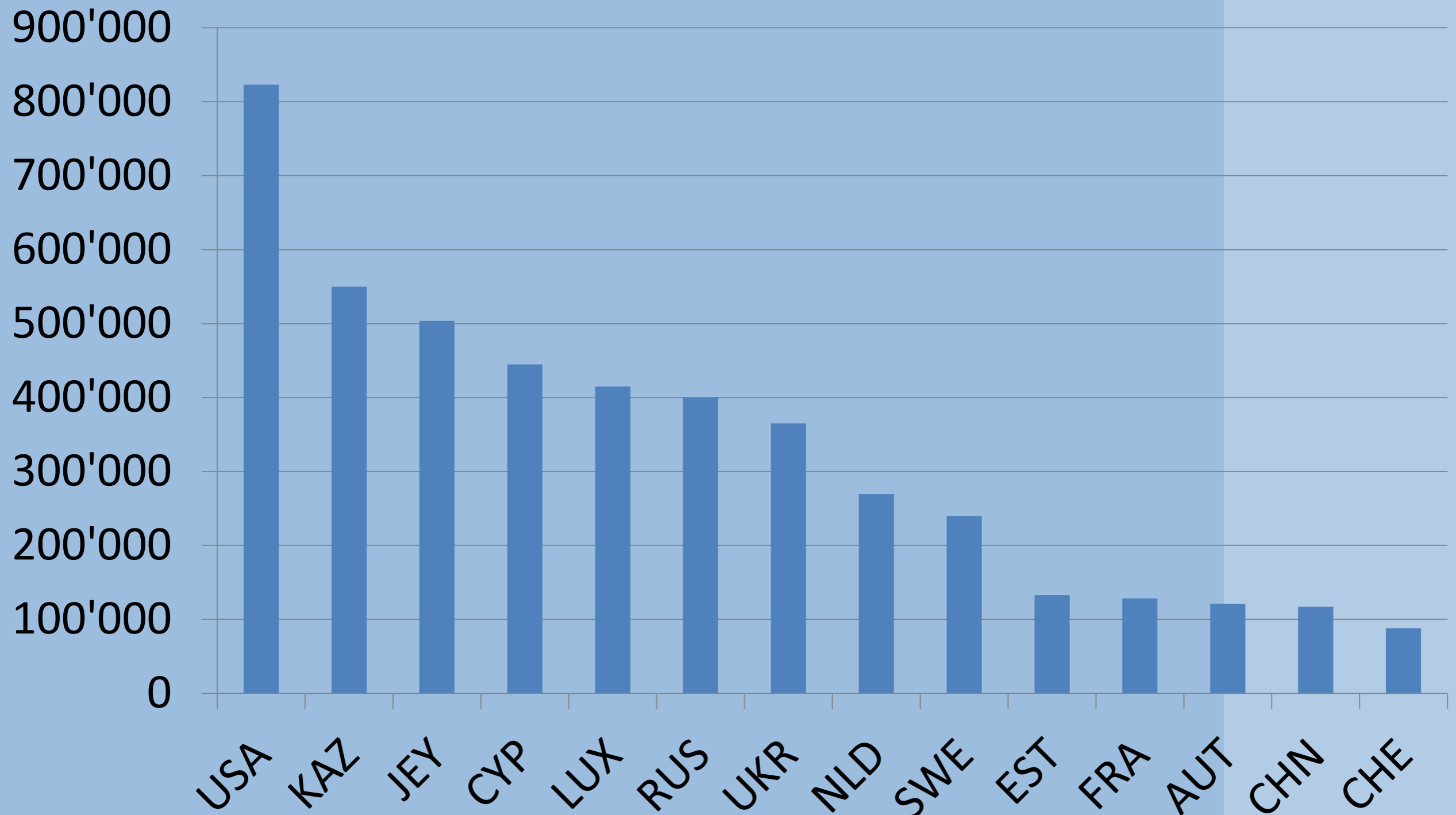
Area size concluded: 5'106'618 ha

Area under production: 2'047'659 ha (40%, as opposed to 19% globally)

Number of failed deals: 2 (11'000 ha ( <0.5% opposed to 10% globally)

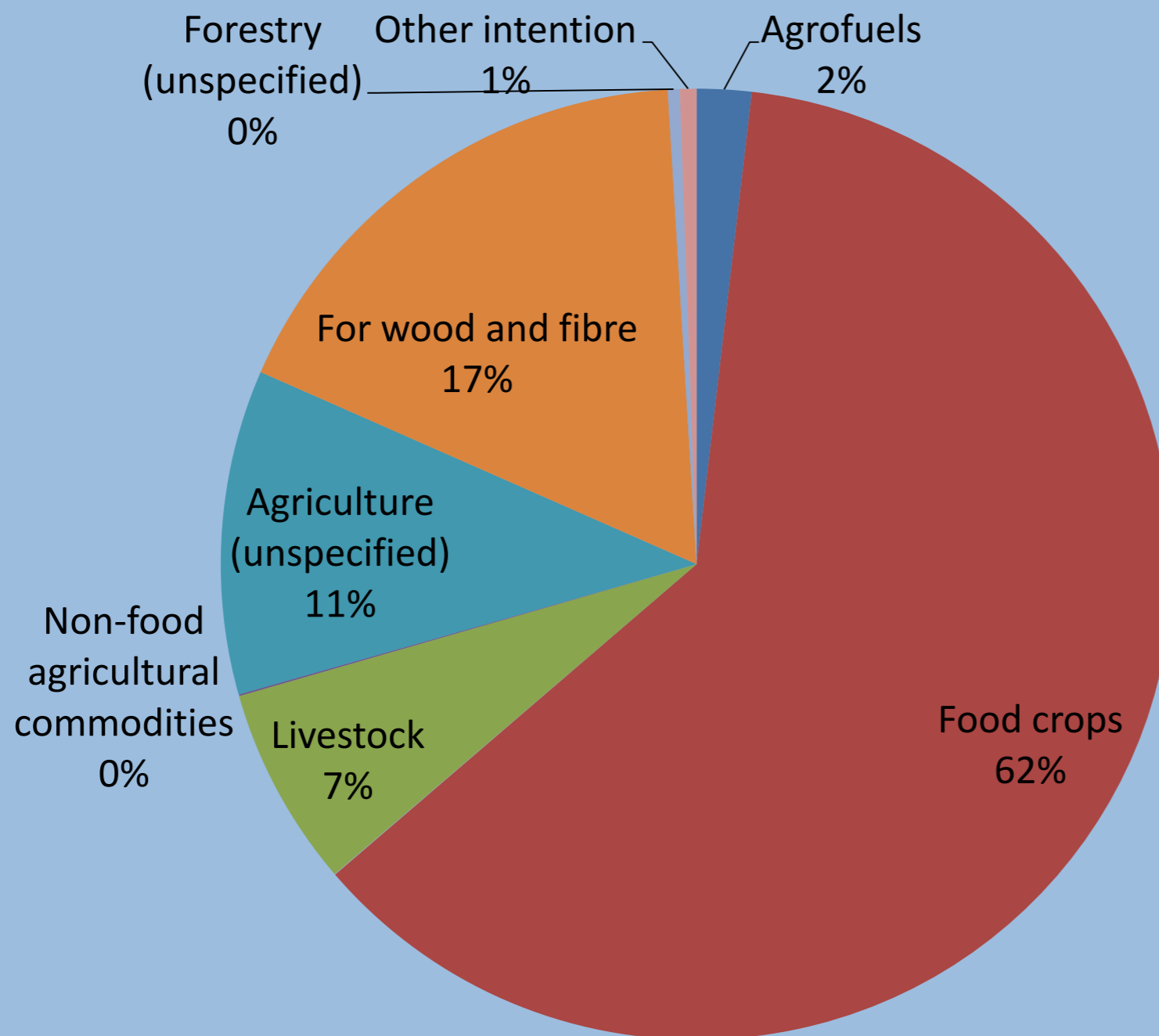
Countries included, according area: UKR (61 %), RUS (30%), ROU (8%), BGR (1%), LIT (0.2 %)

# Top 14 investor countries in Europe (ha concluded deals)



Status 25.4.2016

# Intention of LSLA in Eastern Europe



Status 25.4.2016

How do LSLA impact common property resources?  
What can we learn from the Land Matrix?



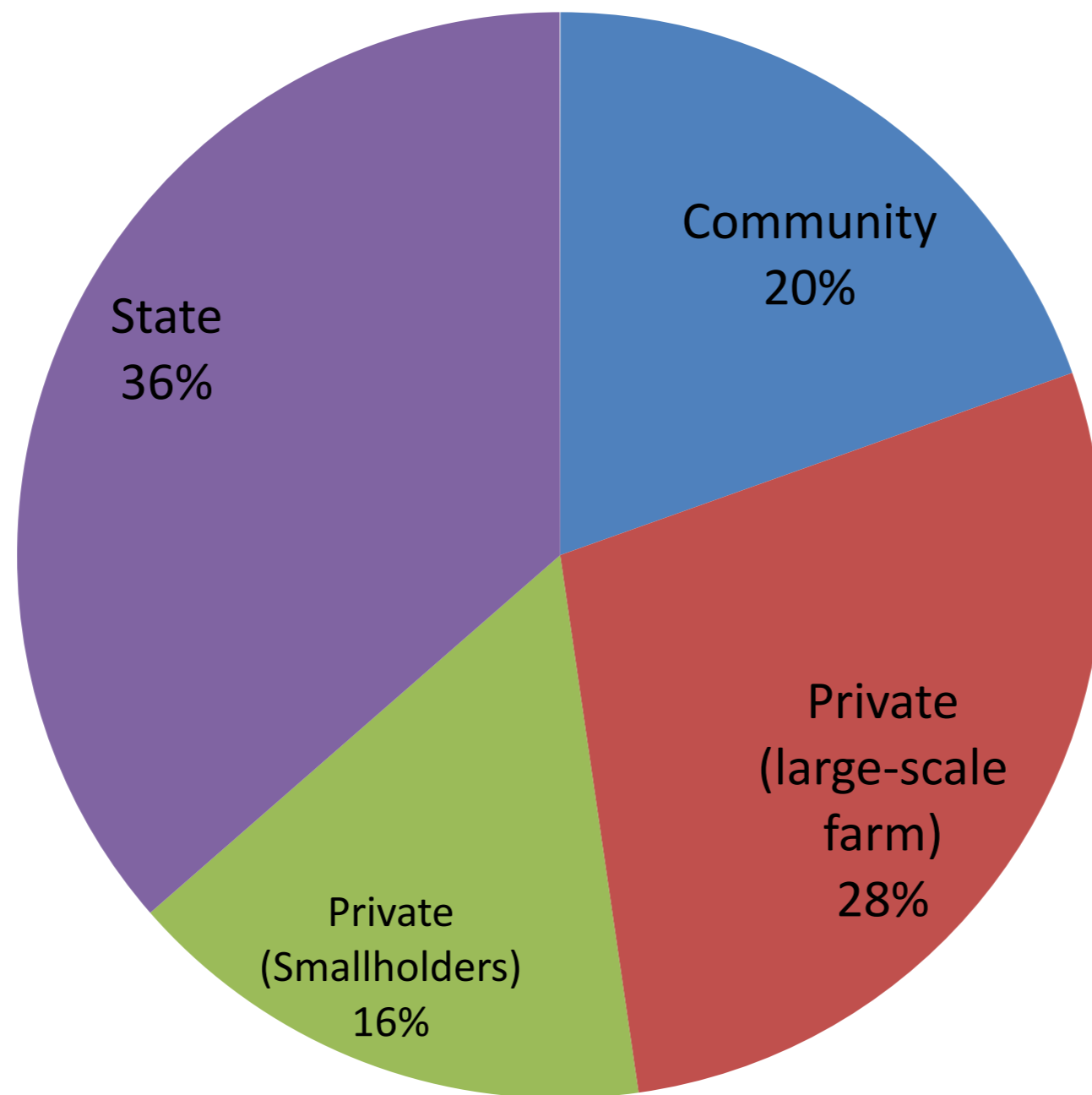


Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO  
Image Landsat

Google earth

Breite -11.149924° Länge 52.642378° sichthöhe 15937.13 km

# Former Ownership reported in Land Matrix

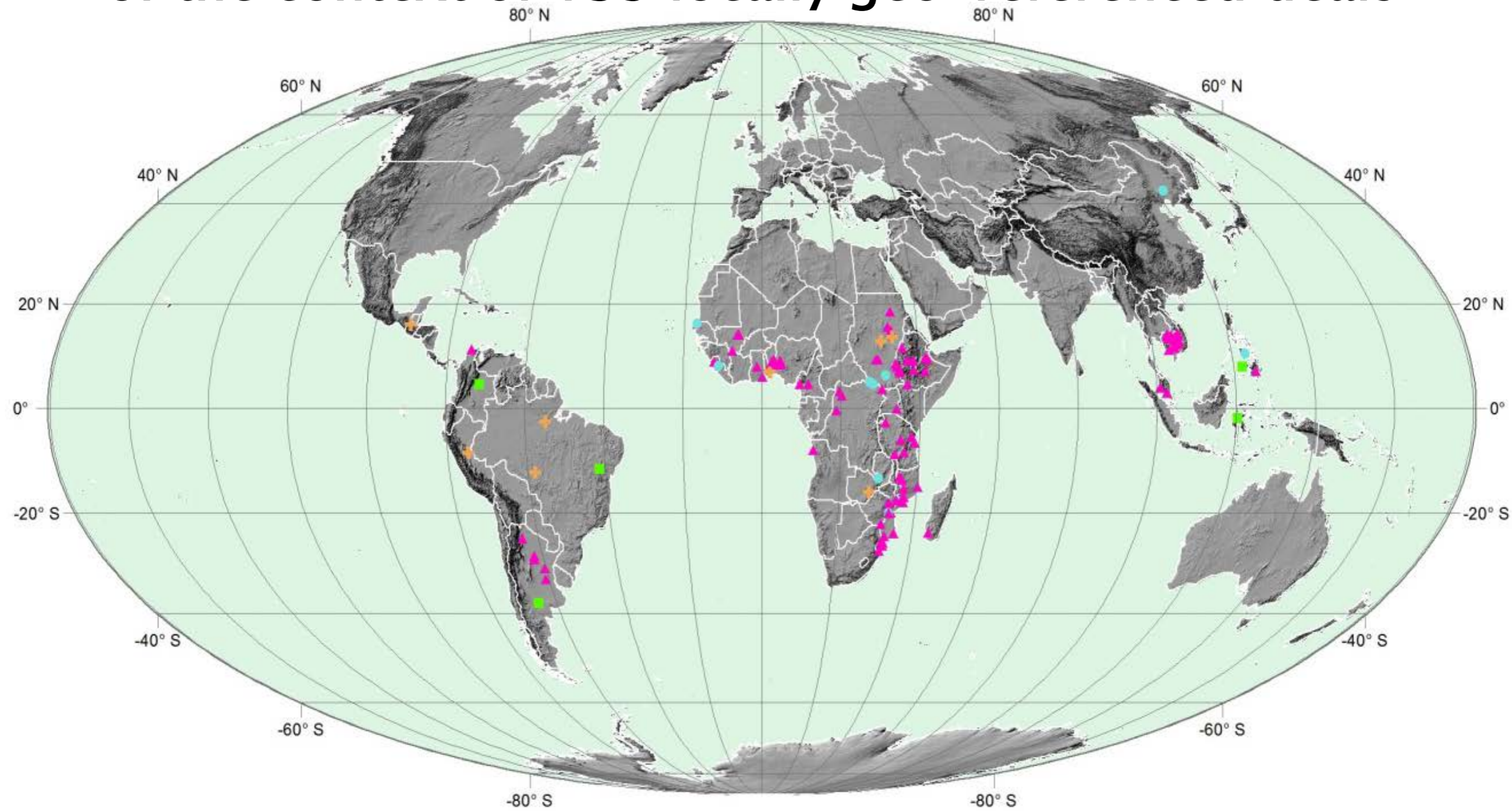


N= 466 agricultural deals

Source: Land Matrix 25.4.2016



# Land cover analysis of the context of 139 locally geo-referenced deals



## Negotiation Status

- ▲ Contract signed (115)
- Oral Agreement (6)
- Under negotiation (9)
- ✦ No information (9)

Map scale: approx. 1:200,000,000  
Map projection: Mollweide

Source: Messerli, Giger, Dwyer, Eckert, 2014

# Land cover analysis of the context of 139 locally geo-referenced deals



	Share of deals
Cropland mosaics	35%
Forest land	34%
Shrub- and grassland	25%
Marginal and other land	6%

- Investor compete with farming communities
- 79 % of deals in Africa are within a daytrip from nearest city (accessibility < 6h);
- 52% of all deals globally target areas with population densities > 25 persons/km<sup>2</sup>



Three distinct patterns emerge from the analysis:

- densely populated and easily accessible croplands
- remote forestlands with lower population
- moderately populated and moderately accessible shrub- or grasslands

In each of these patterns common property resources exist, with distinct characteristics.

Common property resources are not easily mapped, are frequently overlooked and clearly underreported in the existing databases.

In future, Land Matrix will co-operate with landmark projekt (<http://www.landmarkmap.org/map/>), an interactive global platform to provide maps and other critical information on lands that are collectively held and used by Indigenous Peoples and local communities

The screenshot displays the LandMark web application interface. At the top, the LandMark logo is accompanied by the text "Global Platform of Indigenous And Community Lands BETA". Navigation links for "Home", "Map", "Data", "About", and "Contact Us" are visible. The main map area shows Southeast Asia with numerous brown and orange circular markers indicating land status. A left-hand sidebar contains filter options for "Indigenous Lands" and "Community Lands", categorized by "Formally recognized" and "Not formally recognized" status, with sub-options for documentation and land petition status. A legend on the right side of the map provides a key for these categories and their corresponding colors. The map includes a scale bar (0-400km) and is powered by Esri. The bottom of the image shows a Windows taskbar with various application icons and a system tray.

LandMark | Global Platform of Indigenous And Community Lands BETA

Home Map Data About Contact Us

Filter Selection

Community Level National Level

Indigenous Lands ?

Formally recognized

- Formal documentation
- In process of documentation
- No documentation

Not formally recognized

- Formal land petition
- Occupied or used without formal land petition

Community Lands ?

Formally recognized

- Formal documentation
- In process of documentation
- No documentation

Not formally recognized

- Formal land petition
- Occupied or used without formal land

Analyze an area ?

Legend

Indigenous Lands

Formally recognized

- Formal documentation
- In process of documentation
- No documentation

Not formally recognized

- Formal land petition
- Occupied or used without formal land petition

Community Lands

Formally recognized

- Formal documentation

Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, CC-BY-SA

POWERED BY esri

16:09.05



Layer Selection

Community Level

National Level

Indigenous Lands

Formally recognized

- Formal documentation
- In process of documentation
- No documentation

Not formally recognized

- Formal land petition
- Occupied or used without formal land petition

Community Lands

Formally recognized

- Formal documentation
- In process of documentation
- No documentation

Not formally recognized

- Formal land petition
- Occupied or used without formal land



Legend

Indigenous Lands

Formally recognized

- Formal documentation
- In process of documentation
- No documentation

Not formally recognized

- Formal land petition
- Occupied or used without land petition

Community Lands

Formally recognized

- Formal documentation

Analyze an

# Link to Open Land Contracts

An online repository of

## Open Land Contracts

Search 76 Contracts

Search

CONTRACT DOCUMENTS FROM

### 9 Countries

[View All Countries](#)



CONTRACT DOCUMENTS RELATED TO

### 33 Resources

[View all resources](#)

This site provides summaries of contracts and their terms to facilitate understanding of important provisions in the documents. These summaries are not interpretations of the documents. Neither the summaries nor the full contracts are complete accounts of all legal obligations related to the projects in question. This site also includes document text that was created automatically, such text may contain errors and differences from the original PDF files. No warranty is made to the accuracy of any content on this website.

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23 ANNOTATIONS

By Page By Topic

All General Environment Fiscal  
Operations Social Other

Arbitration and dispute resolution  
Arbitrage et règlement des différends  
All disputes must be referred to arbitrators  
in London under... more  
Page 7 (Arts. 5.2(a); 5.2(e))

Assignment or transfer  
Cession ou transfert  
Socfin Agricultural Company (S.L.) is not  
permitted to assign or... more  
Page 4 (Art. 2.10)

Cancellation or termination  
Annulation ou Résiliation  
Socfin Agricultural Company (S.L.) must

THIS SUB-LEASE is made on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March 2011 in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Eleven in accordance with the provisions of the Provisions Land Act, Cap 122 of the Laws of Sierra Leone 1960 as amended by the Provisions Land (Amendment) Act (Act No.15 of 1961) BETWEEN DR. JOSEPH SAM SESAY, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security for and on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone (hereinafter referred to as the "Lessor" whose expression shall where the context so admits include his successors in office) of the ONE PART AND SOCFIN AGRICULTURAL COMPANY (S.L.) LIMITED, a company established under the laws of Sierra Leone whose offices is at Apt. 01, No.7 Aberdeen Beach Road, Lumley, Freetown in the Western Area of the Republic of Sierra Leone (hereinafter called the "Lessee" which expression where the context so admits shall include his successors in office) of the other part.

WHEREAS by a lease dated the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March 2011 made between Paramount Chief S.V.S. Kessie, together with members of his Chiefs Council of the one part and the Lessor herein of the other part (hereinafter referred to as the "Head Lease") and duly registered as No. at page in volume in the Book of Leases kept in the office of the Registrar-General, Freetown at that place or parcel of land situated, lying and being at MALEN CHIEFDOM, PUJEHUN DISTRICT in the Southern Province of the Republic of Sierra Leone was demised to the Lessor herein for a term of fifty (50) years as from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March 2011 upon the terms and conditions therein stated.

AND WHEREAS by letter dated the day of 2011, the Lessor herein sought the consent of the Lessors to the Head Lease to submit the premises demised thereunder as provided for in Clause 2.5 of the Head Lease and by a letter dated the day of 2011, the said Lessors of the Head Lease gave their consent to the granting of this Sub-Lease.

METADATA See Summary

Country  
Sierra Leone

Signature Year  
2011

Resource  
Agroindustry | Oil palm or palm oils

Type of Contract  
Sub-lease

Open Contracting Identifier  
ocds-591adf-SL5382985515OL

Disclosure Mode

Land Matrix ID:  
[#2371](#)



# What can we learn from the Land Matrix?

- Land Matrix collects information about former land use and former land owners – albeit with large data gaps and not explicitly about the commons
- Spatial information contained in the Land Matrix can be exploited
- Land Matrix can a tool for researchers to identify secondary information about LSLA
- Land Matrix could help to identify cases for further detailed investigation (adding in-depth research on individual cases based on purposeful selection of case study)
- **Land Matrix can help to spread scientific findings beyond research audience**

Thank you!

And we hope we can upload your research results on the Land Matrix platform soon!

Report land deals

**Website:** [www.landmatrix.org](http://www.landmatrix.org)

**Twitter:** [@Land\\_Matrix](https://twitter.com/Land_Matrix)

**FB:** [Land\\_Matrix](https://www.facebook.com/Land_Matrix)

**Pilot App on Android Play Store!**

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.unibe.researchdigisus.landobservatory>