

## **Securing Land Rights for Food Security in Africa: An Appraisal of Links Between Smallholders' Land Rights and the Right to Adequate Food in Ethiopia**

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**Abstract :** There are strong links between secure land rights and food security in Africa. However, as land is owned by governments, land users do not have adequate legislative protection. This article explores normative and implementation gaps in relation to small-scale farmers' land rights under the Ethiopia's law. It finds that the law facilitates eviction of small-scale farmers and indigenous peoples from their land without adequate alternative means of livelihood. It argues that as access to land and other natural resources is strongly linked to the right to adequate food, Ethiopia should reform its land laws in the light of its legal obligations under international human rights law to respect, protect and fulfill the right to adequate food and ensure freedom from hunger.

**Keywords :** smallholder, secure land rights , food security, right to food, land grabbing, forced evictions

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