Why are land rights important to Brazil?

Insurec land rights create problems in rural areas throughout Brazil.

- Land disputes are frequent among different interest groups, particularly in remote areas, often result in violence.
- Conflicts and violence.
- Increased deforestation.
- Poor titling makes it difficult for environmental agencies to identify land owners responsible for deforestation, impeding efforts to curb it.
- Good agricultural land goes to waste.
- Farmers reduce investments in farming or plant less suitable crops.
- Rental markets, which would otherwise capture investment in agriculture and create economic growth, do not exist in most areas in Brazil.
- The result is that land is less likely to be developed, leased, or used to its fullest potential.

- Secure rural land rights would benefit the whole country.
- Challenge of managing public lands.
- Secure forest protection.
- Vacant lands are large public areas that the government has not formally identified and used and that often end up being illegally occupied by individuals.
- It is estimated that 24% of federal land is illegally occupied.
- This equals the combined area of Spain and France.
- Sources:
  - Brazil ranks low in the world for providing secure physical property rights for its citizens.
  - International Property Rights Index, Property Rights Alliance, 2015.
  - Fewer than 50% of farms in the states of Pará and Piauí are registered.
  - Climate Policy Initiative, 2016.

Why are Brazil’s land rights so insecure?

- Complex institutional system.
- Poor recordkeeping.
- Little to no institutional integration.
- Poor oversight.
- Insecure land rights create problems in rural areas throughout Brazil.

- Brazil ranks low in the world for providing secure physical property rights for its citizens.
- Brazil needs to improve its property rights system to protect the rights of its citizens.
- This is crucial for ensuring that land is developed, leased, and used to its fullest potential.
- Brazil needs to ensure that its citizens have secure property rights to promote economic growth and development.

- Increased development.
- More developed land rental markets.
- Stronger forest protection.
- Improved land use.
- Reduced conflict.
- More sustainable land development.

Sources:
- International Property Rights Index, Property Rights Alliance, 2015.