

## Global Donor Working Group on Land

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### Meeting for the Global Report on Land Governance

5 February 2021

#### Participants:

- Javier Molina Cruz (FAO) – Chair of the Global Donor Working Group on Land
- Harold Liversage (IFAD)
- Adriano Campolina, FAO
- Amy Regas (Place Fund)
- Bernard Zaugg (EDA)
- Clemence Contensou (French Government)
- Dominik Wellmann (GIZ)
- Etienne Coyette (EU)
- Francesca Romano (FAO)
- Francesco Pierri, FAO
- Gemma Betsema (RVO Netherlands)
- Thea Hilhorst (World Bank)
- Jenny Lopez (FCDO)
- Jennifer Lisher (MCC)
- Mathieu Boche (AFD)
- Robert Lewis-Lettington, GLTN/UN-HABITAT
- Vladimir Evtimov, FAO
- Everlyne Nairesiae (UN Habitat)
- Samuel Mabikke, FAO
- Robert Lewis-Lettington (UN-Habitat)
- Ward Anseeuw (ILC/CIRAD)
- Maurizio Navarra (GDPRD, Acting Secretariat Coordinator)
- Roberta Croce (GDPRD Secretariat Intern)

#### Agenda:

1. Update on the status of preparation of the report by FAO/GLTN/ILC
2. Objectives and scope of the report
3. Content of first issue
4. Funding

#### Issues discussed

- **Presentation of the Arab Land Conference**, Robert Lewis-Lettington, UN-Habitat  
The conference will be articulated around four types of sessions:
  1. High level on land management in crisis
  2. Land administration
  3. Women and land
  4. Other technical sessions, with presentations of papers and round tablesThe conference will also include masterclasses on several topics related to land, but also region-based discussions. Invitations are being sent to GDWGL members.
- **Global Report on Land Governance**, Ward Anseeuw, ILC Secretariat/CIRAD
  - Progress summary:
    - Since the last working group meeting, work has focused on a broad outline of the Report
    - The idea is to develop each section by identifying a task leader or a small team. Work on the sections is not proceeding at the same pace, but the work has started. For the whole initiative, key contact people have been identified.
  - Evolution: The initial idea was to launch the Report for the Food Systems Summit FSS. However, considering the existing resources and data availability, the release of the report

is now envisioned for 2022. In regard to the Food System Summit, a high-level policy report/document will be prepared. This policy report/document will focus on the relevance of land (the land agenda) to the sustainability of food systems and will be ready prior to FSS.

- In addition, work will continue on the preparation of the global report, a more comprehensive publication that will address land through a broader perspective, such as the relevance of land to the sustainable management of resources and climate change, gender equity and poverty reduction, etc. This report will build on the policy report/document prepared for the FSS and will be ready in 2020.
- Funding available so far:
  - UN Habitat – GLTN: \$100,000
  - ILC: \$60,000
  - FAO: funding for 1 full-time person
  - Additional funding is being sought.

### **Discussion:**

- **High-level policy document:** The high-level policy document will fit into the overall Global Land Governance Report, possibly as a chapter dedicated to food systems and land governance. GDWGL is invited to give feedback and comments. Other partners involved in the land agenda will be invited to provide feedback as well.
- **Target and objectives of the global report:** The report should be the first of a series to be produced in the lead up to 2030, and beyond. The objective of the Report is to bring land back into the policy agenda, or more specifically, to make it a priority. A co-objective that complemented discussion is to have a better focus on tenure security.
- **Gaps and country accountability:** Countries are at different stages in terms in addressing the issues on land management, including the gaps that need to be addressed and tracking the progress through indicators. The aim is to have a report based on data and evidence.
- **Inclusion of water rights in the Report:** Water is a truly relevant issue to land tenure, especially in the perspective of climate change, and will therefore be part of the Report, through a specific section on land and natural resources, including water.
- **Availability of data:** There are varying levels of data, some of which more available than others. A summary on the availability of data on important issues, e.g. the basic SDG indicators, is already something that can be used to prompt political discussion. Data availability is critical and the timeframe until the FSS is not sufficient to gather all necessary data.
- **Financial support of the GDWGL to the Policy Document:** Some requested if the WG would provide support in the short term so that the policy document could be ready by the FSS:
  - The key objective is to make the publication for the FSS relevant. In terms of financial resources, it would be helpful to have clarity of the cost structure of the publication to identify the budget needs.
  - The WG could endorse the policy paper/document as it did with the policy note on land that was presented at high-level event on the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the VGGT, held on the sidelines of the CFS 44<sup>th</sup> Session in October 2017.

- The group (FAO, ILC and the GLTN) has resources to prepare the short policy paper/document for the FSS, but it does not have sufficient funds to produce the global report.
  - The EC representative indicated that the EC could provide some financial support to the preparation of the policy paper and the global report but from funding already allocated to ongoing programs. This would involve reviewing those programs' budgets to allocate some funds to support the preparation of the global report.
- **Expectations from the report:** This publication will seek to position the land agenda on top of the policy debate and ensure that land issues are a priority. The agencies working on this report have the capacity to develop such a report, but endorsement by the WG will be fundamental. Similarly, the participation of other partners in the land community will be highly encouraged and very much welcome.
  - Concerning the policy paper/document, this could be a way to test what the overall report could be. In this connection, it was suggested that, at this time, to focus on the policy paper, to invest available resources and energy into it and then work on the global report.

#### **Decisions and follow-up actions**

1. The GDWGL to reconvene in one month, when the preparation for the report has moved forward.
2. The Concept note on the global report will be shared with GDWGL members in due course.
3. A policy paper/document for the FSS will be prepared, for which 2 members of the WG will liaise with the group (FAO, ILC and GLTN) working on the preparation of such paper and concept note on the global report.
4. In that regard, Mathieu Boche (from AFD) and Bernard Zaugg (from EDA) confirmed their availability to liaise with the group on behalf of the GDWGL.