Journey and Learning on Responsible Land Investment

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GDPRD AGA 15 June 2022
Insight #1: better guidance is not enough

Insight #2: need to go beyond legal compliance to promote ‘social licence’ to operate

Insight #3: companies and investors can’t quantify tenure risk

Insight #4: go up the chain to reach scale & IFC PS not enough

Insight #5: companies and investors can’t access the right support

Insight #6: independent support to communities critical but underfunded

Insight #7: getting to scale is the $1m Q

Insight #8: we’re only reaching a small fraction of companies

Insight #9: even companies with best intentions get into trouble

State regulation (LIA&M ‘System’)

Investor/business practices

Community/civil society action

(Obvious) Insight #1: better guidance is not enough

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LESSON 1  Timely identification of land rights issues is critical; if addressed later, are likely to escalate leading to conflicts and additional costs

LESSON 2  Legitimate tenure rights in and around investment sites need to be recognised, documented and, as far as possible, secured before companies negotiate land access

LESSON 3  Companies and governments need to establish fair and open negotiation processes to achieve community consent for investment plans

LESSON 4  Communities need effective, independent, politically savvy support to protect legitimate rights and negotiate effectively

LESSON 5  The business case for RLI is becoming clearer in economic terms, but companies still need to mainstream land rights in their core business decisions

LESSON 6  Positive regulation and a systemic approach to overall governance are essential to support RLI

See: https://landportal.org/partners/legend/outputs-overview
What lessons for 2022?

• High commodity prices and food insecurity significant triggers
• Monitoring developments
• Where focus attention?
  - Building capacity of communities & rapid response (coordination?)
  - National land investment approval and monitoring systems
  - Investor incentives