



# MINUTES GLOBAL DONOR WORKING GROUP ON LAND

DATE: 14 JANUARY 2022

## PARTICIPANTS

- Adriano Campolina, FAO
- Amy Regas, Place Fund
- Astrid Broekaart, The Netherlands
- Chris Penrose Buckley, FCDO
- Emma Tickner, SIDA
- Etienne Coyette, European Union
- Fransesco Maria Pierri, FAO
- Gemma Betsema, The Netherlands
- Harold Liversage, IFAD
- Javier Molina Cruz, FAO
- Jennifer Lisher, Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC)
- Jenny Lopez, FCDO
- Jill Pike, Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC)
- Jonas Kramp, GIZ
- Jorge Espinoza, GIZ
- Karol Boudreaux, USAID
- Linus Pott, World Bank
- Thea Hilhorst, World Bank
- Wael Zakout, World Bank

### GDPRD Secretariat:

- Maurizio Navarra
- Michelle Tang
- Alessandro Cordova
- Lise Saga
- Luca Passacantilli
- Monique Amar

## AGENDA

Issue	Item	Details
1.	Welcome and Introduction	Karol/USAID
2.	Update from the Secretariat	Michelle/GDPRD
3.	GDWGL Session at the AGA 2022	Karol/USAID
4.	IPLC Tenure Rights Initiative	Jenny/DFID
5.	State of Land Tenure and Governance Report (SLGR)	Javier/FAO
6.	2022 Work Plan	Karol/USAID

# KEY HIGHLIGHTS/ISSUES

## 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

[Karol Boudreaux]

- Wished everyone a happy, healthy and productive 2022. Based on initial conversations over the last couple of weeks, 2022 will be a productive year for the working group.

## 2. UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

[Michelle Tang]

- The Secretariat, under the guidance of the chair and vice-chair, updated the [webpage of the GDWGL](#) on the GDPRD website. The main objective was to redesign the page and update the content for easier navigation. After feedback from the group, the new webpage will be launched along with an interview of the chairs and vice-chairs of the working group.

[Karol Boudreaux]

- Members are encouraged to contribute to the updates section of the new webpage with relevant materials. This can encourage more frequent visits.
- Additional quotes for inclusion on the new webpage are welcomed.

[Jorge Espinoza]

- Question about the Land Governance Map and how it is correlated with the website.

[Gemma Betsema]

- The map is still on the website but has not been updated recently. We are in contact with the Land Portal and aim to create a programme database which will be automatically updated.

[Karol Boudreaux]

- There are funds available for the work on the Land Map, but they are not sufficient to cover an entire update or transfer of data. Encouragement was made to contribute resources to complete the process.
- The map is highly useful to see where colleagues are working and where there is opportunity for closer collaboration.

[Wael Zakout]

- Question about the intended audience of the website, and if it is meant for a broader audience, governments, or professionals.
- Major products from the member organisations should be shared on the website.
- Relevant blog posts could be included on the website.

[Michelle Tang]

- The page is user friendly so that specialists in the group, other partners, and a more general audience can all use it. The goal is to keep the page targeted and specific but also accessible.
- The Secretariat looks forward to receiving feedback from the members of the working group for the website.

[Jill Pike]

- Since the minutes will be publicly available on the website, there was a question about the level of detail. These meetings should be a venue for open free discussion, and detailed minutes could constrain people from talking freely.

[Karol Boudreaux]

- The minutes are high level, and not particularly detailed. The chair and vice chair review the minutes and consider concerns around releasing information and sensitive materials. Free and open conversation is important.

[Maurizio Navarra]

- The working group decides what is shared on the website.
- The habit has always been to share the minutes on the website. The members are all public organizations, so the work of the Group has always been considered public domain, in general.

### **3. GDWGL SESSION AT THE AGA 2022**

[Maurizio Navarra]

- Every year, the GDPRD holds an Annual General Assembly (AGA). This year, the AGA was supposed to take place on 7-8 March as a hybrid online/in-person event. Because of the current COVID wave and the omicron variant, a hybrid event in March will not be possible. Therefore, the AGA is postponed to May or June.
- In March, conversations on national pathways for food systems transformation will take place instead. The plan is to have conversations on country level donor coordination, financing, and data.
- It was initially proposed that the thematic working groups hold special sessions during the AGA. The question now is whether the working group would like to hold a special session during the postponed AGA, but also organize a special session at the beginning of March. The March event would be virtual, while the hope is for the May/June session to be a hybrid event.

[Wael Zakout]

- People are tired of virtual meetings, so it will be better to wait until May/June to organize a session.

### **4. IPLC TENURE RIGHTS INITIATIVE**

[Jenny Lopez] - *Jenny works in the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office with Chris Penrose Buckley in the Land Governance Team.*

- The Indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLC) forest tenure rights initiative was launched at COP26. A combination of bilateral and philanthropic donors cooperated to promote the issue of IPLC forest tenure rights at COP26.
- Thirty-six per cent of intact forests are within indigenous peoples' land. There is strong evidence demonstrating the importance of land tenure rights as part of an effective strategy for climate mitigation, nature and biodiversity ambitions, and safeguarding livelihoods for economic development.
- Less than one per cent of current international climate finance goes directly to support issues of IPLC land rights.
- COP presented an opportunity to secure resources, but also to improve coordination across donors and stakeholders to ensure effective spending. The pledge raised for IPLC forest tenure totalled \$1.7 billion, with a public supporting statement.
- Two side events were held, one on the World Leaders Summit: Action on Forest and Land Use, and a UK Pavilion Nature Day Side Event.
- The pledge is not a pooled fund. Individual donors choose how to spend their money.
- Next steps include (1) ensure that donors and stakeholders are aligned and coordinated through effective information sharing channels; (2) be informed by and responsive to IPLC needs and priorities by organizing quarterly meetings with IPLC representatives and regular meetings with civil society organizations; (3) ensure accountability and monitoring, with some form of public reporting.

[Wael Zakout]

- A global commitment on IPLC land rights is a major achievement and it is the first time it has been given this level of attention.
- When moving this agenda forward there should be a link to two other important groups: (1) forestry colleagues and (2) social inclusion and social development colleagues. It must be acknowledged that land rights on their own are not enough. Land rights must be linked to

livelihood improvements, ensuring that indigenous peoples benefit from their own resources. Incentives for forest protection should be established.

- \$1.7 billion is a large sum but will not achieve this agenda at scale. Therefore, efforts must be made to leverage the great resources from our own institutions, bilateral institutions, and multilateral institutions.

[Harold Liversage]

- Question about whether the pledge only focused on forests. Although the importance of forests is clear, the issue of other types of land such as deserts and semi-arid areas was raised at COP26.

[Jenny Lopez]

- Other lands are critically important. However, this pledge is part of the Global Forest Finance, so forests are the main focus.
- This is an opportunity to collaborate, increase visibility, leverage support, and develop models and solutions which will apply to a wide variety of lands and communities.

[Javier Molina Cruz]

- There is ample opportunity for crossover between forests and sustainable land management, customary tenure, and indigenous communities.

## **5. STATE OF LAND TENURE AND GOVERNANCE REPORT (SLGR)**

[Javier Molina Cruz]

- Thanked the Secretariat for their support with the SLGR Workshop. The goal is to produce an evidence-based report for policymakers on land tenure and security. It should discuss current issues and advocate solutions for change.
- The link between responsible land governance and SDG achievement was highlighted, and the relationship between land tenure and inequality. This is particularly evident for women and gender inequality.
- The need for monitoring and indicators to track progress was emphasized. For this reason, there will likely be new editions of the report over time (e.g., every 4 years).
- Data availability was discussed extensively. It will be critical to examine what data exists, and whether complementary data collection will be necessary.
- It was argued that the report should address land security in both rural and urban areas. The urban nexus is relevant for food security, poverty reduction, climate change mitigation, and adaptation.
- The report should be broad and stakeholders beyond the land community must be involved. An advisory committee, including experts from different backgrounds, will be formed to advise on the report preparation and execution.
- It was suggested that another meeting and workshop should take place to convene potential contributors for the next steps.
- Regarding the time frame, the report was initiated in 2019. Now is the defining moment to take it forward, so we are aiming to finalise within the next year or so, not including possible COVID related delays.

[Adriano Campolina]

- Adriano encouraged examining the original concept note from last year.
- Currently, the main aspects of the report are being discussed, such as institutional coordination, governance, writing architecture, and decision-making processes. Once these have been settled, senior management at all institutions will provide input. These steps should take place very shortly. The final report should be launched within 18 months from now.

[Chris Penrose Buckley]

- Question about the engagement strategy once the report is produced, and if it will be aligned with other agendas or frameworks.

[Adriano Campolina]

- The report will be part of a larger collective process, a Global Land Observatory, which will convene many land initiatives and stakeholders. The report will not stand alone but will be part of a larger framework for action. The report launch could coincide with other events such as the GTS anniversary or the CFS.
- The structure could be one section of overall data and trend analysis and a second “deep dive” section on a specific element of land tenure.

## 6. 2022 WORK PLAN

[Karol Boudreaux]

- The last work plan was set up in two tracks: (1) issues that we could all work on as a group and (2) thematic issues or opportunities that certain members could address in small groups.
- There was agreement to continue with this two-track structure.

[Wael Zakout]

- The group’s framework for action can be used to guide the 2022 work plan. For example, strategic actions to bring awareness to land tenure and improve country-level coordination.

[Chris Penrose Buckley]

- The framework for action includes high-level priorities which cannot be accomplished in just one year, so initiating progress on the framework is key.
- One point for the work plan is to include the building of a statement document that explains why land is important and sets out some key priorities. This document could become an advocacy tool if endorsed and taken to high-level events. It could become the foundation for other ideas, such as the high-level political summit on land, and could be launched in tandem with the LGR. The draft was circulated earlier this week.

[Jennifer Lisher]

- There are multiple related impact evaluations being released now (i.e., in Burkina Faso and Mozambique with participation from MCC, USAID, GIZ). These could coordinate well with the LGR.

[Adriano Campolina]

- The work plan could somehow reflect the commitment at COP26 to indigenous peoples and local communities in forestland.
- Agreed that the framework for action should be a priority.

[Chris Penrose Buckley]

- It would be helpful to assess what the comparative advantage of this TWG is, and how connection and contribution to initiatives can proceed. For example, linking land tenure to the work in forests for forest tenure.

[Karol Boudreaux]

- Will continue to work with Gemma and the Secretariat to draft the work plan and send it out for feedback. The tentative plan is to have meetings: alongside the AGA in May/June, one in the summer, and then in-person in October at the CFS meetings.
- Perhaps sub-groups should be established to work on country-level coordination projects.

[Maurizio Navarra]

- Please consider how many calls/sessions the group would like to have this year so the planning can be done early.
- All agreed to a virtual meeting in March.

## SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

Agenda item/Issue	Action	Timeline	Responsible Person(s)
2	Provide feedback to Michelle on the <a href="#">new website</a>	By 28 Jan	All
2	Send quotes to Michelle for the website	By 28 Jan	All
3	Share the original concept note of the AGA with the working group	ASAP	Secretariat
3	Plan a session for the AGA	May/June	All
6	Share the 2022 Work Plan for feedback	ASAP	Chair