



Global Donor Platform  
for Rural Development

# MINUTES OF WORKSHOP STATE OF LAND TENURE AND GOVERNANCE REPORT (SLGR)

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## PARTICIPANTS

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- Innocent Houedji, YILAA
- Javier Molina Cruz, FAO
- Jorge Espinoza, GIZ-Land
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## AGENDA

Item	Issue	Presenter
1.	Welcome and Introduction	Javier Molina Cruz (FAO)
2.	Background, Lessons, and Suggested Approach for the SLGR	Nayna Jhaveri
3.	Vision, Content, and Objectives of the SLGR	Adriano Campolina (FAO)
4.	Contributors and Peer Review process of the SLGR	Open Discussion
5.	Community of Practice and the SLGR	Ward Anseeuw (ILC)

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS/ISSUES

### 2. BACKGROUND, LESSONS, AND SUGGESTED APPROACH FOR THE SLGR

[Nayna Jhaveri]

- The consultancy process has focused on reviewing global reports and interviewing key stakeholders. The majority of planned interviews have been completed.
- It must be clear in advance what resources are available and how collaboration between multiple organizations will take place. For example, determining which publication activities, social media, webinars, etc. can be accomplished, and the responsibilities of each stakeholder. It will be critical to have a clear timetable and structure to coordinate all the contributors and ensure consistency among authors. It would be best not to mention individual authors, but rather have an acknowledgement section of contributors. The report should have a clear institutional home.
- Feedback from interviews determined that the word “GLOBAL” should be removed from the title, because it will not be possible to discuss a large number of countries. Therefore, working titles include “The State of Land Governance” and “The State of Land Tenure in Governance”.
- There should be engagement with policymakers from beginning to end.
- Many interviewees brought up the issue of data availability, as FAOSTAT has little to no information on land tenure.
- The report should be 120-160 pages. This will likely be the first edition of the report with new editions every few years. Therefore, this first one must be solid enough to guide the structure of future editions.
- A main task is determining the intended audience and purpose of the report. From there, dissemination can be planned in terms of required synthesis reports and briefs, policy notes, videos, etc. This should be planned from the beginning. There is also a need for a risk mitigation process and plan in case of delays.
- Two options for chapter writing: 1) one or two experts who outline each chapter and then a writer team take over OR 2) a core team that completes the entire report
- Potential write-shop: 5 day in-person event, facilitator (expensive), but produces excellent report. Depends on budget and COVID limitations.
- Must have a key **coordinator** of the report. This person must master the topic and know the stakeholders, relationships, data, etc. which are involved. S/he will manage the scheduling and coordination of all writers and be a coordinating editor. The coordinator would also

facilitate the inception workshop which will determine 1) key messages, 2) data issues, and 3) produce a brief outline.

- The **independent advisory committee** would represent stakeholders and be in charge of key messaging and tasks. The **technical committee** would then be responsible for the detailed writing and review process and would oversee the preparation of a detailed annotated outline.

[Ward Anseeuw]

- For contextualization: the SLGR has been in process for the last 18 to 24 months. A team of donors has been working more intensively in the last 12 months to initiate the process. It was decided to hire an independent consultant to give an overview of existing materials, and to give indications for the direction of the continuing process.

[Fransesco Pierri]

- In terms of content, the report is envisaged to have a first part addressing the analysis of data, and a second part assessing specific topics.
- The report must be built on solid evidence.
- Limitations of data is a challenge, and the report will require qualitative and quantitative data. ILC has worked on a multidimensional level concentration index, which will require a technical workshop with experts to decide on relevant data sets.

[Ana Paula Dela O Campos]

- The SOFI and SOFA reports of FAO have different approaches. SOFA presents a new theme every year, mandated at the highest level of the organization. SOFI is an annual report with two parts, where the first part summarises the latest evidence in relation to some agreed indicators. Specific methodologies have been developed for those indicators over time. The different modalities of these reports require different approaches, different workload, and level of expertise.
- The SOFI report process could be relevant for the land report, with one section reporting on given indicators and one thematic section relating to different topics.
- The areas of inquiry and land-related measures for the report should first be defined before determining whether there is enough data. Rigorously built case studies can be included as non-conventional data sources.
- If each edition of the report will have a different topic, a preliminary list of these should be developed.
- The Gender and Land Rights database has information on tenure arrangements.

[Rafic Khouri]

- The report could potentially adopt a regional rather than national approach.

[Marc Wegerif]

- The report outline was accessible and informative.
- For the approach, it was suggested to combine a thematic focus with some consistent data. Creating a data source such as the SOFI report, for land tenure and governance would be very valuable. The problem of data shortage could be solved by using unified national databases on registered land.
- On the question of whether the report should be regional or national in scope, the aim should be to include as many countries as possible. Acquiring regional data is more of a challenge than national data. The report should aim to be global.

[Innocent A. Houedji]

- For the organizational approach of the report, a focus on communications should be emphasized for inclusion of stakeholders and institutions. A proposal to form a communications team and communications strategy for the report was made.

- In the inception workshop, thematic groups should work on different topical sections. A group for the topic of youth and land governance should be prioritised, as well as a group for women and other vulnerable peoples.
- Prindex can be approached for data collection.

[Clarissa Augustinus]

- There are many land tenure-related peer reviewed journal articles and these should be used.

[Adriano Campolina]

- The ESP team is envisaging a report with two sections; one with a consistent and periodic assessment of a set of indicators, to monitor trends on land tenure internationally, and another with a thematic deep dive on a particular issue.
- The ambition should be for the report to be global. If data is only available for a limited number of countries, this could allow for analysis of overall trends.
- Frequency of the reports could be every 3-4 years, since the evolution of land tenure moves slower than other indicators.

[Benjamin Davis]

- While agreeing on the approach with two sections, the idea of a consistent data section could be challenging. The data section could open for more variation and innovation, including more than a single indicator.

[Javier Molina]

- The land tenure field is always changing, so flexibility in how to approach the range of relevant topics and data is useful.

[Danilo Antonio]

- There is limited data to build the report on. The report must represent the data that exists, but still build a case for the need for more data. Lack of tenure security is based on lack of records and therefore lack of data.
- An overall coordinator for the report process is needed to ensure progress and coordination of the multiple stakeholders already involved.
- There is a lack of funding to move things forward.

### **3. VISION, CONTENT, AND OBJECTIVES OF THE SLGR**

[Adriano Campolina]

- The vision of the FAO Land Tenure Team on the report's content, objectives and governance is to bring land tenure to the centre of the policy making agenda for food security and poverty reduction, emphasising the importance of equal access to land and secure tenure rights in achieving the 2030 Agenda. Progress on the land tenure targets is slow, so the political opportunity to increase progress is strong.
- The aim for the data analysis section should be to assess a number of constant patterns to give a sense of trajectory, with a diverse set of data. Consistent data that is repeated every year should be combined with specific data for each additional report including: systemic documentation of access and ownership to land tenure, rights and governance, including the commitments and implementation of SDGs and voluntary guidelines.
- The report should be evidence-based to ensure assessments, discussions and recommendations are authoritative. A mix of available data and development of new sets of data with quantitative and qualitative data, should be addressed. A broader list of potential indicators will be shared for discussion.

- For the reach of the report, the aim is to develop a flagship publication with a wide audience of policymakers, civil society, activists, academia, and research communities. The report should feed back into national and local processes, to support local stakeholders to develop achievable targets and policy discussion.
- For institutional coordination, FAO should host and publish the report and coordinate a small group of organizations to develop the report. The process should be transparent and robust to ensure integrity and inclusion.

[Nicholas Sitco]

- The question of what the report wants to achieve is a good starting point. One suggestion would be to track trends and evolutions in the processes of land governance at national or regional levels, but an alternative would be a more analytical approach. A potential framework for the report is SDGs 10 and 12, on poverty, hunger and inequality. In addition, land governance has implications for other objectives such as aggregate growth.
- National-level data on spatial and socioeconomic trends can add to land governance indicators.

[Marc Wegerif]

- The contribution of effective land governance to a range of other development outcomes needs to be emphasized. The link to food security, food systems and the contribution of land inequality to other wider inequalities is important.
- The report should ensure that land governance issues are more firmly on the map. That means emphasising their importance and then tracking their progress.
- SDG 5 is the SDG with most land-related indicators and gender inequality is very important to land governance and tenure security issues.
- The World Inequality Lab should be encouraged to gather more land inequality data.

[Ward Anseeuw]

- The report will need to combine the approach of land governance monitoring and tracking trends with a more analytical approach. There is a political imperative to solving the land issues, so the report needs to contribute to the political challenges the land sector is facing today.
- The urgency for rights linked to the land sector is closely linked to other aspects such as food security and climate change. The report needs to show how land sector challenges are embedded into food security, inequality, and climate change.

[Patricia Chaves]

- The impact of land inequality on food security in both rural and urban areas, especially for women, should be emphasized.

[Diana Fletschner]

- The report should be inclusive to non-experts, to strongly convey the differences between land governance, land tenure and other issues related to land.
- The report should not focus only on rural areas and agricultural land.

[Marc Wegerif]

- Special and ample attention should be given to urban land issues due to increasing urban populations. Not just informal urban settlements, but also business and public purpose urban areas.

[Francesco Pierri]

- The first data constraints relate to the current status of access to and distribution of land, and generational and gender discrimination.
- To make the report global, it should cover a certain number of countries on each continent.

- As with SOFI's reporting on the number of people experiencing hunger every year, the SLGR should report on the distribution and concentration of land (related to gender etc.) every three or four years.

[Adriano Campolina]

- The report should emphasize the urgency and gravity of land tenure
- The name of the report should be 'State of Land Tenure and Land Governance', including perspectives on data, policies, programmes and strategies
- The wide variety of issues that can be included in the report need to be focused and selected carefully. The level of ambition for the report has to be realistic and not include too many subsets due to limited resource availability.

[Rafic Khouri]

- There cannot be a complete description of the situation and the problems facing each and every country in the world. However, the aim could be to identify dynamics within a country based on a set of indicators and existing data from different countries.
- The dynamics of the project should be kept within the framework of the general approach of the UN and the SDGs, by following the evolution in certain countries.

[Ana Paula Dela O Campos]

- Boxes and annexes with definitions can be used to ensure consistency and understanding.

## 4. CONTRIBUTORS AND PEER REVIEW PROCESS OF THE SLGR

[Patricia Chavez]

- The report should emphasize the importance of rural-urban issues and climate change.
- A consideration of the data used is necessary because no data is ever fully neutral.

[Everlyne Nairesiae]

- The report cannot wait until more data is available, so other sources such as grassroots women's organizations and official government statistics, could be used to build case studies.
- Governments and policymakers must be the target audience, and this can be partly achieved by linking the report to SDGs or regional commitments.
- FAO's commitment to the proposal is appreciated, but the risks of a UN agency as a coordinating partner must be considered.
- Rural and urban dynamics and land tenure must be considered equally.

[Adriano Campolina]

- There should be a multilateral accountability mechanism attached to the report, which is why a UN agency backing is important.

[Ward Anseeuw]

- There should be a few different levels of review. First, the advisory committee. Second, other types of actors such as the private sector and governments. Third, other sectors - such as food security, biodiversity, community, etc.- to go beyond the land community.

[Mark Wegerif]

- Having the report reviewed by independent experts in the field will make it more credible.

[Karol Boudreaux]

- There is extensive research we can make use of such as reports and impact evaluations to support case studies. Different bilateral organizations can support this search for materials and should be consulted to broaden reach and help convene other relevant groups.

[Innocent Houedji]

- YILAA and other African youth organizations offered to contribute data on youth and land access in Africa.

[Adriano Campolina]

- Some mechanism for civil society and government involvement must be established so that it does not appear that participants are hand-picked. A diverse set of stakeholders and reviewers is necessary, particularly in balancing North and South.

## 5. COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE AND THE SLGR

[Ward Anseeuw]

- Communications is critical. The report can be a convener for the land community to engage and should also be embedded in broader initiatives like the SDGs.
- A tracking and monitoring process will give the report more political power and ensure long-term value.
- Even if FAO is the host and publisher, it cannot be just a UN report.

[Nayna Jhaveri]

- Please look at the proposed content and title, it will be critical to get feedback on this first draft, particularly its focus on land tenure security.
- A proposal was made to spotlight initiatives and countries that have made progressive change in land policy and examine their innovative practices.
- The report can have many different angles, so that different audiences can sort through what is relevant to them rather than just a standard narrative throughout. Each section can meet the needs of particular groups.
- The report should include a critique of land inequality and showcase good practices and show how central tenure security is to a broad range of issues.
- One potential path is to organize a webinar and questionnaire to find examples of good practices.
- The report should be a synoptic conceptual framework, a pedagogical and inspirational document that is accessible also for non-academics.

[Clarissa Augustinus]

- The current proposal is too ambitious. Instead, the focus should be on each contributor adding a small part to a larger goal.

[Everlyne Nairesiae]

- It would be useful to start building a structure so that each of us knows our level and contribution.

[Javier Molina Cruz/Adriano Campolina]

- At this stage, please read all the information carefully and provide feedback to move the proposal forward. Eventually we will bring it to the senior management at all of our organizations.

# SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

Agenda item/Issue	Action	Timeline	Responsible Person(s)
3	The report will move forward with the support of FAO, GLTN and UN-Habitat, the International Land Coalition, and other partners.	TBD	
3	Share a list of potential indicators for the report for feedback	TBD	FAO
3	Carefully examine the report and slides to provide feedback to Nayna	ASAP	ALL
5	Send list of names for contributors list to Nayna	TBD	ALL