



Global Donor Platform
for Rural Development

MINUTES GLOBAL DONOR WORKING GROUP ON LAND

DATE: 20 OCTOBER 2022

PARTICIPANTS

- Hélène Julien, AFD
- Etienne Coyette, European Commission
- Simona Bortolotti, European Commission
- Adriano Campolina, FAO
- Francesco Pierri, FAO
- Chris Penrose-Buckley, FCDO
- Jenny Lopez, FDCO
- Patrik Olsson, FDFA Switzerland
- Jorge Espinoza, GIZ
- Harold Liversage, IFAD
- Denys Nizalov, KSE
- Jill Pike, MCC
- Chantal Wieckardt, the Netherlands
- Frits Van der Wal, the Netherlands
- Gemma Betsema, the Netherlands
- Yuliya Panfil, New America
- Amy Regas, PLACE
- Danilo Antonio, UN Habitat
- Karol Boudreaux, USAID
- Paul Prettitore, World Bank
- Thea Hilhorst, World Bank
- Victoria Stanley, World Bank

GDPRD Secretariat:

- Maurizio Navarra
- Michelle Tang
- Sierra Diane Berardelli

AGENDA

Issue	Item	Details
1.	Welcome and Introduction	Karol/USAID Gemma/the Netherlands
2.	Forest Tenure Funders' Group Update	Jenny Lopez/FCDO
3.	Update on the Global Donor Platform	GDPRD Secretariat
4.	Presentation: Needs Assessment on Ukraine	Denys Nizalov/KSE
5.	Updates from FAO	Adriano Campolina/FAO
6.	AOB and closing	Karol/USAID Gemma/the Netherlands

KEY HIGHLIGHTS/ISSUES

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

- Chantal Wieckardt of the Netherlands, Victoria Stanley of the World Bank, Simona Bortolotti of the European Commission and Paul Prettitore of the World Bank joined the call for the first time.
- Planning of the Evidence Workshop, previously referred to as the Evidence Summit, is moving forward. A full-day meeting will be held on 29 November, focusing on the technical elements of the impact evaluations associated with land, including methodology and findings. Two shorter events for policymakers will be held on 30 November and 1 December to review the findings of the Evidence Workshop and discuss recommendations with policymakers. Information on the various workshops will be sent to the Members through the Secretariat. **[Karol Boudreaux]**
- This meeting is Karol's last call as Chair; the Group commends her leadership and dedication over the last year. The Netherlands will take over the role of Chair. Members interested in holding the Co-Chair position are invited to contact the Netherlands. **[Gemma Betsema, Karol Boudreaux, Maurizio Navarra]**
- The 2022-2024 Work Plan is a guiding framework for the workstreams of the group, and country-level coordination will remain a priority in the coming months. The meetings of the Group are an important space for Members to share various updates and progress.
- [The Land Governance Programme Map](#) serves as another tool to support country-level coordination. The map indicates different projects and programmes on land governance across the globe. A grant agreement between GIZ and Land Portal is being finalized, which will enable migration of the current map to Land Portal; Land Portal has already established a team to work on the migration. Core data will come from the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) database and will be cross-checked with the current map and the Land Portal database. The project will take around a year to complete, beginning with a first phase to import data, a second phase to receive feedback from Group Members on data consistency and clarifications, and a final phase to craft a maintenance plan. The map will continue to be updated in the coming years with a dissemination plan to decide how best to use the data and demonstrate land governance across the globe. **[Gemma Betsema]**

2. FOREST TENURE FUNDERS' GROUP UPDATE

Purpose of section:

The UK provided an update on the upcoming COP27 and the Forest Tenure Funders' Group, which helps coordinate donors on the joint donor initiative announced during COP26.

Issues discussed:

- The Forest Tenure Funders Group recently held its Q3 meeting and will hold a Q4 meeting in December in London or Montreal, TBC. **[Chris Penrose-Buckley, Jenny Lopez]**
- UNFCCC COP27 will take place from 6 to 18 November 2022. The Forest Tenure Funders Group will launch the annual report on progress since 2021, comprising narratives, case studies and statements from donors on progress implementing their pledged commitments and opportunities to channel funding directly to IPLC stakeholders and partner organisations. The report will demonstrate an aggregate spending figure, with breakdowns of location and types of spending, rather than individual donor spending. **[Chris Penrose-Buckley, Jenny Lopez]**
- The Group will host two events at COP27: One at the World Leaders' Summit on 7 November, allowing representatives and leaders of IPLC organizations to voice their challenges on the pledge and the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration. The second event will be at the UK Pavilion on 8 November, as an in-depth discussion by IPLC leaders and donors on pledge progress and

on the Forest, Climate, Leaders and Partnership (FCLP) coordination and progress group, which was established after the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration. The FCLP is a government lead group which has identified action areas and support requests from governments. The IPLC and FCLP are linked initiatives. **[Chris Penrose-Buckley, Jenny Lopez]**

3. UPDATE ON THE GLOBAL DONOR PLATFORM

Purpose of section:

The Secretariat provided a summary of recent highlights and the Platform's current workstreams.

Issues discussed:

- The 2022 Annual General Assembly (AGA) was successfully held in a hybrid format at IFAD HQ and virtual after two years of COVID-19 restrictions. The Group's session, "Responsible Land-Based Investing as a Strategy to Mitigate the Harms of a New Food Crisis" highlighted that many governments still need support to draft and implement better land tenure laws, donors should do more to empower communities to understand their rights and strengthen monitoring systems, and bringing together investors, companies and non-governmental organizations can be an effective way to improve outcomes and ensure ethical inclusion of all stakeholders. The [2022 AGA report](#) is available on the website. **[Maurizio Navarra]**
- A meeting with senior managers of the Donor Platform was held in Rome on 11 October. Donors highlighted the following key priorities for the Platform moving forward: assisting donors in keeping food systems and nutrition high on the political agenda; continuing informal discussions on financing, particularly in balancing short-term financing initiatives and long-term approaches and priorities; continuing to foster donor coordination and harmonization at the country level, with an emphasis on the national pathways; and to continue playing a role with data and analytical frameworks, as done previously with Ceres2030 and the 50x2030 initiative. **[Maurizio Navarra]**
- The Platform continues the workstream on country-level coordination, initiating a review of best practices on donor coordination for food systems and rural development and will develop a packet of research, communication and learning materials to guide members and the broader donor and development community on how coordination can be optimized, given past experiences and emerging challenges. This work will involve country case studies, a seminar series with key donors and actors, key informant interviews and discussions with donors, experts and practitioners working on food systems issues, and an analysis of best practices on donor coordination. The Platform also co-organized a virtual donor roundtable with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the European Commission, in collaboration with the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub on the food financing architecture in September and will continue a workstream on financing in food systems in the coming months. **[Maurizio Navarra]**
- The Platform launched a user-friendly [website](#) at the beginning of October, with a page dedicated to the GDWGL, including a "[Knowledge Hub](#)" comprising publications, reports and best practices on land governance, and a [documents page](#) containing meeting minutes and group documents. Members are encouraged to share updates for the website with Michelle Tang via email: michelle.tang@donorplatform.org. **[Maurizio Navarra, Michelle Tang]**

4. PRESENTATION: NEEDS ASSESSMENT ON UKRAINE

Purpose of section:

A presentation was made on the results of a study by New America, Kyiv School of Economics and the Global Land Alliance on [Rapid Needs Assessment: Protecting Property Rights during and after the War in Ukraine](#) to determine what capacity is needed for fast, transparent and just compensation of damages and restitution of rights for land and housing property in Ukraine.

Issues discussed:

- The study depicts a clear understanding of land tenure needs and property rights during conflict, which will be beneficial in resolving post-conflict and providing lessons learned to mitigate risks during future crises rather than after. The study helped inform the World Bank in developing the Risk and Disaster Needs Assessment and can also inform sectors other than land, such as housing, agriculture and infrastructure. **[Paul Prettitore]**
- The needs assessment was conducted July-September 2022, using the review of statistical data and administrative reports, legal and normative acts, and interviews with Ukrainian government officials, including numerous Ministries. The results were validated during a workshop on September 27, 2022 with a broad group of stakeholders. **[Denys Nizalov]**
- The Russian invasion and war in Ukraine have caused the physical destruction and damage of buildings and productive land plots, looting, forced evictions, contamination of land with explosives, and damage to critical infrastructure. As of September 2022, about 1.2 million families have reported their homes damaged or destroyed in Ukraine, affecting around 3 million people. About 85% of the damages have occurred in the four regions of Donetsk, Luhansk, Kharkiv and Kyiv, and several cities report more than 70% of all buildings destroyed. About 23% of agricultural land has been damaged by the war, equating to 13.5m ha or 5m land parcels contaminated with explosives and other military equipment. About 1.3m parcels will require re-cultivation and inspection to be safely and productively used in the future. The World Bank estimates at least US\$349 billion is needed for reconstruction and recovery needs. **[Denys Nizalov]**
- The study found that the government's capacity to maintain land and real estate markets and secure property rights has been reduced by about 20% from 2021 to 2022. Many government offices and archives have been destroyed or looted, which has led to the loss of formal documents, undermining the legitimate rights of property holders. Many property holders have been displaced, and a parallel property management system has been created by the occupying forces. **[Denys Nizalov]**
- The Ukrainian government has taken several steps to build government capacity to protect property rights, including establishing a Loss Reporting Infrastructure through self-reporting via Diia, administrative reports by the local military administrations, and the State Registry of Damaged and Destroyed Property. The Parliament of Ukraine also adopted Law Proposal #7198 "On compensation for Damage and Destruction of Certain Categories of Real Estate as a Result of Military Actions, Terrorist Acts, Sabotage Caused by the Military Aggression of the Russian Federation", however, the needs assessment found that the Law Proposal has several limitations, including having unclear priorities for administering compensation, broad classes of properties not currently included in the law, and the feasibility of confirming rights for compensation needing to be reviewed.
- The study provides three main recommendations and government needs for capacity building: 1) Designing and governing a transparent and corruption-proof system for securing and managing funds for reconstruction and development that are collected via the expropriation of assets of the Russian Federation and individuals responsible for Russian aggression in Ukraine and internationally; reparations; international aid and other funding sources; 2) adopting legislation that stipulates clear and just principals for distribution of compensation; 3) upgrading the government's technical capacity in the area of governance and protection of property rights. **[Denys Nizalov]**
- Urgent needs of the Ukrainian people and government include mobilizing international aid to supply critical construction materials, supporting demining of land infrastructure, rebuilding and re-equipping local offices and establishing mobile government services, upgrading Diia service for recording losses, and upgrading server and data storage facilities for virtual documents. Long-term needs include the adoption of the Law Proposal #7198 addressing the recommendations, establishing the authority of local government over the reconstruction of property when the legitimate right holder cannot be identified, integrating the process of

compensation with a broader reconstruction plan, and implanting key reforms in land and housing sectors such as anti-corruption and decentralization. **[Denys Nizalov]**

Q&A:

Currently, there is no mechanism for providing just-in-time information, advice and feedback to the government of Ukraine. Other countries that have experienced conflict could share questions and lessons learned, such as Bosnia and Colombia. If any members of the Group have experienced this issue previously and have feedback, it is welcomed. **[Paul Prettitore]**

- There's a need for knowledge sharing and a platform to share best practices and lessons learned. The government has voiced that they are willing to issue a request for such support but are unclear on where to request this information. **[Denys Nizalov]**
- At the onset of the war, FAO developed a policy brief comprising key questions the Ukrainian government must prepare for and the different phases, informed by experiences in other countries. There is space for a more in-depth conversation to offer multiple perspectives to the government. **[Adriano Campolina]**
- Members of the Group could reach out to colleagues in de-centralized offices for advice from the country level. The Group can continue this conversation and coordinate ways to share best practices on this issue. **[Karol Boudreaux]**

5. UPDATES FROM FAO

Purpose of section:

An update was given by FAO on the VGGT+10 and the Global Land Observatory progress.

Issues discussed:

- The 10th anniversary of the endorsement of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the context of National Food Security (VGGT) took place earlier this month, bringing a diverse range of actors together to reflect on the past ten years of lessons learned, particularly in a shifting political economy. The event's main focus was the need to deepen accountability at national and global levels and strengthen current mechanisms with more conducive implementation processes of the VGGT. The summary of the key conversations will be shared with the Group. **[Adriano Campolina]**
- A Global Land Observatory is being established, which will be hosted by FAO and co-led by FAO, CIRAD, International Land Coalition and UN Habitat. The Observatory held its first formal meeting of the co-leaders, where it was decided that FAO will host the Secretariat, CIAT will be the coordinator and a technical group will be formed to provide feedback on the approach of the Observatory. An advisory group will be established comprising civil society and other organizations. The main output of the Observatory will be a report expected to publish every three years, titled "State of Land Tenure and Governance". The report will comprise two parts: (1) an overview of the state of land tenure and governance in the world; (2) a deep dive into one specific topic such as climate, etc. The co-leaders will reach out bilaterally for further collaboration with the GDWGL; Members are invited to share their interest in a follow-up to this conversation. **[Adriano Campolina]**

6. AOB AND CLOSING

- The European Commission will be at COP27, hosting two side events on 8 and 12 November. ILO will be speaking at the event on 12 November and the Head of the Regional Coordination Unit in Africa will attend. Members can bilaterally follow up with colleagues from the European Commission on their participation by email, reaching Etienne Coyette: etienne.coyette@ec.europa.eu or Simona Bortolotti: simona.bortolotti@rc.europa.eu
- The Stand4HerLand is a global advocacy campaign on women's land rights, funded by the US and BMZ. The campaign is currently active in countries including Senegal, Bangladesh, Colombia, Uganda and Tanzania at a grassroots level. Members can sign up for monthly

email updates through the link: https://stand4herland.org/#join_us or by emailing Victoria Stanley. **[Victoria Stanley]**

SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

Agenda item	Action	Timeline	Responsible Person(s)
1	Share information on Evidence Workshop	ASAP	Karol/USAID
1	Share information on Land Governance Programme Map	ASAP	Gemma/the Netherlands
2	Bilaterally follow up on COP participation	ASAP	FCDO/European Commission
3	Send Michelle Tang relevant updates for GDPRD website	ASAP	All
5	Share main summary of VGGT+10	ASAP	Adriano/FAO
6	Schedule next regular call of the Group	ASAP	Gemma/the Netherlands