



Minutes GDWGL Meeting

Participants

Group Members

- **Hélène Julien**, *AFD*
- **Marie-Luise Weckerling**, *BMEL*
- **Adriano Campolina**, *FAO*
- **Chris Penrose Buckley**, *FCDO*
- **Jenny Lopez**, *FCDO*
- **Sondra Wentzel**, *GIZ*
- **Johanna von Braun**, *ILC*
- **Etienne Coyette**, *INTPA*
- **Jill Pike**, *MCC*
- **Chantal Wieckardt**, *the Netherlands*
- **Gemma Betsema**, *the Netherlands*
- **Christina Blank**, *Switzerland*

- **Olivier Rukundo**, *UNCBD*
- **Sasha Alexander**, *UNCCD*
- **Fleur Newman**, *UNFCCC*
- **John Gitau**, *UN Habitat*
- **Karol Boudreaux**, *USAID*
- **Thea Hilhorst**, *World Bank*

GDPRD Secretariat

- **Maurizio Navarra**
- **Michelle Tang**
- **Alessandro Cordova**
- **Nicole Burch**

Agenda

ISSUE	ITEM (DAY ONE)	DETAILS
1.	Welcome & Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Additions to the Agenda	Gemma Betsema (Netherlands)
2.	TOP1: Land & the UN Conventions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mini panel on land governance and tenure in relation to the:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)- Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Sasha Alexander (UNCCD), Olivier Rukundo (UNCBD), Fleur Newman (UNFCCC)
3.	TOP2: Member Updates	All
4.	Wrap-up & Closing	Gemma Betsema (Netherlands)
5.	End	Gemma Betsema (Netherlands)

Key Highlights/Issues

1. Welcome & Introduction

- Quick recap of the last GDWGL meeting (minutes available [here](#))

2. TOP1: Land & the UN Conventions

PURPOSE OF SECTION:

Mini Panel on land governance and tenure in relation to the (i) United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (ii) the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) and (iii) the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification ([UNCCD](#))
 - The UNCCD Secretariat developed a technical guide on integrating the VGGT's into land degradation neutrality, which was presented at COP15 along with an options paper for awareness raising on land tenure. From COP15, the technical guide has been contextualized to include practical applications, more awareness raising, explore data availability and develop a business case with an economic rationale for why land tenure should be mainstreamed into regenerative or restoration activities. The Global Mechanism unit is working on the guide and will look at value proposition for the private sector and donors when it comes to funding projects that include tenure components. The new technical guide will be presented at the COP16 in December 2024. **[Sasha Alexander]**
 - The UNCCD with FAO has held three regional land tenure webinars with over 600 attendees conducted in different regions around the world. They can be accessed [here](#). **[Sasha Alexander]**
 - The UNCCD has opened a call for support for national multi-stakeholder consultations on land tenure. This application process is to identify what countries are ready to respond, have the will to make progress on more secure land tenure and to identify what are the specific capacity needs of those countries that are applying. The deadline for applications is mid-July. It can be accessed [here](#). **[Sasha Alexander]**
 - The UNCCD is holding a workshop called “The Women’s Land Rights and the Rio Conventions” in Berlin, 3 to 5 July. **[Sasha Alexander]**
- The Convention on Biological Diversity ([UNCBD](#))
 - The UNCBD is conducting a mapping project to assist countries in the implementation of the General Directorate of Forestry (GDF), as area-based targets offer a great opportunity for harnessing and mainstreaming land and ecosystem restoration. This could facilitate actions that address the direct and indirect drivers of land degradation and biodiversity loss in a simultaneous manner. Countries are requesting support in these aspects. **[Olivier Rukundo]**
 - Governments should assist in revising the monitoring framework, which is currently not backed up by monitoring requirements. **[Johanna von Braun]**
- The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ([UNFCCC](#))
 - The Paris Agreement only mentions land in the context of conserving forests, the role of conservation and sustainable management of forests and enhancement of carbon stocks particularly in developing countries. Treaties have brought into the process a work program on agriculture and the establishment of the [Local](#)

[Communities and Indigenous People's Platform](#). **[Fleur Newman]**

- In 2019, the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) produced a special report on climate change and land. The latest IPCC report observed warming, and states that global greenhouse gas emissions have continued to increase from unsustainable energy use, land use and land use change, lifestyles and patterns of consumption and production across regions between and within countries and among individuals. The report identifies regenerative land practices as a possibility for addressing both mitigation and climate resilience goals under the Paris Agreement. **[Fleur Newman]**
- Climate change is not experienced equally among men and women. This is the case when it comes to land, where gender discrimination persists in many countries and communities. Although land is not mentioned in the Gender Action plan under the UNFCCC, the priority areas of the gender gap are needed to enable gender responsive and transformative climate policy, and action across all sectors, including those related to land. The five priority areas are: Capacity building, knowledge management and communication; Gender balance, women's participation and leadership; Coherence; Gender responsive implementation and; Monitoring and reporting **[Fleur Newman]**
- Sex disaggregated data is essential for effective monitoring and evaluation. **[Fleur Newman]**
- Capacity building and advocacy are needed to change policy, law, customs, and norms on women's land and property rights. Integrated development planning must consider gender and the other goals. **[Fleur Newman]**

Q&A

- What level of traction is the UNCCD getting from governments? Where does the UNCCD think there is interest or attraction? **[Chris Penrose Buckley]**
 - The majority of the attendees were NGO CSO representatives. The UNCCD mainly works with focal points that sit in particular ministries. The FAO National Offices are a great connection that is very active. **[Sasha Alexander]**
 - The UNCCD is seeing hope particularly in Africa, where some countries have passed legislation on women's land rights. **[Sasha Alexander]**
- Could the UNCBD explain what opportunities seem particularly important for commitments in terms of actual change on the ground? **[Chris Penrose Buckley]**
 - The UNCBD has been working on mapping country support. Some of these mapping reports will be published soon for countries to understand what the Global Biodiversity Framework means for them in terms of implementation. Focus issues are based on different targets of framework, so that countries inform the UNCBD of their specific needs. **[Olivier Rukundo]**
 - The UNCBD is analysing data to understand country priorities, linking back to their reporting equipment and monitoring frameworks. **[Olivier Rukundo]**
- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change ([IPCC](#)) reports around the importance of tenure for protecting forests and supporting peoples and their communities, rights and livelihoods. **[Chris Penrose Buckley]**
- The last UN permanent forum on indigenous issues discussed land, highlighting the extensive land use increase through the transition to green energy through mining and larger infrastructure development. For the loss and damage fund, clarity on tenure is important in terms of compensation, and a reflection on non-economic losses related to land is needed. There should be loss and damage funds on the international level that don't go to governments, but rather are targeted for specific constituents whose constituencies is

another issue that is within climate. **[Johanna von Braun]**

- The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and UNCCD's technical guide is gaining traction and gaining input from local collaboration governments **[Adriano Campolina]**

3. TOP2: Member Updates

PURPOSE OF SECTION:

For members to share various updates from their work and organisations: new developments, new programmes, new country activities, opportunities for synergies.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The Netherlands is in the middle of their midterm review for their program that was launched in 2019, running until 2026, with the group [Mokoro](#). Once complete, the outcomes of this review will be shared with the group. **[Gemma Betsema]**
- The Netherlands has ongoing interventions in Colombia, Palestinian territories, Mali, Burkina Faso, Chad, Somalia, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Mozambique, and possible upcoming interventions in Egypt and Iraq. They are also in contact with embassies who are interested in funding land programs from their delegated budgets and have requested support. **[Gemma Betsema]**
- The EU held a meeting in Brussels with the heads of food security, with land governance on the agenda. The discussion ended with a call for better information-sharing on these different activities and to build a more coordinated approach to these non-governance issues. **[Etienne Coyette]**
- The EU and the International Land Coalition (ILC) started a new contribution of work to focus on data collection and analysis, and knowledge sharing, which includes the Land Metrics Program, the Print DEX Program and then the work of the [Land Portal](#). **[Etienne Coyette]**
- EU cooperation is now primarily managed by the EU delegations. The EU is in the process of screening different proposals that are coming from the delegations. From this, a list will be provided of these countries where the EU is foreseeing or has started actions around land governance. **[Etienne Coyette]**
- FAO had their steering committee with partners that have a strong interest on the issue of land and are conducting discussions on the topic. **[Adriano Campolina]**
- FAO is restarting their engagement with the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) with new work in Sierra Leone and Mauritania, and a growing interest by the government of Colombia. **[Adriano Campolina]**
- FAO met with the Vice Minister of Brazil that is responsible for land, land governance, territorial development and sustainable development. **[Adriano Campolina]**
- The Foreign, Commonwealth, & Development Office (FCDO) is launching the Land Facility Procurement, which is programmed to work with government tenure reform in three regions. **[Chris Penrose Buckley]**
- FCDO started new funding to the [Tenure Facility](#) which is an international funding instrument based out of Stockholm, that provides grants to indigenous peoples and local communities. FCDO is helping with tenure facilities for work on mapping tools and forest tenure. **[Chris Penrose Buckley]**
- In October in Rome, FCDO will launch their Global Land Agenda, which will focus on tenure security. Then, they are planning on setting up a proper steering group with parties who want to take forward this campaign framework for action.
- The FCDO is drafting a note that will be looked at in conjunction with the request from The

World Bank also for funding their new land conference at the Global Land Observatory
[Chris Penrose Buckley]

- The [Ford Foundation](#) is chairing the Forest Tenure Funders Group, which supports the COP26 forest tenure pledge, with support from Norway. They have had one meeting already and another one is coming up. The FCDO is trying to set up regional dialogues through the group in collaboration with indigenous peoples and local community organizations. This is to focus on the IPLC's better coordination and support. **[Chris Penrose Buckley]**
- The World Bank just launched a flagship report for the MENA region. A second flagship will be launched in September that will be a working paper, both are important for the Global Policy Research Report. **[Thea Hilhorst]**
- UN Habitat is currently formulating the GLTN Phase 4 Program which has two main workstreams. One is prioritizing the field work and national normative work, targeting around 15 countries and at the global level. They are looking at a nexus on environments, land and human rights, land and humanitarian and development, while containing their streams on the urban poor. On the indicator work, they are focusing more on capacity developments and the potential for effective change at the national level, while also continuing support on the Global Land Observatory and other initiatives on high quality data. **[John Gitau]**
- USAID has a new Global Land Procurement that was released for proposals, therefore they will be terminating their existing global activities and starting up new activities this year. **[Karol Boudreaux]**
- USAID will be handing over the leadership of coordinating parties' group on land to UNDP and UN Habitat. **[Karol Boudreaux]**
- USAID is drafting land law policy in Mozambique with the help of FAO and STD. **[Karol Boudreaux]**
- USAID and the Netherlands have a well-resourced women's land rights activity which is moving forward in two provinces in Burundi, focusing on land certification and supporting women coffee producers. **[Karol Boudreaux]**
- The French Development Agency ([AFD](#)) launched its procurement to select a consultant to make the final external appraisal of all their five year's activities on their development committee, including the eight West African countries. **[Hélène Julien]**
- The MCC closed their Morocco land project which focused on land governance, tenure, security, and land management investments. Their current projects are in Niger, Togo and the Solomon Islands and they are preparing to start new land investments in two new countries. **[Jill Pike]**
- The MCC is getting ready to publish two big land evaluations from Burkina Faso and Mozambique. They are also getting ready to launch an event for a land information technology investment decision making toolkit. **[Jill Pike]**

Q&A:

- In the next meeting hosted by the EU, it was mentioned that the heads of food security would again have land governance on the agenda. Is there a specific focus or is it the follow up discussion? **[Gemma Betsema]**
 - It is a follow up discussion because there was interest from several member states. It will be an attempt to revive the possibility of knowledge and information sharing about what is current happening and to explore joint actions and support. **[Etienne Coyette]**

4. Wrap-up & Closing

PURPOSE OF SECTION:

Follow-up tasks and summary of agreements.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The next Global Land Forum organized by ILC and partners will be in Colombia 2025.
[Gemma Betsema]
- There will be one more online GDWGL meeting either before or after the summer period.
[Gemma Betsema]
- The group will hold a physical meeting at the CFS in Rome in October, exact date and time tbd. *[Gemma Betsema]*

Summary of action points

ITEM	ACTION	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)
1.	Colleagues from Mokoro may be in touch with members for the Netherlands midterm review.	N/A	All
3.	Create a showcase or spreadsheet showing where significant political change regarding land governance has occurred.	N/A	Chris Penrose Buckley (FCDO) Gemma Betsema (Netherlands)
4.	Plan in person meeting at the CFS.	ASAP	Gemma Betsema (Netherlands) Secretariat (GDPRD)