



# Minutes GDWGL Meeting

## Participants

### Group Members

- **Hélène Julien**, *AFD*
- **Theano Bakopoulou**, *BMEL*
- **Ward Anseeuw**, *FAO*
- **Annette Jainter**, *GIZ*
- **Etienne Coyette**, *INTPA*
- **Chantal Wieckardt**, *the Netherlands*
- **Gemma Betsema**, *the Netherlands*
- **Christina Blank**, *Switzerland*

- **Robert Lewis-Lettington**, *UN Habitat*
- **Karol Boudreaux**, *USAID*
- **Mika-Petteri Törhönen**, *World Bank*
- **Thea Hilhorst**, *World Bank*

### GDPRD Secretariat

- **Alessandro Cordova**
- **Sierra Berardelli**
- **Nicole Burch**

## Agenda

ISSUE	ITEM (DAY ONE)	DETAILS
1.	Welcome & Introduction	Gemma Betsema (Netherlands)
2.	TOP1: 2023 AGA Session Preparation	Gemma Betsema (Netherlands)
3.	TOP2: Members' Involvement at CFS51	All
4.	AOB	Gemma Betsema (Netherlands)
5.	Wrap-up & Closing	Gemma Betsema (Netherlands)

# Key Highlights/Issues

## 1. Welcome & Introduction

- Mika-Petteri Törhönen, World Bank; Ward Anseeuw, FAO; Annette Jainter, GIZ and Theano Bakopoulou, BMEL joined the call for the first time.

## 2. TOP1: 2023 AGA Session Preparation

### PURPOSE OF SECTION:

*The Group discussed the GDWGL's session at the 2023 Annual General Assembly (AGA) of the Global Donor Platform.*

### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The [GDPRD's Annual General Assembly \(AGA\)](#) will take place in Rome on 26-27 October in a hybrid format. This year's AGA coincides with the Donor Platform's 20th anniversary, a milestone reflected in the theme "20 Years of rural development and aid effectiveness: Where are we now and where are we going?". During the AGA, donors and others will reflect on the Aid Effectiveness Agenda, with a forward-looking focus on balancing emergency responses and long-term sustainability and resilience measures, donor approaches, and stakeholder engagement. The GDWGL's AGA session will take place on Thursday 26 October from 17:00-18:30 CET.
  - A draft concept note was shared with the group, which proposes to illustrate how land governance tools and approaches can support climate action and contribute to reaching SDG 13. Speakers in this session will provide concrete examples on how land governance has strengthened their climate programmes and projects and how addressing tenure issues can support climate goals.
  - TWG members are encouraged to provide proposed speaker names and suggestions. Members are asked to contact Gemma if interested in further developing the session. **[Gemma Betsema]**
- There is an ongoing reflection happening on how to adapt SDG indicators to better integrate climate and collective land rights, including Indigenous Peoples and local communities, which could be an interesting aspect to incorporate into the session. FAO, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and International Land Coalition (ILC) are engaging in this topic and a reference group is being established to adapt SDG indicators, specifically SDG 1.4.2. **[Ward Anseeuw]**
  - It had been briefly discussed to link the conversation with the Conference of the Parties (COP) and CBD; this would be timely for the AGA Session to address these issues. **[Gemma Betsema]**
- USAID has included reference to Indigenous Peoples and local communities' land tenure rights in a recent climate strategy and will incorporate expanded sustainable agriculture and capacity building for Indigenous Peoples and local community groups in future programming. There is growing evidence on the role that local management of ecosystems plays in addressing climate challenges, as well as the role of nature-based solutions in addressing the biodiversity crisis. USAID will contribute to the AGA session and its preparation where possible. **[Karol Boudreaux]**

### Q&A

- The SDG processes are quite complex, and we are not aware if the UN is open to additional SDG indicators or the adaptation of methodologies. Could it be more feasible or impactful to

discuss SDG 15 rather than SDG 1.4.2? **[Thea Hilhorst]**

- The AGA serves as an open space for informal dialogue around emerging issues; however, the group can consider other possibilities to integrate these discussions in the future. **[Gemma Betsema]**

### 3. TOP2: Members' Involvement at CFS51

#### PURPOSE OF SECTION:

*For members to discuss the upcoming [CFS 51 Plenary](#), which many will be attending both in-person and online.*

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The Global Land Agenda (GLA) was possibly going to be officially launched at the CFS 51, but after much discussion, it was agreed that it is not yet ready or inclusive enough to ensure a successful launch. However, the GLA will feature in the framework of four CFS events:
  - A proposal for a side event about the Agenda was accepted as a merged event with FCDO, the Danish Institute for Human Rights, Via Campesina, Netherlands Government, FAO, ILC, TMG research and the Land Portal. The theme for the event is how to take the VGGTs forward for more effective change, to make the GLA public and create awareness about land initiatives.
  - There will be an event to start co-constructing the GLA. The goal is to start building the GLA in a more inclusive and open manner, involving networks and stakeholders that have not yet participated (e.g., Via Campesina).
  - A reference group meeting will take place in person during the CFS, to take stock and prepare for a GLA launch in the future.
  - A preparatory conversation in September will go over plans for these 3 CFS events, with the goal of making it public and inclusive for civil society participation. **[Ward Anseeuw]**
- There will likely be other CFS side events related to land, including one by the Land Matrix. The schedule and descriptions of the side events will be published shortly. **[Christina Blank]**
- There will be a hybrid meeting of the GDWGL during the CFS, near the end of the day on Wednesday 25 October. **[Gemma Betsema]**
- All members are invited to the GLA-related CFS events, particularly the co-constructing event. **[Ward Anseeuw]**

#### Q&A:

- Have there already been attempts to involve country governments with the GLA? Their inputs would be highly valuable. **[Gemma Betsema]**
  - Yes, it would be ideal to have country champions who carry and support the initiative. Columbia, Brazil, Uganda, Philippines, DRC have been mentioned as potential examples. There is some funding to bring countries representatives in-person **[Ward Anseeuw]**

### 4. AOB

#### PURPOSE OF SECTION:

*Members provided brief updates on ongoing land governance work.*

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The negotiations on the Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality will be discussed at the CFS 51. There are various issues with the language around land and gender in the draft texts,

which has received pushback from some countries. USAID is available to support and connect, for any colleagues who are involved in this process. **[Karol Boudreaux]**

– There have been several additional rounds of negotiations on these drafts since last year, and there is now a delicate balance in the text, although the language is not as progressive as some hoped. The contentious issues were not around land governance. **[Christina Blank]**

- The World Bank Land Conference will be reinstated starting next year, on May 13-17, 2024. No further details are available yet but calls for conference papers and proposal will be opened soon. **[Mika-Petteri Törhönen]**
- The World Bank’s new strategy and consultation on gender are now available and will be shared with the group via email. **[Gemma Betsema, highlighted at the request of Victoria Stanley]**
- Two publications by the High Commissioner for Human Rights are being finalized, one on human rights and land, and the other related to the [Pinheiro Principles](#), which are on housing, land, and property rights. **[Robert Lewis-Lettington]**

## 5. Wrap-up & Closing

### PURPOSE OF SECTION:

*Follow-up tasks and summary of agreements.*

### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The next GDWGL meeting will take place on Wednesday, 25 October, in a hybrid format. Location and time are to be decided. **[Gemma Betsema]**
- Once more details are available, the World Bank Land Conference can be discussed at the next group meeting. **[Mika-Petteri Törhönen, Gemma Betsema]**

## Summary of action points

ITEM	ACTION	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)
1.	Suggest panellists for the AGA session, and country examples and their representatives to participate in the GLA co-construction event.	ASAP	All
2.	Suggest country examples and their representatives to participate in the GLA co-construction event.	ASAP	All
3.	Revise AGA concept note and re-share with TWG for further input.	ASAP	Gemma Betsema (Netherlands)
4.	Share World Bank land and gender resources with the TWG.	ASAP	Gemma Betsema (Netherlands) Secretariat (GDPRD)
5.	Confirm location and date of an in person meeting alongside the CFS/AGA	ASAP	Gemma Betsema (Netherlands) Secretariat (GDPRD)