



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations



Voluntary Guidelines on the
**Responsible Governance
of Tenure of Land,
Fisheries and Forests**
in the Context of National Food Security

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VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES ON THE
**Responsible
Governance of Tenure**
OF LAND, FISHERIES AND FORESTS IN
THE CONTEXT OF NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY

The first global soft
law instrument on
tenure

Negotiated by
governments, with
participation of civil
society and private
sector





Characteristics

- **Voluntary**
- **Set out principles and practices**
- **Do not replace laws and treaties**
- **Do not reduce existing obligations**



Objectives

Seek to:

- **Improve tenure governance through:**
 - **Guidance and information on internationally accepted practices**
 - **Improvement + development of policy, legal and institutional frameworks regulating tenure**
- **Enhance transparency and improve functioning of tenure systems**
- **Strengthen capacities and operations of implementing agencies**
- **Promote cooperation between actors**



Content

- **Guiding principles, incl. principles of implementation**
- **Legal recognition and allocation of tenure rights and duties**
- **Transfers and other changes to tenure rights and duties**
- **Administration of tenure**
- **Responses to climate change and emergencies**
- **Promotion, implementation, monitoring and evaluation**



Significance

- **Agreement on governance and tenure by governments, civil society and private sector**
- **Includes land, fisheries and forests**
- **Global political agreement**
- **Can be used as reference point for:**
 - **promoting tenure reform at country level**
 - **holding governments accountable**



A far reaching agreement

“An historical momentum.”

Alberta Guerra, Food Policy officer, Action Aid International

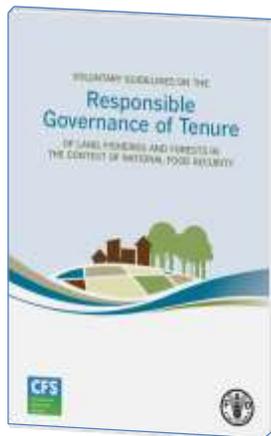
“a milestone achievement.”

José Graziano da Silva, Director General, FAO

Application encouraged by G8, G20, Rio +20, APEC, Francophone Parliamentary Assembly, UN General Assembly and Berlin Agriculture Ministers’ Summit



Implementation Support



Five Pillars

Awareness raising

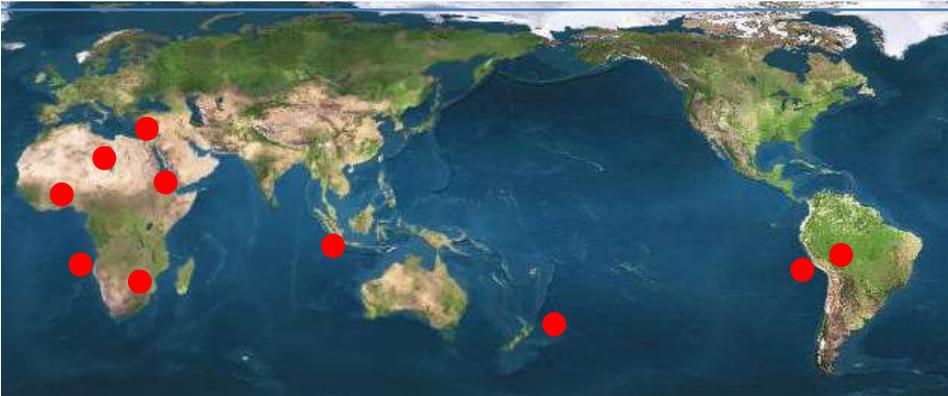
Capacity development

Support to countries

Partnerships

Monitoring

Awareness raising: Regional workshops



10 Regional Workshops: 650 people, representing all stakeholder groups, from 140 countries
+ 23 Country workshops

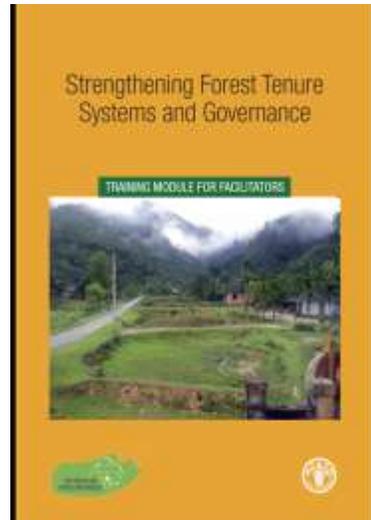
Capacity development

- A Technical Guide to support the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on governance of tenure
- Contains practical tools to shape better governance of forest tenure.



Capacity development

- Training module to guide facilitators of forest tenure reform processes
- developed in partnership with RECOFTC and tested in Vietnam (2011) and Uganda (2013)



Rollout of training activities



Sept 2014- training of facilitators from 7 Asian countries (Nepal, Myanmar, Cambodia; Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Lao PDR)

Country support

Nepal, Vietnam and Cambodia

Strengthening tenure systems through:

- Tenure policy assessments
- Strengthening policy frameworks
- Capacity development of key actors



Country support: Uganda

Strengthening tenure systems through:

- Transparent gazetting of forests
- Awareness raising on the VGGT
- Multi-stakeholder communication platforms



Country support: Sierra Leone

Strengthening security of tenure of communities and indigenous people through:

- Development of a national strategy and action plan on community based forestry
- Strengthening national capacities on forest tenure



Country support: The Gambia

Strengthening community forestry through:

- Strengthening policy and institutional frameworks for CBFM
- Capacity development of government institutions and local institutions

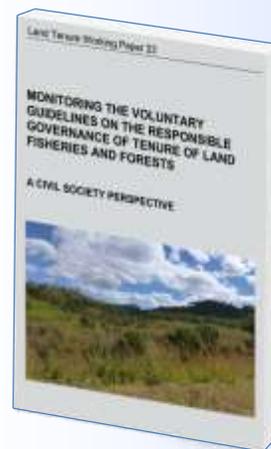


Partnerships



Overall Impact

- Global commitment has triggered more attention by countries to tenure
- Increased awareness of principles of responsible tenure governance
- Increasing country demand for assistance in tenure reform





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Thank you



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