

Experiences and good practices in the use and application of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security

This document presents, in original language, the inputs provided following the call for submissions to inform the global thematic event at the CFS 43rd session in October 2016. The following document provides an overview of those inputs: [CFS 2016/43/8- Experiences and Good Practices in the Use and Application of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security \(VGGT\) - Summary and Key Elements](#)

S47. GLOBAL: Global Land Tool Network Phase 2 Programme: “Securing land and property rights for all”

Country(ies)/ Region(s)/ Organization/ Entity	Land and GLTN Unit (UNhabitat)
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Brief description of the successful experience (including location, geographical coverage, main actors, main activities, timeframe)	<p>UN-Habitat, through the GLTN Phase 2 programme, implements, complements and supports the implementation of the VGGT. The main goal of the GLTN Phase 2 Programme is to contribute towards securing land and property rights for all, through the recognition of the continuum of land rights approach and development and implementation of land policies, tools and approaches that are pro-poor, gender appropriate, effective and sustainable.</p> <p>GLTN tools provide means for operationalizing multi-dimensional concepts on land governance as articulated in the VGGT (VGGT provide a framework that guides on responsible governance of land tenure and GLTN tools provide the ‘HOW’ to do it).</p> <p>UN-Habitat also contributes to knowledge building on the application of the VGGT. In collaboration with FAO, a research on the applications of the VGGT in the urban and peri-urban contexts was conducted and found that the VGGT’ general principles and implementation principles can easily be applied to urban and peri-urban land tenure governance issues (more findings of this research in ‘results’ section below).</p>
Location	Global and specific activities in selected regions and countries
Geographical coverage	Kenya, Uganda, DRC, Zambia, Namibia
Main actors	UN-Habitat and 73 international partners (bilateral and multilateral organisations, rural and urban CSOs, academic

	institutions, professional bodies and grassroots) as well as governments and national partners in selected countries
Main activities	<p>The GLTN programme deals with four components of land governance in support of implementation of VGGT principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of secure land tenure and property rights for the realization of human rights, poverty reduction, economic prosperity and sustainable development – through promotion of the continuum of land rights concept and fit-for-purpose land administration approach as well as the development and implementation of pro-poor, gender appropriate land tools to implement these approaches; • Capacity development for enhancement of land governance – through capacity development of key land actors (e.g. transparency in land administration trainings); • Improving the rules, processes and organizations through which decisions are made about land – through supporting the development of transparent land policies and enhancing land coordination mechanisms in select countries; and • Management of differences and grievances on land – through the development and implementation of the land mediation tools.
Timeframe	2012 to 2017
Results obtained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Land Indicators Initiative (established and supported by UN-Habitat through the GLTN programme) has developed a coherent set of 15 indicators for land monitoring at country-level as well as a feasible methodology and a collaborative framework within which the indicators can be tested and applied to track progress on the VGGT implementation. • A set of pro-poor and gender appropriate land tools has been developed to apply the continuum of land rights and fit-for-purpose land administration approaches in support of the VGGT framework at country-level, and the capacity of key land actors including governments, practitioners academics and communities (at global and regional levels as well as in selected countries) has increased to adapt and use the tools in order to implement VGGT in their specific contexts independently. • In collaboration with IFAD under the TSLI-ESA project, UN-Habitat/GLTN supported implementation of VGGT in Uganda, within the VODP. Key achievements include: i. maps produced using advanced geographic information technologies; ii. Recognition and documentation of land and water rights of small-scale farmers in irrigation schemes; iii. Recognition and documentation of group rights of grazing lands, forests and

	<p>artisanal fishing communities; iv. Strengthened women’s land rights; and v. Documentation of best practices in securing land and natural resource rights through business partnerships between small-scale farmers and outside investors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In collaboration with FAO, a joint project was started to support VGGT implementation in Turkana and Tana River counties in Kenya (“Support for Responsible Land and Natural Resources Governance in Communal Lands of Kenya”). The project has just started in 2016 and aims to secure and improve equitable access to land and natural resources for food security and socio-economic development of agro-pastoral communities in the area. In this project, it is expected that pro-poor land tools and approaches (e.g. STDM) will be adopted and implemented in project areas in collaboration with country governments and key partners. • Research on the applications of the VGGT in the urban and peri-urban contexts has also been conducted in collaboration with FAO. A key finding was that the VGGT’ general principles and implementation principles could easily be applied to urban and peri-urban land tenure governance issues. Also, complementary to the VGGT, additional international instruments could be referred to in relation to land tenure governance issues of particular importance for urban and peri-urban areas, such as adequate housing and the prohibition of forced evictions (report available).
<p>Key catalysts and factors that influenced the results</p>	<p>GLTN programme interventions are normally integrated in on-going regional and country initiatives with regards to land reforms. The programme adds value to and builds on existing initiatives rather than being a stand-alone intervention. For example, implementation of GLTN tools in IFAD-supported large scale agricultural programmes in Uganda and the joint project with FAO in Kenya.</p> <p>Furthermore, the support from donors (the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, SDC, IFAD, etc.) enabled UN-Habitat to provide seed funding to on-going land tenure initiatives in selected countries and to focus on capacity development of key partners, which has catalysed changes, maximised outcomes and provided opportunities for sustainability. In addition, the presence of strong partners at the country-level has enabled stronger championing of the VGGT in these countries. Moreover, close involvement of partners in tool development and piloting has impacted better ownership of the tenure security agenda and more in-depth capacity development. Collaboration with governments (land ministries) has also created opportunities for strengthening the engagement of other government ministries/agencies who may have an interest in improved land governance but may not be directly responsible for land policy implementation, e.g. ministries dealing with agriculture.</p>

<p>Constraints and challenges that were faced</p>	<p>There were conflicting approaches promoted by different international actors within a country at times. This required UN-Habitat to collaborate closely with government ministries to ensure national ownership of the tenure security agenda and to strengthen the coordination of the land sector. Another challenge has been unpredictable funding for the programme which made it difficult to plan long term strategies.</p>
<p>Good practices that helped to make the experience successful</p>	<p>Capacity development at all levels has been essential for the achievement of results and working with partners on all activities has been a key enabling factor. Partnership and capacity development have been the two key pillars of UN-Habitat interventions in tenure security matters. Moreover, working through multiple entry points at country level (grassroots, civil society, and government) has positively influenced the results. Mobilising communities and enabling civil society engagement has contributed to increased awareness and demand for tenure security. The GLTN Rural Cluster has played a particularly important role in this, e.g. in Zambia (in customary areas in the periphery of Lusaka) where local women and grassroots organisations were mobilised to collect tenure information in order to address gender equity in customary land tenure and pre-empt threats of land grabbing). Smaller scale implementation by strong civil society partners moving gradually to scale worked well and contributed to increased government involvement too.</p>
<p>Quantitative aspects where available - estimate of the number of people, households and communities that have been positively affected by the successful experience</p>	<p>In Uganda, 89 settlements in 14 municipalities benefited and over 10,000 people improved their living conditions, intensified advocacy for their tenure rights and engaged authorities on inclusive planning. In addition, through the IFAD- supported Vegetable Oil Development Project, over 500 small-holder farmers themselves mapped the boundaries of their oil palm plantations, determined the relationship of production and tenure security and resolved boundary- related disputes.</p> <p>In Kenya, over 2,000 households in 2 communities (Mashimone settlement in Nairobi and Mnazi Moja settlement in Mombasa) improved their tenure security and living conditions.</p> <p>In the DRC, 600 resettled households in the North Kivu province improved their tenure security through certificates of residency. Over 1,600 land disputes have been resolved through mediation processes in Eastern DRC (North Kivu, South Kivu and Ituri). In DRC, GLTN is supporting the implementation of the land use planning program for peace, stability and food security, which is funded by DFID.</p> <p>In Namibia, UN-Habitat/GLTN is supporting the implementation of the Flexible Land Tenure Act (FLTA). If successfully implemented,</p>

	<p>the FLTA has the potential of benefiting up to 100,000 families in Namibia in the future. Currently, relevant land and community information is being collected in Freedom Square in Gobabis, for re-blocking for a new spatial layout and formal rights allocation. This intervention will pilot the Starter/Land Holder Title Scheme which will result in increased, officially recognized tenure security for more than 3,000 community members, as well as form the basis for delivery of essential services.</p> <p>In Zambia, 434 households with a population of 1,337 people in customary areas in the periphery of Lusaka (villages in Mungule Chiefdom, Chibombo District) have increased their prospects for improved tenure security, through an on-going initiative of issuing traditional land certificates.</p>
<p>Link to additional information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.gltn.net • www.stdm.gltn.net