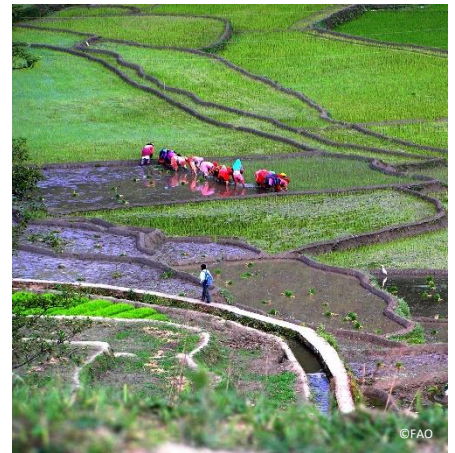




SUPPORTING HUMAN AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT IN GOVERNANCE OF TENURE OF LAND, FISHERIES AND FORESTS

The livelihoods of many, particularly the rural poor, are based on secure and equitable access to and control over land, fisheries and forests. Governance of tenure is a crucial element in determining if and how people, communities and others are able to acquire rights to use and control land and other natural resources. Compliance with the principles and good practices set out in the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT) will help to promote sustainable social and economic development that can help eradicate poverty and food insecurity. In line with this approach, the Government of Germany-funded project, which was part of a wider FAO multidonor-funded umbrella programme to support the implementation of the VGGT globally, supported the delivery of a series of Learning Programmes specific to the VGGT and targeted country actors engaged in different aspects of the VGGT: i) VGGT fundamentals: Implementing responsible governance of tenure; ii) Governing land for women and men; and iii) Safeguarding land tenure rights in the context of agricultural investments – FPIC



WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

The project provided capacity development support for the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security in Liberia, Mongolia, Nepal and Sierra Leone (in tandem with sister project GCP/GLO/347/GER), and in two other countries (Uganda and South Africa) targeted by project GCP/GLO/347/UK.

A series of VGGT learning programmes were delivered through a blended learning approach in the selected countries that comprised an online phase, a face-to-face workshop, and a post workshop online mentoring phase. One multistakeholder programme, entitled “Implementing Responsible Governance of Tenure”, targeted multistakeholder representatives and covered most of the topics addressed by the Voluntary Guidelines, while two specialized learning programmes were entitled “Governing Land for Women and Men” and “Safeguarding land tenure rights in the context of agricultural investments – FPIC”.

Each curriculum was tailored to the country contexts and based on the results of Learning Needs Assessments conducted as part of the VGGT National Workshops delivered under sister project GCP/GLO/347/UK.

The awareness-raising and capacity development activities undertaken under the project were effective in making those in government and civil society aware of the VGGT and in making VGGT principles meaningful to their respective work. FAO’s capacity development suite, developed during the project, played a significant role in developing human and institutional capacity in the field of governance of tenure.

KEY FACTS

Contribution

USD 1 518 001

Duration

April 2014 – March 2018

Resource Partners

Federal Ministry for Food and Agriculture of Germany (BMEL), Government of Germany

Beneficiaries

Producer organizations, women’s organizations, government representatives, representatives of the private sector, academia and civil society for a total of 342 change agents selected, 191 participants completing the VGGT multistakeholder programme “Implementing Responsible Governance of Tenure” and 164 participants completing the two specialized VGGT learning programmes “Governing Land for Women and Men” and “Safeguarding land tenure rights in the context of agricultural investments-FPIC”

IMPACT

The overall impact of the project was the formation of a highly motivated group of stakeholders able to engage with both the community and the Government in fostering the implementation of VGGT principles at country level. By acting as “change agents”, this group of stakeholders has ensured the buy-in of their own institutions, which is key to the sector of tenure of land, fisheries and forestry, thereby improving practical and demonstrated governance of tenure in the targeted countries.

OUTCOMES

National processes, policy and legal framework

- In Mongolia, Uganda, Sierra Leone and Liberia, participants provided concrete recommendations to the VGGT steering committee to inform the respective Country VGGT action plan.
- A dedicated VGGT Unit was established by the Ministry of Agriculture in Sierra Leone.
- Participants in the multistakeholder programme took part in the consultations that informed the drafting of the Pastoral Law in Mongolia.
- In Liberia, VGGT principles were incorporated into the National Gender Policy as a result of the Gender Learning Programme on Land.
- A new Investment Approval Process was elaborated and adopted in Sierra Leone and Liberia.

Improving local governance

- In Mongolia, the Agency of Land Administration, Geodesy and Cartography initiated a pilot project on registration of land in selected districts to recognize and to secure the legitimate tenure rights of local herders and finalize land-use contracts between herders and local government.
- The Chairman of Bo District (Sierra Leone) presented the District government with a long-standing framework to regulate investments, which he personally modified as a result of the training.

Ongoing collaborative platforms

- The collaborative platform used for the online phase remains available in English, Mongolian and Nepali.
- Social media groups are active in Uganda, Sierra Leone/Liberia and in Nepal.

Research initiatives

- Research was carried out on the Ugandan investment approval process to assess its compliance with the VGGT.
- A regulatory review was conducted in Nepal to assess the gender-sensitivity of the policy and legal framework.

Cascading effect in building capacities at different levels

- University curricula were modified to include learning contents from the different programmes in Sierra Leone, Mongolia and Nepal.
- Learning content from the different programmes was used for capacity development activities at community level in Sierra Leone, South Africa, Mongolia and Nepal.

Project Code

FAO: GCP/GLO/501/GER
Donor: GER-FAO-2013-2

Project Title

Learning programmes to support the implementation of the VGGT in five countries

Contact

Andrew Nadeau
Andrew.Nadeau@fao.org

Partners

Mongolian National Committee on Gender Equality, People Centred Conservation (PCC), Agency of Land Administration, Geodesy and Cartography and Ministry of Industry and Agriculture (in Mongolia); Land Management Training Centre (LMTc), the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA), FIAN Nepal, OXFAM Nepal, the Ministry of Land Reform and Management (MOLRM) (in Nepal); Ministry of Lands, Country Planning and Environment, Sierra Leone Investment and Export Promotion Agency (SLIEPA) (in Sierra Leone); and Liberia Land Authority, Department of Planning and Development for the Ministry for Agriculture (in Liberia)

