GIZ LandHub Conference Report
The 3 Rio Conventions - Opportunities and Challenges for Land Tenure Security

12th and 13th December 2023, Hybrid Event (Bonn & digital)

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für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

giz LandHub

Outline

Report on the GIZ LandHub 2023
The 3 Rio Conventions - Opportunities and Challenges for Land Tenure Security

The **8th annual GIZ LandHub** took place as **a hybrid event on the 12th and 13th of December 2023** at the GIZ Campus **in Bonn, Germany**, as well as virtually.

The GIZ LandHub conference is organised by the GIZ Land Governance Community since 2016 and stands for a long-term process of exchange of knowledge and experience within the international land community. It is an opportunity to get in touch with colleagues from GIZ and partners for interesting inputs, discussions, and networking in relation to land governance and land tenure security.

The GIZ LandHub 2023 focused on **the three Rio Conventions (UNCCD, CBD, UNFCCC) and the opportunities and challenges their goals and implementing strategies present for advancing land tenure security**.

On the way to and after the three COPs in 2022, publications and discussions emerged in relation to "land" at the centre of all three Rio Conventions. The successful implementation of their various pledges and mechanisms depends to a certain extent on land-based solutions to hold their promises and reach their objectives.

This development places land tenure security on the agenda of all three Convention processes and therefore, poses a chance for fostering land governance efforts and leveraging land rights initiatives at national levels as well as in international cooperation.

At the same time, due to recently proposed solutions for achieving their goals, the three Conventions appear to require more land than available. In this context, civil society and academia observe a new "green land rush", which puts land tenure security and land rights of local people and communities at risk. In this context, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLC) continue to urge local officials and the international community to recognise and secure their legitimate land rights.

The **LandHub 2023** was organised with the **objectives**

- to understand the **opportunities** for advancing land tenure security at the intersection of the three Rio Conventions and the potential **risks** for land rights and human rights caused by land-intensive climate mitigation, land restoration, and biodiversity conservation strategies,
- and to discuss how to make **practical use** of the growing recognition of the importance of land tenure security in the context of the three Rio Conventions and other international frameworks and initiatives.

LandHub 2023 in Numbers and Resonance

The LandHub 2023 was eagerly anticipated after enduring a couple of COVID-19 dampened years. Following two years of entirely digital LandHubs and a limited in-person participation of 50 people last year, 2023 emerged as the year where all pandemic restrictions were finally lifted. Nonetheless, the COVID-19 era ushered in new possibilities, transforming the essence of future LandHubs. The hybrid option allowed for those unable to travel to Bonn to still engage with the relevant topics discussed and enrich the discourse with a broader spectrum of participants.

120 participants (70 in Bonn, 50 online)

2 days, 4 Sessions, 6 Open Spaces and plenty networking

Ultimately, 70 people found their way to Bonn and were looking forward to two days filled with high-level panel discussions, captivating sessions and ample opportunities for lively interaction with speakers and fellow participants. The event featured a diverse array of themes discussed by 46 speakers and input providers representing more than 20 organizations, underscoring the event's rich agenda.

Participants in Bonn and online pose for a group picture. © GIZ

Last year's feedback called for more time for networking and interaction amongst participants. These remarks tried to be incorporated in the agenda by including the Market Place and the World Café at this year's LandHub and it was obvious these were warmly welcomed by the participants. Both occasions were filled with dynamic exchange amongst all participants, and it seemed everyone could not get enough of the Market Place which extended far over the allocated time.

46 speakers from more than 20 organizations

In line with prior LandHubs, during the closing session participants in Bonn and online were asked to provide comments and feedback via a survey. In these the 8th LandHub was evaluated consistently positive! Both the experience of participants and the organization were rated with an average of four out five stars. The relevance of the chosen topic and the relevance of the event for the participants' work averaged a score of above 8 out of 10.

The suggestions for improvement primarily focused on the following points: the array of participants and speakers could be more diverse. A wish for more representatives from the private sector, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, local officials, and individuals from current projects being present at and involved in the LandHub was mentioned. Additionally, more time for exchange and discussions, especially during the Technical Sessions, was asked for as often questions and inputs from the audience had to be cut short.

Agenda (Moderation by Julia Wenkowitsch, GIZ)

Day 1: 12th of December	
08:30-09:00	Check-in
09:00-09:30	**Welcome, Opening & Introduction to Event**
09:30-10:45	**Keynote** - "The three Rio Conventions (UNCCD, CBD, UNFCCC) - opportunities and challenges for advancing land rights and land tenure security"
10:30-11:00	Tea & Coffee Break

11:15-12:45	**Technical Session 1** – Unpacking linkages between youth employment in the land sector, the Rio Conventions, and the SDGs	**Technical Session 2** - Corruption at the intersection of land tenure security and climate interventions: issues and responses

12:45-14:15	Lunch Break	
14:15-15:45	**Technical Session 3** - Land rights and sustainable commodity sourcing in forest landscapes – the example of a PPP in the cocoa value chain in Côte d'Ivoire	
15:45-16:15	Coffee Break	
16:15-17:15	**World Café** (only in-person)	
17:15-17:30	**Joint Reflections in Plenary - Closing for Day 1**	
Starting 18:00	**Social Event** (optional dinner at local restaurant)	

Day 2: 13th of December		
08:30-09:00	Check-in	
09:00-09:15	**Welcome & Introduction to Day 2**	
09:15-10:45	**Market Place** (only in-person)	
10:45-11:00	Tea & Coffee Break	
11:00-12:30	**Technical Session 4 -** SDGs, VGGTs and the Rio-Conventions – Tracking Progress and Advocating for Land Rights	
12:30-14:00	Lunch Break	
	Short Technical Sessions (Open Space)	
14:00-14:45	**Open Space 1.1 –** Advancing Land Rights through the National Focal Points: A Strategy within the Rio-Conventions	**Open Space 1.2 –** Securing Women Land Rights – Women Economic Empowerment and Transformation	**Open Space 1.3 –** Participatory Cadaster and Peacebuilding: a capacity building experience from Colombia
14:45-15:30	**Open Space 2.1 –** Potential of upscaling and multiplication of indicators through cooperation with impact investors	**Open Space 2.2 –** A just transition? Securing local land rights in land-intensive climate action in the Global South	**Open Space 2.3 –** Crises-mitigating-potential of culturally resilient pastoralist indigenous communities rooted in secure land tenure
15:30-16:15	**Closing/Wrap Up**	

Opening

Juliane Wiesenhütter (Team Lead GIZ Sector Program Soil Conservation and Sustainable Land Management; UNCCD COP Bureau Member for the EU) welcomed all speakers and participants and stressed the need for an enabling environment – including land governance to ensure land tenure security – to achieve the objectives of the three Rio Conventions.

Dr. Gerd Fleischer (Head of the Competence Center Rural Development and Food Security, GIZ) emphasized the importance of the discussions in view of the competing demands on land as an increasingly scarce resource.

Marie Wichmann (Senior Policy Advisor, Division 123 – Food and Nutrition Security, Fisheries, BMZ) sketched BMZ´s Feminist Development Policy with its "power transformative approach". In time of increasing pressure on land she called for synergies to make best use of scarce resources. In her view, the interest in land rights is increasing both in Germany (recent parliamentary hearing) and at the international level (CFS51, World Bank Land Conference 2024).

Engaged participants in the auditorium at the GIZ Campus in Bonn. © GIZ

The keynote and panel discussion set the stage for the 2023 LandHub by presenting and discussing the opportunities and challenges to advance land tenure security within the framework of the three Rio Conventions.

Keynote and Panel Discussion: "The three Rio Conventions (UNCCD, CBD, UNFCCC) – opportunities and challenges for advancing land rights and land tenure security"

Moderation:
Dr. Andreas Lange (Project Manager Sector Project Rural Development, GIZ)

Panelists:
Dr. Solange Bandiaky-Badji (Coordinator, Rights and Resources Initiative and President, Rights and Resources Group) highlighted in her keynote speech that in their common search for "nature-based solutions", all three Rio Conventions can unwittingly lead to the displacement of customary land holders (indigenous peoples, afro-descendants and local communities), although due to the importance of their territories these are increasingly recognized as allies. She stated: "Land rights is more than another box to check." For her, the carbon market is "the biggest threat to tenure rights", but protected areas can also create land conflicts. While "the land rights struggle is a complicated political process", the formal recognition of community tenure rights needs to be speeded up, and human rights-based, participatory approaches and coordination among the conventions need to be strengthened. She also recommended to include the private sector in multistakeholder dialogues.

Andrea Meza Murillo (Deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification UNCCD) reconfirmed the centrality of land – emphasized by the UNCCD´s Land Tenure Decision – especially for women´s and girls´ empowerment. Reflecting on her experience as a minister in Costa Rica, she stressed the importance of integrated land use planning and policy coherence in the implementation of all three Rio Conventions at country level for which the ongoing process of updating the NDCs (UNFCCC) and NBSAPs (CBD) provide an opportunity. The rights of IPLC need to and can be guaranteed in the process. She also recommended to work with parliamentarians.

Olivier Rukundo (Senior Programme Management Officer, Head of the Peoples and Biodiversity Unit, Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat CBD) for CBD also confirmed the importance of land as a cross-cutting issue reflected directly or indirectly in several of the targets of the new GBF which will be applying a human rights-based approach. There is still a need to get out of convention silos, and the CBD Secretariat will be working with the sister conventions on ensuring coordinated evidence-based action.

Dr. Lisa Murken (Working Group Leader, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research PIK), based on her research on the impact of climate change on agricultural systems, including land tenure security, alerted to the trend that, for example in Africa, extreme weather events already make local people feel more

insecure, "turn away from the land" and lose interest in its sustainable management. Efforts to ensure tenure security therefore need to go hand in hand with support for adaptation, starting with providing local people with proper information about climate change.

Dr. Ward Anseeuw (Senior Land Tenure Officer and Lead of the Land Tenure Team, FAO) in his role as discussant highly welcomed what had been said about the importance of land tenure security in the context of the three Rio Conventions ("music to my ears") but also warned that "mainstreaming land is not so easy". As an example, he referred to the fact that so far, despite the GBF targets mentioned, land tenure security has not been included as a headline indicator into the monitoring framework.

Dr. Ward Anseeuw, Andrea Meza Murillo, and Dr. Andreas Lange (from left to right) during the panel discussion following Dr. Solange Bandiaky-Badji's keynote speech. © GIZ

Main take aways:

➢ In all Rio Conventions, "nature-based solutions" can increase tenure risks for local people, especially IP&LC, but there is increasing awareness and sensitivity for land tenure issues.
➢ The two secretariats present (UNCCD and CBD) already strive for more coordination, coherence and synergies and are committed to apply human rights-based and people-centered approaches, both at international level and in implementation at country level.
➢ Opportunities for collaboration in this context include the availability of data and tools in the land sector, the existence or possibility to establish strategic partnerships at all levels, and the fledgling Global Land Agenda.

In four **technical sessions**, various aspects of the overall LandHub theme were discussed; in a related **World Café**, all LandHub participants got the chance to deepen the discussions around the three conventions and contribute to answering key questions.

Technical Sessions

Technical Session 1: Unpacking linkages between youth employment in the land sector, the Rio Conventions, and the SDGs
(organized by GIZ SLGA and NELGA)

Moderation:
Dr. Arno Sckeyde (Head of Program SLGA, GIZ)

Speakers:
Dr. Désiré Tchigankong (Policy Advisor/ SLGA, GIZ)
Dr. Madiodio Niasse (Independent Consultant)
Dr. Diane Tapimali (Independent Consultant)
Ms. Cynthia Nyichomba (CEO // Ruge Mutahaba Foundation, RMF)
Prof. Keitseope Nthomang (Professor // University of Botswana)
Ms. Sally Kgongwana (Recent Graduate)

Abstract:

This session aimed to explore the interrelation between the Rio Convention on Biodiversity, Climate Change and Desertification and its opportunities for youth employment in Africa. The session provided a comprehensive analysis of the linkages between youth employment in the land sector, the Rio Conventions, and the SDGs and gave the audience an opportunity to debate and ask questions. It also presented case studies from Senegal, Cameroon, Tanzania, and Botswana, highlighting strategies to mainstream youth priorities in the Rio Conventions and national policies.

Main messages:

Green jobs can provide solutions to youth unemployment and a just transition towards a green future in Africa. Agriculture, forestry, mining, and fisheries sectors generate 80% of overall jobs in Africa. Capacity-building in green economy practices for young people can promote economic growth and environmental sustainability. The renewable energy sector has untapped potential for economic development and youth employment. Land governance and land improvements contribute to implementing the Rio Conventions and mitigating climate change. The restoration of natural landscapes can create more jobs than the extractive sectors combined. Foreign support would be vital for introducing a significant number of new jobs, sustainable solutions however should rest in the hands of the country where these employment opportunities are established.

Main takeaways:

➢ Governments and training institutions should collaborate more to ensure that education systems have a stronger orientation towards the respective labor market(s) and generate the expertise and capacities needed for land policy formulation and implementation. Exchange programmes (e.g. mentoring), which bring students together with organizations and representatives of the labour market at an early stage, could be conducive to this.

➢ Young people should be oriented towards economic activities that are formalized, promote income and employment growth, and are environmentally sustainable.

➢ Supporting youth initiatives through capacity building, technical and financial support, and advocacy can promote sustainable development and land tenure security.

➢ The creation of green job opportunities can be initiated as economical programs centered on providing subsidies and incentives, financed by national and international donors.

Links to relevant documents and websites:

➢ [Navigating the Mailo Impasse: An In-Depth Analysis of Uganda's National Land Policy and its Four Options for Resolution - NELGA](#)
➢ [Empowering Africa: Launch of Land Governance Strategy at CLPA 2023 - NELGA](#)
➢ [Bridging the Gap: Transforming the Landscape of Land Governance Graduates in Botswana - NELGA](#)
➢ [Closing the capacity gaps through young graduates in land governance - NELGA](#)
➢ [Empowering Local Government Leaders: Ardhi University and Partners' Land Governance Training - NELGA](#)
➢ [NELGA's Role in Advancing Community Land Rights at the Fourth Regional Conference - NELGA](#)
➢ [Promoting Peaceful Transhumance: NELGA's Efforts in Addressing Land Tenure Challenges - NELGA](#)
➢ [News & Events - NELGA](#)

Technical Session 2: Corruption at the intersection of land tenure security and climate interventions: issues and responses
(organised by Transparency International and GIZ)

Moderation:
Annette Jaitner (Advisor Sector Project Rural Development, GIZ)

Speakers:
Dr. Ketakandriana Rafitoson (Executive Director, Transparency International Madagascar, Vice-Chair Transparency International)
Alice Stevens (Project Manager Land and Corruption in Africa, Transparency International Secretariat)
Sebastian Sahla (Policy Manager, Extractives Industries Transparency Initiative)
Jacqueline Sarah Mawemuko (Prosecutor, Inspectorate of Government)
Dr. Aled Williams (Principal Adviser, U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre)

Abstract:

The implementation of the pledges and commitments of the Rio-Conventions depends largely on land-based solutions. This increases the pressure on land and elicits a new Green Land Rush. When a resource becomes scarce and interest in the resource is high, corruption thrives. Reports from various sources suggest that land corruption and land grabbing have resulted from the Green Land Rush. The session provided evidence from different sources and presented and discussed existing and possible solutions to prevent land corruption.

Main messages:

Corruption can destabilise societies and has a particularly strong negative impact on vulnerable and marginalized groups. Therefore, it is important to talk about corruption and to address it. Land is a source of income, a base for livelihoods, and of socio-cultural value for many. As land corruption deprives people of their land, it is important to unearth it and find solutions to it. Land corruption can facilitate land grabbing and green grabbing and fuel land conflict. Corruption is prevalent in the land sector in big agrarian and mining industries. There are significant emerging corruption risks in both the renewable energy sector and in land-based mitigation solutions to climate change. A lack of transparency, huge amounts of funding, a sense of urgency, weak land rights and pressure on land have contributed to the vulnerability of the so-called green economy to corrupt practices. Land corruption can be linked

Annette Jaitner on stage in Bonn during Jacqueline Sarah Mawemuko's digital presentation from Uganda.
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to political corruption and state capture as elite groups influence the design of land laws and policies for private gain and lock the judicial system – fostering impunity. Corruption in remedy and enforcement mechanisms can lead to impunity and political violence. Land is exploited by big companies in the guise of green solutions, often without peoples' consultation. Given the urgency of the climate crisis, there is the need to respond quickly. Often deals are rushed through without social or environmental audits with less or no accountability to the people. Some of the green deals are negotiated and sealed without community consultations, in a total violation of the right to free, prior and informed consent, despite their enormous impact on the land rights of the people. Sometimes carbon credits are mismanaged. Some carbon certifiers engage in corruption in issuing certificates. Without anticorruption safeguards, local elites can forge the process and in practice create complete opposite effects on climate and nature. How democracy is being used in governance to fight corruption has a direct impact on land corruption.

Main takeaways:

➢ In finding solutions to land corruption, we need to tackle asymmetrical power structures in a society and put people before profit.
➢ We need to support and fund investigative journalism to expose and unearth corruption in the land sector.
➢ Educating people, rewarding whistleblowers and creating an enabling environment for independent and accountable investigations are corner stones in fighting land corruption.
➢ All carbon net zero programs should be subject to corruption vulnerability screening and should incorporate anti-corruption safeguards like whistleblowing channels.
➢ Transparency and multi-stakeholder dialogue is needed to tackle corruption.
➢ Some of the essential elements and tools in fighting land corruption are: right to information laws; a systems-based approach; building multi-stakeholder platforms, along with a stronger civil society; strong political will; links to peace building; transparency in governance; accountability of government officers / land officers; global engagement against corruption, and a people-centred approach.

 Links to relevant documents and websites:

➢ Home - Transparency.org
➢ Addressing land corruption for climate justice -… - Transparency.org
➢ Tackling land corruption is vital to achieving… - Transparency.org
➢ Transparency International Initiative Madagascar
➢ The Inspectorate of Government | Zero Tolerance to Corruption (igg.go.ug)
➢ U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre
➢ Natural resources and energy (u4.no)
➢ U4 HELPDESK Land corruption risks in the green energy sector
➢ U4 HELPDESK Corruption risks in land-based solutions to climate change
➢ Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative | EITI
➢ Race to renewables: tackling corruption and integrity risks in the renewable energy sector
➢ Call to action for transparency and accountability in the renewable energy sector
➢ Mission Critical: strengthening governance of mineral value chains for the energy transition

- ➢ [Communities at the crossroads: Engaging communities in a just energy transition | EITI](#)
- ➢ [Countering Environmental Corruption Practitioner's Forum (sign up) – offers a working group on land corruption](#)

Technical Session 3: Land rights, sustainable commodity sourcing and zero deforestation (EUDR) - the example of a PPP in the cocoa value chain in Côte d'Ivoire
(organised by GIZ, Global Programme Responsible Land Policy, GPRLP)

<u>**Moderation:**</u>
Jorge Espinoza Santander (Advisor, Sustainable Agriculture for Forest Ecosystems (SAFE), GIZ)

<u>**Speakers:**</u>
M. David Loué (Agence Foncière Rurale AFOR)
Sander Muilerman-Rodrigo (GPRLP, GIZ)
Andrea Jost (Initiative for Sustainable Agricultural Supply Chains (INA), GIZ)
Remi van Balen (ETG | Beyond Beans)
Simon Gmeiner (EU Commission)
Thomas Vaassen (Meridia)
Klaus Ackermann (GPRLP, GIZ)

<u>**Abstract:**</u>

The Côte d'Ivoire Land Partnership (CLAP) is a unique GIZ partnership with 7 cocoa buying multinationals, an innovative tech firm, and the Ivorian national land agency (AFOR). CLAP's primary goal is to solve conflicts, convince smallholders to refrain from deforestation as well as co-finance and scale up access to land documentation for cocoa farmers, with a particular focus on women and migrants. As a consequence of global sustainable sourcing commitments such as the EU-Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), companies are now required to actively demonstrate the legality and traceability of their sourcing from individual smallholders.

<u>**Main Messages:**</u>

Cocoa production in West Africa finds its origins in colonial trade relations. Today, the sector faces monumental social, environmental and economic sustainability issues. These include human rights violations and ecological issues such as child labor, ethnic and land conflicts, forest and soil degradation, and a lack of a living income. Solutions to these complex and interrelated problems are increasingly found within innovative public-private collaborations that focus on securing sustainable sourcing and fulfilling ambitious international sustainability commitments. After decades of unconvincing 'voluntary' commitments, the sector is increasingly confronted with stringent certification requirements and mandatory regulations. In this context, multinational corporations are realizing that unsecure land (use) rights and uncertain statuses of tree ownership present major restraints to long-term sustainable sourcing practices including agroforestry and zero-deforestation. These systemic obstacles make it difficult for companies to establish sustainable production conditions that comply with the recently enforced **EU-Deforestation Regulation (EUDR).** The EUDR renders all actors responsible for deforestation along the entire value chain of several commodities imported into the EU. This means that the traceability and the legality of production both need to be disclosed. Land (use) rights clarification and registration have thereby become key levers to achieving sustainable sourcing for a global industry. In this session, the example of the **Côte d'Ivoire Land Partnership (CLAP)** has highlighted the potential of a successful development-public-private collaboration connecting land tenure, sustainable cocoa production, and zero-deforestation. Within

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CLAP, realistic solutions that are in line with national laws and international regulations but also work at scale for businesses, governments and smallholders are actively experimented and cocreated through digitalization, peacebuilding and inclusion. This **integrated development partnership with the private sector (iDPP)**, demonstrates that the agroindustry recognizes the key strategic role that land tenure security plays in the transition towards ecological, social, and economic sustainability, enabling the credible implementation of the EUDR and other (inter)national sustainability goals.

Main Take-Aways:

➢ The EUDR can be seen as **both an opportunity and a challenge** for smallholder farmers and multinational commodity sourcing companies. However, how compliance with such regulations can be **beneficial for rural communities** requires further analysis and learning.
➢ The solutions for **conflict resolution, registration of land and geolocation of parcels,** which are being developed through the pilot in Côte d'Ivoire, can improve the legality of production and can potentially be applied to other **contexts, countries and commodities.**
➢ Land tenure registration can be a fundamental step towards **attaining sustainable sourcing** and creates incentives for the adoption of sustainable practices that can **prevent negative social, environmental, and economic impacts** currently associated with cocoa production.

Links to relevant documents and websites:

➢ Côte d'Ivoire Land Partnership (CLAP): https://www.meridia.land/clap
➢ Global Programme Responsible Land Policy (GPRLP): https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/39918.html
➢ On cocoa sustainability issues: Cocoa Barometer 2022: https://cocoabarometer.org/en/

Technical Session 4: SDGs, VGGTs, and the Rio-Conventions - Tracking Progress and Advocating for Land Rights
(organised by International Land Coalition, Land Matrix and GIZ)

Moderation:
Rukshana Nanayakkara (Global Policy and Advocacy Expert, International Land Coalition)

Speakers:
Dr. Ward Anseeuw (Senior Land Tenure Officer and Lead of the Land Tenure Team, FAO)
Dr. Johanna von Braun (Lead, Climate and Nature, Indigenous Peoples, International Land Coalition)
Dr. Christoph Kubitza (Researcher, German Institute for Global and Area Studies GIGA)
Chloe Ginsburg (Senior Tenure Analyst, Rights and Resources Initiative)
Dr. Moustapha Diop (Coordinator, GIZ)
Prof. Cheikh Mbow (General Director, Centre de Suivi Écologique CSE, Technical Head of the COP28 Senegalese Delegation)

Audience and speakers during Technical Session 4 in the auditorium in Bonn. © GIZ

Abstract:

10 years into the VGGTs and halfway into the SDGs, some efforts have been made towards progress. But are they adequate? Poor reporting on the SDG land indicators suggests a missing or dwindling interest in land issues. In addition, no clear progress is in sight concerning a globally acknowledged monitoring mechanism for the VGGT. Ironically, despite the insufficient attention and interest, land tenure is at the centre of "the global crises" – the loss of biodiversity, land degradation, and moreover, the climate change, that the world is grabbling with. From adaptation to mitigation, land is in demand. For example, the latest rush for green energy is rapidly increasing demand

for land, largely used by Indigenous Peoples, pastoralists, and other local communities.

What can be done to revamp the interest in land issues and build good land governance aiming at secure land tenure of those who live on and from the land and at risk in the climate change era: Land rights and land tenure security are the first steps for legitimate participation in climate change mitigation, adaptation and ecosystem conservation initiatives and the fundamental safeguard against land grabbing.

The review of the SDG goals in 2024 presents a threat for and an opportunity to the land governance framework in place. Especially target 1.4.2 was singled out being under threat of being deleted from the framework due to a lack of voluntary reporting. Reporting on targets 5.a.1 & 2 remains inadequate. This lack was identified as being the challenge and difficulty of implementing the survey indicators by respective ministries of statistics. A lack of experience in collecting data with and from people on the ground was tagged as one most prominent factor hindering further development. The recognition of land tenure was described as spatially very specific, with calibration of data difficult to conduct without necessary baseline knowledge present.

Generally, heavy land-based investments are seen as a potential future threat to sustainable land tenure systems, as marginalized people are especially vulnerable to being subjected as victims in these processes.

Main messages:

A goal should be to rather than invent new methods to gather data, validate existing data from the last years by linking initiatives. The kindled Global Land Agenda is aimed at "giving teeth to this data and the frameworks that we have" (Dr Ward Anseeuw) by enhancing visibility and formalization with embedding it in the global accountability mechanism of SDG reporting. Multi-stakeholder platforms creating multifunctional data and reports, while addressing cultural norms of value were identified as being crucial to show alignment and use complimentary elements to address targets 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 of the SDGs. The recognition of traditional types of land rights in the process of formalization was demanded by one speaker. To connect the SDGs with the Rio Conventions was demanded by multiple speakers.

It was pointed out that individual strategies to meet targets 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 were shown to be successful in a Senegalese case, also noting the contribution of GIZ in this case. The German government was pointed out to show potential in pushing the indicators back to Tier 1 levels.

Without any recognized monitoring system, systematic data on VGGT compliance is also scarce. Addressing this data gap, the Land Matrix Initiative has started to publish reports on the compliance of large-scale land acquisitions (LSLAs) with the VGGT which show that the VGGT are still far from being consistently implemented. Moreover, in the future, the data initiative seeks to deliver systematic and open data via a web application on LSLAs and the VGGT which could deliver specific information with regards to single land deals but also certain investors and countries.

Main take aways:

- ➤ Action is currently necessary to keep targets 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 in line with ambitions for further land tenure policy development.
- ➤ Land tenure research and policy are some of the pivotal aspects for future sustainable development.
- ➤ GIZ should further continue to work on land governance in cooperation with ILC, Land Matrix, FAO and RRI.

Links to relevant documents and websites:

➢ Governance of Tenure | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (fao.org)
➢ International Land Coalition ILC | 250+ members with 1 goal: people-centred land governance
➢ FOUR YEARS OF PEOPLE'S DATA ON LAND - ILC (landcoalition.org)
➢ 2022 progress towards the SDG land rights commitments - ILC (landcoalition.org)
➢ Land Matrix | Land Matrix
➢ Forest and Land Tenure - Rights + Resources - Supporting Forest Tenure, Policy, and Market Reforms (rightsandresources.org)
➢ Second Edition of Who Owns the World's Land (RRI 2023): https://rightsandresources.org/press-who-owns-2nd-ed/
➢ RRI Tenure Tracking Program: https://rightsandresources.org/tenure-tracking/
➢ RRI Tenure Tool: https://rightsandresources.org/rri-tenure-tool/
➢ LandWise Law Library: https://resourceequity.org/#elementor-tab-title-2101
➢ Senegal - giz.de
➢ Accueil - Centre de Suivi Écologique (cse.sn)

World Café

Participants joined the World Café to exchange and discuss in more depth and in a more interactive format about six different topics. Three tables focussed on the opportunities and challenges for land tenure security in the context of the three Rio Conventions (UNCCD, UNFCCC, CBD) whereas three additional tables used this format to further discussions begun in the thematic sessions.

Participants engaging in lively debates at the different tables of the World Café. © GIZ

Table 1: Opportunities and Challenges for Land Tenure Security in the Context of UNCCD

Background on "land tenure" in the UNCCD context

- Within UNCCD formal recognition and conceptualization of the importance of "land tenure" (LTS) has advanced considerably
- UNCCD related research body (Science Policy Interface, SPI) positions land tenure security as part of the "enabling environment" for achieving the objectives of the convention.
- Conversely, the absence of LTS is frequently identified as a major constraint for achieving the conventions' objectives.
- Critical moments in this process include:
  - the Land Tenure Decisions at COP 14 in 2019 (Decision 26) and at COP 15 in 2022 (Decision 27),
  - the Global Land Outlook (GLO) report in 2022,
  - the development of a FAO/UNCCD Technical Guide on the integration of the VGGT into UNCCD implementation (2022),
  - an Option Paper for raising awareness on responsible land governance for combatting desertification, land degradation and drought. developed with Landesa (2022)
  - the recent conduct of regional webinars on "Integrating Tenure Security into Land Restoration Initiatives" (with FAO, GLTN, ILC, Landesa, LPF, TMG), part of implementation activities leading up to COP 16 (2024).

These targeted National Focal Points (3 webinars) and other stakeholders (1 webinar).

- There is a clear statement from Decision 26, COP 14 (2019): "… recognizing that responsible land governance is a fundamental component of sustainable land management and is important to addressing desertification/land degradation and drought."
- This led to clear task and mandate for UNCCD to address land tenure issues and subsequent activities:
- An important guiding document for the entire process is the "Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security" (VGGT – CFS/FAO 2012).
- Since then, several initiatives have been developed on land tenure at UNCCD (for example the "National Multi-Stakeholder Consultations on Land Tenure", "Her Land. Her Rights: Advancing Gender Equality and Land Restoration Goals")

What challenges/bottlenecks/risks do we see?
- Does the Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) concept have enough traction to mainstream land tenure aspects into broader processes?
- The "strength and political position" of National Focal Points is varying from country to country.
- Are the landmark decisions on Land Tenure of UNCCD not known well enough at country level? National partners might not be aware of potential?
- How to mobilise funds and include land tenure related activities in UNCCD related project financing?
- CSO involvement in the convention process needs renewal and engagement of farmers organisations.

What opportunities do we see / how could we use these?
- 5 countries have been selected for National Multi-Stakeholder Consultations on Land Tenure (Kazakhstan, Kenya, Mexico, Senegal, and Sri Lanka selected, many more applied) --> opportunity to raise awareness on land tenure in LDN processes on national level?
- Secure land tenure in sustainable supply chains… what opportunities exist to tap into funding under this header?
- UNCCD target setting 2.0 program: focus on and / inclusion of land tenure related goals within this process.
- Are there possibilities to engage Global Mechanism (GM) who has mandate to support countries in project design?
- WOCAT: Reference good practice database of UNCCD
- There is currently a push for an accountability system related to land governance in the Global Land Agenda (GLA) that could take shape through UN annual forum. Potential workstream to support to create reporting mechanism leading to "non-compulsory" enforcement?
- From implementation project perspective: identify possibilities to link land governance interventions into UNCCD logic at your respective levels and project logics.
- GEF is now providing funds to support CSO engagement in UNCCD – would they be a natural cooperation partner?

Table 2: Opportunities and Challenges for Land Tenure Security in the Context of UNFCCC

Background on "land tenure" in the UNFCCC context

- UNFCCC so far does not explicitly mention land tenure in official texts adopted by CMA/CMP during COP meetings. Yet, text related to land issues has been approved by the COP28 plenary in the negotiations of the Global Stocktake (i.e. in Paragraph 32, Paragraph 33 and Paragraph 55).
- Although not explicitly mentioned, land tenure was especially relevant to the negotiations at COP28 on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. Land-based solutions may qualify for Article 6 trades if they adhere to the specified guidance. A specified guidance on removals under Art. 6.2 was under negotiation at COP28. Ultimately, consensus was only reached on Art. 6.8 which strengthens non-market approaches (NMA) to mitigation which could potentially include securing land tenure (e.g. NMA to reduce deforestation and forest degradation). Paragraph 32 of the Global Stocktake references Article 6.8 and a decision lays out the plan for an associated work programme.
- Paragraph 33 of the Global Stocktake establishes a clear reference to the social and environmental safeguards of the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) and the 2030 target to halt deforestation of the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use. The KMGBF contains direct (Targets 22 IPLC & 23 women) and indirect references to land rights (Targets 1-3, 10) and, in general, has strong rights-based language; this was actively supported by Germany and the EU.
- The integration of UNFCCC and CBD was further strengthened by the COP28 Joint Statement on Climate Nature and People which Germany among other member states signed

What challenges/bottlenecks/risks do we see?

- Governments have proposed approximately 1 billion ha of land for land-based carbon removal as part of their NDC-climate mitigation pledges (equals more than the combined areas of South Africa, India, Turkey and EU).
- Afforestation and reforestation account for 50 % of land-based pledges.
- This can be in tension with the goals of food security, ecosystem resilience, and the rights of local communities (e.g. displacement). The global transition to green energies poses similar risks but comparably has a smaller land footprint.
- Overreliance on land-based carbon dioxide removal (CDR) may not generate permanent additional mitigation and risks the achievement of the Paris goals.
- Carbon markets pose a threat to local rights holders and may shift land use patterns.
- Land rights do not play a role in national level implementation, this depends on motivation of national focal points and there is often a complex structure of focal points for different sectors.
- Governments may instrumentalize international discussions for their own goals on national level

What opportunities do we see / how could we use these?

- New and encouraging in the context of UNFCCC is the attention paid to possible trade-offs of large-scale adaptation and mitigation measures and the strong support given to equity and rights-based approaches, especially for women and indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLC).

- Joint workstreams on agriculture may offer an entry point, but there is "no straightforward entry point."
- New attention to Article 6.8 of the Paris Agreement and its non-market mechanism (e.g. joint mitigation and adaptation approach, etc.)
- The Non-State Actors Call to Action, endorsed by over 200 entities at COP28, aligning with the Emirates Declaration, highlights the need to "Respect the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, including their rights to Free, Prior, and Informed Consent, land, and self-determination, recognizing the leading role they play in the production of sustainable food systems".
- Investment through carbon markets ("If you like it or not, they are here to stay")
- National level processes may provide opportunities – National Adaptation Plans & Nationally Determined Contributions
- "Gender leads the way" – Focus on women's land rights could offer a segue for land rights more generally into the convention.

Exchange between two participants at table 2 of the World Café. © GIZ

Table 3: Opportunities and Challenges for Land Tenure Security in the Context of CBD

Background on "land tenure" in the CBD context

- **IPBES**: 2018 Assessment Report on Land Degradation and Restoration clearly confirms the importance of "clear, uncontested land rights" in the context of the CBD.
- IPBES: 2019 Global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services: "land-use change has had the largest relative negative impact on nature since 1970" and is a major direct driver through agricultural expansion, which is enabled by insecure land rights.
- Garnett et. Al. 2018: Indigenous Peoples manage or have tenure rights over at least a quarter of the world's land surface, that intersects with about 40% of all terrestrial protected areas and ecologically intact landscapes.

What challenges/bottlenecks/risks do we see?

- In the run-up to COP 15 (2022), indigenous and civil society organizations were concerned that the 30x30 target (protected areas, restoration) would violate (especially) IPLC land and resource rights. Some IP&LC Representatives see Nature Based Solutions and market-based solutions like carbon and biodiversity credits as false solutions and another risk of displacement.

What opportunities do we see / how could we use these?

- CBD has longstanding sensibility for and experience in collaboration with indigenous peoples and local communities (Art. 8j, ABS etc.).
- The new GBF contains direct (Targets 22 IPLC & 23 women) and indirect references to land rights (Targets 1-3, 10) and, in general, has strong rights-based language; this was actively supported by Germany and the EU.
- In a "third pathway" approach, the 30x30 target can be reached without expanding state protected areas, but by recognizing and strengthening IP&LC territories and rights (e.g. via ICCAs or recognized indigenous territories)
- The ongoing updating of NBSAPs and the development of the GBF monitoring framework provide opportunities for the integration of land tenure issues, not only for IPLC (both "do-no-harm"/safeguards and "do good"/strategic priorities & financial resources) – ideally in coordination with UNCCD & UNFCCC processes.
- Push for land use/spatial planning based on Target 1
- Focus on synergies in the implementation on national level and overlapping restoration targets in CBD, UNFCCC, and UNCCD which should be included in national reporting

Table 4: Dark interests – Identifying land corruption in climate action and surfacing key needs and actions to address land corruption in our work

Context

Land corruption threatens efforts to fight climate change and achieve a fair energy transition. By undermining climate programmes, projects, and practices, it fuels increased carbon emissions and negative climate outcomes. It weakens tenure security and contributes to human rights violations. By channelling funds and resources towards elites, and supporting harmful or poorly managed projects, land corruption also erodes the legitimacy and credibility of the climate agenda, reducing popular support for vital action.

Goal

To hear from participants on their experiences with land corruption and with corruption in climate projects, discuss how the topic has been relevant to their work, and identify positive practices as well as needs for training, support, and resources.

Main questions

- **Question 1:** Have you encountered land corruption? If so, please share examples and experiences.
    - What vulnerabilities to land corruption have you identified?
    - Who are those most impacted by land corruption in the climate sector?
- **Question 2**: What are the challenges with identifying and addressing land corruption or corruption in climate projects? What has worked well?
    - Have you encountered challenges in broaching the topic with stakeholders?
    - In your experience, how does tenure security connect to land corruption? Can it help?
- **Question 3**: What's missing from the resources, support, and tools you have available? What do you need to better address land corruption?

Insights from the session

- Land corruption is a familiar issue that can be hard to pinpoint. There is often a lack of transparency and clarity around potential cases of land corruption, which makes it difficult to identify.
- Some participants ask questions on specific cases and were unclear whether it might constitute corruption.
- Challenges dealing with land corruption are difficulty in finding proof that corruption took place as well as the risks of backlash when identifying or trying to address land corruption.
- A focus on petty corruption can distract from political corruption and grand corruption in Large Scale Land Based Investments.
- (Land) corruption needs to be linked to the human rights framework.
- Necessary and useful approaches are:
    - Right to Information laws, declaration of asset provisions and follow-the-money approaches,
    - promotion of champions,
    - digital systems to file, secure and confirm land transactions.

Table 5: Land rights for sustainable management of forest landscapes – example of the "Côte d'Ivoire Land Partnership" a PPP in the cocoa value chain

Context

90% of deforestation is associated with the expansion of agricultural land and majorly contributes to the loss of terrestrial carbon sinks. Cocoa cultivation is an underlying driver of over 37% of forest loss in protected areas in Côte d'Ivoire, the largest cocoa exporting country worldwide, especially in the south of the country. The EU Regulation on Deforestation-free Products (EUDR) is attempting to combat these developments for 7 commodities imported to the EU. For this purpose, traders need to provide information on geolocation and deforestation for each production plot. The GIZ is involved in the CLAP partnership, which co-finances land documentation for Ivorian cocoa farmers. This approach is targeted at securing land rights for smallholder, who are the main growers of coca in West Africa, by issuing land certificates and develop conflict resolution mechanisms until the end of 2024. Regarding the new EU regulation the question arises, on how development cooperation can use the EUDR as an opportunity to strengthen land rights of smallholder farmers and IPLCs, through iDPPs.

Goal

Identify pathways on how development cooperation can accompany the implementation of the EUDR by supporting land rights for small-scale producers.

Main Question

How can development cooperation enhance the potential of iDPPs to ensure land rights throughout local communities and marginalized groups?

Insights from the Session

1. What are incentives for the private sector and governments to support land documentation?

- Initial funding and financial sustainability of land documentation projects
- Visibility of corporate social responsibility and governmental services
- Risk reduction for the current and future business case of multinationals
- new multinational regulations required (inside and outside of Europe)

2. How can the pilot Côte d'Ivoire be adopted to other countries and commodities?

- Introduction and amendment of regulations in countries along existing value chains
- Added value through investments from farmers with secured land rights (e.g. palm oil)
- Improvement for smallholder's share of commodities exported to the EU and elsewhere

3. How can the risk of land conflicts be mitigated in the context of new regulations (like the EUDR)?

- Make land security a precondition for exporting agricultural commodities
- Quality control of parcel demarcation and geolocation (EUDR due diligence)
- Inclusion of smallholder food producers (systemic and inclusive approaches)
- Maintaining customary law through legal recognition of land documentation

4. Which mechanisms can be established by development cooperations in PPP projects?

- Facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogues
- Coordinate scalable technical services
- Advocate for land documentation and titling
- Support stable farming conditions (contract farming)

Market Place and **Short Technical Sessions (Open Space)** provide room for all participants to showcase and discuss aspects of their work and research related to the overall topic. The **Onboarding Session** for GIZ colleagues presents guidance to basic GIZ structures as well as project types.

Market Place

Stand 1 - Interfaces - Supporting Pathways to Sustainable Land Management in Africa
We are a research consortium working on a multitude of aspects of soil conservation, pastoralism, agricultural value chains, finance and insurance, scientific and local knowledge of good land use practices, with special attention to gender issues. Our consortium constitutes a network of important competence centers for sustainable land management in Sub-Sahara Africa from Germany and from the partner countries with a focus on West Africa. The four regional projects (COINS, DeClaRe, InfoRange, Minodu) and the accompanying INTERFACES project are all funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) under its programme "Sustainable Land Management in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)" within the strategy of its platform Research for Sustainability (Forschung für Nachhaltigkeit, FONA), implemented over the next four years (2022-2026).
Contact: Aiveen Donnelly (Researcher, German Institute of Development and Sustainability)

Stand 2 - Exploring Rio Convention synergies in land restoration - A case study from Rwanda
The Economics of Land Degradation (ELD) Initiative hosted by GIZs Sector Program Soil Conservation and Sustainable Land Management (SV Boden) showcases the economic benefits of an integrated versus a siloed approach to land restoration across the Rio Conventions. Bringing together national action plans siloed under the UNCCD, CBD, and UNFCCC frameworks provides the opportunity to align targets and commitments for land restoration, realize multiple benefits, and maximize returns on investment (UNCCD, 2022).
Contact: Waltraud Ederer (Advisor, GIZ)

Stand 3 - New book on Geospatial science for smart land management.
Responsible land distribution in Asia, with ever-increasing limitations in space, requires the use of smart technologies, sophisticated models, intelligent algorithms, and big data repositories. This book presents new land management perspectives and fit-for-purpose, flexible, dynamic, and effective solutions for land management and land administration problems. Case studies written by global experts from different Asian countries, including Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Japan, China, India, Thailand, Vietnam, and Afghanistan demonstrate how and why the uptake of geospatial technologies is booming, and how to handle land scarcity and competing spatial interests in both urban and rural areas in Asia.
Contact: Prof. Dr. ir. Walter T. de Vries (Professor, Technical University of Munich)

Stand 4 - CRISP - Do you want to learn more about how to mainstream climate change adaptation into your rural development programmes and policies?
Then visit our Market Place, where we introduce the novel CRISP tool. CRISP stands for Climate Risk Planning & Managing Tool for Development Programmes in Agri-Food Systems. CRISP is a free, quick and simple to use, interactive web-based tool. It guides you through a process to understand: climate related risks of specific agricultural systems,articulate science-based adaptation hypotheses, identify cascading impacts and review relevant adaptation options.
CRISP: Climate Risk Planning & Managing Tool for Development Programmes in Agri-food Systems (cgiar.org) has been developed by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) in collaboration with the Alliance of Bioversity International, the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), and Eurac Research, commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).
Contact: Till Bellow (Advisor, GIZ)

Stand 5 - Let´s exchange on best practice examples for land-use planning - and how to make it climate-sensitive!
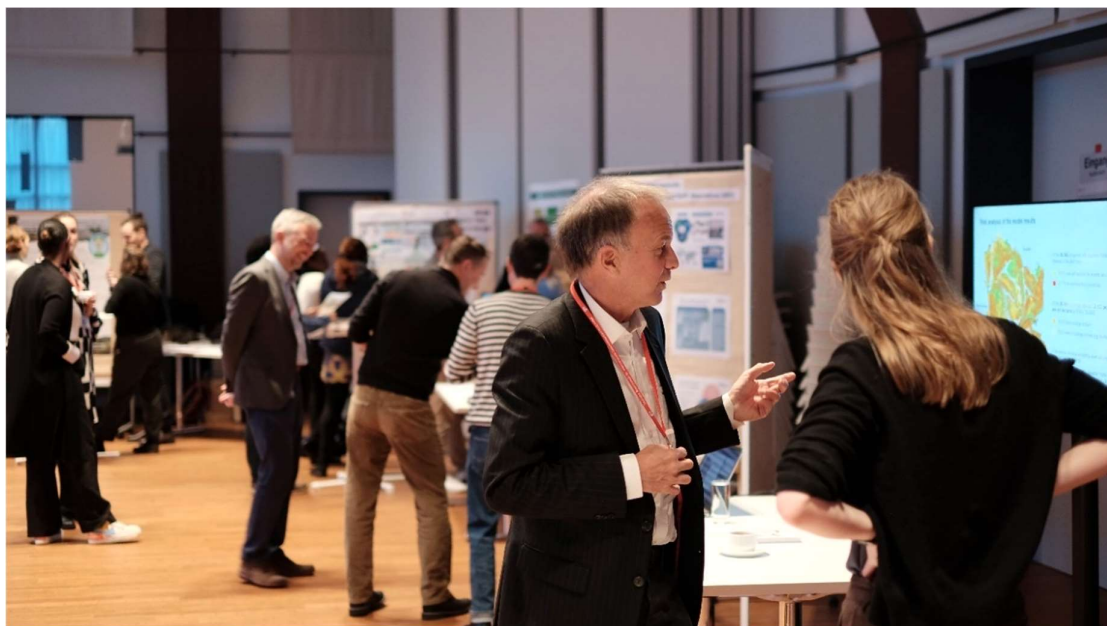The "Land Management and Decentralized Planning" Project Laos will showcase their experiences and the Sector Project Rural Development will present their findings from interviews with various GIZ projects around the world. We would also like to hear your perspectives and warmly welcome you to visit us.
Contact: Chansamone Souvanhsai (Technical Professional), Alina Gassen (Advisor), Laura Madrid (Advisor) (all GIZ)

Stand 6 - Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) for Property Taxes - Experiences and the Way Ahead in Rwanda
A GIZ-supported Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) effectively contributes to a more equitable property taxation in Rwanda. We show results from the successful prototype, discuss scalability and possibilities to replicate the Rwandan CAMA-approach in other countries.
Contact: Kaspar Kundert (Senior Advisor, Geodata4Africa)

Kaspar Kundert presenting CAMA to an interested participant. © GIZ

Stand 7 - What does it take to make sure that interventions targeting land tenure security result in more sustainable land management?
And would interventions aimed at fostering sustainable land management be more effective if issues around land tenure insecurity were dealt with (first)? Our team discussed these questions with farmers throughout the south of Burundi during recent fieldwork. Drawing on their experiences with either land registration or sustainable land management interventions, or both, we share insights on how such interventions are and may be intertwined. We invite the LandHub audience to engage in an exchange of experiences and lessons learned on the issue. The research is a collaboration between Land-at-Scale, Wageningen University and Research, and LANDac, carried out in the framework of the Land-at-scale knowledge management programme.
Contact: Dr. Ir Gemma van der Haar (Assistant Professor, Wageningen University)

Stand 8 - Gender Transformation for Integrated Solutions: How to include Women's Rights in Development Projects on Land Policy
Like the Rio Conventions, women's land rights are crucial in finding integrated solutions in rural development projects. As a cross cutting issue in all country projects of the Global Programme Responsible Land Policy (GPRLP), there is a multitude of perspectives on how Gender Transformative Approaches (GTA) on land can be implemented in line with the current feminist development policy of Germany. Thus, results originating from the GPRLP Gender Workshop, which is centered around exchanging experiences and ideas on how to turn GTA concepts into reality, will be presented at the LandHub conference by the GPRLP Gender Focal Points.
Contact: Simon Marx (Intern, GIZ)

Stand 9 - Biofuels and their significance for development policy/international development cooperation.
Land and biomass resources are limited on our planet. The simultaneous global rise in biofuel production and adherence to the Rio Conventions intensifies demands on these resources. Collaborating with GIZ LandHub participants, our aim is to explore the intersections among land use claims, biofuel production, Rio Conventions, and land tenure security. With our stall at this year's Market Place, we, the Sector Project Rural Development & the Sector Project Agriculture, seek to illuminate issues, analyze political strategies in the realm of development cooperation, and foster an exchange of experiences.
Contact: Pierre Pascal Cerdan Castagnola (Junior Advisor, GIZ)

Stand 10 - "Responsible Governance of Investments in Land (RGIL)" and "Thematic Pilots on the Valorisation of Land Rights" – A NIRAS Market Stand
Find out about the approaches and products developed by NIRAS - IP Consult in the two assignments "Responsible Governance of Investments in Land (RGIL)" and "Thematic Pilots on the Valorisation of Land Rights". Both were implemented within the Global Programme on Responsible Land Policy as part of the German Special Initiative "One World – No Hunger" of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.
Contact: Laura Schmid (Consultant & Project Manager, NIRAS)

Stand 11 - DIAPOL-CE - A Multifaceted Approach Relevant for all Rio Conventions

The implementation of our project activities is per se related to land rights/ land governance, but land tenure rights need to be brokered very carefully and, in every case, – it makes a difference if land is state owned or given to communities.

The fact that DIAPOL-CE is applying an integrated approach involving stakeholders from different ministries as well as regional and national agencies such as Forestry Department in Senegal, Nile Basin Initiative in East Africa, and various actors in the Three Alazani Biosphere Reserve in Georgia shows that most processes are multi-stakeholder driven.

Contact: Stephan Kroel (Advisor, GIZ - DIAPOL-CE)

Stand 12 - From fragmentation to future: empowering communities, transforming agriculture & improving governance

In the Ethiopian highlands, increasing demands on land to achieve the objectives of the Rio conventions and to feed a growing population are in competition. Land Consolidation, as a multifunctional land management tool, offers solutions to spatial trade-offs in situations of high land fragmentation.

Contact: Daniel Däschle (Component Lead, GIZ)

Exchange between Julia Wenkowitsch (moderator of the 8th LandHub) and Helina Nicodimos Haileselassie representing the GIZ Land Governance Project in Ethiopia during the Market Place. © GIZ

Stand 13 - Potential for upscaling and multiplication of indicators through cooperation with impact investors

The marketplace will be jointly presented by GIZ (S2RAI - Ethiopia) and ASC Impact (Impact Investor in Land). ASC Impact will present its approach to responsible investment in land, while GIZ - S2RAI Ethiopia will present a remote sensing tool to monitor the activities of agricultural investors (RS4AIM - Remote Sensing for Large-scale Agricultural Investment Areas)

Contact: Jakob Frank (Trainee, GIZ)

Stand 14 - Land Corruption & Climate

The Land Corruption & Climate Market Place Stall, hosted by Transparency International (TI), will include presentation of the findings of two recent publications looking at the corruption risks in climate projects. Visitors to the stall can learn about corruption risks in the land sector, with particular focus on climate mitigation and renewal energy projects, and efforts by TI to tackle the issues. Visitors can also pick up a copy of the Addressing Land Corruption for Climate Action which illustrates the links between land corruption and climate so that governments, donors, private actors and civil society in climate and anti-corruption fields can better understand how they interact.

Contact: Alice Stevens (Project Manager, Transparency International)

Stand 15 - The Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Toolbox by the Group on Earth Observations, (GEO)-LDN Initiative

Specifically, we'll showcase the "LDN Toolbox", a suite of interoperable, open access analytic tools, methods and datasets to reach "Land Degradation Neutrality" (LDN). We will explain how the toolbox helps partner countries, making it possible to better integrate earth observations (from remote sensing or in-situ datasets) in land use planning processes in order to avoid, reduce or even reverse degradation of land resources.

Contact: Bernd Eversmann (Advisor, GIZ)

Open Space: Short Technical Sessions

Open Space 1.1: Advancing Land Rights through National Focal Points: A Strategy within the Rio Conventions
(Organised by: Robert Bosch Stiftung and TMG Research)

Speakers:
Frederike Klümper (Programme Lead, TMG Research)
Laura Rahmeier (Senior Project Manager, Robert Bosch Stiftung)
Moritz Hauer (Research Associate, TMG Research)

Abstract:
This session looked at the role of National Focal Points in enhancing synergies among the Rio Conventions and safeguarding land tenure rights during their implementation. The team presented lessons learned from recent workshops and its work on monitoring the implementation of the UNCCD Land Tenure Decision. In a joint discussion with the participants, both challenges and strategies to support National Focal Points in advancing land rights across the Rio Conventions were discusses.

Main messages:
National Focal Points can provide a useful entry point for advancing the land rights agenda across the Conventions. Improved coordination and communication among National Focal Points is vital to create synergies and strengthen land rights during the implementation of the Conventions, but it is often hindered by institutional, organizational as well as capacity and resource challenges. There are several windows of opportunities for NFPs to advance the land rights agenda across the Conventions, including the review of Gender Action Plans and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), coherence efforts among the Conventions and alignment with the SDGs, as well as regional COP preparatory meetings.

Main take aways:
➢ Viable methods for a strategy to work with and through National Focal Points include peer-to-peer exchanges and a systematic involvement of sub-national levels and local CSOs.
➢ The effectiveness of the strategy is likely to crucially depend on motivation, mandate and the overall ecosystem of the National Focal Points per country.
➢ Providing National Focal Points with land data and information adapted to the national context can strengthen their capacity to raise local land tenure issues.
➢ A useful shift in framing for an approach to work with and through National Focal Points could be to think of advancing the Rio Conventions through land rights.
➢ A way forward for GIZ could be to consider including National Focal Points in their stakeholder mapping and mission descriptions.

Links to relevant documents and websites:
Women's Land Rights and the Rio Conventions:
➢ [Harnessing Synergies and Mobilizing Joint Action: A Historic First Workshop on Women's Land Rights with all Three Rio Conventions](#)
➢ [Participant Handbook: Strategy Workshop on Women's Land Rights and the Rio Conventions](#)

Africa Climate Week
➢ Land Rights and Gender Responsive Climate Action Seminar

Global Soil Week Country Reports:
➢ Benin
➢ Madagascar
➢ Malawi
➢ Kenya I, Kenya II

VGGT Technical Guide:
➢ Technical Guide on the Integration of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security into the Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and Land Degradation Neutrality

Open Space 1.2: Securing Women Land Rights - Women Economic Empowerment and Transformation
(Organised by: ILC, National Land Rights Forum and WILDAF GHANA)

Moderation:
Akmaral Sman (ILC Asia)

Speakers:
Lois Aduamoah Addo (Programme Manager, Stand for Her Land Campaign),
Prem Prakash (Programme Manager, National Land Rights Forum),
Nivatiti Nandujja (Women Land Rights and Gender Justice, International Land Coalition ILC)

Abstract:
Land remains a critical factor in the realization of women economic empowerment, enactment of progressive policy reforms and adoption of practical strategies are critical towards realization of women economic rights which remain a priority on the global development Agenda. Securing Women Land Rights is a gateway to women economic empowerment and transformation adopting a multi-sectoral approach for inclusion.

Main messages:
Land ownership is a fundamental pathway to improving economic opportunity and livelihoods, fostering dignity and improved wellbeing, and building self-reliance in developing countries for both men and women. Adoption and integration of gender transformative approaches in development programmes remains fundamental towards realization of international commitments to gender equality. The causes of inequality in the ownership, access, use, and control of land should be recognized and addressed. There are some existing efforts towards empowering women with information about their land and other rights however patriarchy and existing inequalities continue to exacerbate the situation. Equitable land rights are the key to progress on human rights, food security & family nutrition. Enable women to participate in decision making, earn income and access to credit. ILC has successfully supported national land coalitions in thirty countries. These are at the centre of accelerating the recognition, defense, protection and redistribution of land rights for women in their countries. Enhance Coalition/Networks of women organisations, groups and formations towards increased capacity enhancement at local & national level to engage in global spaces.

Advocacy to implement land & climate related policy programs linking with women; Advocacy towards implementation of WLR & WEE legal and policy frameworks on & climate change. Capacity Development of Women-Led CSOs, CBOs, & POs in WLR, gender Justice & its nexus in climate change is required for effective advocacy to build community resiliency. Collective Efforts from CSOs & government entities is essential for the effective & Inclusive climate action at all level. Capacity Development of Women-Led CSOs, CBOs, & POs in WLR, gender Justice & its nexus in climate change is required for effective advocacy to build community resilience. Collective Efforts from CSOs & government entities is essential for the effective & Inclusive climate action at all levels. ILC is the largest and most diverse coalition working on land rights in the world connecting with the women economic empowerment discourse at global level. ILC undertakes policy advocacy at global, regional & national level with coalitions-women participation in land governance & climate discourse at different levels e.g. COP8, CEDAW & SDG'S.

Main take aways:

➢ Securing women land rights is a central solution to addressing existing inequalities (Stand for Her Land campaign).

➢ Land rights are a pathway to social and economic justice. Realization of the 3 Rio Conventions (UNCCD, CBD, UNFCCC).

➢ Securing land rights is key to addressing these global challenges and achieving the 3 Rio Conventions ranging from climate change, inequality, and unsustainable food systems.

➢ Build and strengthen women agency towards continued advocacy at all levels (WHRD).

➢ Targeted inclusion of women in initiatives.

➢ Empowering women through embracing technology.

➢ Secure land and resource rights are key drivers of biodiversity and sustainable natural resource management.

Open Space 1.3: Participatory Cadaster and Peacebuilding: a capacity building experience from Colombia
(Organised by: World Bank, Instituto Geográfico Agustín Codazzi – IGAC and GIZ)

<u>**Moderation:**</u>
Alexander Strunck (Advisor Land Governance, GIZ)

<u>**Speakers:**</u>
Ivonne Moreno (Senior Land Administration Specialist, World Bank)
Johan Avendaño (Director of Research and Prospective, Instituto Geográfico Agustín Codazzi)

<u>**Abstract:**</u>
Land governance in Colombia faces historical challenges due to the existing socio-ecological conflicts regarding the use and ownership of land and other natural resources. The difficulties in developing governance in these areas are associated with different factors such as the institutional technocratic approach defined from the capital, irregular and informal occupation, the lack of clear and truthful property management and cadaster information, and the consequent conflicts over the use of land, deforestation, the escalation of land-related disputes, and violence. A prerequisite for the comprehensive land reform derived from the 2016 peace accord is the implementation of a participatory multi-purpose cadaster. However, the participation of the population in political decision-making processes in Colombia is only slightly pronounced. The reason is, on the one hand, a low level of trust in state institutions, and on the other hand, the culture of citizen participation has been impaired by decades of violent conflict. The alliance between the World Bank and GIZ aims at improving the conditions for the active participation of local communities in the implementation of the Multipurpose Cadaster in Colombia. Improved participation is intended in turn to reduce the potential for violent conflict and secure peace in the long term. After one year of implementation, the IGAC (National Cadaster Authority) has institutionalized the results of the joint project in the so-called "*Escuela Intercultural de Geografia para la Vida*". It is a capacity-development model that promotes citizen participation in cadaster operations in conflict and deforestation-affected areas.

<u>**Main messages:**</u>
The Multipurpose Cadaster policy aims to clarify land ownership and tenure of men and women, as well as customary land ownership and tenure in the country's ethnic territories, to guarantee their legal security, among other objectives. The focus on a human centered approach according to the peace accord with a participatory involvement in cadaster development for land tenure has proven successful. Territorial pilot projects could serve effectively as a testbed for wider application. The used participatory processes, specially tailored for each community showed good feedback from participants as well as effective training for cadaster development, while a complementary outcome to the existing land cadasters was reached. The Do-No-Harm strategy was effectively implemented with such methodology. For 2024 it is planned to expand on the concept of intercultural schools for cadaster development purposes. International cooperation is explicitly wanted and sought after, not just for current methods used but also proposed novel methodology like the use of AI. Albeit funded by the national budget the help of international donors is essential as trust has been established in the population in recent years towards institutions like GIZ and the World Bank. Market transactions were stated as the main source of data to update the

formalized cadaster, while established methods are to be used to further formalize the informal land market.

Main take aways:
- ➢ The connection of land tenure issues with peace building through participatory methods on training to develop a land cadaster has proven to be successful and is currently being expanded in Colombia.

Links to relevant documents and websites:
- ➢ [Colombia - Multipurpose Cadastre Project (worldbank.org)](worldbank.org)
- ➢ [Promoting peace in Colombia by clarifying land ownership issues - giz.de](giz.de)
- ➢ [INSTITUTO GEOGRÁFICO AGUSTÍN CODAZZI (igac.gov.co)](igac.gov.co)

Open Space 2.1: Potential of upscaling and multiplication of indicators through cooperation with impact investors
(Organised by: GV Responsible Land Policy – Ethiopia Country Package, i.e. Support to Responsible Agricultural Investments II project, Klaus Ackermann, Christian Mesmer, Jakob Frank & ASC-Impact)

Moderation:
Thomas Wiedenmann (Advisor, GIZ)

Speakers:
Christian Mesmer (Project Manager, GIZ)
Oliver Hass (Managing Partner, ASC-Impact)

Abstract:
The session will inform interested projects and experts about the potential a cooperation between an impact investor (ASC Impact) and GIZ can bring in order to maximize project indicators and achieve a more sustainable impact. ASC Impact will describe their challenges, impact, interest to collaborate with GIZ, and potentials of investing in land in different African countries while following the EU taxonomy regulations. GIZ S2RAI II will provide examples on how the cooperation with the private sector upscales and sustains the achievement of project interventions.

Main messages:
- Increased involvement of the private sector (incl. impact investors) in global challenges such as agriculture & forestry, climate mitigation, energy, health, ...
- Impact Investors and Development organizations have similar objectives. Consequently, there is a need for cooperation to increase sustainability, reduce costs, leverage on each other's strengths, and have responsible investments
- GIZ can leverage on extensive regional, technical, and sectoral expertise in an international context to provide services for impact investors, such as:
    - GIZ developed tools: MAP Tools, digital tools, monitoring tools, etc.
    - Operational support: Partner facilitation, M&E, Procurement, Research
    - Technical Support: Investment opportunity Assessment, Capacity building, sector specific technical support

Main take aways:
- GIZ can provide various services for Impact Investors
- Working with Impact Investors is an opportunity to scale impact and receive funds
- Need to explore opportunities from the GIZ AVs, InS, key account managers
- Need for a service brochure for InS to agricultural and forest impact investors

Links to relevant documents and websites:
- Impact Investing - service offer and positioning (sharepoint.com)
- ASC Impact (asc-impact.com)
- Ensuring food security and land tenure - giz.de

Open Space 2.2: A just transition? Securing local land rights in land-intensive climate action in the Global South
(Organised by: Christoph Kubitza, GIGA, and Mirjam Harteisen, Welthungerhilfe)

Moderation:
Christoph Kubitza (Research Fellow, GIGA)

Speakers:
Christof Althoff (Research Fellow, GIGA)
Mirjam Harteisen (Senior Policy Advisor, WHH)
Nikka Rivera (Coordinator for the Land Rights Program, AFA)
Goudian Gwademba (Western Kenya Area Manager, WHH)

Abstract:
Recent reports estimate that millions of hectares of land are required to meet the projected biological carbon removal in climate pledges and commitments. Evidence from large-scale investments for agricultural production suggests that such large-scale projects may have detrimental socioeconomic and environmental impacts, in particular for vulnerable local populations including indigenous peoples and local communities. With increasing land demand for climate mitigation, it is essential to make sure that climate action does not result in "green grabbing" but achieves a "just transition" through implementing safeguards on national and international level that prevent potential harm. The objective of the session is to raise awareness for the scale of the problem, present case studies and alternatives to large-scale land acquisitions for carbon sequestration, highlight lessons learned from the "global land rush for agriculture" and discuss potential policy responses.

Main messages:
Unrecognized customary land rights (in particular for communal land) continue to be a major problem for land-based investments – there is some promising progress with regards to land reform, but implementation remains low.

The bigger the better? Large-scale land acquisition within fragmented and pluralistic customary tenure systems have proven to be highly problematic for many agricultural investments and this is also the case for carbon offset projects.

The carbon offset industry needs to improve safeguards, implement effective grievance mechanism, and improve ownership of IPs and LCs.

Main take aways:
➢ Alternatives exist to large-scale land acquisition for carbon sequestration: smallholder farmer can be effectively integrated into schemes where they benefit from climate mitigation activities as the GIZ/WHH project showed. Carbon farming should be understood as an opportunity for co-benefits for small-scale farmers and improving synergies between carbon sequestration, sustainable food and nutrition, and livelihoods is essential. These synergies are also essential because the profits from selling carbon credits are still marginal compared to other land uses.

Links to relevant documents and websites:
➢ [Land Matrix | Land Matrix](#)

Open Space 2.3: Crises-mitigating- potential of culturally resilient pastoralist indigenous communities rooted in secure land tenure
(Organised by: INFOE – Institute for Ecology and Action Anthropology, Cologne)

Moderation:
Sabine Schielmann (Project Coordinator, INFOE)

Speakers:
Dr. Sabine Dorlöchter-Sulser (Referentin für Ländliche Entwicklung, Misereor)
Prof. Dr. Michael Bollig (Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Cologne)
Simon Peter Longoli (Executive Director, Karamoja Development Forum)
Tebanyang Emmanuel (Karamoja Development Forum, Uganda)

Abstract:
The role of indigenous pastoralists and their cultural practices, knowledge and institutions with regard to adapting to climate change, using soil and water conservation techniques to restore ecosystems and their services, maintain animal diversity, cope with drought, among other, are more and more recognized. However, in development, political as well as research and education practice the resilience potential of (indigenous) pastoralists is not fully recognized and means to strengthen this potential are not effectively put into practice. We will discuss why that is so and what it needs to change this situation.

Main messages:
What it needs to change situation and overcome obstacles:
➢ Rethinking pastoralist education –mainstreaming indigenous knowledge in education (pastoralism courses, mobile education).
➢ Supporting and promoting mobile/accessible social services (i.e. human and animal health, water, education) that can be effectively delivered remotely.
➢ Improving the understanding of traditional management, practices, systems and institutions and developing ways of integrating their underlying principles into policy and planning.
➢ Pastoralists rights to resources and land have to be recognized.
➢ Tapping into the power of pastoralist institutions (Etem, Ekokwa, Akiriket).
➢ Introducing land reforms favorable to pastoralists.
➢ Valuing pastoralist production systems –in a holistic manner (environment, economics, etc).

Main take aways:
Importance of and need to strengthen/support/develop:
➢ Pastoral formats for legal commons/common ownership >> group titles and customary land titles!!
➢ Social networks!!
➢ Work directly with pastoralists because they are the experts!! Including experts of dealing with insecurity.
➢ Resilience is more than strategies and institutions but is firmly embedded in belief systems, rituals etc..

Links to relevant documents and websites:
➢ www.infoe.de

- https://www.infoe.de/?smd_process_download=1&download_id=2818
- https://youtu.be/MHPQqbNfEV0
- https://www.infoe.de/blog_post/wir-erfahren-was-koelner-hirtinnen-mit-den-karamojong-in-uganda-verbindet/
- https://youtu.be/g3ltBTt7Phg
- Egeru, A., Arasio, R. L., and Longoli, S. P. 2023. Water and Rangeland in Karamoja: Trends, preferences, and status of indigenous and introduced resources and systems. Karamoja Resilience Support Unit, Feinstein International Center, Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University, Kampala. *https://www.celep.info/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Eguru-et-al-2023-Water-and-Rangeland-in-Karamoja-11.9.23.pdf*
- MOOC on 'pastoralism in development': an online learning journey | International Institute for Environment and Development (iied.org) Self-registration is now active. (https://pastoralismindevelopment.moodlecloud.com/login/index.php).

Onboarding Session

Speakers:
Alexander Strunck (Advisor Land Governance, GIZ)

Abstract:
The onboarding session provided guidance for new GIZ colleagues in the land governance sector in GIZ during our LandHub event 2023. Specifically, we discussed the basic GIZ structures as well as project types during this session. Additionally, we highlighted various support options related to land governance.

Main messages:
- Clear overview of GIZ internal structure (GIZ internal webpage)
- All GIZ project types
- Land Governance Portfolio
- GIZ internal support structures
- Land Governance knowledge management (GIZ internal webpage)
- Knowledge inventory (GIZ internal webpage)
- Land Governance MS Teams Community Channel (GIZ internal webpage)
- Land Governance Newsletter
- Land Governance main contacts
- GIZ internal customer service (PiK) (GIZ internal webpage)

In joint reflection and wrap up participants come up with common conclusions on constructive synergies and practical possibilities for advancing land tenure security and land rights in the scope of the international frameworks.

The End

We thank all participants, speakers, moderators, and organisers for making the LandHub 2023 a great experience for all!

Sincerely,

The GIZ LandHub Team

Please do not hesitate to contact us at
landhub@giz.de