



Evaluation of FAO Contribution to the Implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on Governance of Tenure

Countries benefitting from German funding

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Why an evaluation?

The Voluntary Guidelines on Governance of Tenure (VGGT) are an international agreement that promotes secure tenure rights and equitable access to land, fisheries and forests as means of eradicating hunger and poverty, supporting sustainable development and enhancing the environment. The VGGT were developed through an inclusive multistakeholder process, under the technical leadership of FAO, and endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in 2012. Following this, FAO has implemented several projects promoting the adoption of the VGGT principles and good practices in national governance tenure systems.

In 2019, Germany requested an independent evaluation focusing specifically on German-funded projects related to the VGGT. The main purpose of the evaluation is to draw lessons from the implementation of the VGGT programme and communicate results achieved.

What is the focus?

The evaluation will focus on results achieved in the countries benefiting from German-funded projects, which are Liberia, Mongolia, Senegal (River Basin) and Sierra Leone. The evaluation will answer the following questions:

1. What have been the most significant changes in governance of tenure triggered by the programme at the country level?
2. What have been the main results achieved at local level and to what extent are the VGGT owned by local actors?
3. To what extent are the results achieved sustainable and has the programme created an enabling environment to ensure that the processes continue?
4. To what extent has FAO's approach to the programme implementation facilitated the achievement of results?
5. To what extent has gender been integrated into the programme at country level?

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Evaluation Calendar

Preparatory phase:

November 2019 – January 2020

- Terms of Reference
- Recruitment of experts

Main phase:

February– July 2020

- Initial stakeholder workshop
- Missions at country level
- Drafting of the report

Dissemination of the results:

July – September 2020

- Production of communication material and dissemination

How will the evaluation be conducted and who will be involved?

The evaluation will be managed by the FAO Office of Evaluation and will be conducted by a team of external independent experts.

OED will organize an initial stakeholder workshop to i) identify main results achieved by the programme at country level, ii) define indicators for assessing results of VGGT interventions and iii) refine the evaluation questions. Representatives from governments and civil society of the beneficiary countries will be invited to provide insights and contributions on changes generated by the programme. The donor agency will also participate in the workshop.

The workshop will be followed by missions at country level to meet with main stakeholders, validate the results identified during the workshop and evaluate initiatives implemented at community level.

Who are the users of the evaluation?

The intended users of this evaluation are the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) of Germany, FAO technical units and decentralized offices that are directly involved in the implementation of VGGT-related projects and governments and civil society organisations of the countries involved in the process. Other partners working on the governance of tenure might also benefit from the results of this exercise.

Lessons learned from the evaluation will be widely shared through different communication products, including a video and target publications.

All FAO evaluations and management responses are public documents and can be found at:

www.fao.org/evaluation/oed-home/en/
