



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

TRANSVERSAL SUPPORT TO THE
**EUROPEAN UNION
LAND GOVERNANCE
PROGRAMME**



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FOR MILLIONS OF PEOPLE IN THE WORLD, THEIR FOOD SECURITY DEPENDS ON THEIR TENURE SECURITY

The eradication of hunger and poverty and the sustainable use of the environment, depend in large measure on how people, communities and others gain access to land, fisheries and forests and other natural resources. The livelihoods of many, particularly the rural poor, are based on secure and equitable access to and control over these resources. They are the source of food and shelter the basis for social, cultural and religious practices and a central factor in economic growth.

THE EUROPEAN UNION LAND GOVERNANCE PROGRAMME ADDRESSES STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS OF FOOD INSECURITY



The European Union Land Governance Programme supports efforts to improve governance of tenure in 18 country-level projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America, with a total amount of 60 million Euros. All projects address tenure issues and are implemented by various implementing partners, including government agencies, civil society organizations, bilateral and multilateral organizations and private sector companies.

International standards provide the common framework for project implementation. The Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT) and in the African Context, the African Union Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges in Africa (AU Declaration) and its Framework and Guidelines for Land Policy in Africa (F&G) provide political impetus and the framework for reference to all project activities.

Transversal Support links the individual projects and strengthens their capacity to achieve their objectives within the framework of the VGGT and, in the African context, the AU Declaration.

TRANSVERSAL SUPPORT TO THE EUROPEAN UNION LAND GOVERNANCE PROGRAMME

Transversal Support provides a platform for project implementers and partners of the 18 country-level projects to increase project compliance with international standards and to benefit from technical guidance, capacity development and possibilities for exchange among practitioners.

Transversal Support also ensures that project implementation is regularly monitored and that the wealth of lessons learnt are documented and disseminated: "What has worked? What has not? Why?".

LAND POLICY INITIATIVE



African Union



African Development Bank

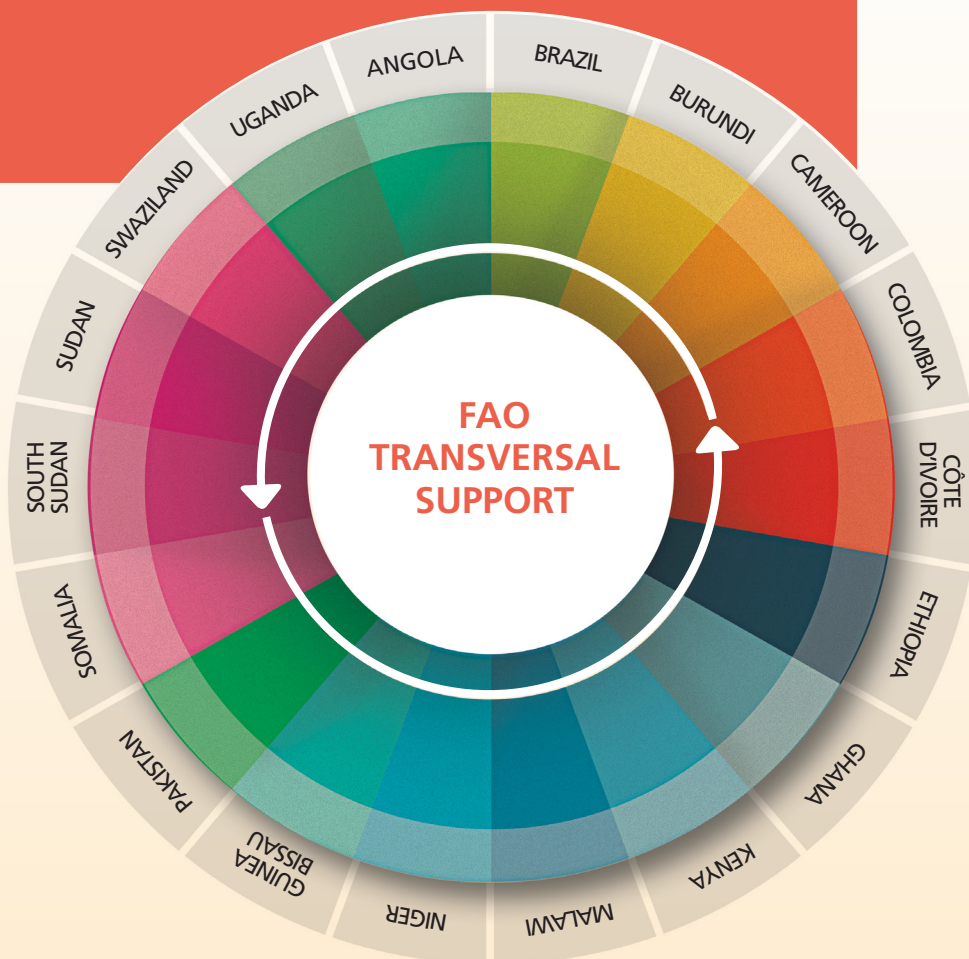


United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

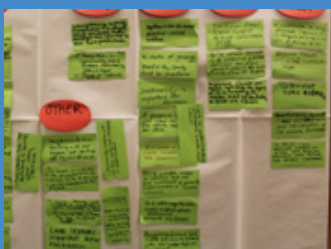
EUROPEAN UNION LAND GOVERNANCE PROGRAMME

Transversal Support is provided through the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and funded by the European Union. FAO brings together internationally recognized expertise in tenure, including land tenure, forest tenure, fishery rights, gender, legal aspects of tenure, agriculture investments, emergencies and capacity development.

All activities in Africa are conducted in close collaboration with the Land Policy Initiative, a joint programme of the African Union (AU), African Development Bank (AfDB), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). It has the mandate to assist Member States of the African Union in the implementation of the 2009 Declaration on land issues and challenges in Africa.



PARTICIPANTS OF A CAPITALIZATION MEETINGS DISCUSS EXPERIENCES IN IMPROVING STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION



The EU Land Governance Knowledge Management Platform serves as the main online communication tool and information repository for project implementers:

<http://africalandpolicy.org/eu-programme/>



Technical guidance and advice on readily available tools can be sought from project managers of the EU Land Governance Programme

@ EU-Transversal-Support@fao.org

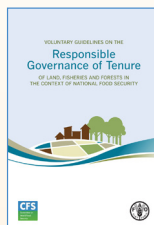
WHAT CAN PROJECT IMPLEMENTERS EXPECT?

TRANSVERSAL SUPPORT IN A NUTSHELL

- 🍌 Support during the project start-up phase (review of project documents and tailored start-up workshops)
- 🍌 Access to a knowledge management platform
- 🍌 Participation (self-funded) in bi-yearly capitalization meetings
- 🍌 Ongoing capacity development, technical advice and provision of readily available tools
- 🍌 Monitoring and documentation of lessons learnt

Period: May 2014 to December 2020

IMPROVING LAND GOVERNANCE IS A DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY



At the global scale, the recently endorsed Sustainable Development Agenda and the VGGT provide unprecedented global momentum and a framework for States and other stakeholder groups to improve tenure governance. In the African context, this momentum is further strengthened by the African Union Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges in Africa (AU Declaration) and the (F&G).

How can projects make use of the AU Declaration, the F&G and the VGGT?

These instruments provide political impetus and legitimacy to following responsible practices.

- The VGGT are the international standard for addressing tenure issues. Endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), Rio+20, G8 and G20, they provide the framework for addressing tenure issues for the United Nations and organizations from many different stakeholder groups such as Oxfam, ActionAid, The Coca-Cola Company, Pepsico, Nestlé and Unilever. All member States of the African Union have committed to the implementation of the AU Declaration and thereby the F&G.
- They serve as a reference and set out principles and internationally accepted standards for practices for the responsible governance of tenure. They can be used by project managers when planning and implementing their activities. They provide a reference against which to review strategies, policies, legislation and programmes.

Sierra Leone has reflected the preparation and content of its new national land policy on the F&G and VGGT, following the F&G and VGGT process of policy development and incorporating and drawing on the text of the VGGT in over 90 paragraphs.

Are the AU Declaration, the F&G and the VGGT complementary?

The AU Declaration, the F&G and the VGGT complement each other in that they all address the need for better and more responsible land policies.

The **AU Declaration establishes the commitment by Member States of the African Union to develop, implement and monitor land policies in Africa.** It also draws out an institutional framework on how Member States will be supported and monitored in following up on this commitment from the continental (Land Policy Initiative) and sub-regional (Regional Economic Communities) levels.

The **F&G** provide guidance to member States and other stakeholders on the development, implementation and monitoring of land policies at the country level. They address the question on **how things should be done.**

The **VGGT** provide guidance on **principles and best practices that should be in the land policies.** In addition to the development, implementation and monitoring of land policies, the VGGT can be used as a reference and standard for all other activities around improving governance of tenure.

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