

Side event 31 | Global Dialogue on water tenure for water & food security, social inclusion, and climate resilience

Organized by:

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Germany
- Australia
- Rwanda
- Sri Lanka
- United Kingdom
- Environmental Law Institute
- International Water Management Institute
- Rights and Resources Initiative
- Water Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy Futures Centre of Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology in Tanzania
- AIDA International Association for Water Law
- German Institute of Development and Sustainability
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

Friday, 27 October; 8.30 – 9.45 (UTC+2)
Sheikh Zayed Center & via Zoom

[Register here](#)

Abstract

The event addresses the issue of how security of water and land rights underpins food security, nutrition and climate resilience. It offers innovative global perspectives on land and water tenure as actionable concepts building on existing CFS-HLPE recommendations on water for food security and nutrition, as well as the VGGT. Understanding how tenure regimes are legally defined, implemented, and protected in practice is fundamental to sustainable and equitable management of the resources and essential to achieving a responsible governance of them. Particularly for vulnerable populations and women, secure tenure rights are essential to improving livelihoods, food security, and gender equality, and are important determinants of climate resilience. Inspired by the VGGT, and backed by a COAG mandate, FAO has embarked on organizing a Global Dialogue on Water Tenure with the aim of identifying principles on the responsible governance of water tenure in an inclusive consultative process with Member States, civil society, academia and international organizations. FAO and partners have developed innovative water tenure assessment methodologies to equip stakeholders with crucial data to inform policy decisions and legislative reforms, support advocacy at all levels, and track national progress towards development and climate goals. The event will feature recent results of water tenure assessments and explore the possibilities to engage in the Global Dialogue.

Objectives

- Raise awareness among CFS delegates on the importance of responsible governance of water tenure and its contribution to food and water security, climate resilience and social inclusion;
- Present recent advances in water tenure assessment coupled with water accounting to support design and implementation of equitable and climate-proof water allocation systems;
- Present the Global Dialogue on Water Tenure as an FAO commitment to the Water Action Agenda.