Land Information - A key ingredient for meeting Sustainable Development Goals

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Global land challenges

- Limited cadastral coverage (only 30% covered globally)

- Systemic inequalities over access and control of land (women and youth limited due to customary laws)

- Non recognition of the complexity of land rights, claims and records of slum dwellers, families and groups living under customary tenure, indigenous people, pastoralists, refugees etc.
By 2050, about 70% of the world’s population is projected to live in urban areas.

Proliferation of urban slums; globally; number of slum dwellers projected to reach 889 million by 2020.

Urban populations most exposed to greatest risk from climate change effects, (frequency of storms, flooding, landslides and heat waves)
Land and Sustainable Development Goals

Strengthening land rights is central to ending extreme poverty and promoting resilient societies. Clear, secure land rights create incentives that enhance food security, economic growth, and sustainable development.

Worldwide, 32% of farms are held by women, compared with 68% for men.

50% of forests in the developing world have insecure tenure, which is often a key driver of deforestation.

70% of land in developing countries is unregistered - leaving residents more vulnerable to displacement.

Land issues have played a major role in 27 conflicts in Africa since 1990.

In many countries, land rights and land governance systems are weak. Rights and claims to land are often undocumented and overlapping. Demand for land is rising, fueling competition, conflict, and increasing barriers to access for some groups.
Emerging Opportunities on Land; SDGs, NUA, VGGTS

Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security

Access to land, fisheries and forests

Partnerships for the Goals

People Led New Urban Agenda

Implementing the New Urban Agenda

Sustainable Development Goals

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Wellbeing
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life on Land
16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

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Within four prominent goals in the SDGs lie several land related sub-goals and targets with the potential to effect change for sustainable development. (Goals 1, 2, 5, 11)

Land is indeed one of the most essential pillars of human existence.
Tenure Security Issues; the broader aspect of land governance

Access to Land for All (Secure Tenure Rights of Land)

Responsible Land Governance

LAND for People

Land based Revenues

Sustainable Land Use

The NUA is a renewed commitment from member states to address tenure security issues in the broader prospect of land governance through 3 major functions of land: social, economic and environmental.
Specific Land Indicators

Indicator 1.4.2: Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, with legally recognized documentation and who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and by type of tenure.
Specific Land Indicators...

(a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and

(b) share of women among owners or rights bearers of agricultural land, type of tenure

Indicator 5.a.2: Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women’s equal rights to land ownership and/or control.
Monitoring Land governance and tenure security

Globally, only about 30 per cent of land ownership units are formally registered.
Why land information systems? What type of data? Where?

- Land indicators and means of tracking progress depend on availability of land information.

- To capture the approximated 70% land units not registered or documented, tenure typologies need to accommodate the “continuum of land rights” concept.

- The decision here is to balance the cost, speed and purpose of the acquired land information including options for upgrading and updating; thus need to adopt the Fit-for-Purpose Land Administration approaches.
The Challenge …

How do we increase the proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, with legally recognized documentation and who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and by type of tenure?
Adopting a Fit For Purpose Land Administration Model

The FFP approach to land administration has emerged as a game changer for developing countries and offers viable, practical solution to quickly and affordably provide security of tenure for all, and to enable control the use of all land.
Sound land information system: building capacity

Capacity building is key to shape the mind-set of land administration agents and to develop a solid foundation for the development and maintenance of the land information system.
GLTN and partners interventions
Strengthening Partnerships

- The vibrancy and strong partnership of the GLTN network is paramount to the attainment of the overarching goals of the global agenda (the SDGs, the NUA and the VGGTs).

- UN-Habitat/GLTN in partnership with FIG network partners, UN Member States and other relevant stakeholders are continuously working to convert policies and principles into actions through relevant land tools.

“We need to recognize that although we are dealing with some major global issues, they are all matters about which each one of us can do something. It is easy to be defeatist hence it is important to remember that the world can be changed by individuals. We can make a difference and more so if we work together as a team.” Peter Dale (1999).
Strengthening Partnerships...

- Through the partnership between GLTN and FIG, insurmountable challenges in the land sector can be addressed through cooperation, continuous dialogues and technical innovations.
Strengthening Partnerships…

- We need to consolidate our strategies, strengths and resources towards achieving SDG and NUA Goals.

- Land governance should remain at the core of these recently adopted global frameworks.

We can do this together through a strong partnership to achieve peace and prosperity for the sake of our planet and people.
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Thank You!