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

TENURE

FOOD

SECURITY

SECURITY
GOVERNANCE OF TENURE

Growing consensus on the importance of improving governance of tenure

Increasing demand  Decreasing supply

Increasing competition for land and natural resources including for environmental purposes

Changes to tenure arrangements

WHAT ARE THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES?

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

Principles and internationally accepted practices to guide the preparation and implementation of policies, laws and actions related to tenure governance.

... set out principles
... provide a benchmark
... are voluntary
... do not replace laws or treaties
### CONTENTS OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES

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### CONTENTS OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES

**Parts 1-2: General principles and principles of implementation**

- **RECOGNIZE AND RESPECT** legitimate holders of tenure rights, and their rights.
- **SAFEGUARD** legitimate tenure rights against threats.
- **PROMOTE AND FACILITATE** the enjoyment of legitimate tenure rights.
- **PROVIDE** access to justice to deal with infringements.
- **PREVENT** tenure disputes, conflicts, and opportunities for corruption.
CONTENTS OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES

Part 3: Legal Recognition
Safeguards; Public land, fisheries and forests; Indigenous peoples and other communities; Informal tenure

Part 4: Transfers
Markets; Investments; Land consolidation; Restitution; Redistributive reforms; Expropriation and compensation

Part 5: Administration
Records of tenure rights; Valuation; Taxation; Regulated spatial planning; Dispute resolution; Transboundary matters

Part 6: Responses
Climate change; Natural disasters; Conflicts in respect to tenure

Part 7: Promotion, implementation, monitoring and evaluation

DEVELOPMENT OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES

2000 onwards
Research, networking

2009 - 2010
Consultation

2011: January - June
Drafting
DEVELOPMENT OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES

2011 - 2012
July, October, March

Negotiations

11 May 2012
Endorsement

DEVELOPMENT OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES

Milestone achievement

• Globally relevant, appropriate and accepted text
• Dialogue between global, regional and national actors
• Awareness raising, capacity development, advocacy
• Networks and partnerships
• Momentum

Governance of tenure
is now the framework within
which tenure challenges are
being addressed
At country level:
- Supporting creation of inclusive national platforms
- Supporting joint assessment of the current situation
- Helping identify and address priorities (e.g. policy and legal framework, procedures, technology, capacity…)

At regional level:
- Working to create synergies with regional initiatives (e.g. African Union’s Land Policy Initiative)

At global level:
- Helping create partnerships at all levels to support efforts
- Supporting development of evaluation and monitoring systems

**IMPROVING GOVERNANCE OF TENURE**

**Awareness raising**
- Disseminating the VGs
- Encouraging actors to make use of the VGs
- Supporting implementation by countries according to their national priorities and circumstances

**Strengthening of partnerships**
- Strong, open and transparent partnerships
- Synergy with global and regional initiatives

**Monitoring and evaluation**
- Help to identify and target priority areas and to monitor progress
**Capacity development**
- Technical implementation guides
- Advice in policy design, guide interventions, promote best practices, offer innovative approaches

**Technical facilitation**
- Respond to specific country needs

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**Implementation guides**
- Translating general principles of the VGs into more practical mechanisms, processes and actions
- Useful tools for the design of policy and reform processes, for the design of investment projects and for guiding interventions
- Practical reference documents. May be used by a range of actors
- Thematic focus: Fisheries; Forestry; Gender; Indigenous Peoples; Agricultural Investment... (Water)...more to come

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**Promoting practical integrated work between multiple actors, sectors and disciplines**
Voluntary Guidelines
Negotiated political document

Implementation Guides
Technical documents

Forestry
Fisheries
Gender
Indigenous People
Agri. Investment
Regional IG 1?
Regional IG 2?
Regional IG 3, 4...

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