GLOBAL LAND TOOL NETWORK STRATEGY 2018-2030

A WORLD IN WHICH EVERYONE ENJOYS SECURE LAND RIGHTS

THE CHALLENGE

The world faces housing, land and property rights challenges of critical proportions. Tenure insecurity affects the majority of people in all types of areas: rural, peri-urban and urban. The situation is particularly dire in developing countries, where in many cases approximately 70% of landholdings are not documented, administered or protected. Achieving tenure security for all is a crucial stepping stone towards sustainable human development. It is also essential for the realization of human rights for all women and men.

The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is underpinned by five fundamental concerns: *people, planet, prosperity, peace* and *partnership.* Land plays an important role in all of these. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals cannot be achieved without a seismic change in land tenure security and land governance. As populations grow and move, and as the world faces the uncertainties of climate change, rapid urbanization and increased demand for food, we must design and implement land systems that work for all people and for the planet.

Since our launch in 2006 we, the *Global Land Tool Network (GLTN),* have laid a solid foundation to address this challenge. We are a dynamic alliance of more than 75 global land actors and stakeholders who subscribe to a core set of values and principles, and a shared work programme to improve tenure security. We use an inclusive approach to land tenure supported by *land tools*: practical, innovative methods to solve problems related to land tenure. We develop, test, demonstrate and disseminate these tools through our Network.

Our set of 26 land tools addresses five thematic areas of work and eight cross-cutting issues. The tools are in various stages of testing and implementation; we have fully developed and field-tested 18 of them, and they are being used in a growing number of countries. By 2017 they had produced marked improvements in tenure security for more than 200,000 households in 13 countries. These are just the households who have benefited directly from our work. Millions more have already benefited indirectly through policy changes that we have supported, and millions more will do so as we scale up our work in the coming period.

The large-scale adoption, institutionalization and implementation of our approach and tools by an increasing number of partners and countries at local and national levels are essential for the success of Agenda 2030 and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

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SUPPORT FRAMEWORKS

Four international frameworks push for large-scale programmes to address land-tenure security. The monitoring systems of these frameworks make it possible to measure progress.

- **The Sustainable Development Goals (January 2016):** Five of the 17 goals (1, 2, 5, 11 and 15) refer specifically to land in sustainable development. Indicator 1.4.2 tracks progress in strengthening tenure security.

- **The New Urban Agenda (October 2016):** This focuses on tenure security, housing and community development as key requirements for sustainable, inclusive and efficient cities. It envisages cities and human settlements that fulfil their social function, including the social and ecological function of land. It confirms the importance of the continuum of land rights approach and the role of GLTN.

- **The Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure (May 2012):** These guidelines have put land tenure at the centre of efforts to secure tenure rights for food security and to protect natural resources.

- **The African Union Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges (2009):** States parties resolve to: 1) Ensure that land laws provide for equitable access to land and related resources among all land users, including youth and other landless and vulnerable groups such as displaced persons; 2) Strengthen the security of land tenure for women.

THE STRATEGY

Our strategy 2018–2030, as described in this document, sets out how we will support national and local governments and other key stakeholders to fulfil their obligations for inclusive development and meet their Sustainable Development Goals commitments and human rights obligations on land and tenure security. Our strategy will remain a living document, subject to periodic review and improvement.

The focus of our strategy is twofold:

1. To consolidate our work on land tool development, testing and dissemination, focusing on urgently needed, priority tools.

2. Through effective in-country partnerships, to promote and facilitate the adoption at scale of land tools and practices that promote tenure security, and to develop the capacity needed for fit-for-purpose implementation.

The strategy will enable us in GLTN to respond effectively to emerging needs, challenges and opportunities in the land sector, and to deliver the tools and know-how to meet stakeholders' needs and requirements. We support governments and stakeholders to scale up their efforts to improve tenure security using tools, capacity development and communication for more harmonized and institutionalized strategic interventions. We aim for an impact large enough to improve tenure security for all, so contributing to sustainable development.

OUR NEW STRATEGY HAS:

▶ **A strong vision:** A world in which everyone enjoys secure land rights.

▶ **An inclusive mission:** Partners working together to develop and implement inclusive, fit-for-purpose and gender-responsive land tools to improve living conditions for all, prioritizing women, youth and vulnerable groups in both urban and rural settings.

▶ **A strategic goal:** Improved tenure security for all, with a focus on women, youth and vulnerable groups.

▶ **A set of core values:** Social justice and equity, Strength in diversity, Reciprocity, Transparency.

▶ **Aligned strategic objectives:**
- Accelerate reforms of the land sector by fostering global, regional and national discourse on responsible land governance and transformative land policies.
- Institutionalize land tools to scale up tenure security interventions.
- Monitor land-related commitments and obligations by mobilizing international, regional and national partners to track progress and build evidence.
- Share and develop capacities, knowledge, research and resources on land tenure security.

Improved Tenure Security for All

TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGES
Land Governance
Laws, Policies, Practices, Programmes

Global/Regional ⟷ Country (urban & rural)

| Land Sector Reforms | Land Tools | Land-Related Commitments | Capacity |

ACCELERATE · INSTITUTIONALISE · MONITOR · SHARE & DEVELOP

Vibrant, Effective and Partner-Driven Network
Grounded in partners' work and programmes internationally and at country level
(national, local, grassroots)
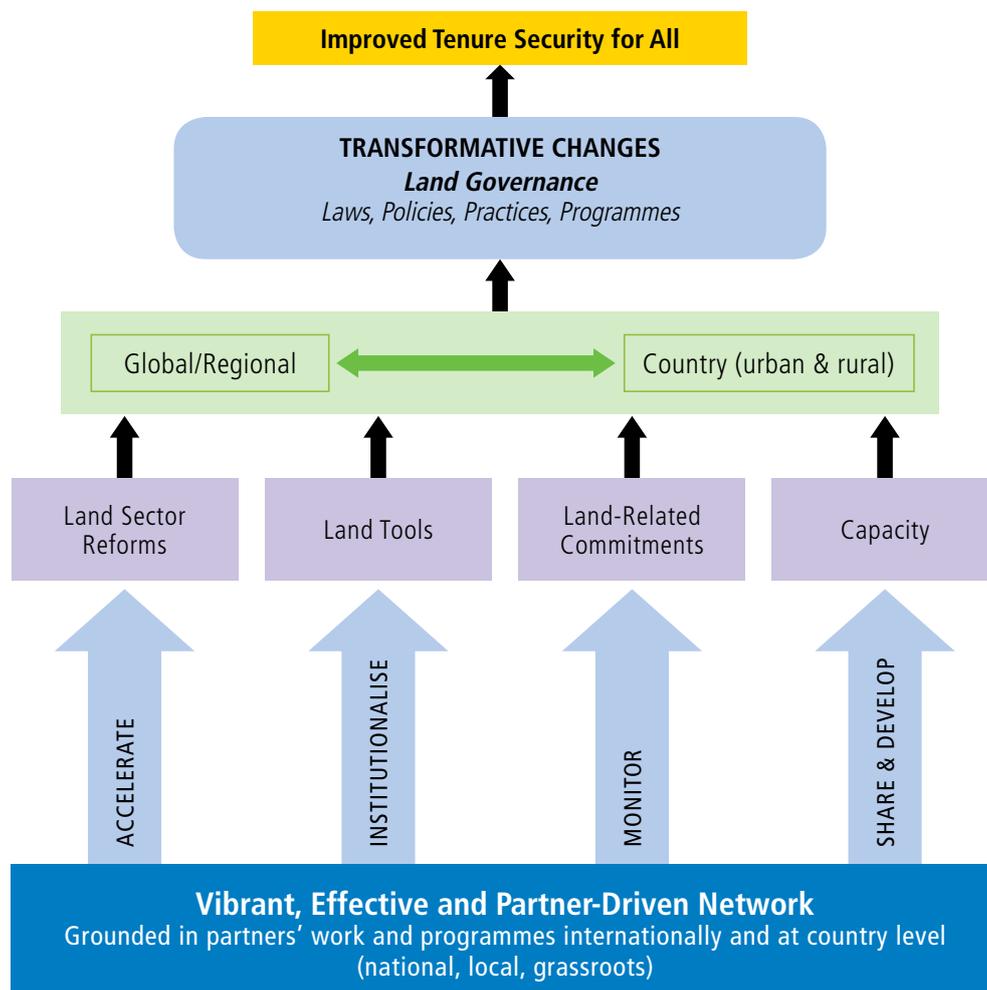
HOW WILL WE ACHIEVE THESE OBJECTIVES?

We will continue our successful implementation approach to catalyze change, which is based on guidance, facilitation, partnership and capacity development. To assure success and long-term sustainability, the bulk of implementation will be done by our partners and land actors at the country level. It will involve various levels of government, land professionals and civil society organizations, as well as the affected communities themselves. We will ensure that full credit goes to our partners.

The GLTN Secretariat will support our partners through priority tool development, facilitation, monitoring, reporting and capacity development.

Our implementation plan for GLTN Phase 3 (2019–2023) supports our strategy. It sets specific milestones and targets that will enable the use of the tools to be rapidly scaled up globally by 2030, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda.

Maintaining GLTN as a vibrant, partner-driven network is essential to success. This network is accountable, collaborative, reciprocal and mutually funded (in time, effort and resources). It is firmly grounded in the partners' own work and programmes both internationally and at various levels within each country.

The Global Land Tool Network Strategy for 2018–2030

Sustainable Development Goals

New Urban Agenda

Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa

Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure

Shared GLTN values and principles

Vision
A world in which everyone enjoys secure land rights

Mission
Partners working together to develop and implement inclusive fit-for-purpose and gender-responsive land tools to improve living conditions for all, prioritizing women, youth and vulnerable groups in both urban and rural settings

Goal
Improved tenure security for all, with a focus on women, youth and vulnerable groups

Strategic objectives

Accelerate reforms of the land sector by fostering global, regional and national discourse on responsible land governance and transformative land policies

Institutionalize inclusive, gender responsive and fit-for-purpose land tools to scale up tenure security interventions

Monitor land-related commitments and obligations by mobilizing international, regional and national partners to track progress and build evidence

Share and develop capacities, knowledge, research and resources on land tenure security

Actions

Review, prioritize, develop & implement appropriate land tools that are inclusive, gender responsive and fit-for-purpose

Develop and share knowledge on relevant land related issues

Develop capacity of key land actors, institutions and change agents

Measurement, learning, accountability

Maintain a vibrant and effective partner-driven network

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