





## Call to Host the Fourth Arab Land Conference

# **Background**

### The Arab Land Initiative

Launched in 2016, the Arab Land Initiative was established by experts from different national and international organizations working in the Arab region with the aim of improving land governance, management and administration to foster inclusive social and economic development. The Initiative focuses on critical themes such as land for food security and climate action; land for housing and sustainable urbanization; fit-for-purpose land administration, including land registration and recordation, land administration reforms, digitalization, land-based financing; women's land rights; housing, land and property rights of displaced people for peace, stability and prevention of further conflict and migration; and monitoring.

#### **The Arab Land Conference**

The establishment of the Arab Land Conference was an important milestone for the Arab Land Initiative and continues to serve as a key platform for stakeholders to collaborate, exchange knowledge and drive forward land policy reforms. Each Conference is held over the course of three days, and is co-organized by UN-Habitat, the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), the Arab Land Initiative and other prominent international and regional institutions, along with the critical support of the host government.

The <u>First Arab Land Conference</u>, hosted by the Emirate of Dubai, UAE, from 26-28 February 2018, was coorganized with the Dubai Land Department, the World Bank, the League of Arab States and the Arab Union of Surveyors.

The <u>Second Arab Land Conference</u>, held under the patronage of the Egyptian Minister of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities in Cairo from 22-24 February 2021, was co-organized with the World Bank and the Housing and Building National Research Centre represented by the Urban Training and Studies Institute (UTI), in partnership with the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), GIZ, the Dubai Land Department, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the Network of Excellence of Land Governance in Africa (NELGA) and the Land Portal.

The <u>Third Arab Land Conference</u>, hosted by the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco in Rabat from 18-20 February 2025, is co-organized with the Ministry of National Territory and Urban Planning, Housing and City Policy in partnership with the League of Arab States, UNESCWA, UNECA, the World Bank, BMZ, the Netherlands' RVO and Morocco land sector stakeholders.

Following these successful past events, we invite countries to express their interest in hosting the **4th Arab Land Conference** expected to take place in 2027 or 2028.

# **Hosting the Conference**

### Minimum requirements

Countries<sup>1</sup> interested in hosting the Conference should be able to:

- 1. Confirm their interest to host the Conference at the ministerial level, by sending a **letter** signed by the relevant Minister to UN-Habitat<sup>2</sup>;
- 2. Facilitate the issuing of **visas** for participants and presenters;
- 3. Secure a **suitable venue** for the **three-day event** that can host between 300 and 400 participants, that is easily accessible from international airports and hotels, contains plenary and at least two breakout rooms, audio video systems, space for tea/coffee breaks and lunches, space for exhibiting publications and products, and also allows for virtual participation;
- 4. Establish and finance a **Conference organization committee** (e.g. two people for 6 8 months) who will work with the main Conference organizers on the preparation of the event. The responsibilities of the committee include: booking and management of the venue; managing travel and accommodation of sponsored participants and countries' delegations; organizing registration for the Conference; handling communications; printing the support materials (the programme, briefing notes, posters, banners, etc.); and supporting the mobilization of additional financial and human resources for the Conference.

### **Additional responsibilities**

Depending on their capacities, hosting countries can:

- 5. Contribute to **covering the costs** of the venue, the provision of refreshments and light snacks, and the provision of Arabic/English/French simultaneous interpretation services.
- 6. **Sponsor the attendance** (travel and accommodation) of government delegations and speakers/presenters to the extent possible.
- 7. Host or co-host a **gala dinner** for the participants (optional).
- 8. Organize study tours for a limited number of participants (optional).

### **Estimated facts and figures**

An estimate of the expected participants, sessions, papers and other key figures is below.

Between 300 and 400 in person participants	About 5 to 10 ministerial level delegations
About 800 virtual participants	About 35 to 40technical papers
3 or 4 days as duration	25 to 30 technical sessions
Four high level (ministerial) sessions	200 m2 exhibition area

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Letters should be addressed to Rania Hedeya, Regional Representative of the Regional Office for Arab States <a href="mailto:rania.hedeya@un.org">rania.hedeya@un.org</a> copying Ombretta Tempra, Land Specialist, <a href="mailto:ombretta.tempra@un.org">ombretta.tempra@un.org</a>