

Concept Note on Training Event

“Monitoring Land Governance and Land Tenure Security in the Arab Region” (Middle East sub-region)

December 14-16, 2020

I. Background

The Arab region is currently facing profound change and challenges, and land tenure security, land governance and, particularly, land governance monitoring, are illustrative of such issues. Noteworthy is the launch of the Arab Land Initiative, which was established in 2016, but concretely very little has been done in the framework of monitoring. Overall, it results in a lack of information and data around land and land governance, subsequently resulting in issues in regards to transparency, accountability and evidence-based decision-making around land.

Taking advantage of global dynamics and initiatives regarding land governance monitoring, it is presently opportune and necessary to develop these capacities in the region. This requires:

- 1) A better understanding the status and the importance of land governance monitoring (it's legitimacy and relevance as well as how and what to monitor);
- 2) Capacity development in order to create the expertise for effective land monitoring implementation;
- 3) A comprehensive and adapted package of monitoring tools to be deployed at the national level, in order to respond to and cover possible national specificities, policy priorities and processes.

This training will serve as a stocktaking, analytical and capacity-building exercise and an opportunity to discuss the means of implementation of improved monitoring of tenure security and good land governance related issues within the Arab states of Middle East sub-region region. It aims to bring together key land actors from Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, UAE, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman and Lebanon, comprising of experts with diverse professional backgrounds, but with converging experience and interest in collecting, analyzing and monitoring land governance-related data

and evaluation of land tenure and governance related interventions in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and beyond.

The training will also serve as a basis for the second training covering Arab states within North Africa sub-region (February 2021) and the further Expert Group Meeting (April 2021), which will be held either in-person or online depending on the global situation. Some of the trainees from both trainings will be invited to take part in EGM event.

II. Focus of the training

The training will focus on the following topics in order to facilitate the discussion regarding the implementation of the monitoring of land governance and land tenure security in the region:

1. How to strengthen capacities in monitoring of land governance;
2. Creating partnerships for implementing improved land governance and land tenure security monitoring in the context of the SDGs and beyond;
3. Monitoring indicators and tools, and their alignment with SDGs and VGGTs ;
4. New forms of accountability from governments towards citizens and land users;
5. Financial, technical, human-related resources for the development of monitoring.

This training should provide the opportunity for capacity building, fostering ideas, identifying trends, noting challenges and projecting future scenarios for good land governance and land tenure security along with the suitable methodologies for monitoring in the region.

III. Objectives of the training

The training aims to:

1. Strengthen the technical capacities of national and regional stakeholders in collecting, analyzing and evaluating land governance-related data, and to monitor the progress of land governance and land tenure security in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and beyond;
2. Facilitate the mutual exchange of expertise, experiences, lessons learned and best practices among the participants regarding improving approaches for monitoring land governance and tenure security in the region and identify common regional perspectives, priorities and solutions for promoting land governance monitoring;
3. Increase knowledge and improve capacity to collect data and report on the land governance-related SDG indicators;
4. Provide specific training on the IAEG-SDGs approved methodology; Measuring Individual Rights to Land; an Integrated Approach to Data Collection for SDG Indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 developed by the custodian agencies-UN Habitat, FAO and the World Bank; and discuss feasible adoption of the methodology as a principal guide on standardized land tenure security data collection for evidence-based decision making on land tenure interventions.
5. Escalate the discussion and preparation of the unified package of tools, initiatives and approaches for land monitoring based on the already-existing ones, like LANDex, PRIndex, Land Matrix, and GLII, which will contribute to improvement of land governance monitoring in the region;
6. Define key issues and challenges that are faced in the represented states, and how they influence the overall framework of land monitoring and good governance of the land sector.

IV. Expected outcomes

1. Improved knowledge and capacities of the trainees in the approaches, techniques and tools of monitoring land governance through shared training material;
2. A developed analytical summary capturing outcomes of the discussions, best practices and lessons learned from the regional meeting to be applied and integrated within the represented states, and to serve as a foundation of the EGM;
3. Provide a basis for deliberations that will contribute to further discussions during the Expert Group Meeting, leading to actionable suggestions and follow-up actions;
4. Enhanced expertise and established collaboration networks;

V. Methodology and Content

The suggested format for the 3-day event will have a moderator guiding the discussions over the course of the agenda. Experts and participants will present on different focus areas followed by panel discussions of the wider audience of experts. The trainees are expected to provide analytical notes/presentations in advance, drawn from their own expertise and respective mandate of the session in order to share with other parties and build mutual capacities.

In preparation for the discussions, trainees will be provided with some guiding questions to consider before the training, so they will be able to participate in the discussions:

1. What is the status quo of monitoring land governance and more generally data collection on land in the region?
2. What characteristics and aspects should be considered in enhancing good land governance?
3. What approaches are currently used to monitor land governance and what are the needs?
4. How do we address universality while taking into account countries' differences, peculiarities and national circumstances?
5. How to address the means of implementation for monitoring land governance in challenging national contextual situations?
6. How to develop and enhance States' capacities in collecting, analyzing and reporting on land-related data?
7. How can monitoring initiatives at the national level be broken down into local action by different stakeholders (government, civil society, etc.)

The same questions may be used by trainees as guidance and be reflected, when they will be preparing their summarizing briefs on the outcomes of the training and discussions (mentioned in parts IV and IX).

The training will have two-tiered approach: the first one will be built on the expositive methods i.e. those emphasizing on theoretical basis, which include presentations, case studies and worked examples; and collaborative methods - emphasizing social dimension of learning and engaging trainees in exchanging knowledge and views in a collaborative way - that include guided discussions, collaborative work and peer tutoring.

The training will be conducted in an interactive way in order to combat the one-directional way of knowledge transfer that comes with lecture-style training, and to empower conversations and group interaction to allow participants to learn from each other.

The training will be divided into several modules, and more details can be found in the table below:

Training on “Monitoring Land Governance and Land Tenure Security in the Arab Region”		
Day 1 – Monday 14th December (10 am – 2 pm, Amman time)		
OPENING		
Time	Description	Facilitators/Presenters
10:00 – 10:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome of participants and opening remarks (20 min) Objectives, agenda and expected outcomes of the meeting (10 min) Instructions on using the platform (10 min) 	Rasheed TI-JO, GLTN, ILC Rasheed TI-JO Rasheed TI-JO
MODULE 1. KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE		
10:40 – 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participant’s introduction and expectations 	Facilitated session (Participants briefly share their experiences, expectations and interest in the training, 3 min each)
12:00 – 12:15	Break (15 min)	
12:15 – 13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land governance in Arab region <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation (20 min): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview Importance of monitoring and its role Discussion (25 min) 	GLTN / Rasheed TI-JO All
MODULE 2. SDGS AND VGGTS AS UMBRELLA FRAMEWORKS		
13:00 – 14:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDGs frameworks and reporting: background, overview and relevance to land monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Presentation of SDGs: 1.4.2, 5.a.1, 5.a.2 and other SDG targets/indicators related to land 	World Bank/FAO/UN-Habitat
14:00 – 14:10	Closing of the day and reflections	Rasheed TI-JO
Day 2 – Tuesday 15th December (10 am – 2 pm, Amman time)		
10:00 – 10:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recap of day 1 and agenda setting (10 min) Comments and reflections from participants on day one (10 min) 	Rasheed TI-JO
10:20 – 11:35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (40 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ IAEG-SDGs approved methodology ✓ Measuring individual rights to land ✓ Integrated approach to data collection for SDG indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 ✓ Presentation of VGGTs: chapters and principles (20 min) ✓ Moderated Discussion (15 min) 	GLTN ILC
11:35 – 11:50	Break (15 min)	
MODULE 3. TOOL BOX		
11:50 – 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quick overview of tools to be presented: LANDex, Land Matrix, GLII, PRIndex (10 min) 	Rasheed TI-JO

12:00 – 12:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LANDex: centralizer of initiatives, people-centered, diverse sources: ILC (20 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ In-depth training on tool for people-centered land monitoring; overview of data ecosystem ✓ How LANDex monitors the SDGs and VGGTs: example countries 	ILC
12:20 – 12:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Matrix: focused on LSLA, investments (30 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ In-depth training on Land Matrix, tool to monitor LSLA and additional variables ✓ How Land Matrix monitors the VGGTs 	Land Matrix
12:50 – 13:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GLII: harmonized land indicators (30 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ In-depth training on GLII toolbox for global land governance monitoring • How GLII contributes to monitoring of SDGs and VGGTs 	GLTN
13:20 – 13:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRIndex: global survey, focused on property rights, perceptions of tenure security (30 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Introduction to PRIndex survey and resulting data: how can it be used ✓ How PRIndex monitors the SDGs and VGGTs 	GLA
13:50 – 14:00	Closing of the day and reflections	Rasheed TI-JO
Day 3 – Wednesday 16th December (10 am – 2 pm, Amman time)		
10:00 – 10:10	Recap of day 2 and agenda setting	Rasheed TI-JO
10:10 – 11:45	Participants' presentations	Participants
11:45 -12:00	Break (15 min)	
MODULE 4. SUMMING-UP SESSION AND FUTURE STEPS		
12:00 – 13:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Towards a coordinated effort of land governance monitoring (15 min) • The role of Member States and National Statistical Offices in monitoring the land agenda and how to support them (15 min) • Coordinated land monitoring in MENA (30 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Towards a regional observatory ✓ How to build, key partners • Discussion (15 min) 	ILC GLTN
13:15 – 13:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brainstorming session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ reflection on monitoring challenges and problems based on the gained knowledge ✓ sharing opinions what would be included in future steps 	Facilitated by Rasheed TI-JO
CLOSING		
13:45 – 14:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final round of comments and reflections • Meeting Evaluation • Closing remarks 	All

VI. Training material

The training will comprise a series of lectures, extensive hands-on practical, group discussions and experience sharing by trainees in order to enrich and expand their capacities. The training materials will

be prepared by experts in the land sector – Global Land Tool Network (GLTN)/UN-Habitat, International Land Coalition (ILC), and Global Land Alliance (GLA).

The training materials, which will be used during the training sessions, will be shared with the participants after the end of each training day available on the Google drive.

VII. Participants

The training will be organized targeting participation of key stakeholders, mainly CSOs, NGOs, INGOs, development agencies, government bodies, academia, professional individuals and consultants, researchers and journalists focusing their work on good land governance and tenure security within Arab states of Middle East region (Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, UAE, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman and Lebanon).

The training aims to bring together 20-25 key actors from the Arab states of Middle East region comprising of experts with diverse professional backgrounds, but with converging experience and interest in collecting, analyzing and monitoring land governance-related data and evaluation of land tenure and governance related interventions in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and beyond. A full list of participants and contacts will be provided prior to the event. Participants will be invited to be in touch with Rasheed TI-JO team (see contacts below) for any inquiries.

Rasheed TI-JO will directly contact particular CSOs, NGOs, governmental entities and individuals in order to invite them to participate in the training. In addition, the call for participation will be published to reach the wider audience, which is not available within the network contacts.

Due to the fact that this event is being held online and based on the number of applications received from the call for participation, it may consider inviting more stakeholders, however dividing them into “trainees” - who will have to participate in presentations along with all other sections, and “attendees” - who will not have to present, but will be able to engage in discussions. It will allow engaging a bigger audience without affecting the duration and content of the training.

VIII. Preparation of participants

Trainees will be kindly asked to prepare their presentations for the training in order to maximize the sharing of experiences, challenges and lessons learned with other participants and tailor the discussions as much as possible to the needs of participants.

In order to make the exchange more fruitful and easier, and ensure that they come with the similar information and data prepared in order to facilitate efficient and comprehensive discussions as well as effective and structured outputs, the guidelines for structuring the materials are outlined in Annex 1.

In preparation for the discussions, trainees will be provided with some guiding questions to consider, which are outlined in Annex 2.

IX. Materials

Before the event:

- All the necessary information and guidelines for the event will be shared with the participants in advance by email.

- Trainees will be kindly requested to submit their presentations prior to the training (the guidelines will be provided in advance).

After the event:

- All materials shared with/by participants during the training will be uploaded on Google Drive that will serve as a knowledge hub for the covered issues.
- Trainees will be kindly requested to submit summarized document on outcomes of the discussions briefly summing up the training discussions and highlighting key issues and potential solutions as well as examples of transferable practice that will be used as grounds for further EGM event.
- Participants will be kindly requested to fill a small survey in order to receive their feedback on the conducted training.

X. Working languages

English will be the working language of the training course. However, English-Arabic and Arabic-English simultaneous translation will be provided.

XI. Contacts

- **Viktoriia Adamenko:** vadamenko@rasheedti.org
- **Lamees Al-Sabatin:** LAlSabatin@rasheedti.org
- **Abeer Mdanat:** amdanat@rasheedti.org

ANNEX 1. GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPANT'S PRESENTATIONS.

Trainees are kindly requested to provide Rasheed TI-JO with their presentations, and these are the guidelines for structuring the materials in order to make the experience and knowledge exchange more fruitful and easier, and ensure that they come with the similar information and data prepared in order to facilitate efficient and comprehensive discussions as well as effective and structured outputs. Thus:

1. Presentations should take not more than 10 minutes, including questions and answers.
2. They should include a part briefly introducing:
 - status quo of land governance and tenure security in their country, and SDG reporting;
 - quality of data;
 - challenges;
 - accomplishments;
 - needs;
 - how all this influences the overall framework of land monitoring and good governance of the land sector.

It will contribute to 1) defining commonalities in different states and identifying what are the reforms needed in order to achieve a better monitoring system, and 2) building the grounds for upcoming Expert Group Meeting.

ANNEX 2. GUIDING QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER IN THE PREPARATION FOR THE TRAINING.

In preparation for the discussions, trainees will be provided with the following guiding questions to consider:

1. What is the status quo of monitoring land governance and more generally data collection on land in the region?
2. What characteristics and aspects should be considered in enhancing good land governance?
3. What approaches are currently used to monitor land governance and what are the needs?
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