

## Request for Support National Multi-Stakeholder Consultation on the Integration of Land Tenure and Land Restoration Initiatives

**Deadline for Submissions is 15 July 2023**

The decisions taken by the Parties of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) encourage countries to integrate the principles and practices contained in the *Voluntary Guidelines on the Governance of Tenure of Lands, Fisheries and Forest in the context of national Food Security* (VGGT) into the design and implementation of Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) and other land restoration initiatives.<sup>1</sup> LDN and other land restoration initiatives are broadly defined as programmes, projects, or other organized and deliberate actions to avoid, reduce, and reverse land degradation at all scales.<sup>2</sup>

### UNCCD decision 27/COP.15 encourages Parties to:

...**host inclusive and participatory national level dialogues** on the implementation of decision 26/COP.14, building on all forms of available knowledge, including data generated by people in vulnerable and marginalized situations, including Indigenous peoples and local communities, those living in rural areas, women, youth, and persons with disabilities.

... **explore ways to integrate land tenure information into their capacity development efforts** and data analytic tools for evidence-based decision-making to support land degradation neutrality implementation through integrated land-use planning.

### UNCCD decision 27/COP.15 invites the UNCCD secretariat to:

... **provide, upon request, support to Parties in order to implement a land tenure strategy and action plan.**

...**develop specific guidance and exchange lessons learned, through national consultations in selected countries across regions**, to assist Parties on the ways and means to integrate land tenure into land degradation neutrality, such as targets, plans, projects and programmes on desertification, land degradation and drought.

Requests for support will only be considered if they include the below application form, duly filled out, with attachments as indicated and the participation of the UNCCD national focal point and their ministry in either a convening or supporting role (see 7 and 8 below). This package of materials must be sent electronically to [salexander@unccd.int](mailto:salexander@unccd.int), [aurelie.bres@fao.org](mailto:aurelie.bres@fao.org), and [cdamieux@unccd.int](mailto:cdamieux@unccd.int) before 15 July 2023 with the subject line: **Land Tenure – Request for Support – Country Name.**

All submissions will be reviewed by the UNCCD-FAO and its technical partner organizations. Those countries selected to receive support are expected to be notified by September 2023 with national consultations expected to take place starting in late 2023. Subject to the availability of resources, support for national consultation will be jointly defined with the selected country.

<sup>1</sup> UNCCD. 2022. Decision 19/COP15 and decision 27/COP15. <https://www.unccd.int/cop15/official-documents>

<sup>2</sup> UNCCD and FAO. 2022. Technical Guide. <https://www.unccd.int/resources/publications/technical-guide-integration-voluntary-guidelines-responsible-governance>

## 1. Overview of land degradation processes linked to land tenure issues

*Give a few elements of background on land degradation processes that are linked to land tenure issues in your country. (max 300 words)*

## 2. Primary reason(s) for requesting support for a national consultation

*Check one or more and give a brief explanation in the text box.*

To convene a national dialogue and establish a multistakeholder platform to explore the ways and means to strengthen tenure rights and land governance.

To formulate and implement a national strategy and action plan to strengthen tenure security, particularly for stakeholder groups in vulnerable situations.

To integrate the principles and practices in the VGGT into national land restoration initiatives that aim to deliver multiple benefits to society, including the advancement of multiple SDGs.

To support the design and implementation of LDN and land restoration initiatives at sub-national and local levels where enhanced tenure security can be both a means and outcome.

Other

### 3. Policy alignment, commitments, and existing programmes on land tenure

Briefly indicate the policy frameworks on land degradation and/or land tenure that this national consultation would support as well as any current programmes or projects on land tenure that this consultation would link to. (max 300 words)

**Please attach documents on relevant policy frameworks, programmes, and/or projects.**

### 4. Overview of land restoration commitments and initiatives

Check one or more and give a brief explanation in the text box.

UNCCD LDN: targets and action plans

UNFCCC NDC/NAP: land-based targets and action plans

CBD NBSAP: GBF targets (e.g., 1-3, 10, 23)

UNFF: voluntary forest restoration commitments

Ramsar: voluntary wetland restoration commitments

Bonn Challenge: global and regional forest landscape restoration commitments

Other

**Please attach documents that attest to national or sub-national efforts to achieve land restoration targets and commitments pledged under various multilateral and regional processes.**

### 5. Expected output(s) of the national consultation

*Check one or more and give a brief explanation in the text box.*

Raise awareness and enhance outreach to civil society and the private sector

Assessment of policy, legal, and institutional frameworks, including for example land administration and planning, dispute/conflict resolution mechanisms

Establish or strengthen multi-stakeholder mechanisms (e.g., platforms, dialogues)

Strategic guidance on the ways and means by which to address youth and gender disparities

Enhance knowledge on the VGGT with a view to practical applications

Other

## 6. Preferred format for national consultation

*Check one or more and give a brief explanation in the text box.*

Virtual meeting (online webinar)

In-person meeting

Hybrid meeting (online & in-person)

Other

## 7. Convening ministry/organization

**Please note that the UNCCD national focal point and their corresponding ministry must submit an official letter in either a convening or supporting role.**

*The convening ministry/organization is expected to: (i) have the mandate to address land tenure issues related to land restoration initiatives at the national level, (ii) be responsible for hosting the consultation, and (iii) collaborate with the UNCCD-FAO support team to structure the content and modalities for stakeholder engagement.*

### Contact Details

**Full Name**

**Position**

**Organization**

**Address**

**Email**

**Please attach an official letter from the convening ministry/organization indicating i) the mandate and primary reasons for requesting support, and ii) the supporting ministries/organizations.**

## 8. Supporting ministries/organizations

*Supporting ministries/organizations are expected to: (i) ensure that multiple sectors and stakeholder groups are mobilized and represented in the national consultation, including government, businesses, smallholder farmers, pastoralists, civil society organizations, particularly indigenous, women, and youth groups, and (ii) have the capacity to contribute to the consultation with experience and expertise in relevant areas (e.g., women's land rights, communal or customary tenure arrangements).*

### Contact Details (1)

**Full Name**

**Position**

**Organization**

**Address**

**Email**

**Please attach official letters from supporting ministries/organizations indicating their willingness and capacity to support and contribute to the national consultation.**

### Contact Details (2)

**Full Name**

**Position**

**Organization**

**Address**

**Email**

**Please attach official letters from supporting ministries/organizations indicating their willingness and capacity to support and contribute to the national consultation.**

*Contact Details (3)*

**Full Name**

**Position**

**Organization**

**Address**

**Email**

**Please attach official letters from supporting ministries/organizations indicating their willingness and capacity to support and contribute to the national consultation.**