**SOLA & Open Tenure**

**Using open-source software to help protect tenure rights**

- Integrated model approach provides appropriate functionality for easy-to-implement solutions to strengthen tenure rights
- Implementation of enabling technologies goes hand in hand with associated capacity development
- Simplified procedures and locally suitable technology reduce costs and time for service delivery

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**SOLA and Open Tenure to apply the VGGT**

Since the endorsement of the VGGT by the Committee on World Food Security in 2012, FAO has been supporting the development of transparent, accessible and accountable computerized systems for recording of legitimate tenure rights as a basis for responsible governance of tenure. The different tools target a wide audience from Governments to community and their common objective is to make recording of land rights faster, more affordable and in reach as a mean to increase tenure security. All software is open source and allows for country-specific customization.

The development of Open Tenure and SOLA were financially supported by the Government of Finland and UK Department for International Development, with the technical support of FAO.

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**SOLA facilitates VGGT implementation by:**
- Recording the full range of legitimate tenure rights;
- Directly improving transparency of tenure rights;
- Simplifying processes with integration of international standards (e.g. ISO 19152 Land Administration Domain Model);
- Abating costs.

**Open Tenure facilitates VGGT implementation by:**
- Engaging with all legitimate tenure right holders in tenure governance processes;
- Supporting participatory gender sensitive processes impacting on tenure rights;
- Identifying and safeguarding legitimate tenure rights, including those not recorded by formal system.

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**For info** [www.flossola.org](http://www.flossola.org)

**Download app**

**Contact**

VG-Tenure@fao.org

**Download source**

www.github.com/SOLA-FAO

www.github.com/OpenTenure

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**The Voluntary Guidelines (VGGT) promote secure tenure rights and equitable access to land, fisheries and forests as a means of eradicating hunger and poverty, supporting sustainable development and enhancing the environment.**

Transparent, accessible and accountable computerized systems for recording of legitimate tenure rights can create a basis for the responsible governance of tenure.

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**For info** [www.fao.org/nr/tenure](http://www.fao.org/nr/tenure)
Solutions for Open Land Administration (SOLA)
Cadastre and registration functions and services provided by a typical land office. SOLA incorporates international best practice and standards, facilitating the essential customization always required to meet specific country needs.

Open Tenure
Crowd sourcing approach to the collection of tenure relationship. Developed as a tool for communities to assess and clarify their tenure regimes so to protect the individual and collective rights of their members. Mobile devices provide for in-the-field capture of legitimate tenure rights with boundary mapping. From those Data are then uploaded to a web-based community server. OT has been successfully adapted to allow for formal recording of customary and informal rights where recognized by law.

Use in countries

Nigeria
Open Tenure was linked with SOLA to support the modernization of deeds registries. It was also used for the digital capture of certificates, which were then transferred to the SOLA database and integrated with the digital cadastral map that had been created by digitizing the existing paper-based cadastral maps.
Open Tenure is also used as first step to improving governance of tenure in reserve mapping. The Open Tenure mapped reserves will ultimately be published on a state-wide geoportal so that everyone knows where the reserves are and their gazette purpose.

Uganda
Digital record of Certificates of Ownership: digital system to record and manage information on customary land as prescribed by the Uganda law. The system was developed through customization of Open Tenure to respond to local legal requirements, while converting the existing paper-based records and validating the information on owners and land. The customized version of Open Tenure and the information of the database will be integrated with the Land Information System under development.

Cambodia
Open tenure was used to map land in the Oddar Meanchey Community Forest, in a field test as a means to empower communities.

Guatemala
Digital record of community tenure: in-the-field capture of legitimate tenure rights and interest with boundary mapping. This exercise used Open Tenure and a cloud based Community Server.

Materials available
OT Manual for Community Recording: for community facilitators. It describes 3 levels of engagement:
- Explanation of tenure concepts
- 8-step process description of a protocol with process, key roles and responsibilities
- Preparation of a plan to get tenure recording underway in the community

Technical Guide for Enabling Technologies: for senior staff in countries with emerging systems, on how technologies and methodologies can be used to implement the VGGT