



Special Session: Strengthening Partnerships in Land Governance in the Asia Pacific Region

Co-Organizers: FIG, UN-Habitat/GLTN, LX Korea, China Land Surveying and Planning Institute (CLSPI), FIG Asia Pacific Network and UN-GGIM Asia Pacific

Date: Wednesday, 24 April 2019

Time: 14:00 – 15: 30

Venue: 249bc ("SOUTH ROOM")

Introduction

In Asia and the Pacific region, the accelerated economic growth, rapid urbanization, shifting economic and political powers, growing demand for agro-fuels and large investments in infrastructure are intensifying competition for land in rural and urban areas, increasing inequality and threatening land tenure security, especially for the most vulnerable populations: indigenous groups, small-scale farmers, Internally Displaced Populations (IDP), informal settlers and women. As noted by the publication, *“Land Tenure in Asia Pacific: Challenges, Opportunities and Way Forward”*, some of the key trends affecting the land tenure security of the most vulnerable population groups include the following: concentration of rural land and dispossession of indigenous and smallholder farmer’s land; urbanization, informal settlements and forced evictions; climate change, natural disasters and displacement and land disputes and land conflicts. Moreover, the lack of high-level political will, the weak technical capacity among all stakeholders (communities, CSOs, public and private sectors) and the need for collaboration among stakeholders have been consistently stressed as critical factors to improve land tenure security in the region.

In 2013, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme – Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UN-Habitat - ROAP), the United Nations’ Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), the World Bank (WB), Asian NGO Coalition (ANGOC), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Habitat for Humanity International, Huairou Commission and RMIT University, and other partners, with the technical and funding support from the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), initiated the Asia-Pacific Regional Land Tenure Initiative (RLTI) with the objectives of setting up a multi-stakeholder on land governance and tenure issues in the region, furthering knowledge and discussion on regional entry points for land tenure interventions, stimulating discussions on capacity development and learning exchanges and increasing engagement by partners at regional land discourse. Since then, the ‘loose’ Network has become the driving force in maximizing cooperation, exchanges, synergies on land governance and tenure in the region. However, for the last two years, mainly due to organizational transition in UNESCAP and UN-Habitat Bangkok Office, not much has been achieved except for the bilateral discussions and the development of a project document for resource mobilization purposes to sustain the work of the Network.

It is high time to reinvigorate this initiative building from strong cooperation from land professionals and other partner organizations working in land governance and land tenure in the region.

Objectives:

- To sensitize land professionals on the land governance and land tenure challenges and opportunities in the region.
- To share information on existing projects and initiatives in the region.
- To identify opportunities for regional collaboration and partnership

Tentative Programme

Chair: Orhan Ercan, FIG Vice President	
Rapporteur: GLTN Secretariat	
Time	Presentation/Discussion
10 Minutes	Introduction Opening Remarks: FIG/GLTN Session Objectives
10 Minutes	Land Tenure in Asia Pacific: Challenges, Opportunities and Way Forward - David Mitchell, RMIT University
7 Minutes	UN-GGIM Asia Pacific/LX Korea - Jang Bongbae, Deputy General Director of the Global Business Department, LX Korea
7 Minutes	FIG AP Task Force - Robert Sarib
7 Minutes	Regional Land Tenure in Asia Pacific Region - Danilo Antonio, UN-Habitat/GLTN
20 Minutes	<i>Why partnerships at regional level is relevant? What are the recommendations to realize this?</i> Reactions (5) Minutes - LX Korea - CLSPI - FIG AP TF - UN-Habitat/GLTN - Others?
20 Minutes	Open forum/discussion
10 minutes	Summary (Rapporteur) Next Steps Summary/Closing (Chair)