



Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests

in the context of national food security



Dr. Babette Wehrmann
Senior Land Tenure Officer
FAO

ACCESS TO LAND, FISHERIES AND FORESTS



Photo credit: B. Wehrmann



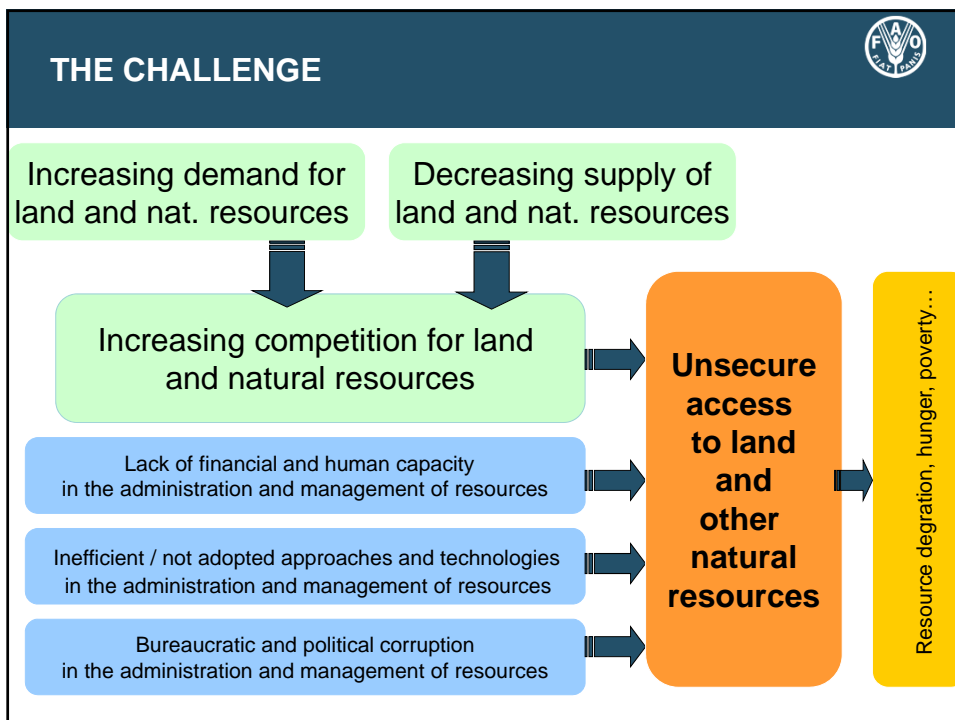
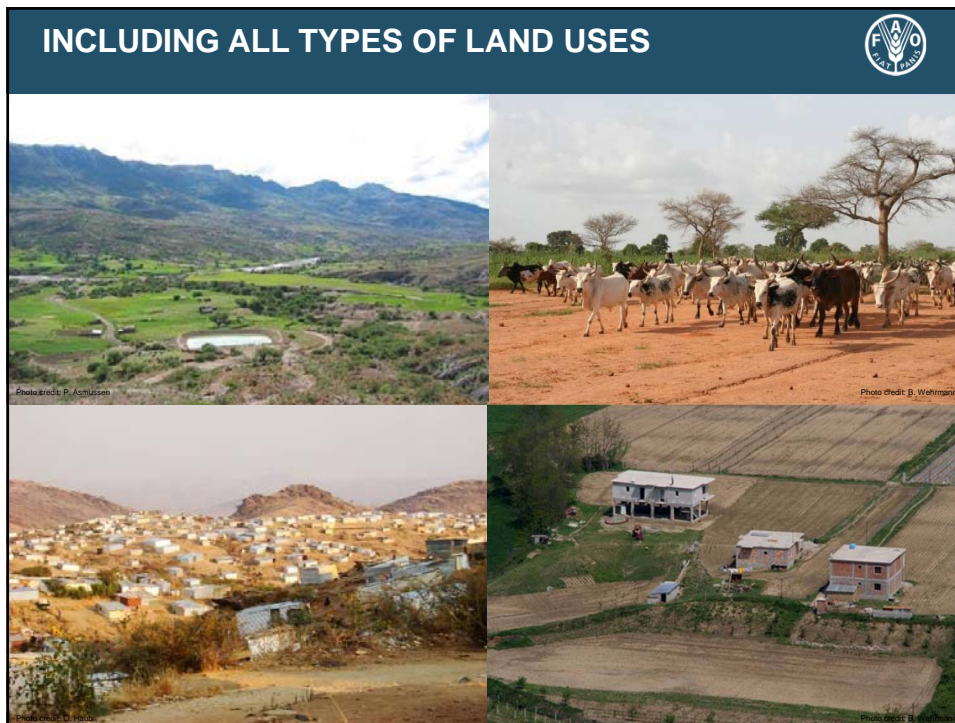
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THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES



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Principles and internationally accepted practices to guide the preparation and implementation of policies, laws and actions related to tenure governance.

- ... set out principles
- ... provide a benchmark
- ... are voluntary
- ... do not replace laws or treaties

CONTENTS OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES



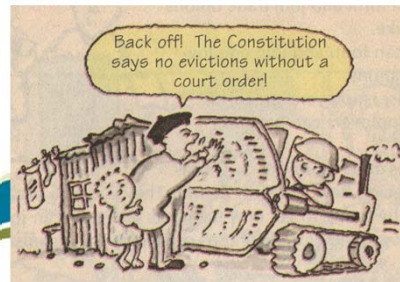
- The Voluntary Guidelines comprise issues such as:
 - Recognition and registration of legitimate tenure rights
 - Expropriation and compensation
 - Restitution
 - Spatial planning, land consolidation, land readjustment
 - Valuation and taxation
 - Markets and investments
 - Tenure under particular circumstances
 - climate change
 - natural disasters
 - violent conflicts



CONTENTS OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES



- The Voluntary Guidelines treat all aspects that deal with the administration and management of land and natural resources:
 - policies
 - legal frame
 - procedures and approaches
 - methods and technologies
 - services
 - capacity



CONTENTS OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES



Part 1: Preliminary

Part 2: General matters

Part 3: Legal **recognition** and allocation of tenure rights and duties

Part 4: **Transfers** and other changes to tenure rights and duties

Part 5: **Administration** of tenure

Part 6: Responses to climate change and emergencies

Part 7: Promotion, implementation, monitoring and evaluation

CONTENTS OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES



The 5 general principles = the VG in a nutshell

- **RECOGNIZE AND RESPECT** legitimate holders of tenure rights, and their rights.
- **SAFEGUARD** legitimate tenure rights against threats.
- **PROMOTE AND FACILITATE** the enjoyment of legitimate tenure rights.
- **PROVIDE** access to justice to deal with infringements.
- **PREVENT** tenure disputes, conflicts, and opportunities for corruption.

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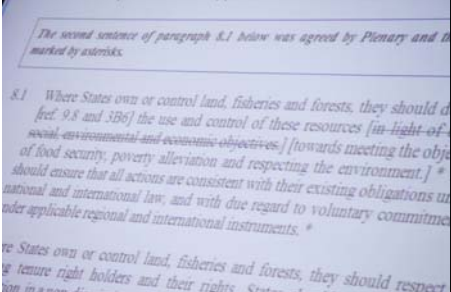
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CONTENTS OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES


Principles of implementation

- Human dignity
- Non-discrimination
- Equity and justice
- Gender equality
- Holistic and sustainable approach
- Consultation and participation
- Rule of law
- Transparency
- Accountability
- Continuous improvement



The second sentence of paragraph 8.1 below was agreed by Plenary and is marked by asterisks.

*8.1 Where States own or control land, fisheries and forests, they should do [ref. 9.8 and 3B6] the use and control of these resources [in light of social, environmental and economic objectives] [towards meeting the objectives of food security, poverty alleviation and respecting the environment]. * should ensure that all actions are consistent with their existing obligations under national and international law, and with due regard to voluntary commitments under applicable regional and international instruments. **



DEVELOPMENT OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES

2000 onwards


Research, networking

2009 - 2010

Consultation

2011: January - June

Drafting




DEVELOPMENT OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES 


2011 - 2012
July, October, March

Negotiations

11 May 2012


Endorsement





DEVELOPMENT OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES 

Milestone achievement

- Globally relevant, appropriate and accepted text
- Dialogue between global, regional and national actors
- Awareness raising, capacity development, advocacy
- Networks and partnerships
- Momentum

 **Governance of tenure**
is something that a range of
actors talk about



IMPROVING GOVERNANCE OF TENURE



At country level:

- Create an inclusive national platform
- Jointly assess the current situation
- Identify and address priorities (e.g. policy and legal framework, procedures, technology, capacity...)
- If appropriate follow a two step approach including short-term measures to stop negative processes immediately and long-term measures to build up systems that prevent future harm in a systematic manner
- Establish monitoring systems

IMPROVING GOVERNANCE OF TENURE




At regional level:

- Create synergies with regional initiatives (e.g. African Land Policy Initiative)
- (Further) develop monitoring systems (e.g. "observatoires" in Africa)

At global level:

- Create partnerships to support efforts at local, national and regional level
- Further develop tools to realize responsible governance of tenure
- Support capacity development
- Support VG Implementation monitoring systems

FAO SUPPORT 

Awareness raising


- Dissemination of the VGs making use of printed as well as social media
- Encourage actors to make use of the VGs


Capacity development

- Prepare capacity development material, e.g. e-learning tools
- Prepare technical implementation guides
- Promote best practices and offer innovative approaches
- Mainstream VG in academia

Technical facilitation

- Respond to specific country needs




FAO SUPPORT 


Monitoring and evaluation

- Help monitor and evaluate implementation and impacts of VG

Strengthening of partnerships

- Support and promote strong, open and transparent partnerships
- Seek synergy with global and regional initiatives

 Promote practical integrated work between multiple sectors and disciplines





IMPROVING GOVERNANCE OF TENURE

Implementation guides

- Translating general principles of the VGs into more **practical mechanisms, processes and actions**
- Useful **tools** for the design of policy and reform processes, for the design of investment projects and for guiding interventions
- Short **reference documents**. To be used by a range of actors. No advocacy document, no research paper
- **Thematic focus:** Fisheries; Forestry; Gender; Indigenous Peoples; Agricultural Investment... (Water)...more to come

Fisheries

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Forestry


Gender


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 **Governance
of Tenure**