



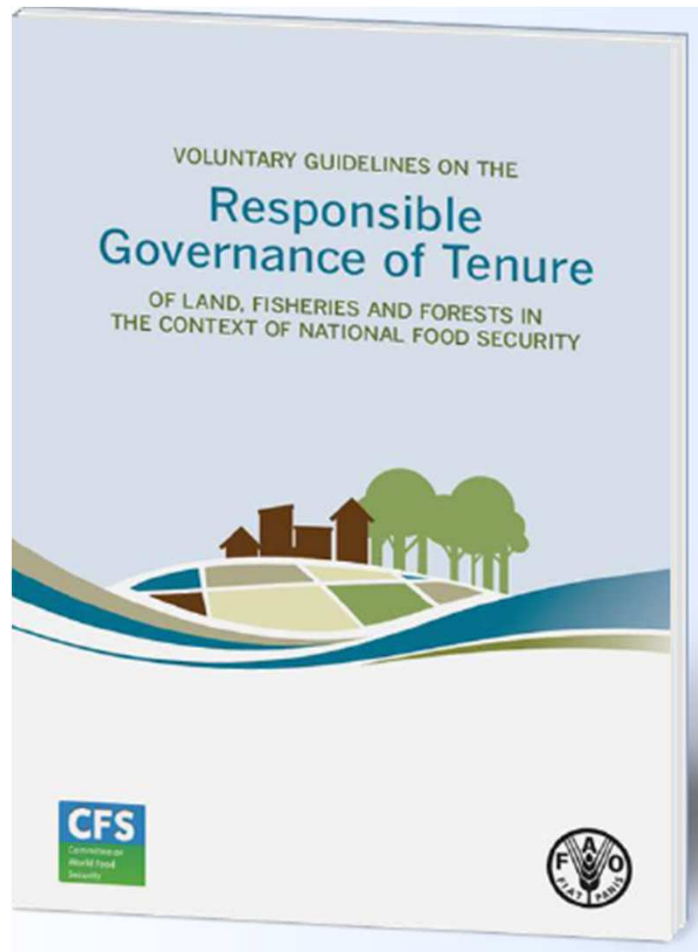
# FIG Pacific Small Island Development States

National and Regional Collaboration in Implementing  
Voluntary Guidelines on Governance of Tenure and  
Sustainable Development

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Forest Resources Management



# Achieved an increased understanding of the Voluntary Guidelines



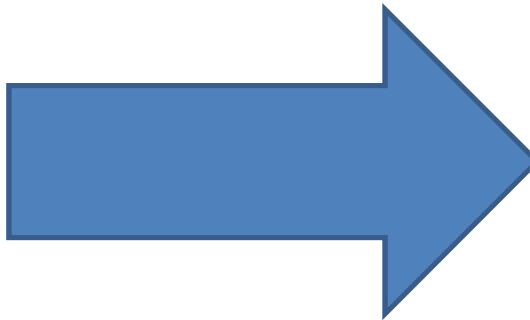
As an individual, as a representative and as an organization we need to ask some basic Questions :

- What is VGT
- The Content
- Focus and purpose
- Terms and Concept
- Benefits

Partnerships &  
Networks

NEED GREATER  
AWARENESS  
On VGT

Build pool of  
experts



➤ Take stock and understand fully the existing circumstances - complement ongoing initiatives

➤ identify gaps related to needs and capacity

➤ Share experiences

➤ Mobilize resources

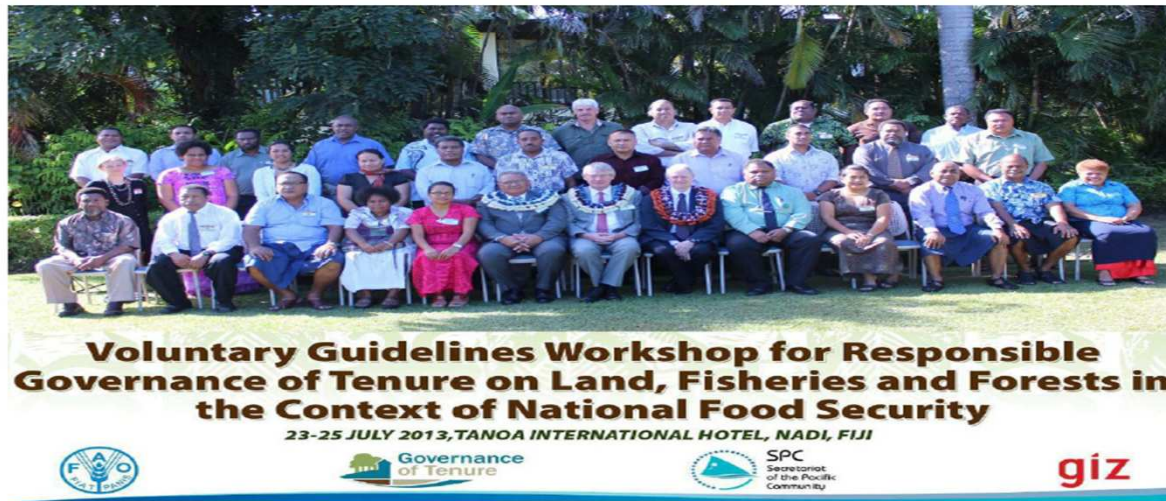
➤ Plan and develop Strategies



## Summary

**Pacific Islands Technical Workshop  
Raising Awareness on the**

*Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests  
in the Context of National Food Security*



## Questions Asked

What role could the Guidelines take in the countries?  
How can they be used?

How can the Guidelines support the existing initiatives?

What section of the Guidelines is relevant to the countries?

## What role could the guideline take in the countries? How can they be used and Why?

### Agriculture

- Complement existing agriculture and forestry plans and legislations
- Development of land use policy and agriculture plans
- Principles in the guideline can contribute to good governance in all sectoral policies
- Improve implementation of policies and programmes that target food security
- Provides a framework for relevant ministries to work together in the development of natural resources
- Enhance social empowerment in communities

### Forestry

- Identify and fill in gaps in policies and processes
- Complement existing national instruments
  - Ensuring access to land
- Public awareness and education to create ownership
- Improve national processes for land acquisition, plantation establishment, permanent forest estates, payment for forest ecosystem services, forest protected areas, water catchments.
- Mainstreaming into activities of line agencies and departments, NGOs, etc.
- Creates the enabling platform for the implementation of new initiatives, eg REDD+; Conservation activities; investments, etc.

### Land

- Review policies and legislations
- Strengthening and improve existing land tenure framework -(institutional/organization, national level)
- Principle of Equity and Justice – example Fiji (ILTB) rental returns to landowners not based on market forces
- To enhance access to land to address food security, poverty alleviation;
- Minimize conflict/disputes;
- To enhance good governance and framework

## How can the guideline support existing initiatives?

### *Agriculture*

- Enhances and strengthen existing policies and framework
- Strengthens regional food security projects
- Strengthen priority areas for PICTs identified in Joint Country Strategies
- Assist in enforcing policies and legislations for protecting good agricultural land
- Relevant for reviewing and up scaling existing projects

### *Forestry*

- Improves the regional platform for implementation of regional and international obligations.
- Opening up avenues for addressing conflict minimisation

### *Land*

- Pacific Plan – Forum secretariat excluding Fiji for the timing
- Land Management and conflict minimization (LMCM)
- National Land Use Planning - open
- Support for National Awareness information – SPC and USP

## What section of the guideline is relevant to the countries?

- **All sections are relevant to most or all countries: rankings:**
- **part 3** (all sections - *safeguards, public land, fisheries and forests, indigenous peoples and other communities with customary tenure systems, informal tenure*)
  - Principle 3B,5: Holistic and sustainable approach in the management of national forest resources.
  - Principle 3B,9: Accountability (for activities which are unsustainable and detrimental to the forest environment).
    - Taking land boundaries one level down to family land ownership.
- **part 4** (all sections - *markets, investments, land consolidation and other readjustment approaches, restitution, redistributive reforms and expropriation and compensation*)
- **part 6** (all sections - *climate change, natural resources, conflicts in respect to tenure of land, fisheries and forests*)
- **part 5** (all sections - *record of tenure rights, valuation, taxation, regulated spatial planning, resolutions of disputes over tenure rights*)



# Thoughts for national and regional Collaboration

## Areas for collaboration at national and regional level:

- complement and strengthen existing plans, policies and legislation
- provide / use as a framework for Ministries and Departments to work to together
- use as platform to guide development and implementation of new initiatives - REDD+ ; Climate Change; Conservation; Investments
- Use/apply to minimize disputes and conflicts

## Mechanisms for assisting awareness and implementation of VGT

- Identify focal points in each Agency & create network for building awareness and support implementation of VGT in countries
- Train, support and establish a pool of national experts in each country
- Train, support and establish a pool of regional experts
- Develop a regional project or build into existing projects VGT components to use as vehicle to promote VGT

**Thank you**

**Vinaka...**