

**Concept Note for joint FAO-FIG Session**  
FIG Congress 2022  
**Warsaw, Poland**  
**11-15 September, 2022**

**How to integrate VGGT into the implementation of the United Nation Convention to combat desertification and to achieve land degradation neutrality - land-based solutions, involving Land Administration (LA)/Land Management (LM) instruments to combat climate change**

Lead Agencies:  
FAO- FIG

Date:  
14<sup>th</sup> of September 2022

Time:  
16.30 – 18.00

Platform:  
Hybrid (Onsite / Online)

Overview:

The general objective of the FAO-FIG collaboration is to disseminate the VGGT, raise awareness, develop capacity, engage professional, academic and teaching institutions, and develop partnerships and networks between FAO Land Tenure staff and FIG surveyors and other professional members as key land, natural and built environment professionals globally and regionally, towards improved governance of tenure and support to the application of the VGGT.

Within the context of the FIG Work Plan, the FIG Council has a vision of a “modern and sustainable surveying profession in support of society, environment and economy by providing innovative reliable and best practice solutions to our rapidly changing and complex world, acting with integrity and confidence about the usefulness of surveying, and translating these words into action.”

FIG together with The Association of Polish Surveyors will lead in carrying out the FIG Congress 2022, which– under the overall theme of “Volunteering for the future - Geospatial excellence for a better living“– will include the VGGT and improved governance of tenure as one of the main thematic tracks. This will be achieved through a this joint FAO/FIG session organized to disseminate the experiences related to the integration of the VGGT into the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).

In 2019, the fourteenth Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD adopted a landmark decision on land tenure. Decision 26/COP14 acknowledges the importance of secure land tenure for addressing

desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD), and for improving human wellbeing and livelihoods. To date, the UNCCD stands as the only multilateral environmental agreement to explicitly focus on land tenure.

The session will start by a presentation of the linkages between VGGT and LDN and will present newly launched FAO UNCCD Technical Guide on the integration of the VGGT into the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN). The session will follow with a panel session focusing on unpacking on those aspects of implementation by stakeholders, including Academia and what future action plans and possible investments are most needed in their respective domain.

**DRAFT AGENDA:**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Description</b>
10 min	<b>Welcome and Opening Address</b>	Opening by FIG and FAO session co-chairs  David Mitchell (FIG) Tea Dabrundashvili, Land Tenure Officer (FAO)	Setting the Scene: an introduction to the topic, objective of the session, and session layout.
<b>10</b>	<b>Integration of the VGGT into UNCCD implementation</b>	Enni Kallio, Associated Professional Officer (UNCCD)	A Landmark decision from the fourteenth Conference of Parties of the UNCCD: foundations and way forward
10 min	<b>Presentation of the Technical Guide on VGGT integration to UNCCD and LDN</b>	Aurelie Bres, Land and Water Officer (FAO)	Outline of a new FAO – UNCCD Technical Guide: on the integration of the VGGT into the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN)- Importance, Approach, Content and how to use it
<b>10 min</b>	<b>Q&amp;A from the audience</b>	presenters	

20 min	<b>Panel Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Experience of land consolidation to support LDN</b></li> <li>• <b>Tenure responsive Land Use Planning and LDN</b></li> <li>• <b>Implementation of the VGGTs in LDN programmes: Insights from Benin, Kenya, Madagascar and Malawi</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bradley Paterson, Land Tenure Specialist (FAO)</li> <li>• Pr. Uchendu Eugene Chigbu, Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST)</li> <li>• Check Abdel Kader Baba. Research Associate, Program Manager – Benin and Madagascar (TMG Research gmbH)</li> </ul>	<b>Knowledge for investment:</b> A facilitated discussion unpacking the key approach of nexus of the Tenure and the LDN to respond to multiple challenges with a focus on using of flexible, multi-pathway approach to support policy and decision makers and relevant stakeholders in shaping a tailor-made response to commonly encountered land tenure challenges via range of national plans, legal frameworks, strategies, and action programmes addressing land degradation.
25 min	<b>Q/A session with the exchanges with the audience</b>	All panelists	
5 min	Wrap-Up	Session Co-Chairs FAO/FIG	Summary of the session