



VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES ON THE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNANCE OF TENURE OF LAND, FISHERIES AND FORESTS



Tiina Vähänen, FOD

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Problems of tenure and weak governance

Tenure rights not recognized

**INCREASING
COMPETITION FOR
NATURAL RESOURCES:**

- Population growth
- Urbanization
- Changing diets
- Demand for energy

Inequitable access

Discrimination

Forced eviction

State capture

Bribery

Limited capacity

**Governing institutions
have not adapted to
growing intensity of
competition**

Expensive and difficult procedures

No accountability or transparency

Contradictory laws and policies

Development of the Voluntary Guidelines



CONSULTATIONS

- 2009 – 2010

DRAFTING

- 2011

NEGOTIATIONS

- 2011 – 2012

ENDORSEMENT by CFS

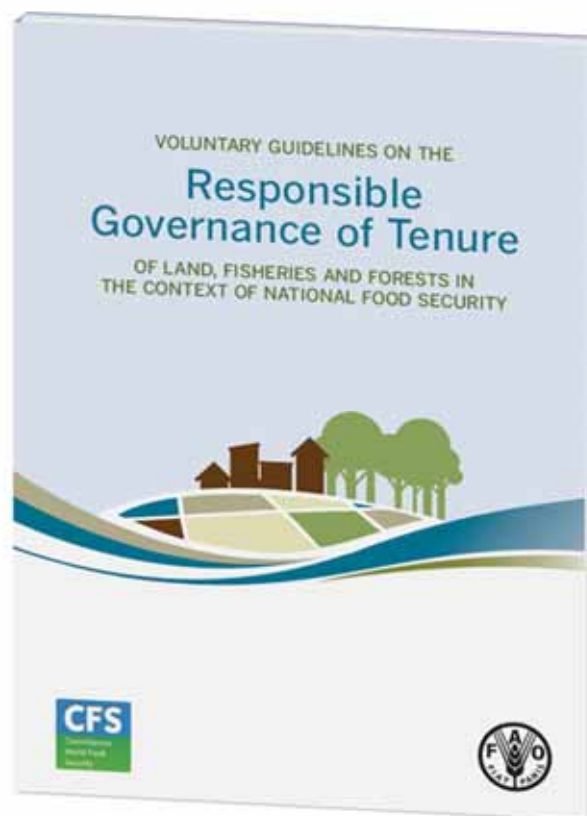
- 11 May 2012





**The first global
soft law
instrument on
tenure**

**Consensus on
“internationally
accepted practices”
that already exist**



**Negotiated by
governments;
participation of
civil society and
private sector**

**A reference for
improving the
governance of land,
fisheries and forest
tenure**



Contents of the Voluntary Guidelines

GENERAL PRINCIPLES



- **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.



The Guidelines can be used ...



...as a checklist to assess and improve existing strategies, policies, laws or systems

... to find guidance when the laws or practices of a country are not clear

...as a model for developing new strategies, policies, laws, agencies or services

...to create awareness and build support for tenure reform

They have provisions guiding governments how to approach improving tenure governance



Building on the consensus FROM PRINCIPLES TO ACTIONS



COLLECTIVELY DESIGNING THE ROAD AHEAD

- Awareness raising
- Capacity development
- Country level focus
- Partnerships, cooperation and coordination (e.g. LPI).
- Monitoring and evaluation



Building on the consensus

RAISING AWARENESS



- European Regional workshops:
 - Kiev, Ukraine, 14 - 16 May 2013
 - Bucharest, Bulgaria, 27 Oct - 1 Nov 2013
- European Forestry Commission and other FAO Regional Forestry Commissions



Building on the consensus

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT TOOLS



GOVERNANCE OF TENURE TECHNICAL GUIDES

GENDER	FORESTRY	INDIGENOUS PEOPLE	PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT	FISHERIES	MORE TO COME
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E-LEARNING PROGRAM

SITUATION ASSESSMENT	RECOGNITION OF RIGHTS	DIPSUTE RESOLUTION	VALUATION & TAXATION	TRANSPARENCY	MARKETS & INVESTMENT	AND OTHERS
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Capacity Development tools



Training module to strengthen tenure reform

Institutionalizing & implementing community-based forest management

Improving Governance of forest tenure

Enhancing stakeholder participation



Building on the consensus

STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERSHIPS



- World Bank
- IFAD
- Other Bilateral donors



From Principles to Action Coordination

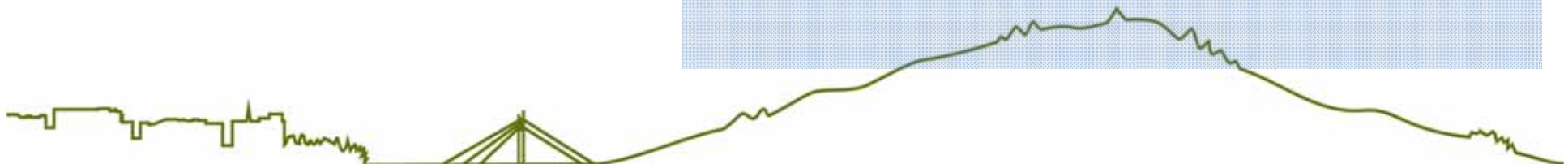


INTEGRATE
THE GUIDELINES
TO EXISTING
PROGRAMMES

UN-REDD

- Recognize customary tenure rights
- Share of benefits
- Clear allocation of carbon rights
- Sustainable forest management

**GUIDELINES HELP INCREASE
UNDERSTANDING ON TENURE
DIMENSION OF REDD+
AND FRAME ACTIONS**



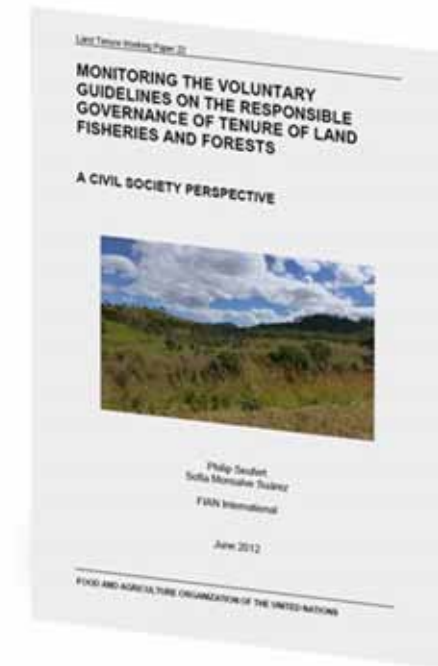
Monitoring and Evaluation



Encouraging Country Assessments
through
Publications and e-learning courses

FAO Framework for Assessing and
Monitoring Forest Governance

Land Governance Assessment
Framework



Conclusion



Strengthening the governance of forest tenure can significantly contribute to improved livelihoods, food security and poverty alleviation



FAO's commitment



- **Support country efforts to strengthen tenure systems**
 - Developing effective forest policies and legislation
 - Strengthening community based forest management
 - Improving forest governance frameworks



More information



DOWNLOAD THE VGs
www.fao.org/nr/tenure

www.fao.org/forestry/tenure

SUBSCRIBE TO NEWSLETTER
VG-tenure@fao.org

