

CONCEPT NOTE

GLII EXPERT GROUP MEETING

12–14 JANUARY 2017 | CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

Taking Stock of Global Land Indicator Initiative

The Global Land Indicators Initiative (GLII) is a collaborative and inclusive process for the development of the global land indicators started by the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), UN-Habitat and the World Bank (WB), facilitated and hosted by the GLTN in UN-Habitat. This initiative has now grown to include over 50 institutions around the world ranging from UN Agencies, Inter-governmental Organizations, International Non-governmental Organizations and Networks, Multilateral Organizations, Regional Statistical Agencies, Farmer Organizations and Academia.

Striving to secure global land tenure and governance monitoring at the global scale, GLII partners continue to demonstrate commitment to this cause, with several key milestones achieved so far, including but not limited to:

- Successfully provided inputs and space for high level advocacy and influencing by various organizations for land issues to be included in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). This entailed the inclusion of a GLII and GDWGL developed indicator, 1.4.2 on tenure security under, goal 1 on poverty eradication.
- Supporting the process of developing a methodology to inform land indicators 1.4.2 by custodian agencies (UN-Habitat and World Bank) including metadata development; bridging land indicators (1.4.2. and 5.a) and establishing a framework for collaboration and harmonization of the two indicators and indicators in Goal 11.
- Development a set of 15 land indicators for use at the country level that complement the SDGs, covering four key areas: land tenure security for all; land and conflict; land administration services; and sustainable land use management.
- Development of a Training Curriculum on Methodology for Data Collection and Reporting on Land Indicators in partnership with the Tanzania-based East Africa Statistical Training Centre (EASTC).

GLII builds on the strengths of its partner organizations, with a mandate to convene land governance monitoring and data communities, creating opportunities for them to share products and information, encourage joint learning relating to land tenure and governance monitoring from local to global. GLII envisages supporting and facilitating dialogues, collaboration and partnership for delivery of local to global land governance monitoring systems to track performance, identify good practice and feed into policy dialogue while working towards harmonized methodologies and data protocols that allow for comparability of land data over time and across countries. Activities include:

- Support development of harmonized methodologies and approaches to tenure security monitoring and impact evaluation through convening dialogue and learning amongst GLII partner and share members' initiatives and programmes; encourage collaboration and exchange between producers and users of land data
- Provide an infrastructure for mutual and technical support for capacity development in data generation and dissemination by its partners that is complementary to already existing initiatives;
- Increase opportunities to share expertise, skills, knowledge and new innovations through Expert Group Meetings (EGMs), conferences, technical reference groups, workshops and seminars;
- Facilitate organizations advocacy and voice to achieve shared goals on land governance and tenure security monitoring; and,
- Increase sustainability and financial security in measuring tenure security impact over the long-term. Provide better value for money in the field of data collection and monitoring and reduce unnecessary duplication of efforts and ensure sustainability of data collection and reporting mechanisms, open data repositories and analytical capacity;

Why the GLII EGM

The inclusion of land in the SDGs is a significant achievement of the GLII platform and the fruit of close collaboration with other networks like Global Donor Working Group on Land. The adoption of the Global Indicators Framework for SDGs in March 2016 and the role of UN-Habitat and World Bank as co-custodian agencies for indicator 1.4.2 addressing tenure security; FAO in collaboration with UN Women as custodian agency for indicators 5.a.1 and 5.a.2 addressing ownership of agricultural land, and legal provisions that secure land rights respectively; and UN Habitat as custodian agency for land indicators in Goal 11; has seen tremendous efforts in developing metadata and work plans in line with the Inter-agency Experts Group on SDGs (IAEG-SDG) by these agencies and in collaboration with their partners. The need to facilitate closer collaboration between these agencies is paramount and taking shape, and needs to be complemented by support networks at the country level in support of data collection, analysis and policy advocacy around the SDG results.

The next step is to ensure that the SDG indicator is measured and feedback into national policy dialogue and operationalizing the long list of 15 indicators that helps guide interventions. GLII partners and collaborators need to meet to discuss the operationalization of the SDG and support at the country level, as well as the long list of land indicators. In addition, to the GLII supported indicators and the recently adopted SDGs Indicator Framework (goal 1, 5 and 11), land indicators are also included in other global initiatives such as the New Urban Agenda (NUA), the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Climate Convention and national action plans. In addition, the GLII indicators have the potential application to support monitoring of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance on Tenure of Land, Forests and Fisheries (VGGT), and regional mechanism for land governance including Africa Land Policy Initiative and the African Union Agenda2063.

A third item is the operationalization of the long list of 15 indicators requiring also identifying of approaches and new technologies and mapping out partners who will lead on specific thematic areas of land governance to fully operationalize the GLII developed indicators in support of robust tenure security and governance monitoring in line with the VGGT. The role of data institutions including National Statistical Offices, land agencies, universities and the CSOs, and the cost effectiveness and ability for routine reporting through the application of various data collection methods including administrative data, geospatial data, mobile and web-based approaches, in land tenure and governance monitoring are yet to be examined.

The GLII mandate entails coordinating, convening land governance and data communities at national, regional and global level, and facilitating access to technical support and tools for land governance monitoring and impact evaluation. GLII convenes this EGM with the goal of assessing progress made, while examining opportunities to further grow and expand its work at national, regional and global level. GLII partners and strategic collaborators participating in the EGM will (i) reflect on the recommendations from the EGM held in November 2015 and take stock of achievements made of GLII and its partners; (ii) examine its role in the provisions of land indicators in the SDGs also in view of the broader scope of GLII land indicators, the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance on Tenure of Land, Forests and Fisheries (VGGT); the New Urban Agenda, UNCCD, the Land Policy Initiative and the Agenda2063; and (iii) operationalize the long list of 15 indicators, examine the data sources and technological developments and reporting mechanisms linked to national policy dialogue.

This **two day** EGM is scheduled to take place back to back with the first UN Global Data Forum, in Cape Town South Africa 15-18 January 2017. As GLII seeks to achieve its EGM objectives, it is also strategically prepared to make a contribution to the Global Data Forum. The Global Data Forum is organized around six main themes including New Approaches to Capacity Development for Better Data, Innovation and Synergies across Different Data Ecosystems, and Data Principles and Governance. More details about this forum is available on <http://undataforum.statssa.gov.za>

Overall Objectives:

To take stock of GLII achievements, partners contribution to land governance monitoring and impact evaluation, new data initiative, set priorities and identify priority activities for GLII work plan for the next 3 years, and coordination mechanism, building on the adoption of the SDGs, the VGGTs and related developments to strengthen tenure security for all.

Specific Objectives:

1. Share the achievements of the GLII platform and its partners in 2016; Update on gender, the commons and land governance monitoring and evaluation initiatives, best practices, challenges and opportunities.
2. Profile challenges and opportunities in the wake of the SDGs, VGGT, UNCCD, and Agenda2063, and priorities at the country levels
3. Review long list of GLII land indicators, progress made and the role of the GLII going forward.
4. Examine new data initiatives and space of mobile and web-based technologies in land data generation and monitoring – geospatial, open data and data repositories.
5. Define country reporting, analysis and policy advocacy requirements and associated capacity development strategies; discuss coordination and technical facilitation mechanisms for them at country and network level, through GLII partners and other strategic players at Country and Regional Level.
6. Visualize the future, defining local and global agenda for land tenure and governance monitoring, map actors and confirm GLII added value, set priorities and develop GLII work plan for the next three years (2017–2019).

Expected Results

1. GLII work plan for the next 3 years developed and validated.
2. Enhanced partners' commitment and support of GLII's mission, mandate and work plan for the coming three years.
3. Enhanced synergy and coordination of partners' initiatives on land governance and impact evaluation at country, regional and global level.
4. Identify potential capacity building needs of partners and strategies to engage with National Statistical Offices, Statistical Training Institutions and other regional data and statistical bodies, relevant to land data generation; develop mechanisms for administrative data compilation and reporting and build capacity and access to geospatial data use.
5. Showcase GLII contribution in land governance monitoring through a communiqué prepared for presentation at the UN Global Data Forum (pending confirmation of allocation of time by the UN World Data Forum).

Date: The EGM will be held on 12 – 14 January 2017; arrival on the January 12 for joined dinner and departure on January 15th.

Agenda – see attached

Participants: 40 participants are expected to attend

- GLII partners/members, GLII collaborators, Organizations working on land monitoring, GLII/GLTN/ UN-Habitat Secretariat.

Venue: Cape Town, South Africa (specific venue to be communicated).