

## Forest tenure and the rights of indigenous peoples

### *Promoting forest & land tenure governance and the rights of indigenous peoples & forest communities along REDD+ implementation*

#### **Context**

The implementation of policies and measures for REDD+ raises two critical, inter-related issues that hold notable potential for social inclusion and human rights: advancing forest and land-tenure governance, and promoting the rights of indigenous peoples and forest communities. These are complex tasks that demand cross-stakeholder trust, intense participatory processes and a policy reform agenda. They are often decisive factors in the success of REDD+ and in the sustainability of REDD+ achievements.

As UN-REDD is committed to a human-rights based approach to development, including in national policy and investment processes, advancing this agenda is fundamental. Through various initiatives over a number of years, the UN-REDD Programme – as well as UNDP and FAO through other initiatives – have undertaken notable work on tenure governance and to promote the rights of indigenous peoples and forest communities in climate policy and investment processes. This work has ranged from promoting global guidance to providing direct support at the local level (engaging and supporting communities, indigenous peoples, women, and smallhold farmers); and from knowledge production to advising governments on required policy reforms around forest tenure and the rights of indigenous peoples. Yet more work lies ahead, in the form of knowledge, best practices and advisory support *in situ*, especially as a number of countries begin to implement policies, measures and investments for REDD+.

#### **Rationale and Approach**

As UN-REDD implements its new strategic framework for 2016-2020 with a focus on global knowledge and the provision of advisory services to pioneer REDD+ countries, a component on forest and land tenure governance and the rights of indigenous peoples and forest communities is indispensable. This knowledge component, which seeks to support countries committed to an inclusive REDD+ agenda, is organized in three inter-related outputs, which will be achieved through a FAO-UNDP collaboration that uses the complementary strengths of both organizations. In particular, the intended outputs are as follows (more details are available in the Results Framework further below):

- Output 1. **Knowledge products** on the interface between tenure systems and REDD+, to better address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation (output led by FAO).
- Output 2. Knowledge-based **support to countries and country stakeholders** to integrate and promote the rights of indigenous peoples and forest communities in the design and implementation of REDD+ policies and measures, particularly in relation to territorial rights, forest tenure and the inclusive governance of natural resources (output led by UNDP).
- Output 3. **Dissemination of knowledge and best practices** in promoting responsible forest tenure and governance, and the rights of indigenous peoples in the implementation of REDD+ (output led by FAO).

The UN-REDD partnership is well suited to deliver these knowledge outputs as it leverages the expertise of its UN agency partners on these themes and on how to advance them at country level. FAO has extensive experience in land tenure and governance, forest tenure assessments, and policy and legal reforms, with particular focus on the sustainable management of forests and agriculture, as well as support to communities and smallholders (through the Forest and Farm Facility programme as well as other initiatives as indicated in Module A). UNDP has a strong foundation in promoting the rights of indigenous peoples as well as on community-level work. This includes the community REDD+ programme (CBR+), promoting participatory programme management and policy dialogues at country level, facilitating the participation of indigenous peoples at global policy fora (e.g., the Indigenous Peoples' Pavilion at recent UNFCCC's summits, the multi-stakeholder boards of UN-REDD and similar programmes) and managing the Equator Initiative (whose prize has been recently awarded to grassroots champions for REDD+).

This proposed knowledge component on forest tenure and the rights of indigenous peoples, to be implemented by the UN-REDD Programme in the period 2018–2020, aims at raising global knowledge to sustain country action in support of land and forest tenure governance and the promotion of the rights of indigenous peoples in the context of REDD+ implementation. This stream of global work will be connected to country actions through technical-advisory support, hence contributing to successful REDD+ implementation by capturing and analysing best practices, disseminating new knowledge products, adapting existing tools and providing country-level advisory support to stakeholders.

The Results Framework – below – provides an overview of the focus and priorities. The Technical Description section – further below – offers further details on the work and intended deliverables for each of the two major modules of this knowledge component: the support for improved land and forest-tenure governance to enable REDD+ implementation (Module A) and specific reflections on promoting the participation and rights of indigenous peoples in national REDD+ processes (Module B).

In terms of implementation approaches, this knowledge component has a decisive focus on human rights, trying to capture practices and providing advice to countries so REDD+ endeavours address forest tenure reforms, ensure participatory policy and programme approaches, and recognise and promote the territorial and ecological rights of indigenous peoples and forest communities. In addition, by the nature of this work stream, the outputs will be reached through a gender mainstreaming approach, as guided by the recent *UN-REDD Methodological Brief on Gender* and advice derived from the UN-REDD supported platform of indigenous women leaders on forests and gender affairs. In addition, this knowledge component relies on the collaboration with diverse networks of indigenous peoples (see table of key indigenous networks at global, regional and national levels under Module B) and expert partnerships, particularly the Tenure Facility (TF).<sup>1</sup> A finalization process is therefore planned for July -October 2017, while regular dialogue with indigenous and technical partners will continue over the implementation period (2018-2020) to refine priorities, focus and new opportunities to harness.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Tenure Facility” (currently being incubated by the Rights and Resources Initiative) provides grants to advance land and forest tenure security and the rights and livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. It is emergent and responsive to the growing global land and forest tenure crisis that often pits communities, businesses, and governments against one another. (Ref: <http://thetenurefacility.org/about-us/>)

## Results Framework

Agencies	Indicators	Baseline	Means of Verification
<b>UN-REDD STRATEGIC OUTCOME: 3.1.- REDD+ implementation</b>			
<b>Output 1. Knowledge products on tenure systems and REDD+ to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation (FAO led)</b>			
<p style="text-align: center;">FAO  (in collaboration with UNDP)</p>	<p>At least 6 knowledge &amp; advisory products on integrating tenure governance in the design and implementation of policies and measures for REDD+, in line with UNFCCC safeguards.</p> <p><u>2018:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Tenure security as a key enabling factor for enhanced and sustainable REDD+ NS/AP</li> <li>▪ Indigenous tenure systems and options for REDD+</li> </ul> <p><u>2019:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One policy brief on how tenure and REDD+ influence achievement of the SDGs &amp; NDCs</li> <li>▪ Forest and tenure assessment tool adapted and published</li> </ul> <p><u>2020:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A guidance note on legal reform in the context of tenure and REDD+, including country examples and lessons learned</li> <li>▪ VGGT legal assessment tool is adapted to country needs in the context of REDD+.</li> </ul>	<p>Importance of tenure has been recognized in the UN-REDD Strategic framework and in the INDCs of 21 countries.</p> <p>Existing materials include policy brief, brochures, and conference papers, etc. (See Annex for examples of literature available).</p> <p>Tools exists but are not yet adapted to specific needs for REDD+ (e.g., VGGT based tool for assessing forest tenure against the VGGT principles, 2015).</p>	<p>Publications available in the tenure platform as well as distributed at main tenure, REDD+ events and available to the UNFCCC Secretariat.</p> <p>Adapted versions of the tools available in the tenure platform as well as distributed at key tenure and REDD+ events, and available to the UNFCCC Secretariat.</p>
<b>Output 2.- Advisory support to countries for the integration of indigenous peoples' rights and responsible governance of tenure in REDD+ policies and measures (UNDP led)</b>			
<p style="text-align: center;">UNDP  (in collaboration with FAO)</p>	<p><u>2018-2020:</u> Number of days/year of advisory services to country-level stakeholders (governments, indigenous peoples, civil society organisations, development partners) to promote the rights of indigenous peoples and forest governance in REDD+ processes. [Estimated at least 200 days-equivalent]</p> <p><u>2018-2020:</u> Number of partner countries that reportedly request/use UN-REDD knowledge and advisory support to integrate and promote the proposals and rights of indigenous peoples and forest communities in the national policies, programmes and investments for forest conservation and REDD+ results (e.g. territorial demarcation, tenure reform dialogue, FPIC policy, indigenous REDD+ programmes):</p> <p><u>2018:</u> At least 3 countries  <u>2019:</u> At least 5 countries  <u>2020:</u> At least 8 countries  <i>(NB: These are accumulative targets)</i></p>	<p>The engagement of governments on the rights of indigenous peoples have so far focused on participation and dialogue; there is need for more concrete measures that tackle the indigenous ecological &amp; territorial rights.</p> <p>Indigenous peoples' proposals are often considered aside or in parallel to national policies &amp; plans.</p>	<p>UN-REDD annual reports</p> <p>UN-REDD mission reports</p> <p>Stakeholder surveys</p> <p>Global communication products</p>

Agencies	Indicators	Baseline	Means of Verification
<b>Output 3.- Dissemination of knowledge and country-based practice on promoting responsible forest tenure and governance and the rights of indigenous peoples in the implementation of REDD+ policies and programmes (FAO led)</b>			
<p>FAO (in collaboration with UNDP) FAO</p>	<p>Number of countries that release knowledge and communication products that report progress on promoting the ecological &amp; territorial rights of indigenous peoples and local communities (as result of UN-REDD technical advice and partnerships) (accumulative target):  <u>2018</u>: 2 countries  <u>2019</u>: 4 countries  <u>2020</u>: 6 countries</p> <p>Number of partners (organisations, governments and events) that collaborate with or reference to the knowledge generated through UN-REDD on how to promote responsible tenure and governance of forests, and the rights of indigenous peoples and forest communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A forest tenure &amp; indigenous peoples segment at the Oslo REDD+ Exchange (2018)</li> <li>▪ World Bank Land and Poverty Conferences (likely in 2019)</li> <li>▪ An exchange on tenure governance and reform in the context of REDD+ is organized with participants in one region (and in partnership with other groups such as RRI, TF, USAID) (e.g. UNFCCC CoP (likely in 2019 and/or 2020)</li> </ul> <p>A knowledge hub/online “tenure platform” is developed, operational, and highly visible to share practical experience in addressing tenure in the context of REDD+ towards RBP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A webinar on forest tenure concepts in the context of REDD+ process and practice (2018)</li> <li>▪ A webinar/south-south exchange organized and streamed through the “Tenure Platform” (2018 and 2019)</li> </ul>	<p>Most knowledge and communications on linkages between REDD+, forest tenure and indigenous peoples’ rights is about advocacy – little pragmatic and country-based knowledge.</p> <p>Little communication on country experiences.</p> <p>Already existing FAO tenure tools (not targeting REDD+) available online</p> <p>A ‘Tenure &amp; REDD+’ group exists on the UN-REDD Workspace to share news and information with a limited following (22 members)  Little public and multi-stakeholder trainings on REDD+ and forest tenure has been organized to date.<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Knowledge hub / platform link available in the UN-REDD website as well as in relevant Tenure websites/initiatives (e.g. partnering with the Tenure facility) and other REDD+ websites (e.g. UNFCCC).  Document repository facility within the platform.</p>

<sup>2</sup> Examples: i) Africa subregional exchange on tenure and REDD+ has been hosted by Zambia in 2015; Exchange on cadaster facilitated by UN-REDD between Brazil and Colombia; ii) World Bank Land and Poverty Conference is held annual and offers an important venue to disseminate new knowledge and tools; iii) RRI annual conferences (which special reference to the exchanges on forest governance and climate change, 2015)

## Risk management framework

Risk description	Rating (*)	Mitigation measure
External risks		
In the course of the three years the technical expertise provided and the normative products developed by the Programme are no longer considered relevant by countries / global stakeholders	P= Low I = Medium	This work has been developed based on (i) feedback from UN-REDD stakeholders (governmental and non-governmental) over the past years; (ii) knowledge gap analysis from previous work; and (iii) recommendations from global for a that work on forest tenure, indigenous peoples and REDD+ policy. Hence this risk bears a low probability of occurrence. The work will be fed by, and aligned to work and demand from government and indigenous stakeholders, including countries that are in REDD+ implementation with technical assistance from UN-REDD and international partners such as the Tenure Facility and RRI, among others. At the international arena, this risk will be mitigated by ensuring that the focus of the normative products are aligned to the global level initiatives, objectives and strategies of partners. Interest in the hub will be monitored by requesting initial sign in (membership) and by tracking contributions from members.
The advances resulting from the assistance of the UN-REDD team are not attributed to the programme as it plays a supportive function at country level	P = High I = Medium	As UN-REDD works on the interface between global knowledge and country transformations, the deliverables are often diluted in pragmatic approaches and country ownership. The UN should catalyse changes and not seek attribution; in fact, the art of diplomacy is to craft changes and empowers those that carry the burden of changes. Hence the risk is high. Yet regular monitoring and internal assessments will allow the Programme to inform its governing body on actual work and its impact. Regarding the global level, the tools and the knowledge products will be identified as UN-REDD, collaboration and synergies will be sought throughout implementation to use this component as a catalytic step towards and contributing to larger proposals. The tools and knowledge resulting from this global/normative work will also be widely disseminated to the rest of the team and the TA stream of the UN-REDD to support operations on the ground, responding to needs that might arise on these topics. Use of the knowledge and tools in the countries (through the related TA stream) will be documented.
Lack of political and institutional will to continue driving the REDD+/climate agenda forward	P = low I = high	Many countries where UN-REDD is delivering support has elections coming up during the period of these proposed activities. However, also considering funding opportunities (e.g. GCF) and donors' interest in supporting the implementation of REDD+ NS/AP the probability that the governments and the international attention would switch away from REDD+ in the 2018-2020 period is considered low.
The advice/recommendations of the UN-REDD team are not appropriated or adopted by the governments or stakeholders in country	P= Low / Medium I = High	Ensure that all stakeholders are effectively engaged, recognized and supported in planning and implementation. In addition, the UN-REDD responsible agency will ensure that Governments are engaged in the planning of the activities and give written consent to the work plan.
Internal risk		
Budget for the implementation of the stream of work on tenure and governance may not be sufficient for reaching the ultimate results	P = medium I = medium	In the phase moving towards results based payments and with the fulfilment of the SDGs, countries and global attention will probably increasingly shift towards addressing land tenure systems issues. The budget covers primarily regional and global normative work, with limited resources allocated to country work and operations. During the implementation, a mid-term review of the work stream will be undertaken and increasing fund raising efforts are expected to be dedicated to this area.

(\*) P: Probability; I: Impact

## **Technical description**

### ***Module A: Support for improved land and forest tenure governance to enable REDD+ implementation***

#### **Context**

For many forest dependent communities and smallholder farmers – both men and women – insecure land, forest and resource tenure rights hinder participation in sustainable forest management and climate mitigation and adaptation efforts. Support for tenure reform creates an enabling environment for REDD+, becoming a key factor for countries to be able to move towards results-based payments (RBP). In fact, where participatory land-use planning approaches and responsible tenure governance are promoted in conjunction with REDD+, it has the potential to contribute to transformational change, preventing and reducing resource conflicts around land use.

This component outlines the proposed work to improve land and forest tenure governance in the context of REDD+.

Such a global effort will contribute, along with tailored advisory support to countries, to strengthened technical expertise and knowledge resources to assist governments in implementing responsible governance of land and forest tenure within the framework of their REDD+ national strategies and action plans (NS/AP), their national forest monitoring systems (NFMS), nationally determined contributions (NDCs), and commitments to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), providing enhanced tools and knowledge in the transition towards results-based payments.

Notwithstanding progress thus far, extensive needs are apparent in most countries and at normative level to enact tenure reforms and in general, to ensure increased forest tenure security in the context of REDD+, part of which could be reached through the implementation of this work and the collateral collaborations generated through its catalytic effect.

Similar to the approach followed in the first phase of the UN-REDD Programme, *The Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGT)*<sup>3</sup> will be used as a framework for tenure technical assistance throughout 2018-2020 and will provide the foundation for generation of new knowledge and revision, and adaptation of tools to REDD+. The VGGT and its technical guidelines<sup>4</sup> recognize the importance of addressing the governance of tenure in the context of climate change (as well as natural disasters and conflicts); this component of the UN-REDD work will identify and share more in-depth linkages and with and knowledge specifically for REDD+.

While recognizing the VGGT as the first comprehensive, global framework on tenure endorsed by countries and supporting their implementation in the context of REDD+, UN-REDD will also exchange and **actively seek partnership with relevant actors**, such as the Center for International Forestry

---

<sup>3</sup> Developed and endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security in 2012, promoting secure tenure rights and equitable access to land, fisheries and forests as a means of eradicating hunger and poverty, supporting sustainable development and enhancing the environment (<http://www.fao.org/nr/tenure/voluntary-guidelines/en/>)

<sup>4</sup> -Responsible governance of tenure and the law: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5449e.pdf>

Governing land for women and men: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/017/i3114e/i3114e.pdf>

Improving Governance of forest tenure: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/018/i3249e/i3249e.pdf>

Responsible governance of tenure: a technical guide for investors (<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5147e.pdf>)

Safeguarding land tenure rights in the context of agricultural investments: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4998e.pdf>

Respecting free, prior and informed consent: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i3496e.pdf>

Research (CIFOR), the Center for People and Forests (RECOFT), Forest Trends, Land Rights Now, LandMark, the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI), the TF, USAID, World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF), the World Bank, and World Resources Institute (WRI). Dialogues and exchanges for the refinement of the plan and to ensure proper collaboration and coordination are ongoing and will intensify in the second half of 2017 and throughout 2018-2020. The aim is to complement the work and avoid duplication of outputs, while building on FAO neutral convening power on government and other stakeholders, cross-sectoral expertise, ability to share experience across regions, and deep yet practical knowledge of on-the-ground needs and realities as well as interpretation and application of the VGGT.

Inception dialogues with RRI indicate the need to resume exchanges and platforms on climate change, responsible governance and tenure, supporting the countries in this transition phase from preparedness moving towards RBPs. Cooperation with TF will be kept at the very centre of the approach for the implementation of this stream of work, also thanks to the FAO advisory role through its structured governance. During preparation and implementation of the work, including specific reference and support to IPs (applying to both modules A and B), it is envisioned that technical content will be shared with contact points in the TF (Board and/or advisory group) in order to build synergies and optimize the results and benefits for the target audiences. The partners and funding recipients of the TF as well as other partners and stakeholders will therefore be able to easily access a wide range of tools, best practices and expertise to facilitate effective implementation of their tenure reform programmes, including those designed in the previous phase of the UN-REDD Programme.

Results from ongoing collaborations with CIFOR and ICRAF will help fine tune planning of this component; dialogue and collaboration with RECOFT will also be renewed in the second half of 2017.

### Rationale and Approach

Land and forest tenure systems greatly influence a country's ability to reduce deforestation and forest degradation. There is wide recognition that responsible governance of tenure, whereby legitimate tenure rights are clear and secure enables REDD+ and country progress towards RBP. Clear forest tenure rights can provide an incentive for sustainable management and conservation of forests, since those with secure tenure rights tend to have a stronger interest in maintaining, investing in and improving the resource. This finding has been unequivocally demonstrated in indigenous peoples' forest lands with studies emphasizing the important role of indigenous peoples in stewardship of forests and their contribution to carbon storage, with over 20 percent of carbon stored in tropical forests found within indigenous territories<sup>5</sup>. Secure tenure is a critical factor in maintaining these and other carbon benefits. Identifying and recognizing legitimate tenure rights, including customary tenure rights, also strengthens accountability. Some countries have already demonstrated how secure tenure may be a key trigger for more sustainable land-use management and practices. Nepal, for example, has been able to increase its forest cover in part by providing legal tenure rights to an extensive network of community forestry user groups that now manage 30 percent of the country's forests.<sup>6</sup>

---

<sup>5</sup> Woods Hole Research Centre, 2016

<sup>6</sup> See <http://www.finland.org.np/public/default.aspx?contentid=342858&nodeid=35063&contentlan=2&culture=en-US> and also *Protecting Forests, Improving Livelihoods, Community Forestry in Nepal*, FERN, 2015 (available at: [http://www.fern.org/sites/fern.org/files/fern\\_community\\_forestry\\_nepal.pdf](http://www.fern.org/sites/fern.org/files/fern_community_forestry_nepal.pdf))

Countries corresponding to approximately 13 percent of tropical and subtropical forest made a clear commitment to implement tenure or community-based natural resources management objectives in their INDCs<sup>7</sup>. Some UN-REDD partner countries (e.g. Colombia<sup>8</sup>, Paraguay, Peru, Sri Lanka, Uganda, and Zambia) are already realizing the importance of tenure issues and, besides NDCs, they are including related actions as part of their roadmaps towards RBP. FAO/UN-REDD is supporting governments as they identify and implement these actions so that commitments under the 2015 Paris Agreement, the 2030 Agenda<sup>9</sup> and other international agreements<sup>10</sup> are met.

FAO has, increasingly since 2004, a history of engagement at global and country levels on research and analysis concerning forest tenure systems, supporting legal and policy reform, strengthening institutions governing tenure, and strengthening tenure rights and livelihoods of the vulnerable and traditionally marginalized groups. The results of extensive assessments undertaken between 2006 and 2010 on forest tenure and its impacts on sustainable forest management and poverty reductions brought to the elaboration of processes for undertaking tenure reform in Africa; South and Southeast Asia; Latin America and West and Central Asia among others. Country programmes strengthened community based forestry in Cambodia, Indonesia, Nepal, Peru, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda, and Vietnam. Since 2009, through FAO and other UN-REDD agencies, some 13 UN-REDD partner countries (Benin, Cambodia, Colombia, Kenya, Laos, Madagascar, Malawi, Pakistan, Peru, Tunisia, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Zambia ) have received different forms of support to assess and improve their tenure governance in the REDD+ context. FAO draws on its wide-ranging tenure expertise to assist these countries. For example, Pakistan tenure-related legal issues and capacities were strengthened or Tunisia land surveyors advised and trained on specialized equipment for demarcating forest boundaries. Furthermore, FAO's efforts to support countries implementing the VGGT (58 countries – See in Reference resources section) are utilized to build synergies with REDD+ objectives to secure forest tenure in countries where both programmes are active (i.e. Benin, Tunisia, Pakistan, Madagascar, and Malawi). In countries where UN-REDD has focused on addressing tenure, the NS/AP either includes references or activities currently related to tenure – or are very likely to do so in the future when these documents or associated investment plans are formulated. A number of countries have already consulted widely with stakeholders to design REDD+ roadmaps, including tenure-related actions and they would benefit from enhanced tools tailored to REDD+ as well as sharing of lessons learnt and normative guidance. UN-REDD and VGGT newsletters and reports on country achievements have been disseminated through FAO and UN-REDD platforms to increase visibility. (See: [blog](#) and [VGGT newsletter](#)) In this upcoming phase, UN-REDD will attempt to reach new audiences through social media and other means and to increase the impact of knowledge products through more direct targeting of key policy makers in UN-REDD's network.

Complementing the expertise described above, FAO has supported community-based and participatory forestry through research and development of analytical tools and frameworks,

---

<sup>7</sup> A 2016 study by Rights and Resources Initiative found that 21 countries representing 13 percent of tropical and subtropical forest area made a clear commitment to implement tenure or community-based natural resources management objectives in their INDCs. These countries include: Bangladesh, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, and Zambia. See: [http://rightsandresources.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Indigenous-Peoples-and-Local-Community-Tenure-in-the-INDCs-Status-and-Recommendations\\_RRI\\_April-2016.pdf](http://rightsandresources.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Indigenous-Peoples-and-Local-Community-Tenure-in-the-INDCs-Status-and-Recommendations_RRI_April-2016.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> Tenure reforms have been prioritized in the agenda of the “Peace agreements” (Article 1 mentioning country will implement an integral rural reform).

<sup>9</sup> FAO's designation as a ‘custodian agency’ for the SDGs, highlights FAO's relevant expertise across relevant sectors.

<sup>10</sup> FAO supports countries to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and emphasizes the need for free prior and informed consent in engagement with indigenous groups.

capacity building, and country-specific assessments and projects. Origins of the work lie in two main programmes originated since the 1970s (FAO/SIDA Forestry for Local Community Development Programme and The Forests, Trees and People Programme (FTPP)). Importantly, support to communities, smallholders, women, community and indigenous peoples at local, national, regional and international levels to promote sustainable forest and farm management is being provided also by the Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) initiative.

As a baseline for this global stream of work, FAO has developed a wide range of tools with potential for application to REDD+ contexts in addition to VGGT. These include the Solutions for Open Land Administration (SOLA) and Open Tenure and open-source technologies used to enhance cadastre and registration functions and services. In addition, a forest tenure assessment framework has been developed as well as a gap-analysis tool to assess the adherence of relevant tenure related laws and regulations to the principles of the VGGT. FAO has determined through consultation that these tools could be even more useful and complementary to the efforts of other partner organizations if adapted and integrated in REDD+ programmes. Special attention will address the particular land and forest resource tenure issues facing women and indigenous peoples (in collaboration with UNDP) resulting in better integration of their tenure-related concerns in the knowledge products produced by the programme. Already complying with internal process and with UN-wide agreements FAO will also promote the application of the principle of free, prior and informed consent in relation to tenure initiatives affecting indigenous peoples and local communities, drawing on in-house expertise and practical experience (and in close collaboration and synergy with UNDP experts)

Internally, for an enhanced benefits of the countries and of the UN-REDD programme, coordination and collaboration will be kept throughout the implementation of component with other tenure, governance, social forestry and IPs related initiatives and expertise (e.g. FFF initiative, Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade, FLEGT, Indigenous Peoples Team, Tenure division, Legal department, etc)

Support on enhanced knowledge and tools on land-tenure issues have been identified as a key enabling step in the UN-REDD programme of work and as a key cross-cutting issue in the Strategic Framework across the three outcomes of the Programme, especially under Outcomes 1 and 3. Under Outcome 1, for example, tenure considerations are an important part of many countries' national contributions to climate change mitigation, evidenced through their NS/AP that recognize the importance of addressing tenure to achieve NDCs (See for example [Sri Lanka's National REDD+ Investment Framework and Investment Plan](#)). The importance of addressing tenure is also articulated through a specific request in the Cancun Agreements, with clear implications for social safeguards. In relation to Outcome 3, tenure reform itself is also a potential REDD+ action, while secure tenure creates the conditions for results-based actions to be effective.

Results will also feed into a larger collaboration currently being conceptualized for the development of a scaled-up programme responding to land tenure and forest governance needs for a strengthened enabling environment for REDD+. UN-REDD global work on land tenure and governance would represent an important catalytic step in scaling-up work under this thematic area by improving access to tools and information, by building partnerships, and by better packaging and communicating UN-REDD core expertise in relation to new climate financing opportunities.

## Proposed Work Programme

The objective of the work will be two-fold:

- Increase global awareness and commitment of policymakers and other relevant stakeholders to address forest tenure governance issues with a view to achieving national contributions to the mitigation of climate change in relation to REDD+ implementation and investment plans, NDCs, and SDGs while making available enhanced and adapted tools and knowledge.
- Transmit and support application of tools and new knowledge as developed through the process, to improve country efforts moving towards REDD+ RBPs.
  - Enhanced dissemination and targeted dissemination to UN-REDD beneficiaries of tools and knowledge through webinars, media, network of experts, conferences;
  - Advisory role putting expertise, knowledge and tools (newly generated as well as updated/revised) at the service of countries, starting with beneficiaries of TA and NPs which have or will have responsible governance of tenure as work area and resources: for example, Colombia, Peru, Zambia, as well as mainstreaming tenure in the work of NS/AP and IPs related support (jointly with UNDP.)

### **Summary of outputs (see results matrix)**

1. **Knowledge products** of tenure systems and REDD+ to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation while fully accounting for UNFCCC safeguards, including gender aspects with special attention to IPs (FAO led output, in collaboration with UNDP).

Coordination meetings will be held with other relevant actors to avoid overlap and to join efforts in preparation as well as dissemination of knowledge and tools. The UN-REDD Programme will strengthen and generate global knowledge products to support national tenure initiatives in the context of REDD+. The results of the implementation of this component will benefit country activities being implemented through the UN-REDD Technical Assistance (TA) in prioritized countries, where applicable, and other initiatives (e.g. CAFI) by providing them with enhanced tools, knowledge and lessons learnt. The use of VGGT-related tools (e.g. e-learning, technical guides, training manuals) and other tools tailored in the context of REDD+ will be facilitated through webinars and exchanges as well as technical support. The results of this output will link with, and contribute to, achievement of Output 2, preparing tools and knowledge to support the country assistance and Output 3, feeding into international dialogue and agenda.

- Publications will be prepared on the links between tenure security and the implementation of REDD+ emphasizing opportunities and potential benefits through appropriate results-based actions.
- Existing tenure governance tools adapted for the implementation of REDD+ PAMs and published

2. **Support countries beneficiaries** of UN-REDD, local communities and IPs on responsible governance of tenure, improving the level of cohesion and consistency between the global normative work and country activities carried on in the context of the NPs and TAs (UNDP led output in collaboration with FAO). This output will provide advisory support to countries for REDD+

implementation, including those mechanisms that promote the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities in relation to territorial management, forest tenure and responsible governance.

**3. Dissemination of knowledge and best practice** on promoting responsible forest tenure and governance, and the rights of indigenous peoples in the implementation of REDD+. (FAO led output) Through this output, in collaboration with UNDP, FAO will feed knowledge, tools, lessons learnt and case studies **into global dialogues and dissemination**

- A knowledge hub/online “tenure platform” is developed, operational to share practical experience in addressing tenure in the context of REDD+ moving towards RBP. While initial discussions on the need of a knowledge hub have been undertaken already, partnership with other relevant actors will be sought so to avoid duplication and to identify the best structure/modality of the platform itself. The strengthening and expansion of a ‘tenure and REDD+ knowledge hub’ (“knowledge hub”) also embracing results of the landscape UN-REDD global component and taking advantage of FAO forestry as well as agriculture expertise<sup>11</sup> will be highly complementary to the recently established “International Land and Forest Tenure Facility” (“The Tenure Facility”)<sup>12</sup> with which the UN-REDD Programme will coordinate actions.
- The knowledge and tools generated will be shared at international level by leveraging on relevant planned event addressing tenure, for example World Bank Land and Poverty Conference (held annually), Community Land and Resource Rights conference (potentially already in October 2017 and in increased collaborations in the next years), side events at COPs (as joint effort with MRV component of UN-REDD and/or “Linking REDD+, the Paris Agreement, NDCs, and SDGs”), and at Global Landscapes Forum (jointly with the Landscape component of UN-REDD) Through different dissemination processes, including the use of the tenure platform resulting from this work, the new knowledge products and tools will contribute to the UNFCCC process and the international dialogue shaping the Green Climate Fund and other financing mechanisms. The tenure platform will be interactive and designed to meet user needs. The results and impacts will be monitored through collection of data on access to the site and tracking of contributions from users. The platform will be featured on social media and in webinars to draw attention to its usefulness.

***Module B: Promoting the participation and rights of indigenous peoples and forest communities in the implementation of REDD+ policies and measures***

A number of forest countries have committed to an ambitious REDD+ agenda, and are already seeking REDD+ finance for investments and/or results-based payments. In addition, various willing donors have signed international agreements for REDD+ with some of these forest countries (e.g., Brazil, Colombia, DR Congo, Guyana, Indonesia, Peru).

The national REDD+ agendas and the international REDD+ agreements tend to contain commitments for policy reforms and public investments that are meant to promote the rights of indigenous

---

<sup>11</sup> Refer to the “*REDD+ as a catalyst for maximizing agriculture-forestry transformational change (at landscape level), towards contributing to the global response to climate change*” concept note

<sup>12</sup> The Tenure Facility” (currently being incubated by the Rights and Resources Initiative) provides grants to advance land and forest tenure security and the rights and livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. It is emergent and responsive to the growing global land and forest tenure crisis that often pits communities, businesses, and governments against one another. (Ref: <http://thetenurefacility.org/about-us/>)

peoples and forest communities, including reforms in land-use policy, forest tenure governance, expanding the demarcation and regularization of the lands and territories of indigenous peoples, participatory governance arrangements for forest programmes and funds, and scaling-up local investments for sustainable forest management and community livelihoods.

However, fulfilment of these REDD+ commitments and policy milestones relies on a solid and continued partnership between governments and indigenous peoples, where dialogue, trust and participatory governance are at the base. Such co-operation is often non-existent, fragile or patchy – in fact, these two stakeholders are often in conflict and not used to work together on complex issues.

Evidence shows that the defining factor for REDD+ success is building and sustaining trusted partnerships among key stakeholders with a common agenda, regular outreach and open policy dialogues, as well as an effort to jointly plan and implement tangible measures to promote the rights of indigenous peoples and forest communities. There are some incipient experiences and it is broadly accepted that REDD+ will only succeed with the meaningful engagement of critical forest stakeholders such as indigenous peoples and forest-dependent communities. Almost a decade of *REDD+ readiness* has generated a vast amount of knowledge on what it means to engage these groups genuinely, from the grassroots up to the policy level, and on the best practices to do so. It is now necessary to apply this in implementation of REDD+.

Experience also shows that the full and effective engagement of indigenous peoples is a process-heavy commitment, requiring deep trust, relationships built on respect, equality and transparency, and systematic and in-depth capacity building between indigenous groups, private sector and governments to ensure mutual understanding. Country-specific approaches must be tailored to deal with national differences. Additionally, institutions and governance processes need keep in pace with the evolution of national REDD+ initiatives and policies.

Through the *Paris Agreement*, countries have committed to the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and forest communities in REDD+. However, ensuring their ability to understand and apply these principles on the ground through all phases of REDD+ remains a huge challenge. The private sector requires specific attention given the profound role commodities play in deforestation (e.g., timber, palm oil, beef, soy, paper). As the private sector continues to play a larger role in REDD+, indigenous peoples will accordingly need to engage more effectively with private sector stakeholders, requiring different approaches to new and existing activities. As REDD+ progresses into a new phase of results based payments, countries will continue to face these challenges; defining and implementing stakeholder engagement in REDD+ will continue to be a “changing and developing reality”.

In addition, for many indigenous peoples, forest-dependent communities and smallholder farmers – both men and women – the prevailing conditions of insecure land, forest and resource tenure rights hinder participation in sustainable forest management and climate mitigation and adaptation efforts. Support for tenure reform creates an enabling environment for REDD+, becoming a key factor for countries to be able to move forward towards results-based payments (RBP). In fact, where participatory land use planning approaches and responsible tenure governance are promoted in conjunction with REDD+, it has the potential to contribute to transformational change, preventing and reducing resource conflicts around land use.

The UN-REDD Programme is well placed to provide REDD+ countries with this proposed kind of knowledge, best practices and advisory support. UN-REDD has direct experience in engaging indigenous peoples in REDD+. Leveraging almost 10 years of experience in supporting REDD+

countries and a network of regional Stakeholder Engagement Specialists, UN-REDD is well placed to support countries directly on the ground. This includes experience in setting up the Community Based REDD+ initiative that is currently bringing community grants directly to communities in 6 partner countries. In addition, UN-REDD has good working relationships with key country stakeholders in REDD+. The UN-REDD Programme is seen as a trusted, independent partner by critical partners such as governments, private sector and indigenous peoples. This fact positions the Programme well to distill knowledge and support country partners to use and apply lessons. However, the Programme will work closely, and partner where possible, with civil society, indigenous and academic groups that are carrying out relevant work.

The Programme will support countries to apply knowledge through the active dissemination of results via strategic partners and processes in countries and regionally. Outcomes will be in the form of improved capacity as a result of direct guidance and support as well as changes to national REDD+ policies and activities. Areas covered may include:

- Direct assistance to countries to review and apply lessons directly in their national REDD+ processes through workshops, study tours and trainings
- Providing thematic technical support to the advancement of critical issues of engagement through the development of country-specific guidance and processes for consultation, FPIC and grievance mechanisms
- Supporting relationship building and conflict resolution dialogues between indigenous peoples and critical REDD+ stakeholders, including government and private sector
- Developing peer-to-peer mentoring and networking activities to allow indigenous peoples to transfer knowledge and provide support to each other

In addition, under this component, UN-REDD will help compile good practice examples and lessons learned of indigenous peoples' inclusion in REDD+, with a focus on critical issues identified by countries and indigenous/community stakeholders (for instance through targeted questionnaires).<sup>13</sup> Products will be in the form of knowledge briefs, reports, videos and articles. Based on current knowledge, issues are likely to include good practices on:

- Dialogues to build positive government-indigenous relations and support conflict resolution
- Consultation processes, outreach and capacity building for REDD+
- Development and operationalization of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC)
- Traditional knowledge and its application for mitigation & adaptation related to forests
- Positive engagement and initiatives between IPs and private sector
- How indigenous peoples can transition from beneficiaries of capacity support towards becoming actors in REDD+ decision-making, implementation and monitoring

In addition, regional South-South exchanges will be organized/supported, focusing on the emerging needs and priorities of countries and indigenous peoples. Possible themes include: Good practice in indigenous inclusion in national decision-making for REDD+ and the engagement of IP

---

<sup>13</sup> Questionnaires will be targeted at key REDD+ stakeholders in countries that request support. In addition to critical stakeholders (i.e., indigenous peoples' organisations and networks and government REDD+ counterparts) other important stakeholders (e.g., private sector, civil society, unions, academia, etc.,) will also be identified and included in this analysis phase.

women in particular; Good practice in implementation of FPIC, examining the diversity of country approaches to ensuring the right to FPIC and lessons; The use of dialogue processes between indigenous peoples and government to repair relationships and deal with historical conflict to build stronger foundations for REDD+; How to build better indigenous engagement with the private sector; Sustainable forest management; Forest and agroforestry incentives; and commodities roundtables

The UN-REDD Programme has various specialists on the interface between social inclusion and REDD+ processes, including competence on promoting the rights of indigenous peoples and forest communities. They have several years of experience within UN-REDD and with the partner countries, as well as the trust of civil society and indigenous peoples’ organizations and networks working on forest and climate affairs at country level. The UNDP sub-team includes one stakeholder engagement specialist in each of the three UN-REDD Programme’s geographic regions, as well as a global gender specialist, a social-safeguards officer and a policy advisor for social inclusion. They will facilitate and implement the proposed activities, aiming at enhancing knowledge and approaches to embed the rights of indigenous peoples with the policy reforms and field investments associated with REDD+ implementation.

The implementation will be conducted collaboratively with the stakeholder engagement focal points in governments and national REDD+ teams where available, and involve the networks of indigenous peoples and associated organizations at regional and country levels. The table below identifies some of the key global, regional and national networks of indigenous peoples with which UN-REDD collaborates usually and that will be relevant partners for collecting, discussing and sharing knowledge.

**Table Z. Main networks of indigenous peoples for UN-REDD collaboration on the knowledge component on “forest tenure and indigenous peoples” and its country advisory dimensions (UN-REDD, 2018-2020)**

Geographic focus	Indigenous platforms	Brief description of roles and UN-REDD relations
Global	UNPFII	The <b>UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues</b> is the apex organization of indigenous peoples. The UN-REDD Programme has been collaborating with the UNPFII on forest, climate and indigenous rights since several years ago, including special technical and policy-discussion sessions during the annual UNPFII assemblies. In addition, the UN-REDD programme is a leading international advocate of FPIC approaches, which is a political priority of the UNPFII and for which UN-REDD has helped its advancement in a number of countries (see every UN-REDD annual report for tangible progress in FPIC at country level).
Global	IIPFCC	The <b>International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change</b> is the indigenous caucus on climate affairs. UNDP has been supporting the capacities of the IIPFCC over the last years to support the policy and financing plans of indigenous peoples within the UNFCCC and, recently, before the GCF too. Some of the global representatives of the IIPFCC has been – or currently are – members of the UN-REDD global governance bodies.
Asia/Pacific	AIPP	The <b>Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact</b> is a leading regional indigenous peoples’ organization with 47 members from 14 countries in Asia that functions as a sharing and networking forum, builds capacity, develops programmes to support IP priorities, and advocates for IP causes. UN-REDD has been collaborating with the AIPP since many years ago, co-organising events, supporting capacity efforts of AIPP national and local partners, and producing knowledge products in a collaborative spirit.
Africa <i>(francophone)</i>	REPALEAC	The <b>Network of Indigenous and Local Communities for the Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystems in Central Africa</b> (REPALEAC in French) works to enhance the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in national, regional and international actions toward the conservation and sustainable use of forests and biodiversity in the region. UN-REDD collaborates with REPALEAC since the onset of the

Geographic focus	Indigenous platforms	Brief description of roles and UN-REDD relations
		Programme, and usually a REPALAC member is part of the UN-REDD governance. In addition, REPALAC is closely connected to the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC), which is the policy body of the region for forest affairs. Hence the strategic role of REPALAC connecting local realities with national/regional policy – and thus why REPALAC is a leading partner of UN-REDD.
Africa ( <i>anglophone</i> )	<b>PACJA</b>	The <b>Pan African Climate Justice Alliance</b> is a continental coalition of CSOs from diverse backgrounds in Africa. Founded in 2008, PACJA has emerged as a large, vibrant civil society platform in climate change and sustainable development, with a membership of more than 1,000 organizations and networks, bringing together NGOs, indigenous peoples' networks, faith-based organizations, community-based organizations, trusts, foundations, farmers and pastoralists' groups, among other sectors. UN-REDD and PACJA often cooperate in capacity-building, knowledge management and policy dialogue endeavours.
Amazonia	<b>RIA &amp; COICA</b>	The leading indigenous REDD+ initiative in the Amazon is the <b>REDD+ Indígena Amazónica</b> (RIA), which aims at REDD+ results through national policy reforms that recognise and empower the territorial rights and autonomy of indigenous peoples in the Amazon forest. It is led by the <b>Federation of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin</b> (COICA) as part of its aim of generating policy proposals and actions on the rights of indigenous peoples and the protection of the Amazon forest, at local, national and international level. RIA and COICA are the key regional initiatives and platforms for UN-REDD work related to Ecuador, Peru and Colombia.
Central America	<b>CICA &amp; AMPB</b>	The <b>Central American Indigenous Council</b> (CICA) is a regional political platform that supports the rights, autonomy and self-determination of indigenous peoples in Central America. It is federation of national organisations of indigenous peoples, which are active counterparts of UN-REDD in country-level work, including Costa Rica (MNI-CR) and Honduras (CONPAH). The CICA's indigenous women network also cooperates with the UN-REDD stream on forests and gender equality. In addition, for specific work on the interface between forests and indigenous peoples, the <b>Mesoamerican Alliance of Peoples and Forests</b> (AMPB) is a key counterpart as it reunites indigenous territorial authorities that administer or influence major forested areas of Mesoamerica. The AMPB currently works for the advancement of community forest management and land rights, also connecting with the global agenda climate change – hence the collaboration with UN-REDD. AMPB is active in major UN-REDD partner countries like Costa Rica, Honduras and Panama.
Colombia	<b>MPC et al.</b>	UN-REDD is currently working with the network of indigenous peoples of Colombia that composes the <b>Mesa Permanente de Concertación Nacional</b> . On the field, UN-REDD currently collaborates with 4 major organisations of indigenous peoples and two leading organisations of Afro-Colombian people, including: the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia (ONIC), the Indigenous Territorial Council of the Sierra Nevada (CTC), the Indigenous Authorities of Colombia (AIC) and the Organization of Indigenous Peoples of the Colombian Amazon (OPIAC).
DRC	<b>GTCR-R</b>	The <b>REDD+ Climate Working Group</b> is a national network of around to 500 IPs organisations and NGOs that since 2009 has been the leading and legitimate representative avenue of civil society and indigenous peoples in the DRC for forest and REDD+ affairs. It is a respected, strong and credible voice for safeguarding the respect of the rights of local communities and indigenous peoples in defining, developing, validating, implementing, monitoring and evaluating the strategic orientation programmes and projects of the REDD+ in the DRC.
Myanmar	<b>POINT</b>	<b>Promotion of Indigenous and Nature Together</b> is a national organization that promotes the rights of indigenous peoples as well as creating increased awareness on environmental related knowledge. UN-REDD works with POINT through the national programme and the ongoing/forthcoming technical assistance programmes.
Peru	<b>RIA/Peru</b>	The Peruvian chapter of the <b>REDD+ Indígena Amazónica</b> (RIA) is probably the most active and advanced. In addition, the leading organisations of indigenous peoples in relation to the forest in Peru are the <b>Confederation of Amazonian Nationalities of Peru</b> (CONAP) and the <b>Interethnic Association for the development of the Peruvian Jungle</b> (AIDSESP).

Geographic focus	Indigenous platforms	Brief description of roles and UN-REDD relations
Viet Nam	CSDM	The <b>Centre for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas</b> is a national organization that promotes the rights of ethnic minorities, with a view to better their quality of life, their engagement in the national development process, and the preservation of indigenous cultural heritage. It is one of the most active IPs partners of UN-REDD in Viet Nam.

The implementation of this knowledge stream will be conducted in synergy with the cross-cutting knowledge component, particularly in terms of regional South-South exchanges and the production of interdisciplinary knowledge products. It will be closely co-implemented with the relevant country components that have REDD+ policy and investment work relevant to the rights of indigenous peoples and forest communities.

### ***Reference resources: Examples of Tenure, Legal and Governance documents and tools***

Note: the list provided herewith does not intend to be comprehensive and it should be considered as a sample of knowledge and tools available mostly at normative level.

#### **Tenure:**

- The Voluntary guidelines on the responsible governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of national food security  
<http://www.fao.org/docrep/016/i2801e/i2801e.pdf>
- Brochure: UN-REDD supporting work on tenure and REDD+ [http://www.UN-REDD.net/index.php?option=com\\_docman&Itemid=134&view=download&alias=13823-UN-REDD-supporting-work-on-tenure-and-redd-13823&category\\_slug=tenure-and-redd-2647](http://www.UN-REDD.net/index.php?option=com_docman&Itemid=134&view=download&alias=13823-UN-REDD-supporting-work-on-tenure-and-redd-13823&category_slug=tenure-and-redd-2647)
- UN-REDD Programme Policy Brief: Tenure and REDD+, Developing enabling conditions for REDD+ [http://www.UN-REDD.net/index.php?view=document&alias=13295-policy-brief-tenure-redd-issue-06-13295&category\\_slug=policy-brief-series-3154&layout=default&option=com\\_docman&Itemid=134](http://www.UN-REDD.net/index.php?view=document&alias=13295-policy-brief-tenure-redd-issue-06-13295&category_slug=policy-brief-series-3154&layout=default&option=com_docman&Itemid=134)
- Solutions for Open Land Administration (SOLA)  
<http://flossola.org/>
- Open Tenure  
<http://flossola.org/>
- A Voluntary Guidelines Informed Forest Tenure Assessment Framework (draft)
- LEGN Tool for policy and legal assessment in the context of the VGGT (draft)
- Land Tenure Considerations in Sri Lanka's Proposed National REDD+ Strategy
- Sri Lanka: Report on Land Tenure Considerations in Sri Lanka's Proposed National REDD+ Strategy, Sri Lanka UN-REDD Programme, April 2016
- Malawi: Tenure and REDD+ in Malawi, Government of Malawi, UN-REDD (prepared by the Environmental Law Institute) July 2016
- Tunisia: Analyse de la situation foncière du secteur forestier et pastoral en vue de la préparation de la stratégie REDD+ en Tunisie, (prepared by Hamdi Mars and Imen Lahmayer) February 2016
- Benin: Diagnostic approfondi de la situation foncière et du cadre législatif et réglementaire foncier béninois pour la mise en oeuvre de la REDD+ (prepared by Félix Zinsou), July 2016
- Laos: Land and Forest Tenure in Laos: Baseline Overview 2016 with Options for Community Participation in Forest Management, December 2016 (still in draft)
- Madagascar: Analyse de la situation foncière des forêts et de ses conséquences sur la gestion forestière (prepared by CIRAD), June 2015.
- Vietnam: Improving Policies, Processes and Practices of Forest and Forestland Allocation in Viet Nam (policy brief - unpublished?)

#### *E-learning Courses:*

- Introduction to the Responsible Governance of Tenure  
<http://www.fao.org/elearning/#/elc/en/course/VG1>
- Respecting Free, Prior and Informed Consent <http://www.fao.org/elearning/#/elc/en/course/FPIC>
- Governing land for women and men  
<http://www.fao.org/elearning/#/elc/en/course/VGG>
- Addressing Disputes and Conflicts Over the Tenure of Natural Resources  
<http://www.fao.org/elearning/#/elc/en/course/VG7>
- Addressing Corruption in the Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests  
<http://www.fao.org/elearning/#/elc/en/course/VG6>
- How to monitor and promote policy changes on governance of tenure  
<http://www.fao.org/elearning/#/elc/en/Course/VG9>

#### *Technical Guides:*

- Governing land for women and men (<http://www.fao.org/docrep/017/i3114e/i3114e.pdf>)
- Improving governance of forest tenure: a practical guide  
(<http://www.fao.org/docrep/018/i3249e/i3249e.pdf>)
- Governing land for women and men (<http://www.fao.org/docrep/017/i3114e/i3114e.pdf>)
- Governing Tenure rights to commons (<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i6381e.pdf>)
- Improving governance of pastoral lands  
([https://workspace.fao.org/form/pws/Lists/Publications%20Workflow%20System/Attachments/3096/web\\_TG\\_Pastoralism\\_Preflight\\_29072016.pdf](https://workspace.fao.org/form/pws/Lists/Publications%20Workflow%20System/Attachments/3096/web_TG_Pastoralism_Preflight_29072016.pdf))
- Respecting free, prior and informed consent (<http://www.fao.org/docrep/019/i3496e/i3496e.pdf>)
- Responsible governance of tenure and the law (<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5449e.pdf>)
- Safeguarding land tenure rights in the context of agricultural investment (<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4998e.pdf>)
- Responsible governance of tenure: a technical guide for investors (<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5147e.pdf>)

#### **Legal:**

- FAO Legal paper N.92: “Climate change and forestry legislation in support of REDD+” (2015) - <http://www.fao.org/legal/publications/legal-papers/en/>
- Legal analysis of cross-cutting issues for REDD+ implementation (2013) - [http://www.UN-REDD.net/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_download&gid=10081&Itemid=53](http://www.UN-REDD.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=10081&Itemid=53)
- [Brochure on legal preparedness for REDD+](#)
- D-Group on Legal Preparedness for REDD+: Key legal considerations related to development and implementation of REDD+ strategies continue to be analyzed, and experiences exchanged, in 375-member forum on legal preparedness for REDD+ (See: <https://dgroups.org/fao/law-for-redd-plus/>)
- FAOLEX: <http://faolex.fao.org/faolex/index.htm>
- ‘Forest carbon tenure: implications for sustainable REDD+ projects’ in Chapter 3: The role of forests in climate change adaptation and mitigation of FAO State of the World’s Forests (SOFO) (2011) (<http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i2000e/i2000e00.htm>)
- The Little Book on Legal Frameworks for REDD+ published by the Global Canopy Programme with UN-REDD Programme support in English, French and Spanish (2014) (<http://theredddesk.org/resources/little-book-legal-frameworks-redd>)
- Data accessibility in the context of REDD+: Challenges for National Forest Monitoring Systems and possible legal responses (forthcoming)
- Learning and Success Stories on Legal Preparedness for REDD+ (draft)
- FAO Legal Paper N.89: Forest Carbon Tenure in Asia-Pacific: A comparative analysis of legal trends to define carbon rights in Asia-Pacific (2012) (<http://www.fao.org/legal/publications/legal-papers/en/>)
- Informe Final: Diagnóstico del Marco Jurídico ambiental guatemalteco en los temas de derechos de propiedad sobre bienes y servicios ambientales y elementos de cambio climático vinculados a REDD+ en el marco del Decreto 7-2013. 2015. (<http://www.marn.gob.gt/Multimedios/1548.pdf>.)
- [Forest Governance, REDD+ and Sustainable Development in Kenya](#) )

- [Final recommendations to enact legal reforms for REDD+ implementation in Kenya](#)
- Paper on “Carbon rights in Mexico” published by the World Bank (2010) ([http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2011/12/05/000386194\\_20111205023452/Rendered/PDF/658770WP00PUBL0ng0and0Carbon0Rights.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2011/12/05/000386194_20111205023452/Rendered/PDF/658770WP00PUBL0ng0and0Carbon0Rights.pdf))

#### Governance:

- FAO – PROFOR. 2011. Framework for Assessing and Monitoring Forest Governance. Rome. (<http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/i2227e/i2227e00.pdf>)
- FAO. 2012. Strengthening Effective Forest Governance Monitoring Practice, by A.J.van Bodegom, S.Wigboldus, A.G.Blundell, E.Harwell and H.Savenije. Forestry Policy and Institutions Working Paper No. 29. Rome. (<http://www.fao.org/docrep/015/me021e/me021e00.pdf>)
- The [Sustainable Forest Management \(SFM\) toolbox](#)
- FAO-FLEGT Programme. 2016. FLEGT & REDD+: Working Together to Strengthen Forest Governance and Mitigate Climate Change. Rome. ([http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/FLEGT/docs/FLEGT\\_EN\\_ClimateChange\\_Leaflet\\_Webfile\\_02.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/FLEGT/docs/FLEGT_EN_ClimateChange_Leaflet_Webfile_02.pdf)) VGGT experience: VGGT national and subnational workshops held

### Summary of VGGT related Activities

Countries where VGGT have been disseminated and capacities of countries stakeholders have been developed on the use of VGGT through national and subnational workshops .

AFRICA	ASIA AND THE PACIFIC	EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	NEAR EAST
28 countries	13 countries	7 countries	8 countries	2 countries

AFRICA	ASIA AND THE PACIFIC	EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	NEAR EAST
Angola	Cambodia	Albania	Brazil	Afghanistan
Benin	China	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Colombia	Lebanon
Burundi	Fiji	Croatia	Guatemala	
Cameroon	Indonesia	Kosovo	Bolivia	
Central African Republic	Kyrgyzstan	FYR Macedonia	Ecuador	
Republic of Congo	Cambodia	Montenegro	Guatemala	
Ethiopia	Lao	Serbia	Mexico	
Gabon	Myanmar		Peru	
Ghana	Viet Nam			
Guinea Bissau	Mongolia			
Liberia	Nepal			
Madagascar	Pakistan			
Malawi	Philippines			
Mali				
Mauritania				
Namibia				
Niger				
Nigeria				
Senegal				

Sierra Leone				
Somalia				
South Sudan				
Sudan				
Swaziland				
Tunisia				
Uganda				
Uzbekistan				
Sao Tome				

FAO has mainstreamed the Voluntary Guidelines (VGGT) in all its work on tenure and a house-wide Task Force coordinates relevant work by technical units and decentralized offices in line with DG Bulletin 2013/73. FAO works with a wide range of actors at the global, regional and national levels to promote the VGGT as the global international standard for tenure, and it supports stakeholders in countries to improve tenure consistent with the VGGT. At the country level, FAO support is focusing on four interlinked and mutually reinforcing aspects of implementation, being: awareness raising; multi-stakeholder platform and processes; capacity development; and supporting efforts to embed VGGT principles and best practices into national policies and laws.

States have used the VGGT to improve policy and legal frameworks. New land policies based on the VGGT were introduced in Colombia, Guatemala, Myanmar and Sierra Leone. The VGGT were used in legal reviews and the preparation of new laws in the Central African Republic, Madagascar and Mongolia. Donor partners, working with FAO, have provided support, including to the EU-funded land governance programme operating in 17 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Countries such as France, Germany, Switzerland and the United States of America have included the VGGT within their own development programmes. Recipient countries have used their own resources to support the use of the VGGT, and, for example, Sierra Leone has established an Inter-Ministerial Task Force that brings together five ministries (Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security; Lands, Country Planning and the Environment; Fisheries and Marine Resources; Justice; and Local Government and Rural Development), and provides staff support for a Steering Committee, Technical Working Group and Secretariat.

Raising awareness and capacity development activities of the VGGT have been held in: Benin, Colombia, Gabon, Guatemala, Liberia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Sao Tome, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tunisia, and Uganda.

Learning Programmes have been developed and rolled-out at country-level on gender and land in Liberia, Mongolia, Nepal, Sierra Leone, and South Africa; on agricultural investments in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Uganda; and on increased capacity to use the VGGT, particularly by civil society organizations in Liberia, Malawi, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa and at regional level in Central America (Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, and Peru). Additional support to increase capacity to use the VGGT by civil society is planned for Colombia, Macedonia, Mauritania, Mongolia, Sierra Leone, and Uganda. Capacity development also took place on the use of enabling technologies for recording customary and other tenure rights in Nigeria and Uganda. The VGGT have been promoted among indigenous peoples, and inhabitants of protected areas and their zones of influence in Colombia, Guatemala, India and Panama.

Under the World Bank/FAO Cooperative Programme, technical assistance is being provided to land frameworks in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, and Serbia. In the Western Balkans, under the land and gender activities the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) goal 5.a.2 indicator for gender equality is being tested. The VGGT are an important resource for the achievement and monitoring of the.