



Today most recognize “why” we need to move from siloed and uncoordinated approaches that have not delivered the scale of change required towards more integrated approaches to people-centred land governance to foster systemic transformation. Across the globe, governments have pledged to ‘*Leave no one behind*’, and government and civil society partnerships are pivotal to advance people centred land governance and secure tenure rights, ensuring the 2030 Agenda is met effectively, transparently, and in the interest of all; an agenda that recognises both that without progress on land rights and effective cross-sectoral collaboration, the SDGs will not be achieved.

“Beyond policy change: government and civil society partnerships to scale-up the recognition of tenure security” was the title of a high-level event focused on partnership between Government and Civil Societies which took place in the margin of the Global Land Forum (GLF) in Jordan last May. Co-hosted by the Jordan Ministry of Agriculture, the [LandCollaborative](#) partnership, DWHH, and the German Cooperation. 12 countries delegations comprising of senior officials and their counterparts in civil society attended the meeting in addition to development partners, and a wide array of Jordan based governmental authorities’ non-state actors.

Drawn from the experiences of partnership established around national land coalitions and other form of Multi-Stakeholder engagement mechanisms, the event offered participants an immersive experience combining panel discussion and roundtable to go beyond the “why” to better understand and inform the “how”, and an opportunity for learning and experience-sharing between change makers and champions of inclusive land policies from countries various stages of reforming land governance.

Key insights included:

1. **Governments and Civil Society Partnership** materialises though different institutional frameworks; formalised national multi-stakeholders platforms on land cognisant of the risks posed by power asymmetries offer stakeholders fit-for-context mechanisms to drive much needed collection action;
2. The VGGT (and other commonly referenced frameworks and guidelines) have contributed to **progress in improving policies, legal, and institutional frameworks** on the governance of tenure; yet for the policy progress to be more meaningful for citizens, especially the most vulnerable, there is a need, across countries, to focus on giving effect to policy by securing the finances and human capacity for the roll-out of policies, new land laws and administration framework while addressing recurrent *push-backs* formed by vested interest which manifest more vividly in the power imbalance favouring of traditional leaders, and investors.
3. Continued progress on **tackling the systemic drivers of unequal land governance systems** will require increasing stakeholders’ abilities to partner to form effective cross-sectoral partnership model inclusive of Government and their allies in CSOs;
4. Multi-stakeholders platforms promoting local action offer both sample of **viable and socially acceptable solutions** to inform the design of larger programs, and the strength of the collective action necessary to create **scaling-up opportunities** far beyond their scope and membership;

5. Development partners play a crucial role in contributing to ***fostering convergence in enhancing country-led efforts*** to scale the implementation of the VGGT and other framework.

The event contributed to the ongoing reflections marking the celebration of the 10th year of the adoption of the VGGTs highlighting what has worked, but equally what is missing to create the enabling conditions to scale government-civil society partnership. The LandCollaborative partnership will carry these recommendation forward in the framework of the VGGT+10 initiative as it embarks on supporting and revitalizing ongoing tenure reform process in 12 countries by simultaneously supporting knowledge generation, political (re-)commitment, and technical and financial support to joint actin planning to improve government-civil society partnership.

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