



TRIENNIAL REPORT 2016 - 2018

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INTERNATIONAL
LAND
COALITION

WELCOME

WELCOME BY CO-CHAIRS OF THE ILC COUNCIL

This report confirms the fundamental assumption behind our network: that the only way we will transform land governance to make it truly responsive to the needs of the women, men, and communities depending on land and natural resources is to work together, and to do so strategically.

Our common goal is people-centred land governance, envisioned as the change we seek in ILC's 10 commitments. These structure our joint actions, and also increasingly influence approaches to land governance even beyond our Coalition.

We are witnessing ILC become more and more a network of platforms, led by members who also bring in other partners beyond our network. These platforms jointly push for people-centred land governance in particular countries (National Engagement Strategies (NES), in 29 countries) and across countries on a particular theme (Commitment-Based Initiatives (CBIs), 34 platforms).

The achievements of member-driven platforms featured in this report are inspiring. We are proud of the achievements of our network over the past three years.

Our transformational capacity as a network has received strong statements of confidence – from the continued interest of organisations in joining the ILC network (63 new organisations joining us in 2018) to the confidence of funding partners to get behind the Coalition's work (doubling the annual budget from 2015 to 2018). Moreover, the conclusions of the Mid-Term Review affirm the continuing validity of ILC's Strategy and provide strong evidence that the Coalition has contributed to changes in land governance.

We have also used our collective influence as a coalition to effectively influence global processes important to our membership, not least our success with land-related targets and indicators in the Sustainable Development Goals.

We do not underestimate the challenging road ahead. For the transformation we seek to be truly sustainable, we work in long timeframes to influence complex processes that are beyond our control. But our successes in the first triennium of our Strategy affirm that we are on the right track. Enjoy reading about them.

Mino Ramaroson
Civil Society Co-Chair

Jean-Philippe Audinet
Intergovernmental Co-Chair

1. Secure Tenure Rights
2. Strong Small-Scale Farming Systems
3. Diverse Tenure Systems
4. Equal Land Rights for Women
5. Secure Territorial Rights for Indigenous Peoples
6. Locally-Managed Ecosystems
7. Inclusive Decision-Making
8. Transparent and Accessible Information
9. Effective Actions Against Land Grabbing
10. Protected Land Rights Defenders

OUR MISSION

A GLOBAL ALLIANCE OF CIVIL SOCIETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS WORKING TOGETHER TO PUT PEOPLE AT THE CENTRE OF LAND GOVERNANCE.

OUR VISION

A JUST, EQUITABLE, AND INCLUSIVE WORLD IN WHICH LAND RIGHTS ARE SECURE AND POVERTY IS ERADICATED.



OVERVIEW

OVERVIEW

HOW FAR ARE WE FROM PEOPLE-CENTRED LAND GOVERNANCE?

ILC Secretariat Director and Regional Coordinators

The members of the International Land Coalition share one goal: bringing about people-centred land governance. This means putting those who live on and from the land at the centre of decision-making. Too often, they are excluded from decisions about their land by those in power. The political and economic systems that allow the powerful few to decide over the lives of many perpetuate injustice and inequality. Achieving our goal demands structural, systemic change.

We've made some progress. For example, in the willingness of governments to set global targets on land governance in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): these demonstrate how far the world has come in recognising that land rights are key to fighting hunger and poverty, and we are proud of having contributed to this awareness.

Despite this progress, the reality in many countries remains sombre. The [latest figures](#) from Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) show that hunger is again increasing. [CIVICUS reports](#) that the space for civil society action is "closed, repressed or obstructed" in 109 countries. The last three years have been the deadliest on record for Land and Environmental Defenders, with 207 defenders killed in 2017 alone; 23 of them were ILC members. In Guatemala, six leaders from Comité de Desarrollo Campesino (CODECA) and three from Comité Campesino del Altiplano (CCDA) were murdered in 2018 alone.

The increasing violence and repression put our mandate to the test, but also show how important it is that – as a network – we stand by our members in their fight for land rights. This report highlights successes in creating opportunities for ILC members to connect, mobilise, and influence to create the conditions for long-term, sustainable change. It also raises five key challenges to such change, and how we intend to jointly overcome them.

HIGHLIGHTING SUCCESS

CONNECT: ILC CONNECTS MEMBERS TO EACH OTHER AND TO CHANGE-MAKERS BEYOND THE COALITION, CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DIALOGUE, MUTUAL LEARNING, AND JOINT ACTION

ILC is at a turning point: not only a network of members, we are becoming also a network of platforms for action, each with their own strategy, membership, governance, and facilitator. In addition to the well-established regional platforms, a fourth regional platform has emerged with a critical mass of members in Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa. In 29 countries, ILC members come together in [National Engagement Strategies](#) (NES), while 34 [Commitment-Based Initiative](#) (CBI) platforms enable members to learn from each other and to advocate on a particular common theme. During this triennium, NES platforms connected 213 organisations, including 145 ILC members, and CBI platforms connected 493 organisations, 393 of them ILC members. Globally, the ILC network took steps to becoming more structurally connected with its sister network, the [Global Land Tool Network](#) (GLTN), defined by a joint MOU.

Member-led platforms are also building trust with government agencies and contributing to building democracy from the bottom up. Some are attracting funding, becoming financially more independent from ILC, and many are drawing on ILC's diversity to include international members such as [FAO](#), [IFAD](#), [GLTN](#), [Oxfam](#), [DWHH](#), and [Trócaire](#). These platforms are themselves change-makers. As they grow and become stronger and more inclusive, they become more effective in pushing for a long-term transformation of land governance.

MOBILISE: ILC MOBILISES MEMBERS WITH THE CAPACITIES FOR INFORMED AND EFFECTIVE ACTION

ILC has made a big leap in **member-to-member learning**, including South–South cooperation. Member-led platforms have benefited from capacity-building opportunities and tools such as the [Learning Hub](#) on the [ILC website](#). The Hub features over 100 success stories from our membership in working towards achieving ILC's [10 commitments](#), showcasing their competencies, and it now forms the backbone of learning opportunities for the Coalition.

One example among many is the [Community Land Protection Learning Initiative](#), led by [Namati](#) and [IIED](#). It brings together members from five NES countries in a year-long learning experience on securing community land rights. CBIs are also gaining recognition as innovation hubs and reference points beyond the ILC network, such as the [Rangelands Initiative](#), facilitated by [ILRI](#), on piloting and uptake of participatory rangeland management.

Another example, the Network Builder, launched in 2018, focuses on strengthening the institutional capacities of members, including through a leadership programme run by Procasur in LAC, Maliasili in Africa, and AFA in Asia. Already, 55 existing and potential leaders

from member organisations have benefited.

ILC has also made big strides in unleashing the power of data. The [Dashboard Initiative](#) includes a monitoring framework of 30 indicators to measure people-centred land governance, and to monitor progress towards the SDGs. Pilots in Colombia, Nepal, and Senegal include members filling data gaps with citizen-generated data, which has opened up dialogue and collaboration with national statistics offices.

The Dashboard complements other data initiatives established by ILC and partners, including the [Land Matrix](#) and [LandMark](#). The Land Matrix, still the primary global reference for data on land deals, now includes five National Land Observatories. Since its launch in 2016, LandMark, in partnership with more than 70 organisations, has mapped 12.4% of the world's land, out of an estimated 50% or more held by Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

INFLUENCE: INFLUENCING KEY DECISION-MAKERS TO ENGAGE WITH CIVIL SOCIETY AS LEGITIMATE AND NECESSARY INTERLOCUTORS AND PARTNERS TO ACHIEVE PEOPLE-CENTRED LAND GOVERNANCE

In this triennium, we have celebrated the fifth anniversary of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land (the VGGTs). Their application at national level with the contribution of ILC members demonstrates their continued importance as an instrument to guide land tenure reform. Over the past three years, the platforms through which members connect and take joint action have had a powerful influence on land governance in many countries:

- 103 different change processes in 33 countries have involved member-led platforms as partners, recognised by governments, municipalities, or private sector actors;
- 16 policies and laws in 11 countries have been changed for the better;
- 44 practices in 22 countries in how policies or laws are implemented by government agencies and private companies have been improved.

Ultimately, members seek to bring about change at national and local levels – where it counts. An important pathway to this is advocacy aimed at regional and global frameworks that members can use to exert pressure on their governments. The [Land Rights Now](#) campaign has brought together more than 800 organisations from over 100 countries behind the target of doubling the amount of land recognised as owned and controlled by Indigenous Peoples and local communities. In turn, the campaign has directly supported the efforts of over 100 organisations, the most recent victory being Liberia's Land Rights Law, passed by the Senate in September 2018.

There are many other examples in this report. The adoption of the [UN Decade of Family Farming](#) (2019–2028) by the UN General Assembly in December 2017 resulted from a campaign led by ILC member [World Rural Forum](#), with IFAD and FAO, to which members of

our network contributed, from national to global level. The [Kilimanjaro Initiative's](#) Charter of Demands on women's land rights in Africa was endorsed by the African Union. Member-led platforms built partnerships to protect Land and Environment Defenders with regional human rights bodies, including the [Inter-American Commission on Human Rights](#), the [African Commission on Human and People's Rights](#), and the [Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights](#) (OHCHR) in Asia. Overall, members have a high level of confidence in ILC's transformative capacity. In the independent 2018 membership performance survey, ILC scored higher than average for confidence by members in its capacity to achieve its goal, against the benchmark of six prominent global action networks.

HOW DOES ILC NEED TO ADAPT? FIVE CHANGES INTO 2019–2021

ILC has moved away from a short-term, project-based approach to supporting the transformative capacity of members working together. Regional platforms (with the exception of the newest) have agreed on strategies to guide and prioritise their work, and all 63 member-led CBI and NES platforms are built on a joint strategy with a medium- to long-term vision. This approach gives ILC the agility to be relevant to the context in which we work and our members' needs.

Nevertheless, over the past three years we have faced five particular challenges that we have to adapt to in 2019–2021 in order to become more effective.

- 1. Working in adverse political contexts:** Member platforms aim at establishing channels for dialogue and influence with governments for people-centred land governance – which can make them vulnerable to political processes. The political crisis in Peru and Honduras and the violence and impunity in Nicaragua and Guatemala are examples of closing civic space, which undermine what NES platforms have achieved. Change is not linear and ILC will focus on providing flexible core funding for member-led platforms to help them build resilient national coalitions with a diversity of actors. Increasingly, NES processes are also pushing for change at sub-national government levels, where opportunities for change in difficult national environments may be greater.
- 2. Overcoming the fragility of some member organisations:** The positive trend of members playing a greater role in leading the work of ILC also introduces a risk. ILC's reputation is shared with the member-led platforms that it supports. Many ILC members are small, highly dependent on a single leader, and do not have robust financial or governance systems. The challenge is to protect the integrity of the Coalition, while giving full opportunity to all members to participate. In response, ILC has started a leadership programme and is providing capacity building on governance and financial administration. For members receiving larger grants, the Secretariat also supports members to undertake an audit of financial management procedures, and to implement the recommendations.
- 3. Giving a stronger voice to constituency-based organisations:** Membership intakes have increased the proportion of members directly representing land users: smallholder farmers, Indigenous Peoples, and women. However, despite being at the

core of ILC's mission, these organisations are not yet at the centre of the Coalition's decision-making. ILC is facing this challenge by supporting regional and global CBIs led by constituency-based organisations, and by increasing their visibility and voice in the network. Opportunities for organisational strengthening, such as the Network Builder, also have a focus on constituency-based members, but we have to increase our efforts in 2019–2021.

- 4. Full participation of multilateral members in the work of ILC:** We have made much progress in identifying and facilitating the participation of multilateral organisations in NES, most notably FAO, IFAD, and GLTN, as well as CGIAR centres in CBIs. In these cases, the value of partnerships is clear to civil society and multilateral members. However, as noted by the Mid-Term Review, “the diversity of collaborating actors with ILC have much more to contribute than is currently the case” – a gap at odds with the very rationale for ILC's unique membership. Facilitation is key to successful partnerships and we will emphasise this in the next triennium, including working to build a similar portfolio of country-level collaborations with other IGOs.
- 5. Making gender justice real in the work of ILC:** Despite gender justice being a longstanding core value, ILC has not made good progress in supporting its achievement across the network. For example, ILC Africa's Gender Justice Charter, adopted in 2014, has not translated into any action. The Gender Audit and the consequent action plan are first steps towards overcoming inertia and ensuring attention to gender justice in all areas of ILC's work.

We thank all ILC members for their outstanding achievements in 2016–2018, encourage all to learn lessons from our shared experiences, and look forward to fully developing our unique strengths as a network in the next triennium.



NATIONAL ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES

NATIONAL ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES

PROMOTING PEOPLE-CENTRED LAND GOVERNANCE THROUGH MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PLATFORMS: NATIONAL ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES

ILC's National Engagement Strategies (NES) are implemented through multi-stakeholder platforms to promote people-centred land governance at national levels. In countries where NES have been formulated, they are creating opportunities for ILC members to better engage with governments and other stakeholders on important land issues.

Across four regions, NES are making use of the specific added value of a global network: space, connections, ideas, and linkages between national and global levels, while being structured so as to allow stakeholders to choose the priorities on which to focus at any given time. In each region, NES are becoming key mechanisms for achieving the ILC Mission and Vision.

NES have changed the way that ILC works with and supports members within a country. They empower ILC members to come together to work in national coalitions. Though each NES differs in its specific goals, the size of its membership, and the scope of its engagement, each one plays an important role in furthering the ILC network's goal of people-centred land governance.

NES processes and their platforms are led by national organisations, which include both ILC members and non-members. Through these platforms, land actors such as grassroots groups, civil society organisations (CSOs), intergovernmental organisations (IGOs), research centres, and the government come together to formulate country strategies and multi-year action plans to address that country's land-related priorities. NES provide a space for governments to approach, listen to, and interact with civil society, to complement expertise, and to share knowledge to improve the state of land governance in their country.

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At both the national and international levels, NES have brought increased visibility and credibility to land actors, regardless of the size of their organisation. Through the NES platform, even the smallest farmers' organisation can now collaborate directly with fellow land actors, with government representatives, and with international organisations, and can be seen to have the strength of ILC's global network behind it. NES also give governments a place to consult and hear from a diverse range of voices and to increase their knowledge of the land issues that exist within their country. Such spaces cultivate the participation of citizens in land governance, helping to overcome national and local land governance bottlenecks and jointly identifying solutions.

ILC's Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the 2016–2018 period concluded that, over these three years, multi-stakeholder platforms have created multiple avenues for progress towards people-centred land governance.

“The NES approach is well-advanced, working well, relevant, and effective.”

ILC MID-TERM REVIEW



NES platforms are currently supported in 29 countries, up from 19 at the beginning of the three-year period. These are in Africa (Malawi, Tanzania, Kenya, Madagascar, DRC, Togo, Cameroon, South Africa, Uganda, Senegal); Asia (Bangladesh, Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, India, Indonesia, Nepal, the Philippines, Mongolia); Europe Middle East and North Africa (Albania, Moldova, Jordan, Kosovo); and Latin America and the Caribbean (Argentina, Bolivia,

Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Peru).

Supporting multi-stakeholder platforms on land governance and land institutions is at the core of how ILC works as a network of members. Other institutions are promoting similar approaches in the application of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (the VGGTs).

NES have been a means of building the engagement of ILC members working globally, such as Transparency International, the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), Deutsche Welthungerhilfe (DWHH), and CARE. These add to the more established partnerships of national members with [Oxfam](#), [Trócaire](#), [AGTER](#), the [International Fund for Agricultural Development](#) (IFAD), and the [UN Food and Agriculture Organization](#) (FAO).

NES platforms in South Africa and Senegal are fully integrated into the VGGT programmes that FAO supports with those countries' governments. They are complementary in Peru, the Philippines, and Guatemala, while ways of working more closely together are being developed in Nepal, Niger, and Mongolia.

In Tanzania, IFAD is financially supporting the NES platform to design and pilot with the government more people-centred approaches to securing community land rights and to feed into policy dialogue. With the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), ILC now offers NES platforms additional tools in the shape of the well-established Gender Evaluation Criteria (GEC), the Social Tenure Domain Model (SDTM), and the Youth and Land Responsiveness Criteria. DWHH and ILC are exchanging methodology and systems to monitor results and to build new competencies through university curricula based on their common experiences in Africa and LAC; the World Bank is interacting through its operations with NES in Albania and Moldova; and finally Oxfam and Trócaire are active partners in countries such as Nicaragua, Ecuador, Cambodia, Uganda, and Tanzania.

Most NES are consolidating their composition beyond ILC membership to become permanent spaces for participation and consultation in land governance. Reciprocal trust has been built in many countries, linkages between national and local land platforms have been created, financial sustainability measures have been taken, and actors are now ready to embark on a new phase of ambitious initiatives. This is why ILC is now investing in making such multi-stakeholder platforms stronger by providing them with advanced training modules on good governance, sustainable financial systems, and planning and M&E.

NATIONAL ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES IN FOCUS

NES ALBANIA

The NES in Albania was formulated in 2013 in response to a number of critical and urgent challenges in land governance, caused chiefly by difficulties in the transition from communism. These were: i) achieving legal improvements in the ownership of agricultural, forest, and pasture land; ii) making progress with the forest and pasture land transfer process; and iii) strengthening the role and capacities of forest and pasture users' associations, as well as women's involvement in decision-making processes.



In 2016, a new government policy transferred the management of forests and pastures to local municipalities for the first time. The move took local government officials by surprise and put them in control of important natural resources which they had neither the capacity nor knowledge to deal with. The needs of both the municipalities and the users of the land they now managed became important considerations for NES stakeholders.

"For us, it was important to highlight the difficulties that municipalities now face in managing forest lands, due to the territorial reform," explained Albora Kacani of the National Federation of Communal Forests and Pastures of Albania (NFCFPA). "In these municipalities there were also forest users who we wanted to help develop agreements with the municipalities for use of the forests." Usership and ownership rights are extremely important for local communities as the forest and its products are the basis for their livelihoods, and so the NES has been particularly engaged in this process, providing technical advice to municipalities newly charged with the management of forest land but without the necessary resources and know-how to take on this new role.

The platform is currently being guided by a Coordination and Consultative Committee (CCC), which brings together all NES stakeholders (parliamentarians, the Ministry of Environment, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the World Bank, municipalities, NFCFPA, etc.) in regular formal and informal meetings, field

visits, and consultations. The legitimacy of the CCC is demonstrated by the fact that at present it includes MPs who are part of a working group currently drafting a new forestry law in parliament. According to Kacani: "The NES has really given us more credibility and recognition with other stakeholders. Recently an MP who is also on the committee asked us directly to comment on an initial evaluation of the new forestry law. That was a very important development for us. It shows that the government is taking us seriously and values our input."

Albania's NES membership includes international stakeholders as well as national actors. Drita Dade represents the World Bank on the CCC: "The committee is an important venue for meeting and discussing issues with the other stakeholders. The fact that we have so many different types of stakeholder greatly increases the strength and credibility of the body."

The NES has also been focused on raising awareness on women's land rights participation in forest users' associations, as Kacani explained: "With the 'I decide as well' campaign, we have been showing women how they can become part of the decision-making structures that impact directly on their livelihoods. We have now seen 120 out of 240 forest users' associations appoint women to their boards. This has been one of the criteria for eligibility for funding from major donors such as Sida and the World Bank. This year, the NES will enable monitoring of this progress to ensure that this participation is actually being implemented in an inclusive way, and not merely to achieve funding eligibility."

NES Albania is linked to ILC Commitment 4, 6 and 7.

NES ALBANIA ACHIEVEMENTS

AGENDAS

- The NES has drawn the government's attention to forest-related emergency issues.

PRACTICES

The NES has built the awareness of women and women's producer groups on land and forest rights and has encouraged their participation in decision-making processes in forest users' associations.

- The NES has promoted good practices of traditional use and protection of forests by local communities at local, national, and regional (Balkan) levels.
- Through NES activities, forest and pasture users' associations and municipality staff have gained capacity to carry out participatory mapping and planning through the use of GPS and geographic information systems (GIS), strengthening their ability to manage natural resources more strategically.

POLICIES

- The NES has contributed to collecting inputs on policy at the local level in order to bring these to national-level discussions.
- Relations between stakeholders have been significantly improved through engagement in the NES.
- The NES has resulted in an annual plan for forests and natural resources, which has been approved by the municipality council in a pilot site.
- The NES has influenced the implementation of territorial and administrative reforms related to forest and natural resources to ensure that people are put at their centre.

NES NEPAL

According to Jagat Basnet of the Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC) Nepal, the NES has for the first time brought together the six ILC members in the country to work together to engage with the government, and has also contributed to significant change in the political and legal situation concerning land rights. In fact, engagement with the Nepalese government has been so successful that it has resulted in the formation of a formal multi-stakeholder platform chaired by government representatives.



Land is the primary source of livelihood for many of Nepal's rural households, with 66% of the population reporting in 2011 that agriculture was their main occupation. Inequity in land distribution has been created by a system of land tenure where the actual tillers of the land (tenants) do not have land certificates. They use the land without security of tenure and are at the mercy of landlords, many of whom are absentee owners with other means of income and have no interest in investing in land improvement projects. Those who have no secured (formal) tenancy or land certificates are denied access to state services, credit, and even citizenship documents.

In recent years Nepal has struggled with a lack of political stability and frequent changes in government, with the average government term lasting no more than a few months. This has made progress on important land rights issues extremely difficult to achieve.

The focus so far for Nepal's NES has been on supporting changes to the 1964 Land

Reform Act that would allow tenants working agricultural land to claim land certificates from landlords. Thanks to advocacy efforts undertaken through the NES to endorse the guidelines and regulations for the Sixth Amendment of the Act, 961 families to date have received land ownership certificates and 331 families have avoided displacement from their homes.

While the new law applies only to an estimated 120,000 people already certified as tillers of the land, it is seen by ILC members in Nepal as a political victory and a sign of the NES platform's potential to build and maintain political priority for land rights issues.

Securing land rights for women has also been a major focus of the NES, which has supported a movement to distribute [joint land certificates](#) to ensure shared ownership of land between men and women. Land ownership means that women who have obtained a joint certificate are now eligible to apply for loans and access other economic benefits otherwise denied to non-landowners.

NES Nepal is linked to the following ILC Commitments: 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10.

NES NEPAL ACHIEVEMENTS

NES Nepal has brought together stakeholders to influence:

AGENDAS

- Thanks to the advocacy efforts of NES Nepal, the government has decided to adopt a multi-stakeholder approach to land which will advance dialogue with CSOs and land actors through the formal establishment of a multi-stakeholder platform.
- In addition, NES Nepal has been invited by the government to provide inputs to seven draft policies relating to land, helping authorities to include provisions for people-centred land governance in these new pieces of legislation.

POLICIES

- In response to NES advocacy, the Council of Ministers endorsed guidelines and regulations for the Sixth Amendment of the 1964 Land Reform Act (August 2016); these state that “registered tenants can now claim half of the land that they till as their own; whereas the landowners will retain the other half”.
- NES advocacy has also helped influence policy to secure land rights for victims of the April 2015 earthquake. Since the land reform guidelines were approved in 2016, the NES has mobilised landless farmers, sharecroppers, tenants, and smallholders affected by the earthquake but denied government grants as they lacked land certificates. CSRC and another ILC member, the National Land Rights Forum (NLRF), worked with victims and with political authorities, and eventually the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) passed new Land Registration Guidelines that covered all those affected by the earthquake, regardless of their titling status. As reported by NES Nepal in January 2017, a total of 12,955 earthquake victims filed applications at land registration offices.

NES PERÚ

NES Peru has contributed to a greater understanding of the land issues facing Indigenous Peoples and has improved the reporting and monitoring of public institutions. In addition, through strong, coordinated advocacy work, it has curbed legislation that would have violated the rights of Indigenous Peoples, peasant and native communities, rural women, and small farmers. This has important implications for the 6,299 campesino communities and 1,388 native communities in Peru, which in total represent 1,137,582 families.



This progress has been made possible by joint efforts by local ILC members and other partners to regularly update information collected from communities for the Campesino Communities Information System (Sistema de Información sobre Comunidades Campesinas del Perú, or SICCAM), which is managed by ILC member Instituto del Bien Común (IBC), in combination with the advocacy efforts of NES members and other organisations dedicated to defending rural communities and the land rights and territories of Indigenous Peoples.

Laureano del Castillo, Executive Director of CEPES, also an ILC member, hailed the achievements of the NES: “The support of NES Peru has been crucial to achieving the results expected by CEPES. We live in a country with complicated political and social contexts, and this joint action has allowed for better defence of the rights of peasant men and women and their organisations. This could not have been achieved in isolation.”

The NES is contributing to the participation of women in community management and decision making by facilitating engagement with communities to change statutes that exclude women from community land rights, and by proposing changes to the national normative framework to promote more inclusive community laws. This has led recently to the formulation of Draft Bill N° 2148/2017-CR, which will give women the same community land rights as men.

Two more members of ILC, Asociación Servicios Educativos Rurales (SER) and Organización Nacional de Mujeres Andinas y Amazónicas del Perú (ONAMIAP), were instrumental in drafting and promoting this bill, which was presented to Congress by Congresswoman Tania Pariona. She spoke of the value of the NES in this process: “It has been essential for us to promote joint actions with different stakeholders, with the aim of defending and

promoting Indigenous Peoples' rights, particularly women's rights. Acting collectively has allowed us to have an impact on government and laws, visibility, debate, and proposed solutions to a latent problem which requires attention."

Thanks to work done with communities, to date 30 community statutes have been amended to recognise 632 Quechua peasant women from Ayacucho as qualified comuneras in their communities and a total of 303 Aymara peasant women in Puno, of whom 20 hold positions on their respective management boards.

Francisca Sicha Navalte, from the Yanayacu community, explained the importance of recognising women as comuneras: "[Our spouses] continue with their work outside the community and it is us, women, who take on their community roles. In this way, we know that if the spouse is gone we will represent ourselves and we will not have to wait for him to talk for us after his return."

NES Peru is linked to ILC Commitments: 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10.

NES PERÚ ACHIEVEMENTS

NES Perú has brought together stakeholders to influence:

AGENDAS

- In the run-up to the 2016 Congressional election, the NES conducted advocacy on issues relating to collective land rights, the concentration of land ownership, and food security, aimed at the main political parties. In response, the eventual winner, Peruanos Por el Kambio (Peruvians for Change), made a public commitment to collective land rights for indigenous communities.
- The NES has also put the participation of women in communal directives onto the Congressional agenda for amendment of the Law on Campesino Communities. The issue has been discussed by the Committee on Agriculture, and a working group has been set up in which indigenous organisations will participate.

PRACTICES

- The NES has helped achieve the creation of the General Directorate of Sanitation of Agricultural Property and Rural Cadastre (DIGESPACR) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MINAGRI), thereby strengthening the role of public administration in land registration, which previously had been completely marginalised within the ministry.

POLICIES

- Thanks to the NES, Executive Decree DL. 13333, which undermined the land rights of Indigenous Peoples in favour of large private investors, was repealed by Congress.

NES TOGO

In Togo, the creation of the NES served to dramatically change the land rights landscape from one in which land rights were almost entirely unrecognised and there was little engagement with government ministries.

Frédéric Komla Djinadja, executive director of ILC member Auto Promotion Rurale pour un Développement Humain Durable (ADHD) and the NES facilitator, explained

how the strategy for Togo came about: “Togo’s NES was created when the government acknowledged the need to implement a Land Code, whose aim was to help solve the daily challenges faced by the Togolese people. Issues included the double sale of land, acquisition of administrative reserves, double registration of properties, and the sell-off of rural land, among other things. This coincided with the call for proposals launched by ILC. In 2012 ADHD was the only ILC member in the country, and it seized the opportunity provided by the Coalition to introduce a concept note on the implementation of an NES.”

As has been seen in other countries where an NES has been adopted, the existence of the platform has served to greatly improve the working relationship between government and civil society. As Djinadja explained: “Before the NES was implemented, there was no such thing as a multi-stakeholder platform in Togo. The platforms that did exist were either theme-based or local. With the NES, we were able to gather together different actors working in the field of land rights. For the first time, CSOs are sharing and working towards a common cause – people-centred land governance – with several government ministries. These multi-stakeholder meetings have strengthened mutual trust between different actors, with civil society benefiting most from this situation. The government’s trust in civil society is reflected in the support granted by several technical services to the NES platform as key resource persons.”

Rose Adjati of the Ministry of Urban Planning (Ministère de l’Urbanisme), one of the government ministries involved in the NES, explained the importance of the improved relationship between the government and civil society: “With the commitment from all stakeholders which the NES has enabled, we can make sure that we not only have a very well written Land Code [which was voted into law by the Togolese parliament on 5 June 2018] but one which is also implemented correctly.”

According to Kossigan Tobi of the Ministry of Agriculture, government engagement with



the NES has enabled the resolution of a number of complicated issues: “Thanks to the NES, we have been able to lobby our Council of Ministers to adopt the Land Code. The NES has permitted us to have a win-win partnership between government and civil society. It has enabled us to understand the concerns of civil society and to carry these back to the government. One result was that, thanks to the observations of civil society, we have been able to include gender issues in the Land Code. The contribution of civil society has been major in terms of land rights for youth and vulnerable people.”

Togo's NES platform now includes seven government ministries. Thanks to their joint activities, 2,175 women have gained access to land and more than 20 ministerial gender focal points have been trained on the use of gender-sensitive tools.

NES Togo is linked to ILC Commitment 4.

NES TOGO ACHIEVEMENTS

NES Togo has brought together stakeholders to influence:

PRACTICES

- Thanks to the NES, traditional and community leaders are more sensitive to women's access to and ownership of land. As a result, 185 women's associations in the central part of the country have been granted authorisation to use 300 hectares of land for women's economic empowerment.

POLICIES

- The NES contributed to the finalisation of the new Land Code, ensuring that it is people-centred. The platform presented the 10 ILC commitments to the drafting committee within the Ministry of Agriculture, and also commented on the draft bill.
- In addition, the NES platform encouraged the government to organise a national land forum, which proposed recommendations for the draft Land Code. Some of its recommendations were taken into consideration and are reflected in the document adopted by parliament.

PEOPLE-CENTRED LAND GOVERNANCE IN TOGO'S LAND CODE

The NES process in Togo was successful in influencing a number of articles in the country's new Land Code to reflect the principles of people-centred land governance.

Commitment 3: Diverse Tenure Systems

Articles 628–640 of the Land Code recognise customary tenure of land. They stipulate that, on the basis of a request made by a citizen, and provided there is no objection from other owners, customary land can be registered in a Special Register. The Registration Certificate grants its owner the same rights as those of a land title owner in the event of eviction or a

claim for compensation.

Commitment 4: Equal land rights for women

Article 628 specifies that customary land rights can be recognised provided that equal access between women and men is respected. Article 577 gives women equal access to natural resources and in particular to agricultural land. Such emphasis is worth noting in a country with strong patriarchal traditions.

Commitment 9: Effective action against land grabbing

Article 649 frames how decisions should be made concerning large-scale acquisitions of rural and customary land. For areas of 10–20 hectares, authorisation is granted at local level by the mayor, from 20 to 100 hectares by the National Land Agency, from 100 to 500 hectares by the Ministry of Lands, and above 500 hectares by the Council of Ministers.

Articles 333–337 and 359–389 protect citizens against forced evictions by the State. No eviction can take place without prior consultation and consent by land owners, who are entitled to receive fair compensation, including for land under customary tenure. In the event that the compensation is contested by beneficiaries, only courts can decide on the amounts to be paid and can order evictions to go ahead.

COMMITMENT BASED INITIATIVES



COMMITMENT BASED INITIATIVES

PROMOTING PEOPLE-CENTRED LAND GOVERNANCE THROUGH GLOBAL AND REGIONAL PLATFORMS: COMMITMENT-BASED INITIATIVES

ILC's National Engagement Strategies (NES) are implemented through multi-stakeholder platforms to promote people-centred land governance at national levels. In countries where NES have been formulated, they are creating opportunities for ILC members to better engage with governments and other stakeholders on important land issues.

Across four regions, NES are making use of the specific added value of a global network: space, connections, ideas, and linkages between national and global levels, while being structured so as to allow stakeholders to choose the priorities on which to focus at any given time. In each region, NES are becoming key mechanisms for achieving the ILC Mission and Vision.

NES have changed the way that ILC works with and supports members within a country. They empower ILC members to come together to work in national coalitions. Though each NES differs in its specific goals, the size of its membership, and the scope of its engagement, each one plays an important role in furthering the ILC network's goal of people-centred land governance.

NES processes and their platforms are led by national organisations, which include both ILC members and non-members. Through these platforms, land actors such as grassroots groups, civil society organisations (CSOs), intergovernmental organisations (IGOs), research centres, and the government come together to formulate country strategies and multi-year action plans to address that country's land-related priorities. NES provide a space for governments to approach, listen to, and interact with civil society, to complement expertise, and to share knowledge to improve the state of land governance in their country.

"ILC provides the opportunities and instruments for grassroots organisations of peasants, women, youth, and indigenous communities to defend rights to land and promote the responsible and sustainable management of natural resources."

ILC MEMBER, KEYSTONE SURVEY

NOTABLE CBI OUTCOMES

CBI 3: Change in Policy: ILC member [MARAG](#) in India, which has led the Rangelands Initiative in Asia, supported villagers in the Rampara Wildlife Sanctuary to block the creation of an “eco-sensitive zone” from which they would have been excluded.

CBI 4: Connect: The Mujer Rural y Derecho a la Tierra (Rural woman and land rights) initiative in Latin America and the Caribbean, with [CINEP](#) as a focal point, has built a network of 23 women’s movements and launched a regional process informed by evidence from 11 countries.

CBI 4: Change in Agenda: The Kilimanjaro Initiative led by ILC members contributed to the birth of a movement which convinced the African Union to endorse the Pan African Women’s Charter on Land Rights.

CBI 5: Peer-to-Peer Learning: [CADPI](#) and [FIMI](#) have helped to make women more visible in indigenous communities in Nicaragua and Mexico, including by producing a gender-sensitive map of the Zapotalito territory in Oaxaca, Mexico.

CBI 6: Water Access: [FUNDAPAZ](#) is leading the LAC [Semiáridos Platform](#), and ILC members have agreed a partnership with the governments of Argentina and Bolivia to build new water cisterns to replace neglected infrastructure. In drylands, securing access to land and water helps reduce migration and mortality.

CBI REPORT | SEE ANNEX 2

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COMMITMENT BASED INITIATIVES IN FOCUS

CBI 4: EQUAL LAND RIGHTS FOR WOMEN

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Organisations from 10 Countries in the LAC Region Join Forces to Promote Women's Land Rights

In Latin America and the Caribbean 58 million women live in rural areas, but they make up fewer than 20% of landowners. Legal frameworks in the region have changed in recent years in order to formally recognise women's rights, but changes in policy have not always

led to changes in practices. In fact, in some countries the challenges for women land and environment defenders have got worse.

The CBI Mujer Rural y Derecho a la Tierra started with four countries and has been successfully scaled up to 10. It brings together 20 organisations to improve rural women's access to land and guarantee their participation in decision-making processes that affect them.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- A solid network of ILC members and allies in South and Central America.
- A national report and plan for each NES platform in the region to influence policy on women's land rights.

AFRICA

African Union Endorses Pan African Women's Charter of Rights

Some 70% of Africa's women live in rural areas, where extreme poverty is the norm and smallholders' access to land is diminishing. Land and water grabbing have led to human rights violations and the forced displacement of millions of people across the continent, with significant impacts on food and nutrition security.

Member states of the African Union have formally adopted continental frameworks safeguarding the land rights of rural women, but this formal recognition has not prevented their dispossession. The Kilimanjaro Initiative, supported by ILC through CBI 4, is a grassroots initiative led by women to hold African leaders accountable for keeping their commitments and protecting women's right to land.

It brings together 17 ILC members from 11 countries, in partnership with organisations beyond ILC's membership. The initiative mobilised 500 rural women from 22 African countries, culminating in October 2016 when 29 representatives climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain. On their descent they handed over a Charter of Demands formulated by rural women to a representative of the AU, which is now the basis for follow-up action by the CBI.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- The CBI united members and allies across the continent to speak with a single voice on women's land rights, including through the launch of a digital advocacy campaign with multimedia materials.
- The Ninth Gender Pre-Summit at the AU Summit held in Addis Abba in January 2017 officially endorsed the Charter of Demands.

ASIA

Members join forces to defend Women's Rights to Land in Asia

Despite their traditional role as farmers and animal breeders, women in Asia often lack resources and opportunities such as secure land tenure and access to agricultural support services. The situation of indigenous women is even worse, due to land grabbing and socio-economic marginalisation. Policies have been changing in response to pressures from local land reform movements and international organisations but practices have not changed, and conservative social norms often determine access to land in favour of men.

The CBI includes 14 ILC members in five countries. It focuses on knowledge exchange, capacity building, and awareness raising, reaching over 500 rural and indigenous women, grassroots activists, and farmers in the region.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Documentation and systematisation of knowledge on women's land rights and its wider availability through a repository for knowledge and information, the "[She Land](#)" web portal.

GLOBAL ACHIEVEMENTS UNDER CBI 4

- Joint advocacy to build broad support for the retention of SDG indicator 5.a.2 on women's equal rights to land ownership.
- Draft UN declaration on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas focuses strongly on women's land rights, due to the participation of ILC members in negotiations on the text.
- Members in Africa, Asia, and Latin America better are connected and are jointly collecting data and building capacities on women's land rights.
- Enhanced attention to women's land rights in 10 NES processes, including through alternative reports.
- Joint advocacy, for instance on International Day of Rural Women and to draw attention to the gender dimensions of securing the commons.



CBI 5: SECURE TERRITORIAL RIGHTS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

ASIA

Advancing Indigenous Peoples' Land Rights Recognition Through Evidenced-Based Advocacy

In Asia, some 250 million Indigenous People (IPs) are custodians of customary, participatory land use and tenure systems. As well as being a UN-recognised human right, customary use of these lands has enormous potential for mitigating and adapting to climate change. In many countries, these lands are under threat from private interests ranging from resource extraction to large-scale land acquisitions, while the traditional tenure systems that would protect them are ignored by governments. The collective and sustained struggles of IPs throughout Asia have led to the passing of laws that nominally protect their rights to their land and resources, but enforcement is rare and dispossessions have not ceased. Indigenous women are disproportionately affected by land rights violations,

losing their traditional role in natural resource management and becoming increasingly vulnerable to exploitation and abuse.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Stronger capacity of five members of the initiative on participatory mapping.
- Two communities trained on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software (in Kankana-Ey, Northern Philippines and Subanen, Southern Philippines), generating community data for advocacy and engagement with local and national government agencies, including the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples.
- Contributed to the work of the Indigenous Peoples Major Group for the SDGs, through advocacy events held at the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD), and the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development.
- National campaigns in Malaysia, Cambodia, and Nepal as part of the Land Rights Now global mobilisation, together with indigenous local partners and other land rights champions.

AFRICA

Pursuing Community Resource Rights in Africa

The indigenous population of Africa is estimated at around 50 million people, including hunter-gatherers, pastoralists, and some small farmers. Indigeneity in Africa is not defined by aboriginality or “who came first”, but by self-identification, with a defining characteristic for most peoples being the importance of accessing traditional lands in order to maintain a particular way of life. Most African countries do not have laws or policies regulating the relationship between IPs, governments, and investors, which has led to numerous violations of IPs’ internationally recognised rights.

All too often, land rights defenders have been persecuted by the very governments that are meant to defend them. Foreign direct investment (FDI), mega-projects, and so-called nature reserves have excluded IPs from many of their traditional lands, compromising their way of life and their cultural survival. IPs in Africa are currently working to strengthen joint platforms that will give them tools to defend their right to free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC), as well as to access and benefit sharing. A joint action plan developed by IPs’ representatives from 11 countries for engaging with key decision makers, frameworks, and mechanisms led to the CBI “Pursuing Community Resource Rights in Africa”.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Fifty indigenous leaders from 15 countries trained on access and benefit sharing and FPIC.
- A continent-wide solidarity movement of Indigenous Peoples on land and territorial rights, with the CBI working group involving a network of 25 organisations reaching 12 countries.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Plan to Promote Land Rights for Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Descendants Focuses on Self-Government, Secure Tenure and Access to Collective Lands

IPs' land rights are formally recognised in most of Latin America, where 12 countries have recently reformed their constitutions, 14 countries have signed Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, also known as ILO-convention 169 (a forerunner of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples), and millions of hectares of land are titled as collective property of IPs. However, governments have often been unable, or unwilling, to enforce their own laws in defence of IPs and Afro-descendants facing threats to their land from corporations. For the 45 million IPs living in the region, economic marginalisation, human rights abuses, and the threat of dispossession have created a rift between progressive legal frameworks and the reality on the ground.

For this reason, the ILC working group on IPs in Latin America has identified government agencies as the primary target of advocacy, where catalytic interventions benefiting indigenous organisations can produce the greatest impact. ILC's plan to promote their land rights focuses on self-government, secure tenure, and access to collective lands.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- More than 500 leaders and representatives have been trained on 3D participatory mapping in Nicaragua ([CADPI](#)) and gender-sensitive mapping of the Zapotalito territory in Oaxaca, Mexico ([FIMI](#))

GLOBAL ACHIEVEMENTS UNDER CBI 5

- ILC has been recognised, through its role in the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues (IASG), as a relevant partner working with UN agencies to advance implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) via partnerships with the ILC network. This includes partnerships on national policy dialogues, led by IFAD, on land indicators, led by FAO, and on indigenous youth.

10 COMMITMENTS



10 COMMITMENTS

ILC'S MEMBERSHIP HAS DEFINED 10 COMMITMENTS TO JOINTLY REALISE OUR GOAL OF PEOPLE CENTRED LAND GOVERNANCE.



COMMITMENT 1: SECURE TENURE RIGHTS

Respect, protect and strengthen the land rights of women and men living in poverty, ensuring that no one is deprived of the use and control of the land on which their well-being and human dignity depend, including through eviction, expulsion or exclusion, and with compulsory changes to tenure undertaken only in line with international law and standards on human rights.

WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

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COMMITMENT 2: STRONG SMALL-SCALE FARMING

Ensure equitable land distribution and public investment that supports small-scale farming systems, including through redistributive agrarian reforms that counter excessive land concentration, provide for secure and equitable use and control of land, and allocate appropriate land to landless rural producers and urban residents, whilst supporting smallholders as investors and producers, such as through cooperative and partnership business models.

WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

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COMMITMENT 3: DIVERSE TENURE SYSTEMS

Recognise and protect the diverse tenure and production systems upon which people's livelihoods depend, including the communal and customary tenure systems of smallholders, indigenous peoples, pastoralists, fisher folks, and holders of overlapping, shifting and periodic rights to land and other natural resources, even when these are not recognised by law, and whilst also acknowledging that the well-being of resource-users may be affected by changes beyond the boundaries of the land to which they have tenure rights.

WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

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COMMITMENT 4: EQUAL LAND RIGHTS FOR WOMEN

Ensure gender justice in relation to land, taking all necessary measures to pursue both de jure and de facto equality, enhancing the ability of women to defend their land rights and take equal part in decision-making, and ensuring that control over land and the benefits that are derived thereof are equal between women and men, including the right to inherit and bequeath tenure rights.

WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

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COMMITMENT 5: SECURE TERRITORIAL RIGHTS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Respect and protect the inherent land and territorial rights of indigenous peoples, as set out in ILO Convention 169 and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including by recognising that respect for indigenous knowledge and cultures contributes to sustainable and equitable development and proper management of the environment”.

WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

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COMMITMENT 6: LOCALLY-MANAGED ECOSYSTEMS

Enable the role of local land users in territorial and ecosystem management, recognising that sustainable development and the stewardship of ecosystems are best achieved through participatory decision-making and management at the territorial-level, empowering local land users and their communities with the authority, means and incentives to carry out this responsibility.

WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

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COMMITMENT 7: INCLUSIVE DECISION-MAKING

Ensure that processes of decision-making over land are inclusive, so that policies, laws, procedures and decisions concerning land adequately reflect the rights, needs and aspirations of individuals and communities who will be affected by them. This requires the empowerment of those who otherwise would face limitations in representing their interests, particularly through support to land users’ and other civil society organisations that are best able to inform, mobilise and legitimately represent

marginalised land users, and their participation in multi-stakeholder platforms for policy dialogue.

WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

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COMMITMENT 8: TRANSPARENT AND ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION

Respect, protect and strengthen the land rights of women and men living in poverty, ensuring that no one is deprived of the use and control of the land on which their well-being and human dignity depend, including through eviction, expulsion or exclusion, and with compulsory changes to tenure undertaken only in line with international law and standards on human rights.

WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

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COMMITMENT 9: EFFECTIVE ACTIONS AGAINST LAND GRABBING

Prevent and remedy land grabbing, respecting traditional land use rights and local livelihoods, and ensuring that all large-scale initiatives that involve the use of land, water and other natural resources comply with human rights and environmental obligations and are based on: the free, prior and informed consent of existing land users; a thorough assessment of economic, social, cultural and environmental impacts with respect to both women and men; democratic planning and independent oversight; and transparent contracts that respect labour rights, comply with social and fiscal obligations and are specific and binding on the sharing of responsibilities and benefits.

WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

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COMMITMENT 10: PROTECTED LAND RIGHTS DEFENDERS

Respect and protect the civil and political rights of human rights defenders working on land issues, combat the stigmatisation and criminalisation of peaceful protest and land rights activism, and end impunity for human rights violations, including harassment, threats, violence and political imprisonment.

WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

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COMMITMENT 1

SECURE TENURE RIGHTS

Respect, protect, and strengthen the land rights of women and men living in poverty, ensuring that no one is deprived of the use and control of the land on which their well-being and human dignity depend, including through eviction, expulsion, or exclusion, and with compulsory changes to tenure undertaken only in line with international law and standards on human rights.

Commitment 1 is overarching and cross-cutting in nature; all ILC activities and actions contribute to secure tenure rights for people who live on and from the land. The 10 commitments are an expression of our common vision, and guide ILC's work at all levels under our [Strategy for 2016–2021](#). They provide a benchmark for all members working towards the realisation of the [Voluntary Guidelines for Responsible Governance of Tenure](#) (VGGTs) and other internationally agreed instruments.

With the endorsement of the VGGTs in 2012, which have since become a global reference document, ILC gained a tool for its work on people-centred land governance. ILC has embraced the VGGTs as a benchmark for policy and practice and has worked at all levels to contribute to their implementation. The Coalition co-convened the VGGT+5 Forum with

FAO in May 2017, organising sessions on community-based and indigenous land tenure, effective national multi-stakeholder platforms and monitoring, and contributing to the [outcome document](#).

The VGGTs are now being used to support land governance reforms in a number of countries with [National Engagement Strategies](#) (NES), including Cambodia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, India, the Philippines, Togo, Nepal, Madagascar, Cameroon, and Peru.

NES processes are complemented by [Commitment-Based Initiatives](#) (CBIs) and global advocacy, as well as capacity building on tools and regional or global instruments that cover elements of people-centred land governance. As a global network, ILC has an important role in bringing diverse and often under-represented perspectives from its membership into global level discussions that have an impact on land policy and governance at country level. ILC convenes, consults, and encourages the participation, advocacy, influencing activities, and policy messages of members in global policy spaces to make sure land rights are at the forefront of discussions.

Among ILC's priorities on Commitment 1 is its work on land and the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs), for which 2017 marked a significant milestone. ILC has mobilised members and partners to highlight the importance of land rights for achieving sustainable development. Land was high on the global SDG agenda, including at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, and the three key land indicators (1.4.2, 5.a.1, and 5.a.2) were reclassified to Tier II. This success was the outcome of a strong and collaborative effort by many ILC members and partners, including the [Global Land Tool Network \(GLTN\)/UN-Habitat](#), the [World Bank](#), [FAO](#), the [Global Donor Working Group on Land](#), the [Global Land Indicators Initiative \(GLII\)](#), [Landesa](#), [Oxfam](#), and the [Huairou Commission](#).

At the global level, Coalition members and the ILC Secretariat brought the network's expertise to the World Bank's annual Land and Poverty Conference to broaden the discussion on land and specifically the SDGs, setting up a group of CSOs, the so-called 'momentum group', working together to keep land high on the SDG agenda and to move beyond technical discussions on indicators.



SDG LAND INDICATORS RECLASSIFIED TO TIER II

In its two meetings in 2017, the [Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators](#) (IAEG-SDG) reclassified land rights indicators 1.4.2, 5.a.1 and 5.a.2, moving them from Tier III to Tier II. This reclassification was achieved through a joint effort of international organisations – the “custodian” agencies ([World Bank](#), [UN-Habitat](#), [FAO](#), and [UN Women](#)) – leading the development of methodology for the indicators.

Many ILC members and partners have worked to keep land rights a high priority on the 2030 Agenda and were involved in developing, piloting, and advocating for the three land rights indicators and their reclassification. ILC supported members and partners and facilitated joint work and alignment.

According to Dr. Peter Messerli, co-chair of the group of scientific experts drafting the upcoming UN Global Sustainable Development Report: “The transformative potential of the land-related indicators is that we can talk about land not as a threatening subject – but as having the potential to alleviate poverty and achieve sustainable development.”

“For me, this is about recognition - land is a central aspect of improving overall development goals. It is recognised as part of the whole ecosystem for development,” said Mino Ramaroson, Regional Coordinator for Africa at the Huairou Commission, and ILC Council Co-Chair.

Tier II means that these indicators now have internationally agreed, tested, and ready-to-implement methodologies, and all national statistical offices know how to collect data for them. For indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1, this means gathering data via household surveys and admin data; for indicator 5.a.2, data collection will be in the form of a legal analysis for each country.

As well as being a major victory for the land community, this could be the start of a profound change where land rights are recognised as being at the core of sustainable development.

Tier II

The indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, but data is not regularly produced by countries.

SDG Indicators reclassified to Tier II

1.4.2 Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, with legally recognised documentation and who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and by type of tenure.

5.a.1 (a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and (b) share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure.

5.a.2 Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control.

SOUTH AFRICAN LABOUR TENANTS WIN CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT AGAINST GOVERNMENT

The [Association for Rural Advancement](#) (AFRA) partnered with the [Legal Resources Centre](#) (LRC), a human rights organisation, to launch a class action lawsuit against the Government of South Africa on behalf of a group of farm dwellers known as labour tenants.

Under the 1996 Land Reform (Labour Tenants) Act, labour tenants were granted rights to apply for ownership of the land they occupied. However, the government has failed to implement this law, and 19,000 claims remain pending. AFRA and LRC sought to use international best practices to create a new legal mechanism, through the appointment of a "Special Master" to oversee the implementation of this legal provision by the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform.

Their application was successful and on 8 December 2016 resulted in a ground-breaking judgement, which stated that the government's failure to process the applications was inconsistent with sections of the Constitution, and appointed a Special Master of Labour Tenants.

Following this success, the Department established a dedicated Labour Tenant Project, and a Project Manager was appointed in March 2017. The Department has also established national and district labour tenant forums in the province of KwaZulu Natal, which has the highest number of labour tenants. For the first time, labour tenants in the province have a chance to directly engage in decision-making with regards to their lands.



COMMITMENT 2

STRONG SMALL-SCALE FARMING SYSTEMS

Ensure equitable land distribution and public investment that supports small-scale farming systems, including through redistributive agrarian reforms that counter excessive land concentration, provide for secure and equitable use and control of land, and allocate appropriate land to landless rural producers and urban residents, whilst supporting smallholders as investors and producers, such as through cooperative and partnership business models.

ILC is accountable first and foremost to those who live on and from their land. This means that, while all ILC members are equal, farmers' organisations (alongside those of Indigenous Peoples and women) occupy a particular place in its life and work. A growing proportion of the membership – including in the 2018 intake – directly represents smallholders and family farmers.

According to the Food and Agricultural Organization's (FAO) 2016 [“The State of Food and Agriculture”](#) report, about 750 million extremely poor people worldwide work in agriculture, usually as smallholder family farmers. Family farmers produce more than 80% of the

world's food and control 75% of all agricultural resources.

A significant achievement of the past three years has been the strong engagement and influence of Coalition members representing family farmers. In 2016 the Global Initiative on Family Farming was launched, led by the [World Rural Forum](#) (WRF). It brings together important regional farmers' organisations (both ILC members and non-members) in Africa, Asia, the Pacific, and Latin America. Supported by the global initiative, regional initiatives are also being launched in 2018 by ILC members. The linkages between global and regional will allow members to work together on a common strategy.

Led by [FIAN International](#) and [La Via Campesina](#), ILC is supporting discussions on the draft [Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas](#), established by the UN Human Rights Council. Members have been successful in strengthening the Declaration's focus on women's land rights.

The efforts of the WRF, with the support of a range of ILC members, led to the declaration in December 2017 of the UN Decade of Family Farming 2019–2028. This offers great opportunities for ILC members, including NES platforms and intergovernmental members such as IFAD and FAO. The Decade aims to inspire the international community to generate new political commitment to supporting family farmers.

Auxtin Ortiz of the WRF explained: "This has been the culmination of a nine-year process starting in 2008 with a request to the UN General Assembly to declare an International Year of Family Farming (IYFF). Over three years of campaigning, we gathered support from 360 organisations in 60 countries, several governments, and international organisations such as [FAO](#), [IFAD](#), and [IICA](#). The UNGA agreed in 2011 that the IYFF would take place in 2014."

The process of preparation and the IYFF itself achieved several important milestones, including 16 public policy changes in 13 countries and greater social recognition for family farming. It also influenced the place of family farming in the SDGs, while the international research centres FAO and IICA changed their strategic plans to mainstream family farming.

During the campaign for the Decade, the WRF became an ILC member (Guatemala, 2013). According to Ortiz, ILC's support for the campaign was prompt and enthusiastic. "In 2017 we started the CBI on family farming to increase the activity of family farming organisations in ILC and strengthen their voice across the network. In the first year of the initiative, one of the main objectives was to have the Decade declared by the UNGA. On 20 December 2017, the UNGA officially adopted the Decade of Family Farming."

[The resolution](#) passed with 104 co-sponsors and unanimous approval. It acknowledges family farmers as key leaders in the pursuit of the SDGs, specifically in "ensuring global food security, eradicating poverty, ending hunger, conserving biodiversity, achieving environmental sustainability, and helping to address migration."

Ortiz explained: "The Decade is for all those working and promoting family farming in the world. It is not the property of any group of organisations alone. There are national committees and farmers' organisations on the ground, and they have their agendas and priorities. The Decade is a tool to promote these objectives. What we have done is create an opportunity, but it is a first step and now is when the hard work starts. Now we need to make these 10 years into a positive change for family farmers."



COMMITMENT 3

DIVERSE TENURE SYSTEMS

Recognise and protect the diverse tenure and production systems upon which people's livelihoods depend, including the communal and customary tenure systems of smallholders, Indigenous Peoples, pastoralists, fisher folks, and holders of overlapping, shifting, and periodic rights to land and other natural resources, even when these are not recognised by law, and while also acknowledging that the well-being of resource users may be affected by changes beyond the boundaries of the land to which they have tenure rights.

The Global Call to Action and the Land Rights Now Campaign

Up to 2.5 billion people, including 370 million Indigenous People (IPs), depend on land and natural resources that are held, used, or managed collectively for food, shelter, livelihoods, and cultural identity. These lands – which include forests, rangelands, farmlands, mountains, and shores – cover more than 50% of the world's surface. While IPs and local communities have protected these lands for centuries, they have legally recognised ownership over only one-fifth of them. As a result, at least 40% of the world's land surface is vulnerable to grabbing by powerful actors for plantations or fossil fuel projects,

hydroelectric dams, tourism, speculation, or conservation. This undermines not only [the human rights of local people](#) but also threatens sustainable development and, in particular, the fight against climate change.

ILC, Oxfam, and the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI) launched the Land Rights Now campaign with the “[Common Ground – Securing land rights and safeguarding the earth](#)” flagship report in March 2016. The campaign has a target of doubling the amount of land recognised as owned and controlled by IPs and local communities by 2020 and has made concrete recommendations for action to governments and other stakeholders.

The campaign is part of a wider Global Call to Action to secure Indigenous and local community land rights that also included the formation of the [Interlaken Group](#), a private sector network dedicated to community land rights; a [series of biannual conferences](#) bringing together governments, the private sector, and civil society; and the LandMark map, which has resulted in various local-to-global initiatives. Since then, more than 800 organisations from more than 100 countries have endorsed the campaign’s target, and over 100 have engaged in campaign activities. Campaign “wins”, growing demand by communities, and an expanding supporter base testify to the success of the campaign and its enormous potential.

A key role of the campaign is to provide land rights advocates working on a range of issues globally with support, resources, and international visibility. Annual global mobilisation weeks have seen 100+ events across 42 countries, ranging from dialogues, press conferences, and advocacy events to street mobilisations, photo opportunities, and [off-line actions](#), including many by ILC members. Cases supported include:

- Support for Indigenous Khasi families in Bangladesh facing eviction because of a tea plantation (presented by the Kapaeeng Foundation)
- The Chao Lay people demanding their community land rights in Phuket, Thailand – and subsequently winning their case in court (presented by AIPP)
- Indigenous women in Guatemala demanding their rights against the expansion of the oil palm industry (presented by CONGCOOP and ActionAid)

SPOTLIGHT ON LIBERIA: A BIG WIN FOR THE LAND RIGHTS NOW CAMPAIGN

In March 2018, the [Land Rights Now campaign](#) supported the Liberia Civil Society Working Group on Land Rights Reform in its campaign calling on the country’s government, including President George Weah, to pass the pro-community [Land Rights Act](#). CSOs had called for the Act to be revised to align it with the AU’s Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy, UNDRIP, the VGGTs, and the SDGs.

Following an intense campaign at national and global levels, [the Senate passed the Act into law](#) in August 2018 – but this would not have happened without thousands of people raising their voices. It is Liberia’s first comprehensive land rights act and will improve the lives of three million people who depend on land for their livelihoods. They will have the power to decide the future of their lands, with sustainable investment and development opportu-

nities and protection from unscrupulous corporations.

Elsewhere, the Land Rights Now campaign has supported the work of an alliance of Indigenous organisations in Peru challenging corporations responsible for pollution on their lands, which led to an agreement with the government on the right to Consultation. It has also provided targeted support to national campaigns in Brazil, Nepal, Cameroon, and South Africa. To date, more than 800 organisations have joined the campaign, including more than 80 ILC members. Campaign coordinator Fionuala Cregan believes that its strength lies in “amplifying voices with global communications support and raising global awareness of the issues and building a movement of people calling for recognition of land rights around the world”.

In 2016 and 2017, Land Rights Now led a global mobilisation of land rights advocates on Indigenous Peoples’ Day and again on Earth Day, with over 70 events taking place across 42 countries. Demonstrating the global nature of the issues being highlighted, a series of short films has been produced, focusing on land rights issues in [India](#), [Mongolia](#), [Nicaragua](#), and [Scotland](#).

Jenna di Paolo of RRI notes the current positioning of land rights issues on the global agenda: “We’re just beginning to scratch the surface on the impact that this global campaign can have and the potential that Land Rights Now has to drive the global narrative on land rights.”

THE RANGELANDS INITIATIVE

The goal of the Rangelands Initiative is to increase the tenure security of local rangeland users through improved development and implementation of policy and legislation. Among other things, the Initiative focuses on identifying, developing, and scaling up innovative solutions to tenure challenges, and assisting governments and other stakeholders to develop and implement supportive policy and legislation. Bringing ILC members and partners together under the auspices of the Initiative allows for joint and strategic development of solutions.

The Initiative also improves the understanding of rangelands and appropriate governance, planning, and tenure systems through research and the documentation of good practice. Recognising the value of rangelands and the livelihoods systems they support, it advocates for the inclusion of rangeland users in decisions made about their lands.

The global component of the Initiative is coordinated by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and it is led by a group of nine international partners – ILRI, UN Environment, IFAD, FAO’s Pastoralist Knowledge Hub, CIRAD, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the World Resources Institute (WRI), ICARDA, and the US-based Rangelands Partnership. The Africa CBI is coordinated by the Resource Conflict Institute (RECONCILE), Kenya; in Asia the CBI is implemented by two hubs: the Environment and Development Association (JASIL), Mongolia and the Maldhari Rural Action Group (MARAG), India. The Initiative also involves the Semiáridos Platform in Latin America, coordinated by FUNDAPAZ, Argentina.

A Global Case for Pastoralist Land Rights

The nine international partners in the Rangelands Initiative work together to influence policy and to highlight messages from the regional initiatives to a global audience. For example, they have worked to increase the emphasis on pastoral land issues in the SDGs, working with UN-Habitat, GLTN, the ILC Dashboard, the World Bank, and the AU to build indicators to measure change in rangelands. The Initiative is also part of the campaign to designate 2021 the UN International Year of Pastoralists and Rangelands.

To engage with the broader land community, in 2018 the Initiative partnered with the Land Portal to conduct an e-discussion on [Making Rangelands More Secure](#), in English, Spanish, French, and Russian. This was one of the portal's most successful online dialogues, with 38 different participants contributing from four continents. It allowed for the sharing of good practices, challenges, options, and opportunities in making rangelands secure, as well as a discussion about multi-stakeholder platforms, as inputs into development of the Initiative.

Together with the Land Portal Foundation, the Rangelands Initiative also documented a Learning Route on [“Innovative practices and tools to reduce land use conflicts between farmers and livestock keepers: Experiences and lessons from Kenya and Tanzania”](#) on 22–30 September 2017. The Learning Route was led by [Procasur](#), RECONCILE, ILRI, and IFAD (for staff of IFAD Nigeria and the Government of Nigeria), with 25 participants travelling to Kenya and Tanzania to learn about innovative ways to [reduce land use conflicts between farmers and livestock keepers](#).

To gather contributions from members, the Initiative also developed a thematic portfolio on the Land Portal website on [Rangelands, Drylands, and Pastoralism](#). Launched in February 2018, the page will be updated with new datasets and other relevant information, including good practices from ILC members.

“As a member of the global Rangeland Initiative, the Pastoralist Knowledge Hub helped to develop better coordination and find synergies between different institutions, including on outreach and advocacy initiatives for sustainable management of rangelands and pastoralism. It also improved the sharing of results and information on the Initiative across the network.”

— GREGORIO VELASCO GIL, FAO PASTORALIST KNOWLEDGE HUB

RANGELANDS INITIATIVE IN AFRICA

This regional CBI coordinated by RECONCILE involves nine ILC members in eight countries: three in East Africa (Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania), four in West Africa (Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Niger, and Senegal), and three in Central Africa (Chad, Cameroon, and Central Africa Republic). Emerging lessons on rangelands issues were shared via a learning exchange in Cameroon in 2017.

Rangelands Africa has also supported the mapping of communal lands in six counties in Kenya, highlighting their spatial status, natural resources, and the status of investment. This facilitated a more context-based decision by the government and by members involved in developing the country's community land law, and contributed data on Kenya to [LandMark](#).

The CBI joined forces with the Coalition of European Lobbies for Eastern African Pastoralism (CELEP) to raise funds for a flagship four-year project on participatory rangelands management in Kenya and Tanzania that started in 2018. This is a good example of how CBIs can support initiatives that engage key members and partners and that can eventually stand on their own.

RANGELANDS INITIATIVE IN ASIA

The Rangelands Initiative in Asia has organised its work into two components: Central Asia, coordinated by JASIL and involving a network of four members and eight non-members; and South Asia, coordinated by MARAG and with four ILC members and five non-members. In its first year, the CBI produced scoping studies on rangelands for six Central Asian and three South Asian countries, with four regional working group meetings to discuss the main findings and to share lessons and experiences between the two sub-regions.

The CBI conducted key advocacy work at country level across the region, including in Kyrgyzstan, India, Mongolia, and Afghanistan, sensitising governments and committing them to put rangeland issues on their agendas. In Afghanistan, the CBI contributed to the development of a policy draft on rangelands and commons, while in India a similar process was carried out in collaboration with the country's NES platform.

SPOTLIGHT: The Rangelands Initiative, Central Asia Component

The goal of the Rangelands Initiative in Central Asia is to build a network for protecting diverse tenure and production systems, which provide livelihoods for pastoralists and other rural people. By connecting, mobilising, and influencing, the Initiative supports the activities of ILC members in individual countries, including via NES, and across the region.

A regional strategy for Central Asia was developed and agreed with all members and partners of the initiative during the second sub-regional working group meeting on "Diverse Tenure Systems for Rangelands in Central Asia", held on 6–7 July 2017 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

ILC members in Mongolia (JASIL and Mongolia Land Management Association (MLMA)), Kyrgyzstan (Rural Development Fund, Association of Forest and Land Users of Kyrgyzstan, and the Union of the Water Users' Associations), and Kazakhstan (Institute of Ecology and Sustainable Development and Farmers Foundation of Kazakhstan) have developed a learning and engagement process on rangelands to facilitate joint advocacy, monitoring, and support at national and local levels.

It has been an opportune time for such work in the region. In Mongolia, communities are awaiting approval of the draft land law, which has been under discussion in parliament since 2013. In Kyrgyzstan, the 2009 law on pastures has yet to be fully implemented, while in Kazakhstan no such law has been developed. Sharing experiences is valuable for strengthening interventions in individual countries and across the region. Over the next few years, ILC members in Asia intend to further develop the rangelands initiatives in order to influence policy and legislation and its implementation.

In 2016–2017 the Central Asia RLI strengthened the network and alliances between ILC members and partners (Centre for Policy Research and the National Association of Pasture User Groups, Mongolia; Kyrgyz Jaiyti, Kyrgyzstan; Farmers of Kazakhstan; NADF, Tajikistan), with greater capacity to protect diverse tenure systems.

In addition, the Initiative supported a scoping study and mapping for Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Tajikistan, and organised the first sub-regional working group meeting on Diverse Tenure Systems for Rangelands in Central Asia, which took place on 21–22 February 2017 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. The WG meetings, roundtable meetings, field trips, and regional information sharing also maintained the exchange of experiences and lessons on protecting tenure systems.

Experience sharing has been one of the main resources for strengthening interventions in individual countries and across the region as part of the Initiative. Over the next few years, ILC members in Central Asia intend to further develop the RLI in order to influence the development of policy and legislation and monitor implementation.

“Being as part of the network with members of ILC and other organisations allows us to work more systematically, collaborate, and exchange knowledge and experience not only in our country but also in the region and globally. We can also reach policy-makers and have access to information about the land use rights. [...] In my opinion, one of our most important tasks is to extend more support to pasture resource management, engaging local communities and populations to define and embed methods for the sustainable use of pastures.”

— DR. HIJABA YKHANBAI, CHAIRMAN, JASIL

WHEELS OF HOPE MOTORBIKE CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS UNLAWFUL OCCUPATION OF COMMON LAND IN INDIA

Historically, common lands in the Indian state of Gujarat belonged collectively to the pastoralists living there. They were never claimed or registered under private title. However, in recent years a large proportion of the grazing commons in Gujarat have been acquired – or grabbed – by investors and other actors, pushing out traditional local land users. This made it extraordinarily difficult for pastoralists to maintain their livestock and has discouraged youth from following the pastoralist way of life.

Maldhari Rural Action Group (MARAG) worked with local communities to launch “Wheels of Hope”, a motorbike campaign that covered a distance of 1,200km, taking in nine districts and 25 blocks in eight days. The campaign specifically targeted community development blocks with the highest rates of encroachment and acquisition of common land. Communities in Gujarat have campaigned for land to be allocated and titles registered for every family and their livestock. Wheels of Hope allowed them to challenge the occupation of common lands and to establish that rights over the commons belong to those who depend on them for their livelihoods.

In response, the government admitted that encroachment on common grazing lands was taking place and committed to working with MARAG and the pastoralist community to protect the grazing commons. In addition, it passed a resolution to protect common grazing land and issued a notification that community members who use pasturelands, particularly pastoralists and women, would receive land titles. As a result, MARAG made 7,000 applications on behalf of community members.

MARAG was invited to assist in other areas that were not covered by the motorbike campaign, including the Rampara Wildlife Sanctuary area, where an Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) has been established. Importantly, the campaign has inspired interest among young people in participating in and sustaining traditional livelihoods.



COMMITMENT 4

EQUAL LAND RIGHTS FOR WOMEN

Ensure gender justice in relation to land, taking all necessary measures to pursue both de jure and de facto equality, enhancing the ability of women to defend their land rights and take equal part in decision-making, and ensuring that control over land and the benefits that are derived thereof are equal between women and men, including the right to inherit and bequeath tenure rights.

ILC's commitment to promoting equal land rights for women is at the core of our work. Ensuring gender justice in land rights is a cross-cutting concern in all other commitments and ILC also encourages members to link and work together with women's rights organisations to ensure that land rights are part of equal human rights for women.

ILC has supported members' advocacy efforts with human rights treaty bodies – in particular, on the [Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women](#) (CEDAW) and the [Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights](#) (CESCR) – to hold governments accountable on their international commitments. Members have mobilised in NES platforms to report specifically on the status of women's land rights, led by [Association for Land Reform and Development](#) (ALRD) in Bangladesh (2016 and 2018),

[Fundapaz in Argentina](#) (2016 and 2018) with support from other ILC member [Programme on Women's Economic, Social and Cultural Rights \(PWESCR\)](#), [Coordinación de ONG y Cooperativas \(CONGCOOP\)](#) in Guatemala (2017), and [Centro de Investigación y Educación Popular \(CINEP\)](#) in Colombia (2017), while [Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact \(AIPP\)](#) reported on indigenous women's rights in Thailand (2017). This work has already proved influential, and the convention committees have based recommendations to governments on alternative reports from ILC members. At the same time, joint alternative reporting has increased attention to and reinforced cooperation on women's land rights among members in NES platforms.

[Commitment-Based Initiatives](#) (CBIs) focusing on Commitment 4 cover a variety of approaches and best practices for achieving equal land rights for women. The Kilimanjaro Initiative, launched in Central and West Africa in partnership with ActionAid, is a notably successful example of land actors influencing the agendas of key decision-makers. [Mujer Rural y Derecho a la Tierra](#), in the LAC region, has been successful in connecting and mobilising relevant actors, and is now focusing on influencing decision-makers. Ensuring Gender Justice: Enriching Land Rights Movement, in Asia, is bringing together a patchwork of national organisations to form a regional network with its own objectives and practices.

The CBIs in these three regions make up a significant component of the ILC commitment to promoting equal land rights for women, along with the formation of the ILC Women's Land Rights and Gender Justice Working Group, which has been defining an agenda based on equal land rights for the Coalition network.

In 2016, ILC published the [results of a long-term project on Islamic inheritance laws and their impact on rural women](#). This is an important first step in supporting work by members on Commitment 4, including in partnership with [GLTN](#), in areas where Islamic law is applied. ILC was also able to facilitate a partnership, led by [PROPAC](#) and [Oxfam](#), which won European Commission funding for an initiative to support women's land rights in Africa.

In addition, ILC launched a [Women's Land Rights Toolkit](#) based on a review of tools and approaches created or adopted by members to promote, protect, and strengthen women's rights. The toolkit aims to encourage mutual learning – one of the main benefits of being part of a network like ILC – on five tools that have been successfully used by Coalition members. One of the main characteristics of the tools is their adaptability to different contexts and areas of work. They are presented in an easy and accessible manner, with concrete examples of how they have been used and links for members to access further information to replicate them.



THE KILIMANJARO INITIATIVE

The Kilimanjaro Initiative was launched in 2012, in partnership with ActionAid, to draw attention to the precarious nature of women's land rights in Africa, and to give women across the continent a common platform for their voices to be heard. The goal of this civil society initiative is to influence land policies at global, national, and regional levels in favour of rural women and to develop an African charter for women's land rights.

In October 2016, with financial support from ILC, around 500 women from 22 African countries participated in the Kilimanjaro Initiative, which culminated in 29 women climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. [Augustina Takah](#), a representative from Cameroon, reached the very peak of the mountain.

"Our land, our lives, women let us mobilise!"

— PROTEST CHANT BY THE WOMEN2KILIMANJARO HIKE

Later, the participants presented a [Charter of Demands](#) to representatives of the African Union, the African Development Bank, and other organisations and government agencies. The initiative was supported by ILC, ActionAid, Oxfam, WILDAF, PLAAS, and TGNP Mtandao, among others. In January 2017 the Charter was presented by the chair of the African Union Commission (AUC) at the AU summit, where it was endorsed by the AU Heads of States.

Kafui Kuwonu, a member of the Kilimanjaro Initiative Support Consortium and Programme Officer at [WiLDAF-AO](#), said, however: "Despite the endorsement of the Charter of Demands by the AU, the fight for women's land rights is just beginning. The next phase of the initiative has to do with pushing governments to make good on their promises, working alongside 30 women's rights organisations in the seven participating countries."

Vanessa Adoko-Hounzoukin, Programme and Communication Assistant at WiLDAF-AO, said: "Without the financial support of ILC, the results that have been achieved to date

would have been impossible. ILC's technical assistance through the Africa office has also played a decisive role. With this support we have been able to actually evangelise for the Kilimanjaro Initiative across Central and West Africa."

In 2018 three advocacy modules were created, which included an advocacy tool and an "image box" which serves as a news portal. In addition, capacity-building workshops to train rural women to advocate for adoption of the Charter are being organised in Benin, Togo, Senegal, Cameroon, DRC, and Burkina Faso.

There is more work left to do however: "In the next one to five years, we are looking at pushing for greater space for women to engage in land decision making processes," says Ms Catherine Gatundu, a Kilimanjaro Initiative Support Consortium member and Policy Advisor at Action Aid International.

Globally, women own less than 20% of the world's land. In Africa, across [10 documented countries](#), only 12% of women on average own land individually, compared with 31% of men. Moreover, women continue to face challenges in accessing land, including gender-based violence. Secure land rights could catapult women to economic success, stronger bargaining authority, and financial independence, which could potentially reduce the risks of GBV. The Kilimanjaro Initiative believes that inclusive decision-making and empowerment of women can reduce such gaps.

"With ILC we have been able to put on the agenda the problems of rural women in our country, especially the situation of discrimination against indigenous women for decision-making on access and use of land and territory. This work has allowed us to channel other resources to deepen the work with indigenous women."

ILC MEMBER, KEYSTONE SURVEY



COMMITMENT 5

SECURE TERRITORIAL RIGHTS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Respect and protect the inherent land and territorial rights of Indigenous Peoples, as set out in ILO Convention 169 and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples [UNDRIP], including by recognizing that respect for indigenous knowledge and cultures contributes to sustainable and equitable development and proper management of the environment.

Globally, the ILC Secretariat has been using the [UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues \(UNFPII\)](#) and [Slow Food Terra Madre](#) as opportunities to advance collaboration towards the implementation of UNDRIP. Every year ILC has supported members to come together in side events at the UNFPII, including on indigenous and community land rights (the Land Rights Now campaign) and indigenous youth.

In 2016 ILC, together with FAO and IFAD, co-chaired the Inter-Agency Support Group (IASG) of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. The Annual Meeting took place in Rome with around 40 representatives from various UN agencies, providing an opportunity to position indigenous land rights within wider UN processes and to identify possible

cooperation in NES countries. As a result, a working group on national policy dialogues was created, and ILC members IFAD, International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA), Centro para la Autonomía y Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas (CADPI) and Forest Peoples Programme (FPP) are currently coordinating support for national dialogues in Ecuador and Nepal for UNDRIP implementation.

DR Congo is one two of over 20 NES processes supported by ILC. Diel Mochire Mwenge, PIDP's Provincial Director for North Kivu, explained how, as a new member, it took time to understand how the NES process works. "Now we take advantage of activities at national level because in order to influence governments we need to work together," he said. "Each of the members of the national platform have their own area of expertise and can approach issues from different angles, be it women's issues, youth or Indigenous Peoples. This helps us to put the pieces together to make a whole."

In addition to ensuring that the land rights of Indigenous Peoples' are prominent in country-level discussions on land governance, ILC has also supported thematic initiatives/ CBIs in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean:

- In **Asia**, the initiative **"Advancing the recognition of Indigenous Peoples' land rights through evidence-based advocacy"** coordinated by Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (based in Thailand) and involving four other members from Cambodia, Indonesia, Nepal and the Philippines, has focused on developing members' capacities in participatory mapping, monitoring and documentation with the ambition of region-wide monitoring of IPs' lands, as well as supporting their campaign work in Thailand and Myanmar for the passage of laws recognising customary lands. At the global level, the CBI has supported the [Indigenous Peoples Major Group for Sustainable Development](#) in its advocacy on the SDGs and has contributed to the [Land Rights Now](#) campaign.
- In **Africa**, the CBI **"ILC Action Plan for Indigenous Peoples' Land Rights in Africa"**, coordinated by Ogiek Peoples' Development Program (OPDP) and involving eight members in Kenya, Burundi, Tanzania, Cameroon, South Africa, DR Congo and South Sudan, and a network extending to 12 countries, is working to build a solidarity movement of IPs across the region and to build the capacities of their organisations to advocate for rights at national and regional levels and to influence policy-makers. The CBI also documents best practices and lessons learned. In 2017, more than 50 IP representatives from Africa participated in a [learning exchange on Access to Benefit-Sharing](#).
- In **Latin America and the Caribbean**, the initiative **"Land and Territorial Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Afro-descendants"**, coordinated by CADPI and involving 20 members from seven countries, documents land, territory and natural resource rights violations, promotes legal safeguards and advocates for rights at national and regional levels. In its first year, it organised a regional training on 3D participatory mapping and two regional courses for capacity development on land tenure and governance and VGGT use and implementation.

SPOTLIGHT ON ILC MEMBERS: OGIEK PEOPLES' DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (OPDP)

Having exhausted local redress mechanisms in their fight for their rights to land, religion and culture, the Ogiek community brought a land rights case against the Kenyan government at the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights in 2017. The case drew the attention of the international community and helped hold the government to a higher standard of accountability. It enabled the Ogiek people to address violations of their rights to human dignity, worship, education, property and association, among others.

During the case, the OPDP documented community by-laws, maps and protocols for the management of communal lands, and used this information to engage the government in seeking legal ownership of the land. The court ruled in favour of the Ogiek, recognising them as an indigenous community and restoring their land rights. The community of 45,000 people has now designated 26 May as Ogiek Celebration Day to commemorate the landmark ruling.

Critical to the success of the process was the integrity of the lawyers who stood firm against intimidation and attempts at corruption. Some witnesses and OPDP members received threats from unknown people, but these were handled by security provided by Human Rights Defenders. This established a deeper link between OPDP and the National Coalition of Human Rights Defenders.

While the court ruling was a tremendous achievement for the Ogiek community, there is still work to be done. On 10 November 2017 the Kenyan government formally announced a taskforce on implementing the ruling. However, it failed to consult with the community, and the taskforce lacks any Ogiek representatives. Daniel Kobei of the OPDP said: "These notable omissions call into question whether meaningful implementation of the African Court's judgment will take place. The Ogiek see the creation of the Task Force as a positive step, but are obviously concerned that their views may be excluded from this important process."

Learn more at: www.ogiek.org



COMMITMENT 6

LOCALLY-MANAGED ECOSYSTEMS

Enable the role of local land users in territorial and ecosystem management, recognising that sustainable development and the stewardship of ecosystems are best achieved through participatory decision making and management at the territorial level, empowering local land users and their communities with the authority, means, and incentives to carry out this responsibility.

The Latin American Semi-arid Platform ([Plataforma Semiáridos América Latina](#)) is a multi-country initiative established to address the problems faced by indigenous and rural communities in the semi-arid regions of Latin America in relation to access and management of land, water, and other natural resources.

“The original seed for the initiative came in 2013 from a knowledge exchange between organisations in Brazil and in the Chaco region, during which the similarities between the two areas were recognised,” explained Gabriel Seghezze of FUNDAPAZ, an ILC member organisation that supports the Plataforma Semiáridos. “We began to see that the situation shared by these regions was not only a similar climate, but they also had similar cultures, biodiversity, and issues related to water access, and also were populated by very marginalised peoples. We realised that with these commonalities also came common solutions to our shared problems.”

In Asia, a Commitment-Based Initiative (CBI) on Locally Managed Ecosystems was launched in 2017 to strengthen tenure security and the capacities of communities to effectively manage environmentally sensitive ecosystems by documenting, replicating, and advocating for people-centred land policies and programmes. In 2018 the initiative, led by the [Rural Development Fund \(RDF\)](#) and [Xavier Science Foundation \(XSF\)](#), documented the diverse experiences of ILC members in the region; their findings will be presented at the 2018 Global Land Forum.

SPOTLIGHT ON ILC MEMBERS: THE SEMIÁRIDOS INITIATIVE IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The platform focuses on three main regions: Tri-national Chaco, covering parts of Argentina, Bolivia, and Paraguay; the Northeast region of Brazil; and the Dry Corridor of Central America, covering Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and El Salvador. There are other smaller semi-arid regions such as in [Venezuela](#), where work connected to the Plataforma Semiáridos is also ongoing.

The platform now has 26 members from 10 countries, covering 160 million hectares of land and 53 million people who live there. The [founding document](#) signed by its members states that: “Land development and management should be supported by intercultural dialogue; participatory construction of public policies; the environmental, economic, and social potential of the region and not its limitations; equitable access to land and water; and acknowledgement of the significant role of civil society organisations [CSOs] – particularly those of Indigenous Peoples, peasants, women, and youth – and their interaction with the State.”

Seghezze explained further: “Latin America’s semi-arid areas are home to the region’s greatest population of indigenous farming communities, who also face the greatest challenges with access to water and the highest levels of poverty.” Through social mobilisation, Plataforma Semiáridos hopes to influence public policy changes that should allow access, use, and management of land, territories, water, and other resources. The goals of the platform are that Indigenous Peoples and peasant communities receive recognition of their rights to tenure within each country’s constitutional framework and have enough quality water to guarantee production, along with social and environmental sustainability and sustainable production with suitable technologies that meet the conditions required for effective occupancy of the land.

According to Seghezze: “There are many CSOs representing indigenous and peasant communities in the semi-arid regions, with decades of experience and knowledge. There is great social capital here which now can be brought together through the Semiáridos platform to share knowledge and practices that are useful for both national- and regional-level political action.” Through knowledge sharing and mutual capacity-building exchanges between member organisations, the Plataforma Semiáridos has developed and shared a set of [best practices](#) and is developing round-table space for dialogue between states and civil society to address the issues faced by inhabitants of the semi-arid regions.

Learn more at: <http://www.semiaridos.org>



COMMITMENT 7

INCLUSIVE DECISION-MAKING

Ensure that processes of decision-making over land are inclusive, so that policies, laws, procedures and decisions concerning land adequately reflect the rights, needs and aspirations of individuals and communities who will be affected by them. This requires the empowerment of those who otherwise would face limitations in representing their interests, particularly through support to land users' and other civil society organisations that are best able to inform, mobilise and legitimately represent marginalised land users, and their participation in multi-stakeholder platforms for policy dialogue.

Inclusive decision-making is pivotal to people-centred land governance, and its promotion has become a crucial part of the work of many ILC members. Through Commitments 4 and 5, ILC has structured approaches to promoting the inclusion of women and Indigenous Peoples in land governance processes and in Coalition initiatives. Particular emphasis is given under Commitment 7 to intergenerational justice.

The Programa de Pasantías (internship programme) targets youth in member organisations, as does the CBI on Rural Youth; both initiatives are based in Latin American

and the Caribbean (LAC).

Since 2015, the internship programme has to date benefited 19 young professionals from ILC members, who have been hosted by members in Bolivia (Fundación TIERRA), Nicaragua (Nitlapan and CADPI), and Colombia (CDS). This has given them an opportunity to add to their own skills and experience, building the capacity of their organisations and building relationships with other members.

The CBI on Rural Youth, coordinated by Procasur, launched a leadership and learning exchange programme with the aim of increasing youth access to land and improving their advocacy capacities. It brought together 24 ILC members and 26 non-member organisations through the Rural Youth and Employment Forum in 2016 in Guatemala and the regional exchange on Rural Youth Rights and Perspectives held in Colombia in 2017. Both of these exchanges helped link CBI operations on youth with the NES processes in these two countries. Additionally, a technical note was produced with concrete recommendations on youth and the VGGTs. A new CBI on Youth was consolidated in Asia in 2017, led by RMI.

SPOTLIGHT ON ILC MEMBERS: LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

Rony Morales, of Unión Verapacense de Organizaciones Campesinas (UVOC) in Guatemala, was an intern on placement with Colombian ILC member Corporación Desarrollo Solidario (CDS) on the 2017 Programa de Pasantías. The implementation of the peace agreement in Colombia and the position of indigenous and Afro-descendant land rights and rural reform in this process made the internship with CDS particularly valuable. My experiences on the internship, around 60% of which focused on field work, also allowed me to gain knowledge on issues around food security and sovereignty as they apply not just to Colombia, but also to Guatemala, Peru, and El Salvador.”

Gabriel Urbano of CDS cited the opportunities for rural reform presented by Colombia’s peace process as a major contributing factor in his organisation’s interest in hosting the internship in 2017, but also noted CDS’s priority goal of empowering young people around land rights: “Tensions in LAC countries over the future of the countryside in a context of extractive industries, environmental and energy crises, food sovereignty and security, and the rights of peasant, indigenous, and Afro-descendant communities, make it critical we listen to regional rural youth.”

Programa de Pasantías interns had the opportunity to learn from the experiences of peasants involved in agro-ecological production, processing, and marketing initiatives; from the struggles of peasant and Afro-descendant peoples to achieve collective titling and land restitution; and from women seeking to secure their own land rights. They also learned from the Seed Catalogue of Young Researchers (Semillero de Jóvenes Investigadores) and the Rural Communication Team at [Organizaciones de Poblaciones Desplazadas, Étnicas y Campesinas \(OPDS\)](#) Montes de María), which is mostly led by young people, about the peace-building initiatives by rural communities in Montes de María during the conflict.



COMMITMENT 8

TRANSPARENT AND ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION

Ensure transparency and accountability, through unhindered and timely public access to all information that may contribute to informed public debate and decision-making on land issues at all stages, and through decentralisation to the lowest effective level, to facilitate participation, accountability, and the identification of locally appropriate solutions.

To achieve Commitment 8, ILC has supported member initiatives focused on transparency, accessibility of data and information, and combating corruption. Addressing such cross-cutting issues is important for members to advocate for land rights on the basis of concrete evidence, and also contributes to ensuring the effectiveness of work on all aspects of land governance.

Transparency

Enabling affected communities and/or governments to hold landowners accountable for environmental or human rights violations is the focus of the CBI on Land Ownership Transparency and Accountability. It is led by Transparency International (TI) and the

International Alliance on Land Tenure and Administration (IALTA), together with Global Witness, Welthungerhilfe, and Trócaire.

Starting with Scotland and Sierra Leone, these partners have developed a research framework for assessing a country's regulation of beneficial ownership in large-scale land holdings. For Sierra Leone, a country assessment formed the basis for recommendations to reform land laws and governance practices with respect to public disclosure of beneficial ownership interests.



LAND MATRIX

DATA

The [Land Matrix Initiative](#) (LMI) remains the primary reference globally for data, information, and knowledge on large-scale land acquisitions. It was cited over 100 times in scientific papers, articles, and CSO reports in 2017 alone, and was used for monitoring by investors, governments, and donor agencies. The most recent data analysis features country profiles for [Zambia](#), [Senegal](#), [Tanzania](#), [Sierra Leone](#), [Liberia](#), [Argentina](#), [Romania](#), and [Madagascar](#), developed by LMI regional focal points to inform national debates.

The main innovation over the triennium has been the establishment of National Land Observatories. These improve data quality, better capture national specificities and developments, and can more directly be used to influence policy. Pilots have begun in Senegal, Uganda, Cameroon, Argentina, and the Philippines, all linked to the NES in those countries. The observatories provide a strong basis for multi-stakeholder platforms to participate in decision-making with regards to land investments.



DATA FOR EMPOWERING COLLECTIVE LAND USERS: LANDMARK

LandMark is the first global, interactive online platform offering maps with accurate information on collectively used land and territories owned by Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and local communities. It was launched in 2016 (alongside the Land Rights Now campaign), in support of the Global Call to Action, to double the amount of land recognised as owned or controlled by such communities. LandMark is a broad partnership that includes ILC members WRI, FES, IBC, and PAFID.

LandMark plays a dual role, as:

1. a tool to empower Indigenous Peoples and communities in order to guarantee their territorial rights;
2. an enforceability instrument for land rights defenders, providing information that can be used to exert pressure on reforms or to deter actions by governments or investors that undermine legitimate land claims.

LandMark currently receives information from more than 70 institutions and organisations worldwide and has mapped 1.15 million indigenous and community areas. These areas add up to 11.3% of all land on the planet. However, there is still a big information gap.

“It is a task that requires the support of all interested organisations concerned about the issue. If you are an organisation that uses maps, please contact us and share your information. If you are an organisation that defends indigenous rights, but you’re not working with maps, find out who makes maps and let us know.”

— RICHARD SMITH, IBC

PEOPLE-LED LAND MONITORING: THE ILC DASHBOARD

The [ILC Dashboard](#) was developed out of a set of consultations with ILC members, starting in 2016, on how to monitor progress towards people-centred land governance according to the 10 ILC Commitments.

The Dashboard now consists of a set of over 30 indicators from ongoing land rights initiatives, developed in close coordination with ILC members and external partners, and methodologies to use them. It is being piloted in Colombia, [Senegal](#), and Nepal in 2018 by ILC members, in collaboration with national statistics offices. The Dashboard offers members – and others – greater opportunities to use data more effectively in their efforts to bring about people-centred land governance. It facilitates the linking of comparable data across countries and to SDG, VGGT, and Africa Land Policy Framework and Guidelines monitoring processes. It also strengthens the uptake and recognition of citizen-generated data.

The move to develop the ILC Dashboard came at a time of increased visibility of land rights issues, with land rights indicators being included under SDGs 1, 2, and 5, and recognised in the VGGTs as well as the Global Land Indicators Initiative (GLII). While these were welcome, and a promising sign of progress, ILC members saw a need for a different type of monitoring, including impact indicators. Such indicators were not included in other global initiatives, and are the most difficult type of indicator to monitor, as researchers need to go to the field and in some cases collect household data.

While legal indicators monitor the existence of laws, and implementation indicators monitor the effectiveness of the practice of these laws, impact indicators seek to monitor how this progress is actually changing people's lives. "It's this broader view of the indicators that make the ILC Dashboard much richer and more comprehensive than the other initiatives," said Ward Anseeuw, a Senior Technical Consultant seconded to ILC from CIRAD. "By focusing only on land, we are free to take a much more detailed view with more specific, and useful, indicators that can better cover the complexities of land rights issues."

Of particular note is the range of differing sources allowed for by the Dashboard. While indicators for the other initiatives are based on official, government data – with any biases that these might carry – the Dashboard promotes an "ecosystem of data", which includes government data but also allows for a wide range of other sources, including research institutions and civil society. It gives visibility to people-led data collection, allowing voices that might otherwise be ignored to be heard on a global scale and to put forward new perspectives missed by other monitoring methods.

Before the ILC Dashboard is rolled out across every country, methodologies for data collection and assessment from both traditional and non-traditional sources are being tested in pilot countries. The roll-out plan will also see the various NES adopt the Dashboard as a replacement for their country assessment reports, and so cement its role as a core tool for ILC members.

Work on the Dashboard continues to generate new outcomes. It has built ILC's technical

expertise in advocacy for SDG land indicators to be classified as Tier II while ensuring that they are innovative, integrating perceptions of tenure security for all tenure systems and disaggregating results by gender and age. It has also strengthened land governance monitoring efforts at local, national, and global levels by increasing their visibility and building capacity, and aligning with existing global frameworks, particularly the VGGTs. In addition, it creates a basis for and promotes the development of an ecosystem of indicators and diverse data sources on land governance. By enabling citizen-generated data to contribute to the Dashboard and other ILC monitoring initiatives, the Coalition contributes to the democratisation of land monitoring by, with, and for the people, shedding light on land tenure systems, land governance issues, and engaging populations marginalised by traditional, technocratic land policy and monitoring frameworks.



COMMITMENT 9

EFFECTIVE ACTIONS AGAINST LAND GRABBING

Prevent and remedy land grabbing, respecting traditional land use rights and local livelihoods, and ensuring that all large-scale initiatives that involve the use of land, water, and other natural resources comply with human rights and environmental obligations and are based on: the free, prior, and informed consent of existing land users; a thorough assessment of economic, social, cultural, and environmental impacts with respect to both women and men; democratic planning and independent oversight; and transparent contracts that respect labour rights, comply with social and fiscal obligations, and are specific and binding on the sharing of responsibilities and benefits. Where adverse impacts on human rights and legitimate tenure rights have occurred, concerned actors should provide for, and cooperate in, impartial and competent mechanisms to provide remedy, including through land restitution and compensation.

ILC members have long recognised the issue of land grabbing, denouncing the practice in 2011 in the [Triana Declaration](#) which provided a first and now widely used definition. By clearly defining the term, ILC members were not only able to collectively denounce the practice but to begin to work together systematically to prevent it, as well as to open up spaces for constructive debates on what investments should instead be doing so as

to create opportunity for real and meaningful local benefit.

In addition to supporting members who are engaging with governments and corporations to defend the rights of communities, ILC has played a critical role in supporting the [Land Matrix](#) global land monitoring initiative. ILC supports the LM by facilitating its communications, via social media, through the dissemination of its publications and analyses, and by incentivising data flows from and to users to strengthen its database. It also supports the LM national observatory pilot projects in Cameroon, Uganda, Senegal, Argentina, and the Philippines and has contributed to the implementation of a study on all land observatories in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Most recently ILC, in cooperation with [Namati](#) and [IIED](#), has launched a new learning programme, the Community Land Initiative, to share best practice and strengthen the capacity of members working to protect community land rights against land grabbing by states and corporations.

“ILC provides an important learning and training space to strengthen grassroots organisations.”

— ILC MEMBER, KEYSTONE SURVEY

BUILDING A LEARNING NETWORK: THE COMMUNITY LAND INITIATIVE

The Community Land Initiative is a co-learning initiative to facilitate the sharing of expert community and protection strategies between civil society organisations (CSOs) over a period of 12 months. It was launched in February 2018 as a joint effort between ILC and two of its members, Namati and IIED.

The initiative brought together members from Peru, Ecuador, Cameroon, Tanzania, and Indonesia for an intensive week-long “action workshop” in Nairobi in early 2018, co-designed and co-facilitated by Namati and IIED and led by co-organiser Rachael Knight of Namati.

The initiative “grew out of an idea to bring together the best community land protectors in the world to train each other on their approaches, with a focus on ‘what works’,” Knight explained. “ILC members are experts in their own right, so we knew that any kind of one-sided training wasn’t a good use of the knowledge in the room. We wanted everyone taking part to be a teacher as well as a student. We brought together people who are innovators, and they took turns teaching each other practical, concrete – and successful – strategies for protecting community land rights.”

Learning sessions at the workshop included supporting communities to understand the value of their lands and natural resources, as well as supporting them to make a vision for their future, draft and adopt by-laws to ensure good governance, and make “life

plans” that put into action the communities’ goals. There were also sessions on dealing with corrupt leaders, and in-depth discussions on the practicalities of negotiating with governments and corporations. Knight explained: “The initiative was designed to get into the nitty-gritty of how to protect community lands: how many meetings does it take? What exactly do you say to frame each meeting? What questions do you ask to prompt community reflection and action? How do you handle this kind of conflict, or that specific obstacle when it arises?”



Jitar Christain Taku of Community Assistance In Development ([COMAID](#)) from Cameroon was one of the participants. COMAID has developed a participatory land use plan to protect the land rights of local communities on the Mbaw plain, an area seriously affected by violent secessionist movements and a military crackdown. “The workshop exposed us to rich strategies of community land protection actors working with Indigenous People in the Amazon,” Taku explained. “[Namati](#) taught us how to implant strategies to encourage accountability through by-laws and land and natural resources management.”

Taku also noted other important lessons from South America: “Corporacion de Gestion y Derecho Ambiental ([ECOLEX](#)) from Ecuador and Instituto del Bien Común ([IBC](#)) from Peru showcased their work with paralegals and village life plans to protect community land rights in the Amazon.”

The workshop delivered important lessons to test out at home: “Back in Cameroon, we plan to use the knowledge in a pilot community land protection project in Ngom and Ngomkwo villages in the Mbaw plain. The knowledge we received to develop by-laws and community life plans will certainly help us reshape our intervention approaches,” Taku said.

“We see ourselves empowering weak communities in the northwest region of Camer-

oon to protect their rights in the coming months. NES Cameroon is already working with several communities in the country. The platform will serve as a yardstick to reach more communities. The Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association ([MBOSCUDA](#)) and other ILC members in Cameroon do a lot on community land rights, and transferring this knowledge to their target communities would be another way to make it more actionable.”

Dewi Sutejo of Jaringan Kerja Pemetaan Partisipatif ([JKPP](#)) from Indonesia also gave a glowing report: “The workshop was the most effective I have ever participated in. It focused on ‘what works’ and ‘what doesn’t work’. Experiences were shared through a skills-based tutorial, and each organisation shared its best practices and lessons learned [for a particular] issue. We learned many innovative strategies: for example, how COMAID targeted a corrupt leader, encouraging him to become a campaigner against corruption, and how IBC Peru used participatory mapping and life plans and initiated good community land governance and natural resource management by creating better by-laws.”

At the end of the workshop, each participant committed to a work plan that integrated at least two new strategies, which to try out over the course of the year. Participants will stay in touch via monthly conference calls, in which they give updates on progress and share advice. Each participating organisation received a grant to help further its work, implement new practices, and run a one-day meeting of ILC members in its own country to share what it has learned.

New and larger cohorts are planned for 2019 and 2020. According to Knight: “The idea really is to build a movement. Community land protection is something that we are all working on, but we are working in our own silos, reinventing the wheel each time. People don’t often get a chance to talk with peers outside of their regions about how they are protecting community lands and achieving successful outcomes, even though the threats – and sometimes even the specific corporations – that we are facing are often the same.”

According to Knight: “The ILC is a phenomenal convening mechanism. To me, this initiative helps fulfil the promise of what the ILC can offer its members.”



COMMITMENT 10

PROTECTED LAND RIGHTS DEFENDERS

Respect and protect the civil and political rights of human rights defenders working on land issues, combat the stigmatisation and criminalisation of peaceful protest and land rights activism, and end impunity for human rights violations, including harassment, threats, violence, and political imprisonment.

In 2017, worldwide 207 Land and Environment Defenders (LEDs) were killed, according to a report by [Global Witness](#). There has never been a more critical time to protect land and environmental rights and the people who put their lives on the line to defend them.

More and more ordinary people are finding themselves on the frontline of the battle to defend their land and territories from corporate or state abuse and unsustainable exploitation. Many violations are invisible, and the situation is set to become worse as competition for access to natural resources and land grabs intensify against a backdrop of extreme global inequality.

ILC members and their partners face threats, criminalisation, violence, and killings for defending the rights of local communities, peasants, pastoralists, and Indigenous Peoples to their land and environment.

GUATEMALA – A HUMAN RIGHTS CRISIS

Eighteen prominent community leaders and media workers, including from ILC members [CODECA](#) and [CCDA](#), have been murdered in Guatemala in 2018. National and international human rights organisations have expressed their concern about the wave of assassinations and have called on the authorities for immediate measures to clarify the facts and protect the defenders.

In August 2018, responding to a request from members in Guatemala, ILC organised an international high-level mission, together with [Front Line Defenders](#), [CIVICUS](#), [Pastoral de la Tierra](#), and [UDEFEQUA](#). The mission visited communities and talked to representatives of local and national government, human rights institutions, UN agencies, and international development partners.

The delegates were gravely concerned by their findings. At the end, they said in a [statement](#): “The message we have heard from defenders across Guatemala is, ‘We are not criminals, we are not killers, we simply want to work our land and feed our families’. We stand by their assertion.

“We have found that to date the Government of Guatemala has failed to make any effective response to protect Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) at risk or investigate crimes against them. The government is presiding over a climate of violence in which HRDs can be killed with impunity and without any fear of sanction. Of grave concern to us is that the acts of violence against HRDs have gone beyond random acts to become a systematic pattern of persecution.

“Not only is the state failing to uphold fundamental human rights, but it is actively dismantling existing protection mechanisms and institutions. Instead of upholding the human rights of individuals and communities, the legal and judicial systems are being used to advance the interests of powerful state and non-state groups against the interests of local communities, often through corrupt means. We have been told by a wide variety of actors in Guatemala that it is no longer a functioning democracy. In meetings with communities, we have heard over and over again their sentiment that the state has abandoned them. The community journalists who expose the brutal reality are now themselves being targeted.

“At the root of social conflict is access to land, water, and natural resources. It is evident that the state of Guatemala has chosen to prioritise an economic model of rural development that enriches the few, at the expense of impoverishing communities, incentivising migration, and destroying the environment.

“The Government of Guatemala has a clear choice between addressing these issues as part of a process of building a more just and equal society, or maintaining the status quo, which will only result in further polarisation and economic hardship for the people of Guatemala. The starting point for building a more inclusive rural development model is the free, prior, and informed consent of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. If consultations in good faith are to have any value, people need to trust that the government will act on agreements reached with communities. It is also urgent to end the stigmatisation of HRDs, and recognise the legitimate and positive role they play.”

The mission produced a report with recommendations to the Government of Guatemala, development partners, international media, and civil society. Its work was greatly appreciated by members. “The government now realises there are people here,” commented a leader from [CCDA](#), referring to the visibility that the mission and its coverage in the media had brought to their situation. It also provided important lessons for ILC about the roles it can play in support of members in adverse contexts such as Guatemala.

Diario las Américas: [Coalición Internacional para la Tierra evalúa violaciones a DDHH en Guatemala](#)

The Observer: [How Guatemala is sliding into chaos in the fight for land and water](#)

Washington Post op ed: [Without a U.N.-backed commission, land rights activists face more deadly persecution in Guatemala](#)

ILC’S COMMITMENT TO LAND AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS

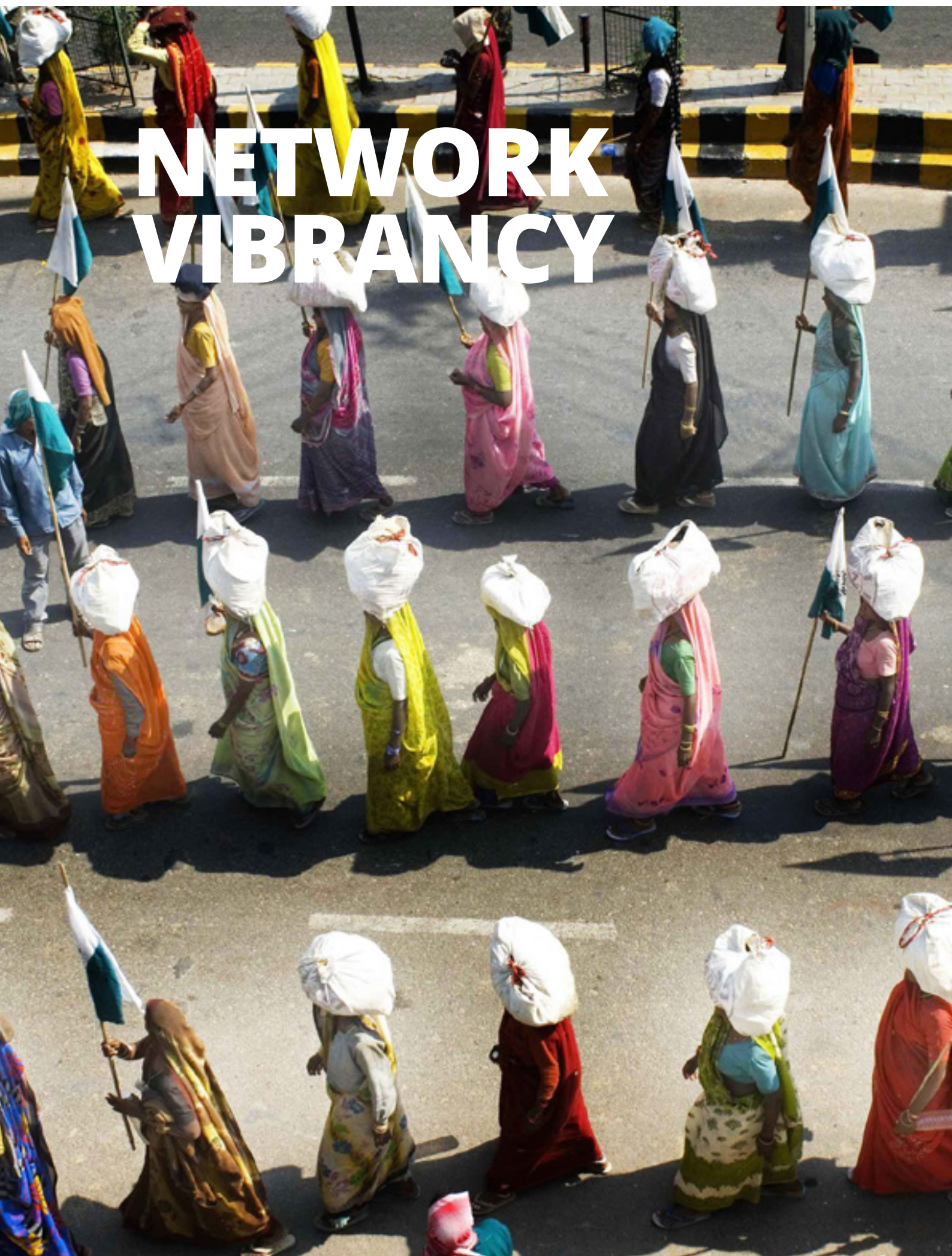
ILC is aware that, to tackle the sensitive and fragile situation of LEDs around the world, a strong network of actors is needed. It has developed a strategy on Commitment 10, endorsed by members of the global and regional reference groups, that includes a set of initiatives connecting the local, national, regional, and global work of ILC members and mobilising their diverse expertise and capacity to influence key actors. The strategy embraces emergency protection, documentation and data, advocacy, and capacity building of members to access alternative systems of protection.

Strengthening members’ capacity to access human rights protection systems as an alternative to domestic justice systems started, in 2017, with a global workshop in Montevideo, Uruguay, which led to a partnership with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR). In the following year, ILC members in Africa received training from a former Commissioner of the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights, focusing on building their capacity to access regional human rights protection systems.

As well as capacity building, ILC is strengthening its regional Land and Environment Defenders Emergency Fund in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and is working with other partners, through the Defend the Defenders Coalition (DD Coalition), to establish a Global Emergency Alert and Action Mechanism to allow immediate action where a threat has been identified.

ILC is also supporting the DD Coalition to share protocols and best practices, improve data, scale up information sharing, and take joint lobbying, advocacy, and campaigning actions to raise awareness, build a sense of urgency, and ensure that action is taken to address abuses against HRDs.

NETWORK VIBRANCY



NETWORK VIBRANCY

TOWARDS A MORE VIBRANT NETWORK

Our strength as ILC comes from who we are as a network. The vibrancy of the network is the extent to which members use its connections for learning and undertaking joint action with other members and with strategic partners, because this adds value to their work. By extending the reach of the ILC network around the globe, offering new tools, resources, and support systems, its value has increased significantly.

The progress made toward a more vibrant network has been achieved under four areas of focus: Learning and Capacity Building, Network Engagement and Expansion, Gender Justice, and Strategic Partnerships.

Learning and Capacity Building

Already a foundational mandate for ILC, learning and capacity building has progressed significantly over the past three years. Substantial progress has been made in providing members with the knowledge and competencies needed to adapt and scale up effective approaches to people-centred land governance.

In addition to identifying the good practices of members publicised in ILC's [Database of Good Practices](#) (which now counts more than 100 entries) and publishing these in the form of toolkits, members' competencies are now mapped in the [Learning Hub](#), and learning activities have been included in the [M&E Platform](#).

Beyond this tracking and systematising of the knowledge and competencies of members, ILC has created learning opportunities, peer-to-peer exchanges, mutual mentoring, and capacity-building activities to enable the adaptation and uptake of good practices across the network.

The Network Builder, launched in 2017, provides a coordinating framework for learning and capacity building that is constructed around five complementary pillars:

1. The Internship Scheme has placed 23 students from ILC member organisations to support specific Secretariat, RCU, or member activities.
2. Peer-to-peer learning supports learning activities led by members for members, such as the [Community Land Initiative](#) launched by Namati and IIED in 2018.
3. The [Leadership Programme](#) supports leadership development in ILC member organisations. Launched in 2018, it involves 16 leaders in Africa, 14 in Asia, and 25 in Latin America and the Caribbean
4. The ILC Corner is an online space launched in 2018 to allow members to learn about how ILC works and their opportunities for engagement, and to strengthen institutional capacity in areas such as financial management and good governance.



LEADERSHIP

2018 LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

Progress and Achievements – September 2018

A network is only as strong as its members. Transforming land governance depends on committed, capable, sustainable, and effective local and national organisations. Such organisations are able to make lasting change happen in their societies and communities.

This is why ILC is piloting a [leadership programme](#) as part of its network building in 2018 in [Africa](#), [Asia](#), and [LAC](#) to support members in strengthening and renewing their organisational and leadership capacities. The pilots have addressed the expertise and capacity to innovate of leaders, the context in which they operate, and their strategies, their networks, and the wider communities they interact with. The response from ILC members has been enormous. Women, youth, and grassroots organisations are at the core of this programme of exchange, collaboration, and peer-to-peer learning, which has already benefited **60 people (more than half of them women) from 30 ILC member organisations in 17 countries** (and one global member) this year.

Leadership is multi-faceted, and so are the first results:

- Relationships have been consolidated with members who have expertise in capacity

development: Maliasili (Africa), AFA/Pakisama (Asia), and Procasur (LAC), who took the lead as facilitators in each region.

- An incipient community of support and practice has taken shape (support/learning groups formed in each region).
- Members have reported adopting new practices, e.g. techniques and tools for ensuring effective communication and trust and results-based management.
- Knowledge/learning products: one participatory organisational assessment methodology, one organisational evaluation survey, one survey on capacity development needs, and two leadership programme curricula.

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According to Knight: “The ILC is a phenomenal convening mechanism. To me, this initiative helps fulfil the promise of what the ILC can offer its members.”

NATIONAL ENGAGEMENT AND EXPANSION

As of June 2018, the ILC network includes 255 members in 77 countries. This milestone was reached after 63 new members were recommended by the ILC Membership Committee and accepted by a virtual Assembly of Members.

The new members bring with them a wide array of experiences and competencies and add to the diversity of the ILC network, most importantly increasing the proportion of members directly representing land users such as family farmers, Indigenous Peoples, and women.

Members also join from 13 new countries (Belgium, Botswana, Canada, Republic of the Congo, the Czech Republic, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Liberia, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, Paraguay, and Sierra Leone).

As well as strengthening the ILC Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) regional platforms, a dedicated platform has been set up for the Europe, Middle East and North Africa (EMENA) region, with 17 civil society members.

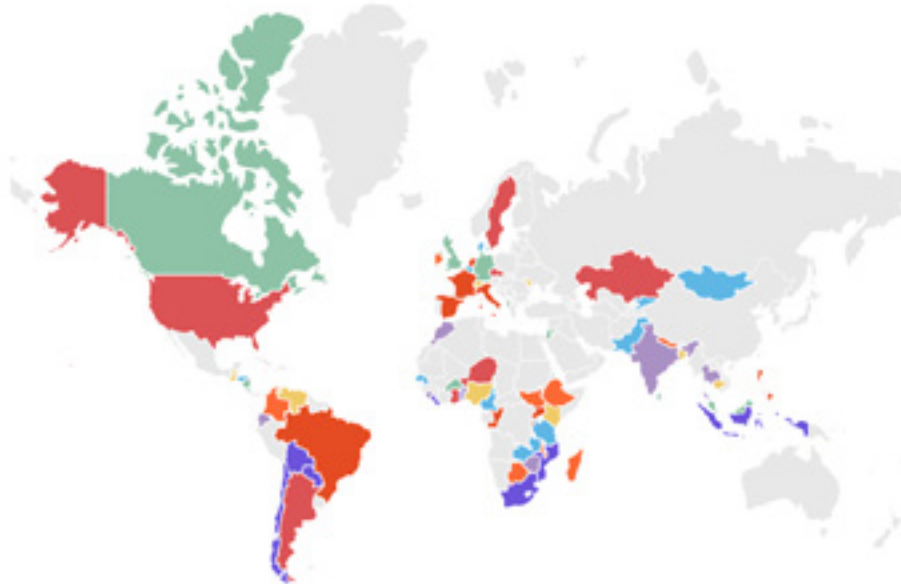
As became clear from the triennial membership survey, the ILC network is becoming more multi-nodal, with members coming together through national, regional, or commitment-driven platforms, which are becoming cornerstones of the broad ILC

network. In 2017, the Membernet platform was launched: a dedicated website for members to provide updated information on all aspects of network functioning, increasing accountability, access, and transparency.

The engagement of ILC members in the network is monitored by the Membership Engagement Index, in order to develop strategies for better inclusion. This uses four sets of indicators: financial, operations, participation, and length of membership in the network. Members are classified as inactive, moderately active, or active. In 2018, none of the network members were inactive.

One of the indicators used to monitor engagement is payment of the membership fee, with contributions collected in an ILC Reserve Fund that currently amounts to US\$433,889.

Geographic Spread of ILC Members





NETWORK GROWTH A GROWING NETWORK OF LAND RIGHTS LEADERS

In 2018, the ILC network grew to 255 members in 77 countries, increase the diversity of the ILC network, most importantly of members directly representing land users such as family farmers, Indigenous Peoples, and women.

Representatives of some of the new ILC member organisations spoke about their reasons for joining the network and what they hope to achieve in the future:

“We are delighted to be a part of the ILC family and look forward to a mutual learning and sharing process with regional and global members who work on land issues, and to engaging with policy dialogues to ensure a just, equitable, and inclusive world in which land rights are secure and poverty is eradicated.”

— SHILPA VASAVADA, WGWLO, INDIA

"We will do our level best to contribute to the realisation of ILC's mission and strategic objectives. We are confident that our many years of research and development experience in Ethiopia, Sudan, and recently in South Sudan will be a useful contribution in furthering the mission of ILC."

— FEYERA ABDI, SOS SAHEL

"For some years now, we have been following the work of ILC for a more just and equitable world in which rights to land and territory are upheld. We hope that our engagement with ILC can contribute to this mission, and at the same time make us stronger and better by networking alongside the membership."

— JOSÉ AYLWIN, OBSERVATORIO CIUDADANO UNIVERSIDAD AUSTRAL DE CHILE

"It is our honour for SEEDS to be part of the ILC family, and we are sure that this membership will bring benefits to the communities that we serve."

— RAED GHARIB, SEEDS, JORDAN

"Our slogan 'Save the pastures for future generations' is complementary to ILC's vision, so we are sure that this membership is one of the best decisions we have made for our Association and all pasture users in Kyrgyzstan. It is very symbolic to become an ILC member in the same year that the Global Land Forum and Assembly of Members take place."

— ELVIRA MARATOVA, GRATA INTERNATIONAL, KYRGYZSTAN



GENDER JUSTICE

A GROWING NETWORK OF LAND RIGHTS LEADERS

Commitment to creating a gender-just coalition has become a critical aspect for the ILC network. The findings and recommendations of a gender audit conducted in 2017 are being applied through a Gender Action Plan, which was endorsed in December 2017 by the ILC Council and is overseen by the newly established Gender Oversight Committee. In addition, the gender audit is a key input in rethinking ILC's roadmap for the implementation of its overall strategy and Results Framework.

GENDER AUDIT REPORT:

https://www.landcoalition.org/sites/default/files/ilc_gender_audit_report.pdf

TOWARDS A GENDER-JUST NETWORK: THE ILC GENDER AUDIT

The ILC Gender Audit was conducted in 2017 and evaluated the Coalition's work on gender justice and women's land rights. It included an examination of both the external and internal dimensions of ILC's operations and programmes. Externally, the focus was on the two main vehicles for ILC activities – the country-level National Engagement Strategies (NES) and the Commitment-Based Initiatives (CBIs). It also evaluated policy influencing and the operational aspects of grant making, delivery, and assessment. Internally, the audit looked at a number of different areas, including workplace culture, capacity, and leadership.

The gender audit was much appreciated by both ILC members and the Secretariat and Regional Coordination Units (RCUs). It demonstrated that ILC has created a solid foundation for promoting equal land rights for women in its external work and for ensuring representation and participation of women within its internal governance structures. ILC efforts in championing women's land rights issues have already yielded positive outcomes, including examples of good practice in all regions in which its members operate and useful tools to shape future work. ILC has also contributed to increasing women's leadership within member organisations, as stated by a female council member in the framework of the audit: "I wouldn't be in the position I'm in if ILC hadn't promoted me in the way they did, such as by encouraging me to participate in trainings and to attend meetings."

The audit highlighted an increasing commitment to gender justice and a positive change over time towards becoming a gender-just coalition. However, further steps are needed to avoid confusion between gender justice and women's land rights and to strengthen a gender-just and gender-sensitive approach in all ILC operations.

Indeed, the audit concluded that in order for ILC to become a truly gender-just coalition, it needed to commit to a more ambitious and transformative change of its agenda. As such, the Coalition should prioritise building momentum and encouraging ownership across its membership, opening up possibilities for gender-transformative future partnerships and ways of working.

Some of the recommendations proposed by the audit, at both organisational and strategic levels, are already being implemented as part of the Gender Action Plan, endorsed by the ILC Council in December 2017. A committee of members oversees the implementation of the Action Plan, which was launched in early 2018. A first product is the Gender Glossary, a tool that allows members of the network to speak the same language and to have a shared understanding of gender issues.

The ILC Council's decisions on the implementation of the Gender Action Plan mark a major milestone on the path to transformative change.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships play a variety of important roles in the ILC network, from connecting members with other land actors and providing access to new resources to adding strength and credibility to the campaigns and advocacy efforts of ILC members.

ILC's Charter allows organisations which cannot become members of the network but which members consider to be important partners – such as government agencies – to join as Strategic Partners and to participate actively in the network. Strategic Partners currently include the German Ministry for Development Cooperation (BMZ), Irish Aid, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, the European Commission, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

The past three years have seen Strategic Partners engage fruitfully in a growing number of global and national processes in which the network is involved, such as the reclassification of the [land indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) and supporting the recent mission to respond to human rights abuses against members in [Guatemala](#), Ireland's new policy on international development, and NES platforms in Tanzania and Cameroon.

Strategic Partnerships bring an additional dimension to the vibrancy of the network and help open doors to new opportunities for ILC members.

BUILDING A BETTER NETWORK THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS: IRISH AID AND ILC

Building effective partnerships beyond the ILC membership is an important aspect of the Coalition's first strategic objective, "Connect". ILC's approach to partnerships has been to focus on encouraging partners to engage directly with the network, particularly at the national level, so that members can benefit from their unique perspectives and access to other actors. ILC's core donors also have the status of Strategic Partners, creating opportunities for partnership beyond their role in funding the network. An example of how beneficial such partnerships can be for the work of the coalition has been that with [Irish Aid, the Government of Ireland's international development agency](#).

Irish Aid's relationship with ILC initially developed thanks to earmarked funding for the Women's Land Rights initiative, but grew through the Irish embassy in Tanzania when Irish Aid provided support for the Tanzanian National Engagement Strategy (NES). According to Sarah McIvor of Irish Aid, success stories from this early engagement, particularly related to Irish Aid's priorities of supporting rangeland users and pastoralists, prompted the agency to explore ways to deepen its engagement with the ILC network: "We found that ILC aligned well with our own objectives and priorities, such as reducing global hunger, promoting



resilience, ensuring that economic growth is inclusive, and protecting human rights. We particularly like ILC's focus on people-centred land governance and how it aligned with our own policy on international development – One World, One Future.”

Irish Aid's goals in partnering with ILC are to contribute to the implementation of the Coalition's strategy, which Irish Aid sees as playing a critical role in advancing land rights worldwide. ILC's operations in Irish Aid's main countries of focus (Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Sierra Leone) is also an important factor. “The objective of our partnership has been to ensure land rights for poor and marginalised land users. There is a strong crossover between ILC's membership and our partner countries, so becoming a part of the ILC network has added greatly to what our embassies can achieve in these countries,” Mclvor explained.

Irish Aid has also committed to a focus on ensuring the participation of women in decision making around land rights issues, recognising both how critical women are to smallholder farming in sub-Saharan Africa and how difficult it can be for them to access land and have their voices heard by policy makers in the region. For this reason, ILC's Commitment 4 – Equal Land Rights for Women – is of particular importance to the partnership with Irish Aid, according to Mclvor. She also noted the progress that ILC has been making in conducting its gender audit and Gender Action Plan.

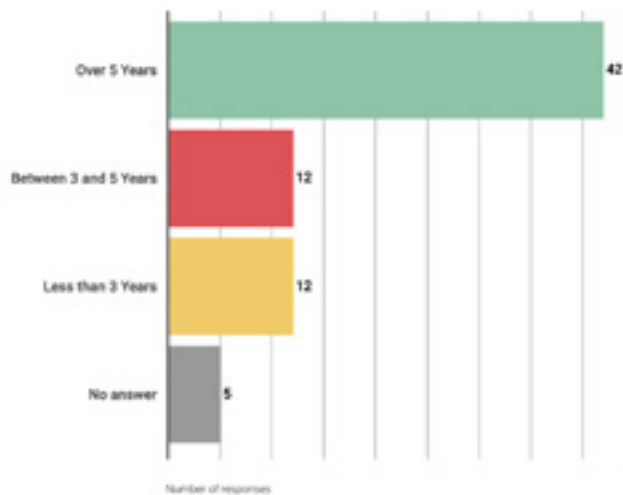
Irish Aid's consultation to develop its new policy on international development also gave the ILC network an opportunity to share lessons on the importance of land rights to the proposed priorities of gender equality, reducing humanitarian need, climate action, and governance. Inputs to formulation of the policy were made through a combined ILC submission, with confidence that Ireland's priorities will remain in alignment with the Coalition's own priorities and values and that this strategic partnership will continue to grow and succeed.

NETWORK SURVEY

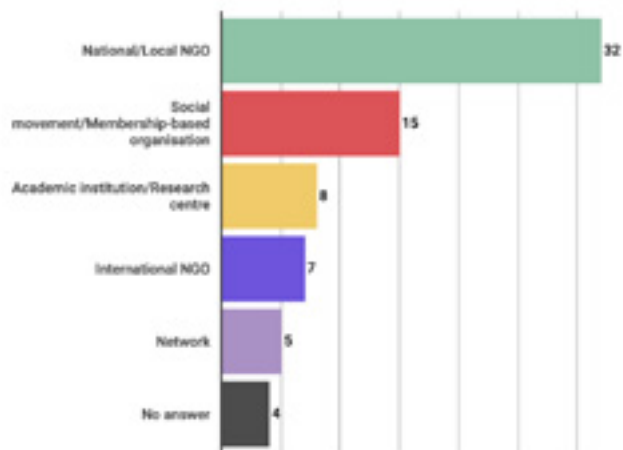
In response to internal structural changes to its network, the ILC carried out an online performance survey to determine how these changes are perceived by its members and affect the overall dynamics of the network.

The questionnaire was sent to 202 members in English, French, Spanish, and Russian from March 6, 2018 to May 16, 2018. 71 members (35% of all contacted members) responded to survey on-line but had the option to complete it off-line if necessary. The survey was limited to those who had a basic level of Internet access. From experience, we do not believe that this makes the data significantly less representative.

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS: LENGTH OF MEMBERSHIP

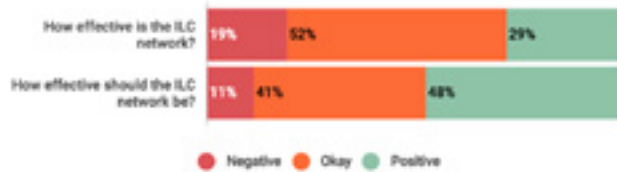


MEMBER ORGANISATIONS: TYPE OF ORGANISATION

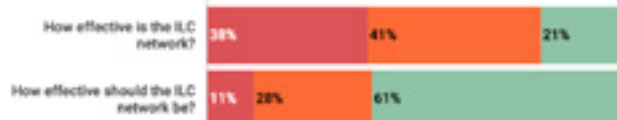


HOW EFFECTIVE IS THE ILC NETWORK?

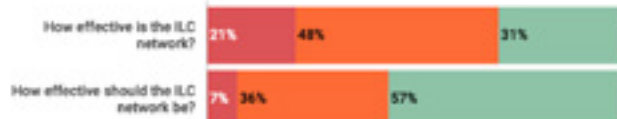
Enabling new partnerships



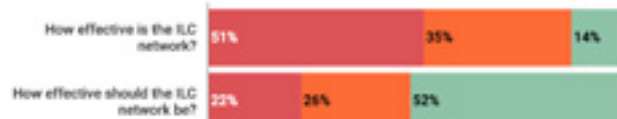
Coordinating advocacy



Creating new knowledge



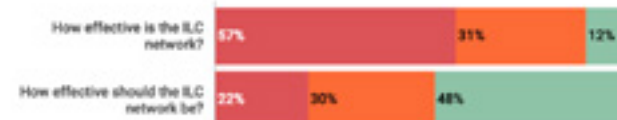
Providing technical assistance



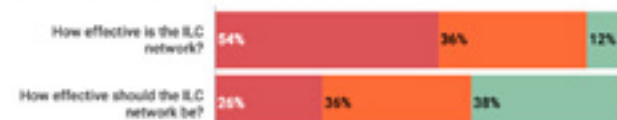
Providing learning opportunities



Providing institutional strengthening

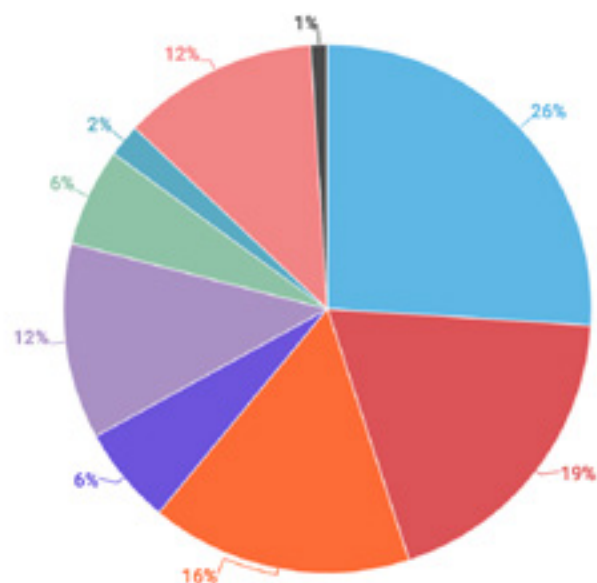


Providing financial support to members

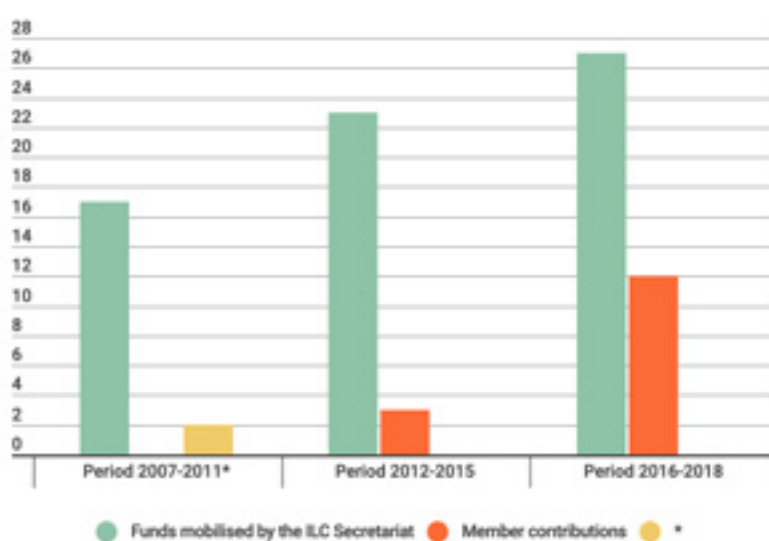


FINANCIAL REPORT

WHO ARE OUR DONORS?

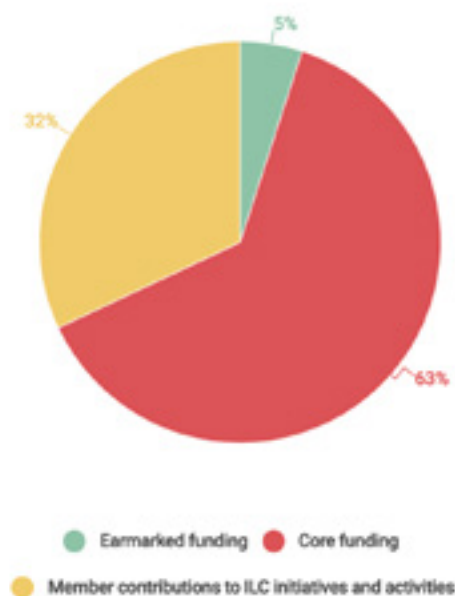


BUDGET TRENDS 2007-18



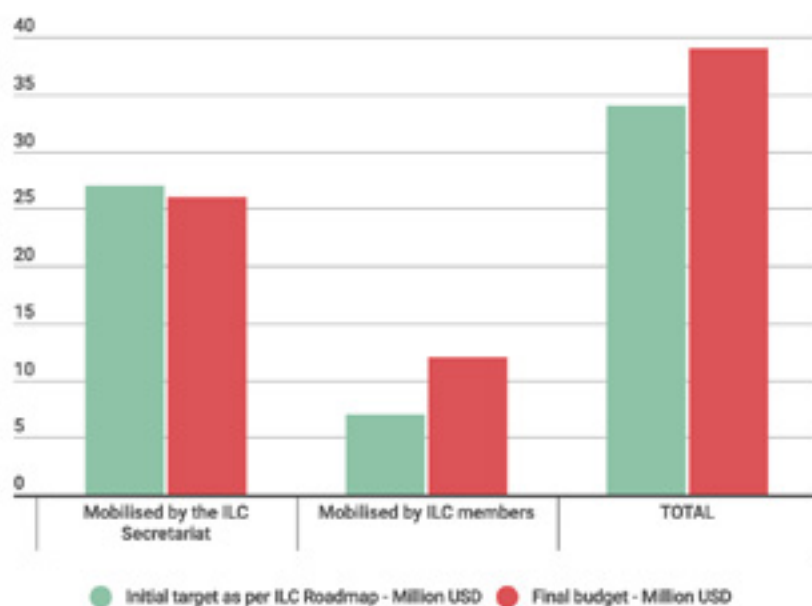
*ILC started to track member contributions from 2013 onwards and no reliable information is available for previous years.
Note: The amount of member contributions is based on what ILC member organisations indicate in the course of the implementation of joint initiatives.

FUNDS BY CATEGORY 2016-18



Note: the amount of member contributions is based on what ILC member organisations indicate in the phase of implementation of NES and CBI initiatives.

FUNDS MOBILISED vs. INITIAL TARGETS (2016-18)

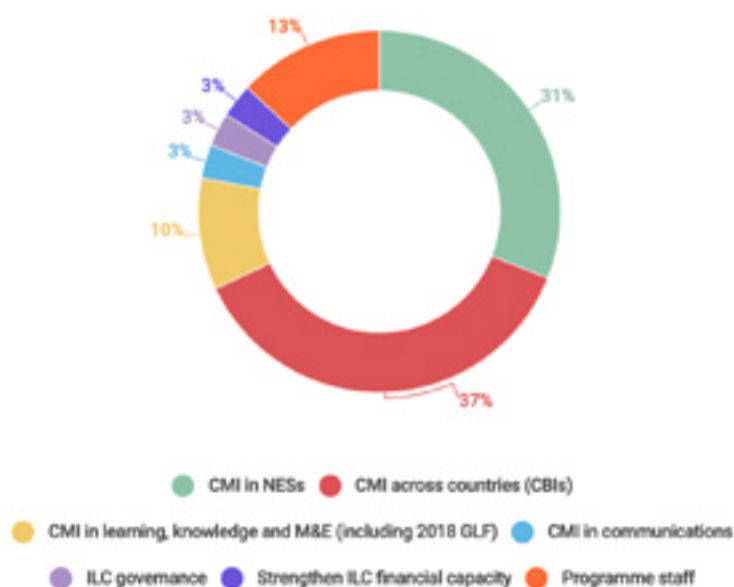


TOTAL BUDGET ALLOCATION 2016-18



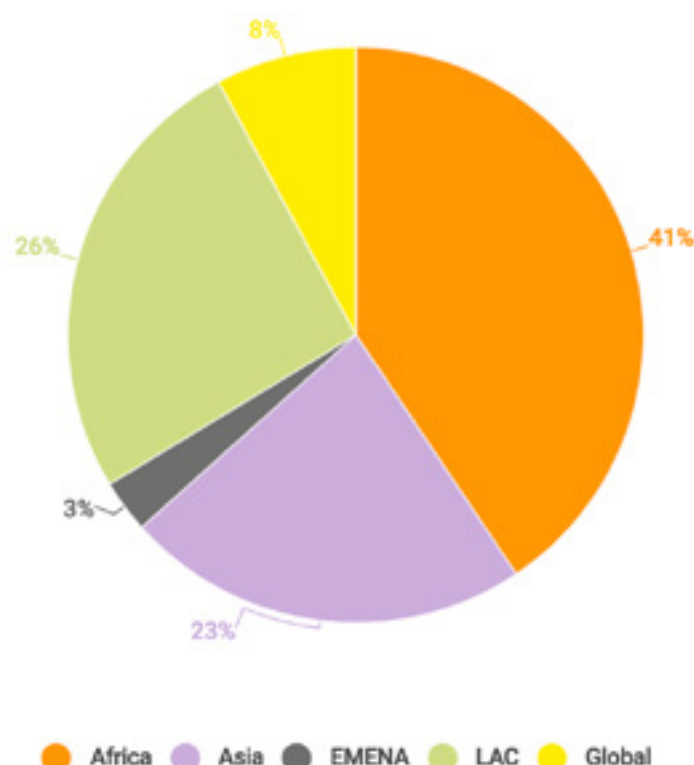
Note: Based on ILC audited financial statements with the exception of 2018, based on the 2018 AWP&B as approved by the 31st Council.

TOTAL BUDGET ALLOCATION 2016-18: DIRECT COSTS



Note: Based on ILC audited financial statements with the exception of 2018, based on the 2018 AWP&B as approved by the 31st Council.

OPERATIONAL FUNDING TO ILC MEMBERS: REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION 2016-18



Note: 2016-18 Operational funding to ILC members amounts to USD 13.9 Million, based on ILC internal calculations. 2018 data refer to ILC initiatives and activities committed during the first half of the year.



Note: Based on ILC audited financial statements with the exception of 2018, based on the 2018 AWP&B as approved by the 31st Council. Membership dues have accrued into the Reserve Fund, as per the decision of the 26th Council. As of January 2018, these assets amount to USD 433 889.

ANNEX 1

Outcome-Level Results for Multi-Stakeholder Platforms in National Engagement Strategies

Changes in laws and policies: since 2016, thanks to the efforts of members of NES platforms, 14 pieces of land legislation have been amended in 11 different countries in favour of people-centred land governance.

Changes in Policy					
Country	ILC Commitments contributed to (1-10)	Date (last updated)	Number of changes in policies	Countries	Description
Bangladesh	1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9	5 January 2017	1	1	In 2016, ALRD's persistent advocacy and mobilisation efforts resulted in amendments being made to the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) Land Dispute Resolution Act.
Bolivia	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9	31 August 2017	1	1	Ten norms have been promulgated by municipal governments, improving conditions for the joint management of common territories by the State and farming communities.
Cambodia	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10	20 June 2018	2	1	Following an intervention by the Prime Minister, Hun Sen, in November 2017 the Minister of Agriculture suspended a controversial new draft law on agricultural land that has been criticised for failing to address concerns raised by civil society and farmers' organisations.
Ecuador	1, 2, 3, 7, 9	6 March 2016	1	1	Issues raised by NES Ecuador have been addressed in the new Land Law (Ley de Tierras), though there are still many areas of concern in the new legislation (e.g. no restrictions

					on foreign investment).
India	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9	31 July 2017	1	1	In Madhya Pradesh state, the Chief Minister approved the National Rural Homestead Bill in Cabinet, and on 24 March 2017 the bill was passed in the state's Legislative Assembly.
Madagascar	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	6 March 2018	2	1	Land law proposals adopted by the National Assembly in December 2017 were amended in light of inputs from the NES platform, and finally approved by the High Constitutional Court in 2018. Similarly, a new law on Special Economic Zones, introduced in 2017, was passed with amendments in 2018 after being declared unconstitutional thanks to advocacy efforts by the NES platform.
Malawi	1, 4, 7, 8, 9	31 December 2016	1	1	At the national level, 10 land and land-related laws were approved by the Parliament and assented to by the President in 2016, including the Land Act, the Physical Planning Act, the Land Survey Act, the Customary Land Act, and the Registered Land (Amendment) Act.
Nepal	1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10	1 January 2017	1	1	The Government of Nepal amended the Land Act policy for the sixth time to protect the rights of registered tillers, who will be entitled to receive half of the land they have been tilling from their landlords.

Peru	1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 10	14 July 2018	2	1	NES Peru argued against the proposed Legislative Decree No. 1333 which sought to expropriate communal lands, winning backing from two congressional caucuses (Fuerza Popular and Frente Amplio) for its repeal and in July 2018 achieving the derogation of provisions that violated the rights of Indigenous Peoples. Norms have also been changed through ministerial resolutions (e.g. RM 194/2017 MINAGRI on indigenous lands), thanks to advocacy by ILC members through the Plataforma para la Gobernanza Responsable de la Tierras and their participation in the National Consultative Council.
Philippines	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2 October 2017	1	1	The Department of Agrarian Reform postponed the implementation of Administrative Order No. 4 on Agribusiness Venture Arrangements (AVAs) in 2016 in order to amend provisions that were found to be disadvantageous to farmers and IPs.
Togo	1, 2, 4, 9	28 June 2018	1	1	After many years of advocacy, the Ministry of Agriculture approved the proposed new Land Code and passed it to the National Assembly, where it was finally adopted on 5 June 2018.
			14	11	

Changes in Agenda

In total, 45 governments, municipalities, international institutions, private sector actors, and other relevant change makers have provided a recognised role for ILC member platforms in transformative processes over the past three years.

Changes in Practice

In all, 19 countries have demonstrated changed practices that have been catalysed by ILC members.

[GO BACK TO NES REPORT](#)

ANNEX 2

Changes in Practices - countries demonstrating changed practices catalysed by ILC members					
Initiative	Country/ Countries	Commitments it contributes to 1-10	Date Last Updated	Number of changes in policies	One sentence description
SECURE TERRITORIAL RIGHTS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES	ARGENTINA	5	22 August 2016	1	Precautionary measures were obtained as litigation annotation and prohibition of transfers and evictions preventing possible land transfers of the Mapuche Indigenous Community respecting the art. 12 and 13 of the law n. 2287, requesting land restitution and recognition to communities.
	PERU PARAGUAY BRAZIL	3, 5	30 May 2018	3	1. Government of Paraguay takes steps to implement Inter-American Court Ruling on Yakye Axa 2. Government of Peru signs agreement on Right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent in Lote 192 3. In August the Supreme Court of Brazil ruled unanimously in favour of indigenous land rights in two separate lawsuits on Indigenous land claims in the State of Mato Grosso.
EQUAL LAND RIGHTS FOR WOMEN	INDIA, BANGLADESH, CAMBODIA, NEPAL, INDONESIA	4	06 December 2017	6	1. In India, the participation of local government representatives in the leadership training programmes has ensured that in East Singbhum in Jharkhand in the forest major area of Mosaboni block, Forest Land in being allotted to local forest dwellers in the name of local women. 2. In India, women's collectives are being provided the right to forest resources for SHG activities under the Forest Rights Act. 3. In Cambodia, it was decided to recruit more women members in Community Forest Patrolling activity 4. In Indoneisa, the Kasepuhan community agreed to choose all women on the cooperative managerial position. Afirst women-led cooperative that would exist in Kasepuhan communities, which consists of 522 communities in Lebak Regency 5. The Joint Land Ownership Working Guidelines came out on the MoLRM website and was passed by the ministry level decision on May 8 2017. According to the guideline, couples who are interested in acquiring JLO can submit applications themselves and they do not need to pay for scribe. This has tremendously boosted the process of joint land ownership. 6. In Bangladesh, women-centric co-operatives are now functional where women are leading the collectives in best utilising cooperative system.
Rangelands/ DIVERSE TENURE SYSTEMS	KENYA, TANZANIA, ETHIOPIA, CAMEROON, SENEGAL, BENIN	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	09 July 2018	3	1. In Tanzania, the process of Joint Village Land use planning has also registered more consultations of CSOs by government in the policy and planning reforms, dialogue sessions and inputs in the planning guidelines. 2. The engagement by the government representatives in exchange visit to Cameroon to share the experience of JVLUP is a clear demonstration of the change in practice. The initiative has created more capacity for members to contribute with focus on the rangelands security and users rights through the pastoral codes, national level constitutional and policy discourse. 3. In Ethiopia, the engagement with local level government land use planning and securing of the grazing areas has consistently influenced the national/state level engagement with the pastoral issues.
	CAMEROON, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, TANZANIA	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9	30 May 2017	1	In Kenya, the Rangelands supported the Land Commission to produce the National County Spatial Plans Guides and reproduction of the Leaders' guide both documents were finally Launched on 13th April, 2017.
	MONGOLIA, INDIA	3	31 October 2017	2	1. KAFLU in Kyrgyzstan and NADF in Tajikistan working actively on PCLG by improving of pasture management at local level through PUGs and Pasture use associations 2. NAPUG, new ILC member in Mongolia is extensively implementing improving institutional structure of pasture management on the base of contractual agreement for PUGs at all levels of local administration.

LOCALLY-MANAGED ECOSYSTEMS	BOLIVIA, PARAGUAY, CHILE, ARGENTINA, BRASIL, VENEZUELA, HONDURAS, EL SALVADOR, NICARAGUA, GUATEMALA	6	08 November 2017	1	In Argentina, with ILC as signatory and promoter, a negotiation table was created between the Water Management and Access Bureau and public-sector decision-makers, in order to obtain resources and define policies.
INCLUSIVE DECISION-MAKING	EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS	2, 6, 7	01 October 2017	1	1. Opening of the Executive Secretary of the Trifinio Plan to some national public institutions present in the region, to create spaces for inclusion and participation of social organizations. 2. Strengthening articulation and joint inter-institutional action started in 2016 and reinforced in 2017, through joint action planning.
EFFECTIVE ACTIONS AGAINST LAND GRABBING	CAMEROON	1, 2, 4, 9	25 August 2017	1	1. Institutionalization of Participatory Mapping as a Tool for Identifying and Securing Land of Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples 2016
PROTECTED LAND RIGHTS DEFENDERS	NICARAGUA, HONDURAS, EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, COLOMBIA, PERÚ, CHILE, URUGUAY	10	30 July 2018	1	In Guatemala, there is a technical panel with the Public Ministry to address cases of persecution and criminalization of defenders of land and territory.
TRANSPARENT AND ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION	BANGLADESH, CAMBODIA, INDIA, INDONESIA, KYRGYZ REPUBLIC, NEPAL, PAKISTAN, PHILIPPINES	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	30 June 2018	2	1. For the preparation of the Land Watch Asia Country Monitoring Reports, the partners have engaged various government agencies in the stage of data gathering. 2. In the Philippines, the PSA has begun to include the ANGOC in regular consultations and information dissemination events for their knowledge products.
	VENEZUELA	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	30 January 2017	2	1. The OVTierras project has made contributions to the public debate, especially in relation to a new agrarian legislation and a public policy framework for the agriculture sector. 2. The National Assembly has incorporated the participation of Acción Campesina within the Agrifood Subcommittee and has taken the legislative initiative proposed by the project within its work agenda.
EQUAL LAND RIGHTS FOR WOMEN	INDIA	5, 3, 8	21 May 2016	1	The project helped to establish legal claim over forest land using the provision of Forest Rights Act, 2006. It strengthened the forest protection and management initiatives of community by facilitating.
EQUAL LAND RIGHTS FOR WOMEN	INDIA	5, 3, 8	21 May 2016	0	Two Livelihood and Forest management plans in 2 villages have been produced (mentioned above)

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Changes in policies- changed policies/laws catalysed by ILC members

Initiative	Country/ies	Commitments it contributes to 1-10	Date Last Updated	Countries with changes in policies	One sentence description
Rangelands/ DIVERSE TENURE SYSTEMS	CAMEROON, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, TANZANIA	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9	30 May 2017	1	On 31st August, 2016 the Community Land Act in Kenya was assented to and became effective on the 21st of September, 2016. The Act and the subsequent guide used to operationalise the law was influenced by the engagement of Rangelands Africa with the Pastoralists Parliamentary Group.
	Mongolia, India, Kazakhstan	3	31 October 2017	1	New "Law on Pastures" was approved in Kazakhstan in 2017, which is first time policy and legal framework this country focused on the development and implementation of pasture management plan at local level.
	Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Cameroon, Senegal, Benin	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	09 July 2018		NA- see above

Changes in Agendas and Number of institutions that have provided a recognised role to ILC member platforms in transformative processes

Initiative	Country/ies	Commitments it contributes to 1-10	Date Last Updated	Changes in agendas #	One sentence description	Institutions provide recognised role to ILC member platforms
SECURE TERRITORIAL RIGHTS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES and Community land rights	Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo DRC, Botswana, Burundi, Tanzania	5	31 May 2018	1	Baringo's Governor committed to take initial steps towards the participatory development of the lake Bogoria Management Plan, after ILC members' country level advocacy in Kenya, as result of the Initiative led by ILC members for Indigenous Peoples Rights (Africa CBI 5). Their work supported the Endorois Welfare Council in Kenya, facilitating the dialogue with the local Government of Baringo. As consequence a second follow up dialogue is expected to occur before the end of the 2018 with the aim of discussing settlement for landless Endorois communities.	1 (governor)
	NICARAGUA, MEXICO, PERU, BOLIVIA, ECUADOR, GUATEMALA	1, 4, 5, 6	01 May 2018	2	The members in Latin America engaged in the Platform for securing Indigenous rights (LAC CBI 5), supported the elaboration of a development plan of the indigenous territory of Wanki Awala Kupia in the Northern Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua. Members of this initiative obtained a public hearing on the right of consultation to indigenous peoples and ILO convenant 169 in the Guatemalan Congress, and provided strategic support to develop a proposal from indigenous organisations towards the national recognition of their rights.	2 (guatemalan delegations, Guatemalan Congress)
	Nepal and Liberia and LRN Campaign	3, 5	30 May 2018	2	More than 800 organisations adhere to the Land Rights Now Campaign supported by ILC and engaged by many ILC members. The Government of the Netherlands officially supports the campaign. As result of the Campaign, in Nepal the Local government commits to resolve Tharu Indigenous land rights, September 2017 with a declaration from the Municipal Head of the Kailali and Bardiya districts - "When I took oath of office, I made a commitment that I shall play a primary role in resolving the problems of the landless and the squatters. We shall provide required assistance for operation of the Community Land Reform Practice Program. In Liberia the Senate receive the Civil Society Working on Land for a hearing Four indigenous women presented the CEDAW Alternative Report and had the opportunity to engage with the CEDAW Committee during the Thailand State Review in 2017 and give specific recommendations for the protection of indigenous women human rights defenders. The recommendations were welcomed by the Committee who, in its concluding observations included issues of indigenous women under a variety of issues, including right to nationality, participation in decision-making process, protection of women rights defenders and rural women rights. The Committee also asked the State Party to provide information in the next periodic review on measures in favour of from ethnic and religious minorities and indigenous women; it also recommended that Thailand to Ratify Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No.169) of the International Labour Organization. This increasing attention to indigenous women's rights from the Committee represents a significant step forward to promote their rights at local level.	2 (Nepal and Liberia)
EQUAL LAND RIGHTS FOR WOMEN	THAILAND	4, 5, 7, 8, 10	31 July 2017	1	There is an increase in the sensitivity of judges to gender justice and good practice in women's access to land and the securing of women's expanding land rights. Judges have started treating equally men and women when it comes to conflicts presented to judiciary institutions. These conflicts amount to 70% of all conflicts presented in tribunals, whose ruling were in the past discriminating against women in line with customary practices.	1
	BURUNDI	1, 4	31 December 2016	1	Under the umbrella of ensuring gender justice in Asia, ILC members in Nepal trained people's representatives are highlighting joint land titles working towards budget allotment of land rights. The Minister for Finance announced the fee waiver for joint titling following a series of dialogues.	1
	INDIA, BANGLADESH, CAMBODIA, NEPAL, INDONESIA	4	06 December 2017	2	ILC Members in Argentina jointly work on the production of an Alternative Report under the coordination of Fundacion Plurales. One indigenous woman and one representative of the platform participated in the CEDAW session in Geneva. Recommendations from the Alternative Report were included among Committee's Concluding Observations. Fundacion Plurales also presented the recommendations of the CEDAW Alternative Report in the "CIVIL SOCIETY-STATE DIALOGUE CALL IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EPU" (Buenos Aires, November 2017), organized by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of Argentina.	2
	México, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Honduras, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, Perú, Bolivia, Brasil, Argentina	4, 7	08 August 2018	1	The ILC Rangelands Initiative together with Ethiopia and Kenya government representatives made a joint statement on land degradation, climate change and sustainable pastoralism submitted to the UN Environmental Assembly UNEA in Nairobi in May 2017. Following the joint statement, the Governments of Kenya and Mongolia submitted a request to the UN for a year to be designated as the Year of Rangelands and Pastoralism (IYR&P).	1
	Global			2		2

DIVERSE TENURE SYSTEMS	CAMEROON, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, TANZANIA	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9	30 May 2017	0	The Africa Rangelands Initiative has supported policy and legislation influencing work in Ethiopia, Kenya, Cameroon and Tanzania working with national governments. In Ethiopia ILRI worked closely with UNEP and the Ethiopian Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change to develop a resolution on sustainable pastoralism, which after discussion and refinement was passed at the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA2) held in Nairobi in May. This resolution encourages UNEP, the United Nations in general, and Member States to pay more attention to pastoralism as a sustainable land use including the protection of rangelands. The development and piloting of participatory land use planning at the government's woreda (district) level by the Rangelands Initiative through Oxfam GB and GIZ in the past years in Ethiopia has contributed to a more established partnership with government agencies. In Kenya, RECONCILE, the focal point of Rangelands Initiative in Africa hosted the Members of the European Parliament in February.	4
	MONGOLIA			1	In Mongolia, hundreds of primary stakeholders from pastoralist communities participated in a National Level Community Forum on integrated pasture and forest management the took place in April 2017. The rangelands users met with representatives of the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture and State Agency of Land Management, to discuss the proposed Pasture Conservation Law and the article relating to grazing fees.	1
	INDIA			1	In March 2017, Rangelands Asia provided support to nine villages in the Rampara Sanctuary of India, whose traditional rangelands had been declared an Eco Sensitive Zone, prohibiting the presence of livestock. After twenty village meets and the formal submission of an objection to new regulations, over one thousand villagers participated in a rally which culminated in a meeting with the Chief Minister of the province and the imposition of a stay on the planned ESZ.	1
LOCALLY-MANAGED ECOSYSTEMS	Bolivia, Paraguay, Chile, Argentina, Brasil, Venezuela, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala	6	31 July 2017	1	The ILC members of the Semiáridos Platform engaged governments in securing land and access to water. As results in Bolivia, Mayors of Macharetti and Villamontes, two municipalities, have engaged with members in roundtable discussions on autonomy and access to water. In Venezuela, the municipality of Lara committed to the Strategic Water Plan. In Brazil, officials from the State of Pernambuco (Caruaru) are engaged with Semiáridos to secure access to water. In Paraguay, the diagnosis of water and women is made with the participation of officials from Boquerón and Pte. Hayes	6
	Argentina, Brasil, Bolivia, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, Venezuela, El Salvador, Paraguay	6	08 November 2017	1	In Central America, officials from the Trifinio Plan participate in the Climate Change Forum, and officials from the Gulf of Fonseca communes take part in the first articulation meeting in that region. The Executive Secretary of the Trifinio Plan has created spaces for dialogue with the participation of public institutions and social and small business organizations in the region. They agree to draw up a roadmap for adapting to climate change in the region, integrating proposals from grassroots social organizations.	1
INCLUSIVE DECISION-MAKING	EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS	2, 6, 7	01 October 2017	0	The Trinational Commission of the Trifinio Plan established the axes to be included in the Trifinio Development Master Plan that it plans to elaborate during 2018. Openness and commitment of the Executive Secretary of the Trifinio Plan (SET) to elaborate public policies taking into consideration inclusion, participation and visibility of rural women of the Trifinio.	Mentioned above
PROTECTED LAND RIGHTS DEFENDERS	Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines	1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10	30 June 2018	3	Under the umbrella of the initiative Defending Land Rights and Human Rights Defenders led by ANGOC, in Philippines, the Executive Director of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) was able to attend the forum on business and human rights last 10 January 2018, during which he committed to personally accost delinquent or non-performing NCIP officials. Under the same initiative the CHR (Commission on Human Rights) & NCIP have taken an active role in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights - UNGP and CSO engagement in land conflicts. In popularising the UNGPs, ANGOC through the jointly-organized consultation with CHR, was able to engage with a private corporation - the First Philippine Holdings Inc.	3
	DRC, Cameroon, Senegal, Madagascar	1, 10	30 June 2018	1	In the province of North Kivu in the DRC, the provincial assembly is reviewing the law on the protection of human rights defenders. ILC members in the DRC in collaboration with other civil society organizations or networks are campaigning with the provincial government for this text to be adopted.	1
STRONG SMALL-SCALE FARMING SYSTEMS	Madagascar, DRC, Togo, Cameroon, Philippines, Indonesia, Nepal	2, 7	15 June 2018	1	The Family Farming initiative supported by ILC, coordinated by WRF and engaged by many members advocated and lobbied with many countries for the adoption of the decade of Family Farming. The declaration of the Decade on Family Farming finally was approved by the UN General Assembly. The General Director of FAO and the President of IFAD have recently produced both letters supporting the Declaration of an International decade of Family Farming together with 7	20
		2, 7	30 September 2017	0 (mentioned above)		
	VENEZUELA	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	30 January 2017	1	The National Assembly of Venezuela has broadened the understanding of land tenure challenges based on evidence collected by the Land Observatory facilitated by Acción Campesina.	1
	SWITZERLAND	1, 5, 7, 8, 9	26 January 2018	3	A G20 statement "G20 Initiative for Rural Youth Employment" in 2017 has referred to the Land Matrix Initiative - LMI as a source of information on land acquisitions. The Government of Switzerland, in a public response to a parliamentary interpellation, in November 2016, referred to the LMI as an instrument for monitoring international investments on Land. LMI database and Analytical Report inform VGGT implementation (Conference in Berlin in September 2016 and the VGGT+5 forum in Rome in October 2017).	2

TRANSPARENT AND ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION	Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyz Republic, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	30 June 2018	7	<p>Under the coordination of ANGOC many ICC members in several countries have open up partnership with various Statistical Offices in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Kyrgyz Republic, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines on assessing the state of land data particularly for reporting on SDG Indicator 1.4.2. In Philippines, the Statistics and Data Resource Management Division of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, chair of the Technical Working Group on Land and Soils Resources Statistics (TWG-LSRS) has agreed to engage CSOs in the adoption/localization of SDG Indicator 1.4.2 in the PSS. The said TWG-LSRS shall serve as the body that shall recommend to the PSA Board on how the SDG Indicator 1.4.2 will be adopted/localized in the PSS. Various agencies on land and natural resources have also been engaged for data collection on the Land Watch Country Paper for the Philippines: Department of Agrarian Reform, Department of Agriculture (DA), DENR, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), and respective bureaus and offices within these agencies. To date, the DA National Irrigation Administration and the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, the Land Management Bureau of the DENR, as well as the NCIP have provided data and substantial inputs for the formulation of the Philippine Land Watch Country Paper.</p> <p>ANGOC's partnership with the Regional Office of the UN-Human Settlements Program or UN-HABITAT has been enhanced. In particular, the Regional Office of the UN-HABITAT has offered to assist in connecting the CBI 8 working group with their respective NSOs at the country level. FAO has offered to review some of the country papers.</p>	10
Engaging ASEAN, SARRC and NHRILR	Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, India, Nepal, Philippines	1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10	28 May 2017	1	<p>The relationship between the Cambodian CSOs and the UN Cambodia Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (UNCOHCHR) improved as a result of the roundtable discussion and regional workshop organized in the country under the frame of the Asia Initiative on Defending Land Rights and Human Rights Defenders. In general this initiative opened up the discussion on Human rights in countries where defenders are not protected. Indonesia and the Philippines have now equipped National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) with focal points for indigenous peoples and on agrarian reform. Additionally the interest and realization that land rights is a human right, for both staff of government agencies and CSOs has improved and this perspective has brought to a new approach of tackling land governance and bring NHRIs to the discussion table.</p>	1

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