

A multi-stakeholder platform

The ILC NES multi-stakeholder platform in India is comprised of the coordinating committee representing ten ILC civil society organisation (CSO) members who form partnerships with national, state and local government institutions, research institutes, and other civil society and community organisations for awareness raising and advocacy related to the formulation and implementation of land and related laws and policies. In future years, the current platform aims to draw in other stakeholders such as international organisations and other networks working on land issues in India.



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The International Land Coalition (ILC)

A global coalition of 152 intergovernmental and civil society organisations formed to promote secure access to land for the rural poor. ILC membership comprises some of the major UN agencies and financial institutions, renowned CGIAR centres and a number of major independent think tank organisations. The majority of ILC members are civil society and farmer organisations from the South.

Strategic Framework 2011-2015

www.landcoalition.org/publications/new-strategic-framework-2011-2015

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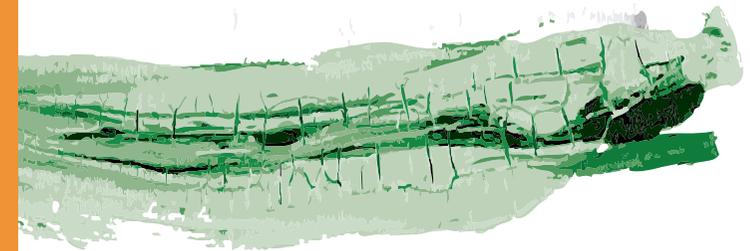
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NES

ILC's National
Engagement
Strategy

Promoting people centred land governance

INDIA



INTERNATIONAL
LAND
COALITION

National legislative frameworks that govern the land rights of rural women and men, forming the foundation for social welfare, are crucial to the work of the International Land Coalition. **ILC's National Engagement Strategy (NES)** thereby serves to engage like-minded partners in a coordinated manner to obtain land-related laws and policies that benefit women and living in conditions of poverty.

Addressing land rights in such a vast country is complex, yet the ILC NES in India brings together actors from civil society, grassroots, government and international organisations, unifying diversities, to identify and address the priority land related issues of rural people who comprise nearly 70% of the population.

Context

Institutions that are responsible for implementing land laws and regulations demonstrate some systemic weaknesses in India. The implementation of land laws fall largely under the jurisdiction of states in India, and in this context there has been limited effort to identify rural people and minorities that face absolute landlessness, illegal tenancy, and land alienation. Increasing commercial pressures on land has also led to large-scale land acquisitions often without information or any compensation for displaced, or respect for land ceiling laws. Further, social institutions of caste and patriarchy perpetrate social barriers to land.

To address these issues, the ILC NES India aims to engage actors in a multi-stakeholder platform to influence **formulation of pro-poor land and related laws and policies** including a National Policy on Land Reforms (in collaboration with the National Land Reforms Task Force – NLRTF), a National Homestead Rights Bill, and a Policy on Commons. Likewise, the NES platform advances the **implementation of pro-poor land and related laws**, such as the Forest Rights Act 2006, the Land Acquisition Bill 2013, Women Farmers' Entitlement Bill 2011, the Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) 2006, and others as discussed during villager self-help group meetings.

Objectives

ILC National Engagement Strategy for India focus on priority areas of action:

- » *Multi-stakeholder platform* to promote people-centred advocacy and knowledge exchange on land and related laws and policies
- » Formulation, implementation and enforcement of *people-centred land laws and reforms* at the state and local levels
- » *Ensure gender sensitivity* in the strategy's activities

Actions

The National Engagement Strategy will be implemented by:

Comprehensive Land Reforms ●●●●

Multi-stakeholder platform to draft and promote land and related law and policy formulation

Forest Rights ●●●

Facilitate rural women and men to avail themselves of people-centred provisions of forest laws and policies through trainings and information sessions, and use information for policy review

Pastorals/Commons ●●

Sensitise national, state and local leaders on rights of communities on pastures and commons through multi-stakeholder consultations and lobby for implementation

Commercial Pressures on Land ●●●●

Raise awareness on national large scale land acquisitions and related evictions undertaken without informed consent. Review land acquisition laws and policies

Land and Livelihood ●●

Build capacity for poor rural women and men to retain their rights to land and related resources



- **Awareness raising (AR)** include informing rural women and men to realise their rights and dissemination of good and bad practices in land related issues to the public and policymakers; and media campaigns.
- **Capacity building/empowerment (CB)** activities include the establishment of self-help groups at village and community levels; training and capacity building for instance on land use mapping and follow-up. Note: Capacity building can also occur for activities related to awareness raising, policy advocacy and knowledge generation.
- **Knowledge generation (KG)** production of knowledge to inform decision makers such as through case studies, databases, assessments and reports, and alternative CSO reports to international conventions.
- **Policy Advocacy (PA)** activities include community mobilisation campaigns and dialogues with policymakers