



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

LAND-at-scale

Scaling just, inclusive and sustainable land governance as key enabler for achieving Sustainable Development Goals

Commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands

Just, inclusive and sustainable land governance is a prerequisite for achieving many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Peace and stability, sustainable livelihoods, food and nutrition security, economic development, gender equality, adaptation to climate change, human rights, social justice, and sustainable use and management of natural resources all benefit from improved land governance.

Many initiatives supported by the Dutch government and others have already contributed to improved land governance for many people in many developing countries. Nevertheless, much remains to be done, not only in increasing the scale but also in strengthening gender aspects, documenting legitimate land and land use rights, and charting the developmental impact of land-based investments on local communities and vulnerable people, for instance.

Objectives

LAND-at-scale strives to contribute towards more equal access to land and natural resources, reduced conflicts and competing claims over land and natural resources, and more sustainable and efficient use of land and natural resources for food, housing and production. As a result, LAND-at-scale will contribute directly to SDGs 1, 2, 5, 11, 15 and 17, while it may indirectly contribute to SDGs 8, 9, 10, 13 and 16.

Envisaged outcomes

In order to achieve its objectives, LAND-at-scale will focus on outcomes like:

- Improved, fit-for-purpose land administration and land(rental) markets;
- Improved land use management planning that incorporates fair land consolidation, sound natural resources management and social integration;
- Improved conflict resolution, reduced cases of land conflicts and appropriate compensation in case of expropriation;
- Increased inclusiveness in access to land(use) documentation and land(rental) markets with special focus on women, youth and vulnerable people;
- Increased knowledge and learning on effects of innovative and/or scaling successful land governance approaches that enhance structural change;
- Improved and new action-oriented multi-stakeholder networks, enhancing just, inclusive and sustainable land governance.

Ideas for interventions

LAND-at-scale seeks ideas for interventions that encompass the upscaling of successful pilots, the initiation of promising innovative ideas, and the improvement of knowledge development related to fair, inclusive and sustainable land governance at country/regional/landscape level. Ideas can encompass a single intervention or a series of interrelated interventions that are required to achieve the desired change. Dutch Embassies must provide ideas for LAND-at-scale to the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO.nl). RVO.nl will further develop the ideas with stakeholders in assignments and will manage the implementation as programme manager.

Criteria for support

To qualify for support, ideas must have local support, contribute to the LAND-at-scale objectives and be in line with the strategic plans of the relevant Dutch Embassy. Furthermore, the interventions must be additional to the market and should not be eligible for other programmes of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Moreover, it is expected that over time, interrelated interventions will be focused on a limited number of countries where the chances are the highest to add value to the envisaged structural change.

Supported interventions shall be executed in line with the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure

of Land, Fisheries and Forests (VGGT), promote gender equality and women empowerment and where possible contribute to combatting climate change. Support can be provided in various forms, including knowledge exchange, contracts and tailor-made grants. Non-governmental organisations (NGOs), civil-society organisations, producer organisations, knowledge institutes, governments and companies or consortia may be eligible for implementation.

Geographic focus

LAND-at-scale is open to all countries that are listed on the OECD DAC list of ODA recipients. Preference, however, will be given to ideas from countries within the focus regions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and to countries where Dutch supported interventions can explicitly be sustained.

More information

LAND-at-scale has an initial implementation budget of EUR 32 million and will be open until 2024. In this 6-year period, LAND-at-scale will welcome further co-financing and cooperation with other demand driven and programmatic initiatives that aim for improving just, inclusive and sustainable governance.

For more information on LAND-at-scale, please check www.rvo.nl/LAND-at-scale.

Photo by Kadir van Lohuizen/NOOR

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NL Enterprise Agency is a department of the Dutch ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy that implements government policy for Agricultural, sustainability, innovation, and international business and cooperation. NL Enterprise Agency is the contact point for businesses, educational institutions and government bodies for information and advice, financing, networking and regulatory matters.

Netherlands Enterprise Agency is part of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy.