



LAND AND THE SDGs

LET'S START WITH THE EVIDENCE

WHY IS SECURING LAND RIGHTS CENTRAL TO ACHIEVING THE SDGs?

1 TO ERADICATE POVERTY AND HUNGER.

Countries where women lack any right to own land have on average **60% MORE MALNOURISHED CHILDREN**.¹

1 OECD Development Centre, At Issue: Do Discriminatory Social Institutions Matter for Food Security? 2012; see also OECD Development Centre, Coding of the Social Institutions Variables, available at http://genderindex.org/sites/default/files/GID_variables.pdf.

2 TO BUILD A WORLD OF JUSTICE WHERE HUMAN RIGHTS ARE PROTECTED FOR ALL.

Inadequate tenure rights, unequal land distribution and economic pressure on natural resources translate into massive human rights violations. At least **200 LAND AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAND DEFENDERS KILLED** in 2016.²

2 Global Witness. Defenders of the Earth Report, 2016. Available at <https://www.globalwitness.org/en/campaigns/environmental-activists/defenders-earth/>

3 TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT AND FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE.

In the Brazilian Amazon the **DEFORESTATION RATE IS 11 TIMES LOWER IN INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' AND COMMUNITY FORESTS**.

In the Guatemalan Petén, it is 20 times lower, and in the Mexican Yucatan, it is 350 times lower.³

3 Common Ground: Securing Land Rights and Safeguarding the Earth. Land Rights Now, 2015. Web.

THE SOLUTION: PEOPLE CENTRED LAND GOVERNANCE

Progress on the ILC's 10 Commitments will contribute to at least 13 goals 59 targets relating to People-Centred Land Governance



NO LAND RIGHTS, NO SDGs!

IF GOVERNMENTS FAIL to secure and protect collective tenure rights, coupled with the growing competition on natural resources, we see the severe risk that:

- » **Local communities will be evicted** without compensation – undermining Goals 1, 2, 5, 10 as well as, indirectly, Goals 3 & 4.
- » **Indigenous Peoples forests will be bought, leased or grabbed** by others and cleared – this will undermine Goals 13 and 15.
- » **An increase in conflicts and human rights violations** – undermining Goals 16 and 8.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE?

Building on the agreements already reached in the 2012 VGGTs (Responsible Governance of Tenure), governments should fully implement and monitor the land rights –related Sustainable Development Goals, Targets and Indicators by:

- » **Investing in tenure reforms** that leave no one behind and in policies and programs that respect, secure and protect tenure rights on land and other natural resources for all women and men Indigenous Peoples, family farmers, pastoralists, fisher people and local communities.
- » **Taking urgent and ambitious action to ensure that women have equal rights** to land and other natural resources and decision-making.
- » Ensuring that the 6th Meeting of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDG), to be held in November 11-14, will **re-classify indicators 1.4.2. and 5.a.2 from Tier III to Tier II** to move them toward their much needed full implementation.
- » **Providing political and, with the support of relevant international partners, financial support** needed to ensure that, at country level:
 - » SDGs indicators focusing specifically on tenure rights (1.4.2., 5.a.1 and 5.a.2) and other indicators that are relevant to realise People-Centred Land Governance will be fully implemented;
 - » Progress on land rights and governance will be adequately monitored in an open, transparent and participatory manner that ensure that Indigenous Peoples, smallholder and family farmers and pastoralists are fully involved.

 www.landcoalition.org

 www.landrightsnow.org

 [#landrightsnow](https://twitter.com/landrightsnow)

INTERNATIONAL
**LAND
COALITION**

INTERNATIONAL LAND COALITION We are a global alliance of 200+ civil society and intergovernmental organisations working together to put people at the centre of land governance, through 10 joint commitments to action.