WHAT IS A NATIONAL ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY?

National Engagement Strategies - often referred to as “NES” – are multi-stakeholder platforms set in motion by the International Land Coalition (ILC). They are led by national actors, and include ILC members and partners to promote people-centred land governance.

NES platforms are helping to simplify and unpack land governance complexities by setting priorities and suggesting solutions to some of the most difficult land-related issues in a country.

By working with existing networks, NES platforms are promoting collaboration and bridging the gap between government, the private sector, civil society including grassroots organisations, international agencies, traditional authorities and academia.

Together, these actors develop country strategies and initiate multi-year action plans to influence the formulation and implementation of inclusive policies and legal frameworks. They use ILC’S 10 COMMITMENTS TO PEOPLE-CENTRED LAND GOVERNANCE as a compass, while promoting the Voluntary Guidelines for Land Tenure (VGGTs) and the Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa.

The overall aim is to create just, equitable and inclusive societies where those that live on and from the land are at the centre of decision making.

WHY IS IT WORKING?

» Provides a space for articulating a common strategy and vision for land governance with the support of a skilled facilitator
» Builds links and trust between civil society and government for policy engagement
» Increases political legitimacy of civil society constituencies with governments
» Equips actors with appropriate competencies and skills
» Reduces gaps between local and national land governance agendas
» Gives civil society visibility, credibility and partnership opportunities

WHAT IS ILC DOING?

» Provides technical and financial support to the setting-up of NES multi-stakeholder platforms
» Connects with existing networks to support new alliances
» Promotes linkages with regional and global policy processes, campaigns and ILC initiatives
» Provides cross-country learning and capacity through a Global Community of Practice
» Offers opportunities to members of the platform to increase their visibility and participation in regional and global fora
» Promotes learning by fostering cross-regional exchange, documenting good practices from country experiences, and investing in innovation for dissemination and upscaling.

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**Nicaragua**
The national platform in Nicaragua contributed to securing 260 ha of land for more than 230 families (196 of which were for women). They also carried out monitoring exercises of land transactions in five territories across the country, collecting more than 700 cases to build quality data and evidence to inform decision makers.

**Albania**
By supporting decentralisation reform in forestry, management of 80% of the nation’s forest has been transferred to local government, while women have increased representation in decision-making spaces.

**Mongolia**

**Kyrgyzstan**

**Nepal**

**Philippines**
By supporting the development of indigenous land maps, 4,000 indigenous households have benefited. Moreover, key preliminary steps have been taken for the passage of several proposed laws, including the Notice of Coverage (NOC) Bill, Indigenous Community Conservation Areas (ICCA) Bill, and the National Land Use Act (NLUA).

**Our 10 Commitments**

1. Secure tenure rights (applies to all platforms)
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. Protection for land rights defenders