Land inequality and the role of the private sector

1. Quiz

2. Companies are part of the problem; Can they be part of the solution?
   - Progress in the F&B/Ag sector
   - Where next? 8 Essential Issues for Business Action

3. How?
   - Tactics
   - A value chain approach
1. Quiz

1. Which of the following companies have stand-alone land rights policies?

A. The Coca-Cola Company
B. Nestlé
C. Unilever
D. Cargill
E. All of the above

2. Which of the following companies has developed guidance for suppliers on Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC)?

A. The Coca-Cola Company
B. Nestlé
C. Unilever
D. Cargill
E. All of the above
2. Companies are part of the problem...

- Demand for land is increasing (agricultural commodities + climate action)
- Companies’ business models are part of the problem (direct + indirect forms of control)
- Up to 2.5 billion small-scale food producers depend on land for their livelihoods and realization of their rights
- Inequality in who has access to, controls, and benefits from land is extremely high and increasing
- The result is that more small-scale food producers are being squeezed onto smaller parcels of land or left landless. What land they do control is increasingly degraded.
...Can they be part of the solution? (A narrative for the ps)

- Land is a finite resource.
- The more land companies control, the less that’s available for small-scale farmers, local communities, and global climate action.
- It doesn’t have to be a zero-sum game. How companies use land can work for people, the planet and business.
- We need a shift from the status quo. A better future requires more small-scale food producers retaining stronger rights to more land, having more decision-making power over how land is used, and retaining more of the benefits derived from the land.
- Many international companies have environmental + and social sustainability agendas. Land is the bridge between them, and it is foundational to both.
Progress to date

• Land is not a new issue for leading food/bev/ag companies
• Increased media + public pressure highlighting bad corporate practice
• Company commitments (Nestlé, Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, Cargill, Olam, others) on FPIC, securing land rights, etc.
• Progress on implementation: Mixed
• International platforms (Interlaken Group), standards + guidance for the PS
Where next? 8 essential issues for business action

1. Publicly recognize the extent of the company’s land footprint; promote more local control of land.
2. Know where harmful land acquisitions and land-use changes are at high risk of occurring; take steps to prevent them.
3. Ensure remediation for harms and effective grievance mechanisms, in accordance with the UNGPs.
4. Support business and climate mitigation models that reduce land inequality and secure small-scale farmers’ and communities’ land rights.
5. Invest in landscape management approaches.
6. Work in partnership to help secure women’s and communities’ land rights.
7. Protect human rights and environmental defenders.
4. How? Tactics

- Lawsuit
- Campaign
- Shareholder resolution
- Using legislation (on HRDD, US Customs & Border Protection, etc.)
- Engaging employees
- Cases
- Scorecard
- Investigative journalism
- Engaging investors
- Filing complaint or grievance
- Joint Human Rights Impact Assessment
- Multi-stakeholder group
- Joining advisory board
- Partnerships focused on changes to core business
4. How? A value chain approach (Example, Sugar)
Read more: ‘Doing business on uneven Ground’
new Briefing for business on land inequality

https://bit.ly/3SkMaWZ