Advancing Land Rights Using the SDGs
A tool for Civil Society Organizations
What do the SDGs say? By 2030, the world will have…
Land is Explicitly Mentioned Under Several Goals
And We Know Land Relates to Many Other of the SDGs!
Under the SDGs, Countries Committed to:

✔ Ensuring all men and women would have equal access to ownership and control over land by 2030 *(particularly the poor and vulnerable)*

✔ Ensuring small-scale food producers would have secure and equal access to land *(particularly women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers)*

✔ Undertaking reforms to give women equal access to ownership and control over land

✔ Combating desertification, restore degraded land and soil and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world
To Assess their Progress towards these Commitments

Countries agreed to:

- Track progress using 4 agreed upon SDG land indicators and report them annually

- Submit a Voluntary National Report describing what they have done, every 3 to 5 years
That was in 2015.

5 years have passed!

How much progress have we made?
We created a very practical set of questions to help civil society strategize, report and hold governments accountable.

Here is how it works:

Take the first SDG Land Commitment as an example.
SDG Land Commitment 1
Ensuring secure rights for all men and women, particularly the poor and vulnerable

- Has your country included this commitment in a national strategy or plan?
- Has your country undertaken legal reforms to address this commitment?
- Has your country initiated or expanded programmatic actions to address this commitment?
- Does your country have data to track progress toward this commitment?
SDG Land Commitment 1
Ensuring secure rights for all men and women, particularly the poor and vulnerable

- Has your country included this commitment in its national strategy/plan?
  - If yes: In which plans? What do the domestic commitments say?
    - Is that sufficient? What do you recommend?
  - If not: In which plan could it be included? What should the domestic commitment say?

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❖ Has your country undertaken legal reforms to address this commitment?
   If yes: What reforms? To introduce which changes? To benefit which groups? What is the status of the reform?
      Is that sufficient? What do you recommend?
   If not: What are important changes to address through legislation? How can that be accomplished?

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Has your country initiated or expanded programmatic actions to address this commitment?
If yes: What actions? To address which issues? To benefit which groups? How much has been achieved?
   Is that sufficient? What do you recommend?
If not: What are important changes to address through programmatic action? How can that be done?

Does your country have data to track progress toward this commitment?
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If not: What are important changes to address through programmatic action? How can that be done?

Does your country have data to track progress toward this commitment?
If yes: What does the data say? What will the government do in response to this?
  Is that sufficient? What do you recommend?
If not: Is the government trying to generate the data needed? How?
  Is that sufficient? What do you recommend?
The idea is simple

But completing the exercise in a meaningful way requires:

✔ Combined knowledge that covers all land issues in the country
✔ Political understanding of what could be feasible
✔ Ability to make decisions or to influence decision-makers

匣 Who is doing the exercise matters and the time needed may vary

Our experience in Latin America suggests that it is a valuable exercise
Think about this and join us if you can!

We will provide remote technical support