

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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If not: In which plan could it be included? What should the domestic commitment say?
- 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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If not: What are important changes to address through legislation? How can that be accomplished?
- 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 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?**
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

- 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

