MARCH 12-14, 2019 I India International Center, New Delh

Around people centred land governance in line with NES-India Focus

Theme/Sub Theme: Impact of Land Tenure Security Interventions
Organiser(s)/Institution(s): Anu Verma -ILC's National Engagement Strategies (NES)

India is a hugely diverse society and it faces enormous challenges in promoting a socially, economically and environmentally just development. Land governance in particular is a complex issue aggravated by a combination of systematic legal and institutional failures: the institutions that govern land, market and societies have fundamental weaknesses and are not able to appropriately address the land and property issues of poor rural women and men, Tribal, and Dalits. The failure of land reform processes are bound to escalate violence and unrest in the country. The intricacies and overlapping nature of laws and policies don't necessarily and automatically ensure access, control and ownership of the people and communities over land and natural resources they depend on for their livelihoods.

Likewise, there is no incentive for policy implementers to identify and specifically target support to landless, homestead less, tenants, single women¹, Tribal (Indigenous), Dalits (lowest in the caste hierarchy and face severe discrimination at all levels) and other such communities who face deprivation and inequality.

The session will focus on analysis of the existing policies relating to land governance from dependent communities' perspective with People Centered Land Governance as the focus. The key areas to cover under each policy discussion are provisions, opportunities, limitations and recommendations.

¹Single Women includes widows, divorced, separated and unmarried women among others. This is the group which remains excluded from land ownership due to lack of legal frameworks, discriminatory customary practices and social norms.

