

ILDC 2020: Press Note

Land.

Limitless and bountiful in its life-sustaining attributes, is also finite and, thus, the most contested resource on our planet.

Land has mattered to all, always. Historically and culturally, of course, but now also politically and legally. Billions of lives depend on it directly, as do many multi-national businesses and national economies.

India boasts of a historically evolved, legally pluralistic, content-rich and digitally-enabled land administration system, one that is unparalleled in the world for its size, diversity and inclusivity.

However, growing land disputes, rising competition around land use and ownership, coupled with failing public services indicate the damage that the business-as-usual approach by state and non-state actors is doing.

India Land and Development Conference (ILDC) is a pro-active response to this crisis. It's an attempt to open up dialogue and engagements around land rights, land use, administration, research and advocacy — issues that otherwise remain siloed, and responses to which are often ad hoc and reactive.

Over the last four years, ILDC has been bringing Sarkar, Samaj & Bazaar together, for interface between policy makers, academic researchers working on the ground and private sector actors.

ILDC, organized by a consortium of local and global institutions, is the only platform which provides an opportunity to all three to share their needs, experience and feedback, get a quick overview of the problems and key issues, and discuss the kind of policy and research attention required to address them.

As India moves a decade closer to Agenda 2030, the 4th edition of India Land and Development Conference, being held at Delhi's IIC from March 2-4, 2020, will assess the status, preparedness and pathways of achieving the targets set out in UN's Sustainable Development Goals with regard to land.

ILDC2020's 30+ sessions, about 150 speakers and panelists will be engaged over 3 days in interdisciplinary land conversations to generate more information and evidence for policy, practice and academics. These conversations will inform institutions and their research, share innovations and impact land governance and development.

This year, ILDC is especially focused on furthering the inclusion agenda, and discussions will highlight the need to locate land rights within human rights, women's rights and economic justice.

Sessions at ILDC2020 will delve into rising land and investment tensions, transitions around customary tenure and rights of indigenous communities and the influence caste has on land ownership in Indian societies.

NR Management Consultants India Pvt Ltd.

Corporate Office Address: 55, Bhawani Kunj, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi, India-110070

Regd. Address: 202, Mohan Place, LSC, Saraswati Vihar, New Delhi, India-110034

Tel: +91-11-26895338, 41881234-35/CIN: U74140DL200PTC125243

Email: info@nrmc.co / Web: www.nrmc.co





The problems of enclaved urban villages will be discussed, real estate regulations will be analysed with a focus on sustainable and inclusive options like fair compensation, just resettlements and new tools like Mineral Funds for mine area development.

Engagement with private sector actors will span across sustainable investment and global experts will discuss use of land information for land-market development as well as emerging narratives on how land tenure influences food, nutritional security and climate change; the role of innovative technology and finance in forest sector, as well as trends around forest rights and rights of pastoral communities.

Partner institutions of ILDC2020 include University of Cambridge, UK, Hertfordshire Law School, IIM Ahmedabad, NCAER, Azim Premji University, TERI, RICS, TISS among academia; CPR-Land Rights Initiative, Foundation for Ecological Security, Housing & Land Rights Network, Land Forum, Center For Land Governance-NRMC. The Nature Conservancy, UNWomen-India, GWLO, WRI-India etc. among NGOs; ICRISAT, Global Land Alliance, Landesa, Cadasta Foundation, Land Portal and Thomson Reuters Foundation among global organization

We look forward to your participation.

For press inquiries and interview requests, please call:

**Pranab R Choudhury, Org. Secy-ILDC 2020, Email- pranabrc@nrmc.co,
prchoudhury70@gmail.com indialandconf@gmail.com
Mobile No: +91 7004055220, +91 9437021261**

**Pravanjan Mohapatra, Team ILDC-2020
Mobile No: +91 9437189814**

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