

India Land & Development Conference 2020 Session Concept Notes



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Landesa™
Rural Development Institute



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Land Agenda 2030 Conclaves: **Convening on SDG 5 a 1: Stocktaking & Way Forward**

Organized by: **FAO, Landesa, MAKAM, UNWomen, WGWLO**

Fourth India Land and Development Conference is being organised at India International Centre, during March 02-04, 2020. As India moves a decade closer to meet 2030 UN Goals and gears up to sustain economic growth, ILDC2020 with theme institutions, innovations and information around land governance also plans to have plenaries focusing exclusively on land related SDGs. Underlining the commitments towards land tenure security as part of SDGs, ILDC2020 will host sessions entitled Land Agenda 2030 Conclave to take stock of the SDG preparedness and explore ways forward, around Target 5 a 1 (Women Land Rights) and SDG 2.3 (double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers including through secure and equal access to land).

The idea is to bring together key stakeholders directly or indirectly linked to and involved around SDG reporting and/or achievement around these targets and engage with them in form of a convening for actions. Therefore, unlike other sessions which would take deep dives into more focused issues or topics of interest to one or couple of organisations, these sessions aim a larger stakeholder engagements. The objective behind the sessions is to have a mapping and stock taking of the existing engagements, actors and information around land-SDG targets in India, and to deliberate on ways forward based on stakeholder suggestions and commitments while also exploring inclusive participation and more strategic contributions in subsequent actions.

This plenary session on SDG 5a, seeks to deliberate on the status of women land rights in India from a multi-dimensional and multi-level perspectives, inviting multi-actor engagements in the process and achievements of this SDG indicator. This indicator is considered to have a potentially transformational role in the achievement of four of the 17 SDGs. Gender equality is one of the ten core principles for implementation listed in FAO's VGGT.

Ongoing debates around SDG are more focused on data availability and methodology for reporting. It is essential to have data to diagnose current conditions, to guide policy action, and, particularly, to track and report progress towards governments' SDG commitments. It is also important to have more reporting coming in from more countries, more so from bigger and data-rich countries like India to move this indicators to the crucial Tier 1 status. However, this also require building consensus on the data definitions, sources, and system of reporting as well as an agreement on data sources to be used to measure. While definitions and facilitation by UNSTAT and World Census on Agriculture, experience of EDGE pilot (by World Bank) and potential of data sources like FAO's agriculture census, UNWomen's recommendation and PRIndex database provide

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some directions (Choudhury, 2018), consensus is yet to be built. In India, NITI Aayog's SDG portal has already started reporting this indicator using Agriculture Census. There are also potentially other data sources that could be used. Taking cognizance of data-related challenges, this session proposes a quick stock-taking of India's land data-ecosystem and goes on to deliberate potential options and partnerships in supporting a suite of complementary efforts to promote the generation, reporting and use of land rights data, that are more granular, local and disaggregated, matching India's land administration set up.

While good data may present a transparent state of affairs, policy and legal framework, priority of the governments in terms of budgetary allocations and schematic support along with a more conscious and informed society, would determine how the target of gender equity in land rights will be achieved by 2030. Therefore it is critical to also revisit the gender equitable land governance initiatives by the central and state governments across policy, implementation and citizen-engagement space, which these session also would attempt to delve on.

Land being a state subject in India with its plurality in religion and customs, addressing gender equality requires action at multiple levels in administrative, geographic and social space. This is going to another layer of discourse that the session seeks to raise, dwelling on the existing engagements and actors and seeking how to expand and diversify such interactions, as we inches a decade closer to 2030.

Overall, this panel conversation seeks an assessment of India's movement towards this SDG target while attempting to broaden and deepen the discourses and engagement, by bringing forth these and other such arguments to table. Essentially it seeks to expand and diversify the engagements of global and local actors around SDG 5 a and use this ILDC platform to trigger alliances and commitment in this important journey.

02-Mar-20

Panel 9: Land Agenda 2030 Conclaves: Convening on SDG 5 a 1:
Stocktaking & Way Forward

15.15 - 17.00 Hrs

**Moderator****Dr. Govind Kelkar**, Senior Advisor, Landesa**Panellists****Mr R B Sinha**, Custodian Agency for this Indicator, FAO**Ms Shipra Deo**, Director – Women's Land Rights, Landesa**Dr K P Soma**, National Facilitation Team, Mahila Kisan Adhikar Manch (MAKAAM), and Executive Team, Community Forest Rights Learning Alliance**Ms Kanta Singh**, Custodian- Partner for this Indicator, UN Women India**Ms Nafisa Barot**, WGWLODate and Time: **15:15 – 17:00 hrs | 2 March 2020**Venue: **India International Centre, New Delhi**