

# Mainstreaming Gender Equality, Grassroots Participation and Youth Empowerment



Åsa Jonsson, UN-Habitat/GLTN FIG Working Week, Rome 8 May 2012

# Making land tools reach the majority

**Pro-poor:** Ensuring grassroots participation in land matters, tool development and decision making

**Gender equal:** Making sure that land tools not just benefit the poor, but also work for both women and men

Age-responsive: Involving youth in land matters, tool development and decision making



# GLTN'S CrOSS-cutting themes

1. Tapping the potential: grassroots engagement in land administration and management



# **Grassroots participation**

## Grassroots participation is a

planned process whereby local groups are clarifying and expressing their own needs and objectives and taking collective action to meet them'



# Where grassroots need to be engaging



### Local Committee for the land regularization of Ponte do Maduro, Recife, Brazil

Members: Espaco Feminista (NGO), SPU (Federal Government), CEHAB (State Agency responsible for regularization) and FUNDAJ (research organization)

# GLTN's strategy: working with grassroots

- Ensuring grassroots participations in largescale land tool development
- 2. Scaling-up community-led initiatives
- Strengthening the capacity of grassroots to engage in land administration & land management
- 4. Promoting grassroots participation amongst GLTN partners



# Support to 5 initiatives 2010-2011

- 1. Making the Village Land Act work for Maasai women in Tanzania (Huairou/MWEDO)
- 2. Participatory enumerations for city-wide slum upgrading in India (SDI/SPARC)
- 3. Ponto do Maduro-Fundiary Regularization with Gender Equality (Huairou/Espaco Feminista)
- 4. Communtiy-led disaster mitigation in Lima (Muheres Unidas/Estrategia/Peru)
- Community-based Forest Management as an alternative to titling in the Philippines (ILC/Task Force Mapalad)

# Lessons on grassroots engagement in land

- 1. Effective policy implementation is demand-led
- 2. Grassroots communities have vital information
- 3. Grassroots communities have vital resource
- 4. Effective engagement builds on effective organization
- 5. Better policies come through learning by doing



Competencies for land professionals on gender equality and grassroots participation

Exploring competencies for land professionals:

- Inclusion as a value
- Communication
- Negotiation
- Mediation

2. Addressing gender equity: gender evaluation criteria

# Why do we need gender evaluation criteria?

Women and men do not benefit the same way from land laws and activities

Land policies are developed to benefit both women and men– but how are they translated on the ground?

From equality in opportunity to equality in outcome



# What is the gender evaluation criteria?

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Measurement in a systematic way (evidence)

Help evaluate land laws, institutions and activities making it clearer where change needs to take place

Land tools have often been designed to serve male interests and priorities & to be effective they need to incorporate women's interests We need to know what tools have worked for both women and men, and why, so that they can be shared

We need to know which tools have <u>not</u> worked for both women and men, and how they can be improved

# Why do we need evaluation criteria?

We need to know what steps/aspects new tools should include not to make the same mistake We need to what makes some community-land tools genderresponsive, and how to do the same largescale

(Adaptable) four columns in the matrix The gender evaluation matrix includes 4 parts:				

Evaluation questions in 6 areas			
	Equal participation by both women and men and gender- responsive governance		
	Capacity building organization and empowerment of both women and men to use, access and benefit from the tool		
	Legal and institutional considerations of both women and men by the tool		
4.	The tool includes social and cultural considerations in regard to women and men's access to land		
5.	The tool includes economic considerations in regard to women and men's access to land		
6.	Scale, coordination and sustainability of tool to reach more people		

# **Examples of evaluation questions**

- 1. Is the decision-making process in developing the, and tool itself, transparent and inclusive of both women and men?
- 2. Is the information clear and does it empower both women and men?
- 3. Does the tool take into consideration statutory and customary laws and practices affecting women's land rights?
- 4. Does the tool promote economic opportunities for both women and men?
- 5. Can the tool be implemented consistently and at scale?



- 1. Preparing for the gender evaluation (choosing team, the tool, the tasks & local adaptation)
- 2. Doing the gender evaluation (qualitative & quantitative data)
- 3. Validating the results- using the scorecard
- 4. Sharing and discussing the results and agreeing on action

# Country-level usage of evaluation criteria

- 1. Brazil: Evaluating the master plan, and consequent regularization in Recife
- 2. Uganda: Assessing land administration and land dispute mechanisms in 10 districts in Uganda- 500 interviews

Pilot testing also in Ghana and Nepal Training-of-trainers in June 2012

3. Engaging the 'future' in the present: youth engagement in land tools

# Younger than ever!

- 1. There are today 1.3 billion young people between ages 15-24
- 2. Total population under 25 is 3 billion
- 3. Youth make up 70% of the population in developing countries
- 4. 60% of all urban citizens will be under 18 by 2030
- 5. We cannot talk about youth as a marginalized group when they are the majority (Sommers, 2010)
- 6. Land is often perceived as an "adult only" conversation

# How do we define youth?

- 1. Youth, adolescents, juveniles, teenagers, students...
- 2. UN definition 15-24 years old
- 3. Is 'youth' a Western concept? When is the 'right of passage'?
- 4. Youth vs. children
- 5. Girls: the hidden youth?



# Powerful narratives about youth

- 1. The ticking time bomb: The unemployed, the irresponsible generation, bulge that is likely to bust spreading violence and chaos
- 2. The victims: Young people and young women in particular as victims of HIV/AIDS, sexual abuse, unemployment, trafficking
- 3. The answer to everything: the energy and vision of youth is the key way to change the world

# What is in the literature?

- 1. Youth as an inter-disciplinary analysis
- 2. Very little research and publications
- Youth and development (street kids, displaced by conflict, crime, HIV/AIDS etc)
- Gap in information: Environment & Urbanization (2010 call for papers) and World Bank 2007 report on the next generation (very little on land); DFID 2010 paper on youth and development does not explore land rights



# Literature review: Range of rights for youth

- 1. Economic rights: Land for livelihoods, economic asset, income generation, markets/shopping, skills training
- 2. Social rights: Land for shelter and family life, education, recreation/sports, open space, parks, health (eg one stop centres)
- 3. Cultural rights: Land for community events, religious practices, entertainment, cultural/art events
- 4. Civil and Political Rights: Land allocated for youth projects, information, media, meeting places



- 51 million (46%) of young adults in EU live with one of their parents
  - = DELAYED ADULTHOOD
- Need for rental housing (20% or less live with their parents in Scandinavia vs 60% in Bulgaria, Slovenia, Slovakia, and 78% in Spain)

(International Union of Tenants)

# Questions as GLTN engage on youth issues



- . Are youth a distinct 'population category' whose special needs should be addressed through targeted interventions on land?
- If yes, what are the distinctive youth realities that cannot be accommodated with a generic (age blind) approach to land administration and management?
- 3. Youth as partners in tool development?
- 4. What type of structure and activities?

# Ideas/progress to far

- 1. Norway EGM (Jan 2012) and Youth21 (March 2012)
- 2. Research by youth on youth and land issues (World Urban Forum)
- 3. Youth in land tool development (eg social tenure domain model etc)
- 4. Joint events engaging and building youth competence
- 5. Indicators
- 6. Build champions

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