



Responsible land-based investments

Netherlands' work on responsible land-based investments since the 2007/08 food crisis

RVO-NL

Gemma Betsema, Programme Advisor Land Governance



Netherlands' land governance activities

- Research and learning through knowledge platform LANDac (2010)
- Active engagement with Dutch private sector through LANDdialogue (2014)
- Land governance programming through LAND-at-scale (2019)



LANDdialogue

- Started in 2014; Multi-stakeholder exchange on responsible land-based investments
- Strong involvement of Dutch agricultural and infrastructure companies, banks, insurance companies and pension funds
- High-level Dialogue annually with Minister and company CEO's
- Working groups around specific issues and topics
- Some results:
 - Studies conducted to identify the relationship between different economic sectors in which the NL is active abroad and how land governance plays a role/ poses a risk
 - Closer communication and exchange between private sector, NGO's, academia (still ongoing)
 - Workshops, expert sessions, round tables on topics such as the VGGT, FPIC, fit-for-purpose land administration, Due diligence etc.
 - Participants from private sector drafted land governance policies, referring to the VGGTs, or included land governance in their existing CSR policies
 - Case study development in which specific investment cases were discussed and input was provided for improving land governance aspects.



LAND-at-scale

- A central land governance programme for implementation at country-level, in close coordination with embassies
- Now: portfolio of 14 countries in which project partners are strengthening land governance
- Activities focus on (community) land registration, its link with national systems, building governance institutions, women's rights, climate change and land use
- Responsible investment linkages:
 - In several countries Dutch private sector stakeholders have been brought in contact with LAND-at-scale project implementers, particularly in those cases where new investments are coming in
 - LAND-at-scale programme is managed by RVO, which also has a number of Dutch investment support programmes; opportunities for collaboration within the organization, including brief introductions to the VGGT and land governance, as well as tailor-made support
 - Exploring a possible LANDdesk, a place where Dutch companies and financial sector can come to for tailor-made information and guidance, building on more general responsible land-investment guidelines