



Session Reporting Template

Important guidance on the reporting for the Second Arab Land Conference

1. The lead organisation is responsible to **nominate a rapporteur** for the session before the event and not later than the 15 February and to communicate the name of the rapporteur to the organisers by sending an email to Nicolò Bedino (nicolo.bedino@un.org).
2. The report of the session needs to be sent to the organisers within **48 hours from the end of the session** and at the latest on the 26th February 2021 (midnight), using the following email address: unhabitat-arablandinitiative@un.org Please follow this reporting template for your report.
3. The rapporteur is also responsible to **collect the presentations and papers presented** in the sessions and send them to the organizers together with the report at the same email address (if needed using zip folders, Wettransfer or Dropbox).
4. The **language** of the report can be English (preferred), or Arabic, or French.
5. For any **questions**, please contact Nicolò Bedino (nicolo.bedino@un.org).

Thanks a lot for contributing to a quality Arab Land Conference's report!

Session's title	Masterclass 1: Capacity development to enable good land governance - Progress in Capacity Development in the Arab Region. The role of NELGA North Africa hub
Session date and time	24 th of February, 2021 Masterclass 1 A: 09:00 to 10:30
Lead organization	ALPC, NELGA North Africa
Name of Rapporteur	Nabila Zouhiri, regional NELGA North Africa advisor - GIZ Jennifer Aghaji, NELGA Secretariat
Session Chair (Name, Title, Organization, email address)	Joan, ALPC Moha El-ayachi, NELGA North Africa, m.elayachi@iav.ac.ma
List of Speakers / Presenters (Name, Title, Organization, email address)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joan Kagwanga, Chief Africa Land Policy Center, UNECA, kagwanja.uneca@un.org • Moha El Ayachi, Professor and NELGA North Africa Coordinator, m.elayachi@iav.ac.ma • Jean Doumit, Professor, Lebanese University, Lebanon, jeandoumit@gmail.com; • Salwa Saidi, Professor, University of Tunis, Tunisia, salwa_saidi@yahoo.fr • Oussmane Wague, Professor, University of Nouakchott, Mauritania, wousmane@yahoo.fr • El Taib Ganawa, Professor, University of Khartoum, Sudan, ganawagis@gmail.com;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heba Allah Khalil, Professor, International Consultant- GLTN member University of Cairo, Egypt, hebatallah.khalil@gmail.com; • Sait Lazrak, Professor and Consultant- LG Expert, elazraksaid33@yahoo.fr; • Julia Wenkowitz, SLGA Senior Advisor, Julia.wenkowitz@giz.de; • Nabila Zouhiri, SLGA Regional Advisor, nabila.zouhiri@giz.de
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SESSION'S REPORT

1. Introduction of the session

Within the framework of the priorities and activities of NELGA, a study was carried out on the need's assessment on training, continuous training and research in North Africa for implementing convenient land development strategy/matrix and forward looking implementation plan. The objective of the study was also to review the current land tenure conditions in the region, to support demand-driven research that meets training and research needs of land governance stakeholders, to identify the common challenges of the Arab region, and to develop a tailored capacity development Programme that meet the needs of land stakeholders in terms of training and research.

The NELGA masterclass had the main objective of sharing the findings and progress of the ongoing activities in the Arab region. The NELGA Masterclass aims to create an exchange space to share the achieved results and capacity gaps and recommend areas for collaboration, build on existing achievements and expand on integrated approach to comprehensively address capacity deficits in land governance issues in North Africa.

The session presented NELGA's scoping study on land and tenure systems in North Africa, which focused on Morocco, Tunisia, Sudan, Egypt, and Mauritania, and described the methodological framework for delivering key results. Each location created a bespoke action plan that addressed capacity gaps and needs with a specific target for vulnerable groups.

The session also provided an opportunity to share best practices and highlighted areas for cross-collaboration with stakeholders carrying out complementary actions that would allow them to create linkages with policy and decision makers and better address and accompany land reforms in the region.

2. Summary of the content presented

Joan Kagwanga

In her opening remarks, Ms. Kagwanja appreciates the interest the Arab world has shown to address land governance and notes that it was important that the conversation does not end at the conference but makes its way into North Africa's policy spaces as the sustainable route for institutional development in North Africa. Land policy and land governance suffer from a lack of knowledge and capacity. With little evidence to call for land policy changes in North Africa and the continent, institutions need to focus on research applicable to land governance issues that can be amplified through knowledge exchange. NELGA and ALPC are interested in collaborating with programs that solve this challenge and address the reality that 80% of the land is managed under a customary regime.

Julia Wenkowitzsh

In her opening remarks, Ms. Julia Wenkowitzsh presented herself, GIZ-SLGA Programme and welcomed the attendees and virtual participants for their participation at the Capacity Development Master Class that crowns the achievement of one of the nodes of the Network of Excellence in Land Governance in Africa.

Jean Doumit

To share a case-study on capacity development in land governance areas, the speaker shed light on the Lebanon experience in setting up the land management Master program as a first experience in the Arab region and as an example of capacity development in the land governance sector. Capacity development was crucial in addressing land conflicts, cadastral development, urban planning, and land use to strengthen the local economy. Jean Doumit explicitly shared the ongoing fruitful exchange, transfer of knowledge and advisory missions of NELGA North Africa and shed light on its approaches of setting up Masters' degree programs on land management and building a partnership program with its North Africa member universities. It also stressed the needed training and research actions. He talked about the North African-Arab cooperation framework including the future twinning arrangement between the Lebanese University and IAV Hassan II Institute in Morocco. He finally shared the promising action plan that gather many institutions including GLTN, Technical University of Munich and IAH Hassan II NELGA Node and the Lebanese University.

Nabila Zouhiri and Siraj Sait

Presented a comprehensive review of the methodological framework for conducting scoping studies in five North African Countries: Tunisia, Mauritania, Egypt, Sudan, and Morocco. NELGA aimed to review the current land tenure conditions and challenges in the region and build on demand-driven research that meets the training and research needs of different land governance stakeholders. These research needs will inform tailored capacity development strategy/matrix which closes the CD deficits gaps and supports land governance reforms in North Africa. The scoping study covered a robust methodology that included both quantitative and qualitative, evidence-based and inter-disciplinary data from urban and rural areas across different levels of government and private sector, civil society. Because the development of comprehensive survey is not possible, the questionnaire was linked to broader development issues such as SDGs, human rights, natural and human resources, conflict and migration, etc. Following the principles of leaving no one behind, issues identified covered gender rights, social equity, youth and migration.

NELGA Scoping Study Partners - Heba Allah Khalil, Said el Azrak, Eltaib Saeed Mohamed Ganawa, Salwa SAIDI, Ousmane Wague¹

The speakers were Heba Allah Khalil from Egypt, Said el Azrak from Morocco, Eltaib Saeed Mohamed Ganawa from Sudan, Salwa SAIDI from Tunisia.

Key observations from the scoping study, among others, include:

- Different needs have been assessed and many multi-disciplinary land governance topics are identified for trainings and research

¹ Send his presentation

- The existence of diverse instruments with no harmonized curriculum for land training from different training institutions nor coordination.
- Lack of coordination among land trainers of different aspects of land within training institutions and even within the same institution
- Insufficient coordination & collaboration between National & Local Organizations
- Lack of LG trainings, dispersed and unharmonized trainings which give a blurry idea and vision about land governance issues and aspects
- Slow or updated policy development of the legal framework
- Dispersed land services and lack of coordination among land government institutions
- Inefficient capacity-building programs and few academic programs on land governance. Little to no specialized training solely on land governance which is sometimes subsumed under different studies.
- Open data remains a challenge, and where data exist, it is usually inaccessible, inadequate, or outdated.
- Presence of fragmented land policies and absence of consolidated, harmonized and coordinated, cross sectorial strategy and policy of land governance (*For further information, please kindly request the executive summary of the regional scoping study from NELGA North Africa or NELGA Secretariate*)
- Cooperation and financial tools and mechanisms deficits
- Insufficient involvement of civil society and the voice and rights of vulnerable groups in land decision making and policy development

To address these, the speaker's key messages identified the following:

- **Capacity Development Programme:** that seek to combine partnership, technical and advisory capacities, networking, collaborative work on research, involvement of civil society, mobility education programmes to fully play their role of land expert in North Africa and the Arab Region.
- **Partnerships:** There is a need to build strong and sustainable partnerships among land governance stakeholders. This will help to harmonize and build on an institutional framework to close the region's capacity development gaps. Such partnerships will encourage innovative ways to effectively engage the development of ideas and areas of a mutual learning experience and co-create solutions in the land governance space.
- **Digitization:** By leveraging on capacity development for digitization, it will encourage digital administration, remote sensing research, training and services, English translation. geoinformatics/geospatial information. Such digitization will encourage active citizenry as land stakeholders' newly built capacity will consistently update the land database and encourages digital inclusion. In support of digital inclusions, the use of national land information system, geo informatics technologies, mobile cartography system, establishing of the Geoportal of NELGA land Systems can produce better presentation of land Issues in the Region, data sharing and accessibility in the region, link with other regional and international relevant organizations, foster relationship building among stakeholders and encourage knowledge exchange, access to information, harmonized research, and academic equity.
- **Specialized training and continuous learning:**English translation. The speakers called for increased academic/research exchanges and training workshops while seeking new ways to finance scientific research, linking education to market needs (ex, training in rural enterprise

/business management), especially on new and contemporary land issues. They also recommended leveraging existing research and training to scale up research and policies that can influence land and urban development. They also called for specialized academic programs on land governance as this will ensure that young people have the necessary capacity to carry out land governance and its management following best practices for the region and produce good policy-changing papers and documentation.

- **Financial Tools & Mechanisms and cooperation with International Organizations** : There is a need to mobilize resources (incl, e-technologies) and cooperate with strong organizations to better implement all the suggested recommendations.

3. Conclusion emerged proposals and recommendations

One of the key recommendations taken away from the masterclass was the call for the development of national strategies for land governance, strengthening academia's role in coordinating actions between Private and Public partners, between national and local institutions and organizations. Encouraging the integration of comprehensive and interdisciplinary educational paradigms in training and research/smart technological tools on land governance was also emphasized. It was similarly mentioned that promoting youth/women initiatives for research actions on land governance, especially land right access and equity, is crucial for the way forward. Reinforcing mastering strategies for good spatial and urban development was another point that was raised. The setting up of clear monitoring system to land issues was also highlighted.

In conclusion, Participants thanked NELGA for the session and agreed it was important to not only leave no one behind but to build back better as the land governance landscape in North Africa is rapidly evolving. The meeting concluded with a call encouraging stakeholders to use research findings to address capacity gaps, thereby creating a Capacity Development Strategy and Programme that meets the needs of land stakeholders including the vulnerable people, especially women and youth. They also encouraged participants to link science and research to policy development and policymaking, which is crucial to address land related challenges and accompany strategic and local land reforms with the aim to achieve an effective and sustainable land governance and development of the region.