



## Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition • FSN Forum

### Template for submissions

02.09.2021 - 15.04.2022

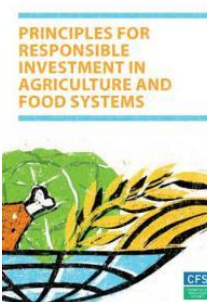
➔ <http://www.fao.org/fsnforum/activities/open-calls/CFS-RAI>

## Call for sharing experiences and good practices in the use and application of the CFS-RAI

### Template for submissions

#### Experiences and good practices in the use and application of the CFS-RAI

Please document the experience and good practices in applying the CFS [Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems](#) (CFS-RAI) in the template below. Please note that if you wish to share more than one of this type of direct experience, you are invited to fill in multiple forms.



<b>Title of the experience</b>	Land Governance Multi-Stakeholders Platform & Responsible Agricultural Investment: A cross-regional exchange and learning cycle for land governance MSP facilitators
<b>Geographical coverage</b>	Cross-regional (Asia, Africa)
<b>Country(ies)/ Region(s) covered by the experience</b>	In total 12 countries, including 6 in Africa: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Tanzania; and 6 in Asia: Cambodia, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines and Vietnam.
<b>Contact person</b>	Name: Yonas Mekonen; International Land Coalition (ILC) Email address: <a href="mailto:y.mekonen@landcoalition.org">y.mekonen@landcoalition.org</a>
<b>Affiliation</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> UN organization <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Society / NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Private Sector <input type="checkbox"/> Academia <input type="checkbox"/> Donor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) Global alliance of civil society and intergovernmental organizations.

(i) <u>How have the CFS-RAI Principles been used in your context?</u>	<a href="#">LandCollaborative</a> is a Global Community of Practice (CoP) fostering cross-regional learning and experience sharing between national Land Governance Multi-Stakeholder Platforms. The CoP provides different types of bottom-up learning and capacity development opportunities to strengthen leadership, and foster accountability in the land sector. Recognizing that MSPs can provide effective opportunities for strengthening the governance of land and natural resources and influencing private sector investment practice so that it becomes more responsible in relation to community interests, and subsequent to several MSPs expressing the need for specific guidance on how to engage with land based investment in rural settings and the private sector more broadly, the CFS-RAI came as a natural entry point and a solid global framework on which to convene a RAI focused cross-regional exchange and learning cycle for land governance MSPs to support RAI domestication in a variety of agri-investments and tenure reform context.
(ii) <u>Which specific Principle(s) of the CFS-RAI was/were most relevant to the experience? (choose all that apply)</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Principle 1: Contribute to food security and nutrition <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Principle 2: Contribute to sustainable and inclusive economic development and the eradication of poverty <input type="checkbox"/> Principle 3: Foster gender equality and women’s empowerment <input type="checkbox"/> Principle 4: Engage and empower youth <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Principle 5: Respect tenure of land, fisheries, and forests, and access to water <input type="checkbox"/> Principle 6: Conserve and sustainably manage natural resources, increase resilience, and reduce disaster risks <input type="checkbox"/> Principle 7: Respect cultural heritage and traditional knowledge, and support diversity and innovation <input type="checkbox"/> Principle 8: Promote safe and healthy agriculture and food systems <input type="checkbox"/> Principle 9: Incorporate inclusive and transparent governance structures, processes, and grievance mechanisms <input type="checkbox"/> Principle 10: Assess and address impacts and promote accountability
(iii) <u>Brief description of the experience</u>	A key requirement for the effectiveness of MSPs is that civil society, CBOs and farmers’ representatives can acquire adequate knowledge, skills and capacity to understand how the private sector is organised and engage effectively with private companies, government and other stakeholders. To contribute to meeting the challenges for greater responsible agriculture investment, LandCollaborative offered a year-long Learning Cycle on MSP and RAI from April 2021 and March 2022 involving participants from 12 countries representing 27 civil society, private sector, and governmental organizations directly affiliated (as members), or representing their multi-stakeholder platforms (MSPs), multi-actor partnerships (MAPs), and National Alliances (NAs). The initiative was co-convened by three organizations: the International Land Coalition, Welthungerhilfe, and the Mekong Regional Land Governance Project.

	<p>The goal of the Learning cycle was to strengthen Multi-stakeholder platforms capacity to implement new strategies, approaches, and partnerships with the private sector.</p> <p>Grounded on innovative social learning approaches, this goal was achieved through a variety of pathways entailing experimenting together in virtual/remote co-learning process to achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting the development of a peer-to-peer global network of RAI practionners</li> <li>• Providing technical assistance to the development of informed MSP/MAP led RAI Strategies and Action Plans</li> <li>• Developing a broad range of guidance material (handbook chapter, tools and case studies) to disseminate lessons learned through the LandCollaborative network.</li> </ul>
<p><u>Who has been involved in the experience?</u></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Government</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> UN organization</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Civil Society / NGO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Private Sector</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academia</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Donor</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) contractor – project implementer</p>
<p><u>How were those most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition involved?</u></p>	<p>During the first phase of the learning cycle, stakeholders’ groups most affected by unsustainable business practices and uncontrolled expansion of large-scale agri-investment were not involved directly in the learning cycle, but represented by the broad range of organizations affiliated to MSPs representing their interests, and advocating for people-centered land-based investment. More specifically, 25% of participating organizations are categorized as network of community based, or peoples’ organizations in which land users including women, youth and indigenous groups, play a leadership role. During the second phase of the initiative, or strategy development phase, concerned communities were directly part of the design process leading to the finalization of the innovation plans.</p>
<p><u>Main activities</u></p>	<p>The learning cycle consisted of several mutually reinforcing phases to respond adequately to participants’ learning needs, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Conceptualization: developing common understanding, sharing experience, sharing of draft diagnostic tool (inception workshp); March 2021</li> <li>– Planning: Diagnosis of Private Sector and Land situation by MSPs/ MAPs feeding into the co-planning of learning process. Joint development of the priorities for demand driven learning activities (co-planning workshop); April 2021</li> <li>– Learning / Action: Participation in series of demand-driven learning workshops and experience sharing sessions; May-July 2021</li> <li>– Reflection: Joint reflection on lessons learned to inform MSP Strategy and Action Plans and contribution to guidance materials (reflection workshop); Sept 2021</li> </ul>

	<p>– Follow on activities: MSPs/MAPs advance their private sector engagement strategies and short-term action plans, finalization of learning materials and dissemination; until March 2022.</p>
<p><u>Timeframe</u></p>	<p>April 2021 and March 2022.</p>
<p>(iv) <u>Results obtained/ expected</u> <i>(for each, specify whether these outcomes are actual (as of when), or expected (and by when))</i></p>	<p>+ 20 interactive sessions have been planned and organised between the kick-off/inception/co-planning/closing workshop, participants' and experts-led session, and issue based collective learning session.</p> <p>Demand-driven interactive learning sessions meant to explain key issues, share knowledge and resources, hear from participants, and potentially bring in external resource people. The sessions addressed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private sector diversity and engagement</li> <li>• Land Tenure issues in investment context</li> <li>• Private sector diversity and engagement</li> <li>• Influencing national RAI policy processes and strategies.</li> </ul> <p>In addition to provide an overview of commonalities (i.e. lack of transparency in land investment agreements, exclusion of communities or the lack of attention on community rights in land investment agreements, and difficulty in engaging with the private sector), and differences among countries (i.e. the type and scale of investments, extent to which a sound and just legal framework was in place and the extent to which it was implemented), the learning cycle led to establishing a solid network of peers with a diverse expertise on RAI wishing to continuously learn and exchange from a variety of contexts.</p> <p>Eleven (11) actions plans are underway and aim to directly engaging with the private sector on the RAI, and expected to deliver increased tenure security for 2'200 people.</p> <p>Most significant changes</p> <p>For CSOs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased capacities to understand private sector incentives and motivation</li> <li>• Direct engagement with front-runners companies and revision of business model.</li> </ul> <p>For Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy support to improve regulatory framework at sub-national level.</li> </ul> <p>For all</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased Cross-sectoral dialogue and trust building</li> <li>• Creation of a global network of RAI practionners</li> <li>• Further domestication of international framework at national level</li> <li>• Cross-regional exchange and dissemination of innovations, and increased partnership between MSPs supporters at global level between co-conveners.</li> </ul>

(v) <u>What were key catalysts that influenced the use of CFS-RAI?</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The centrality of land in the CFS-RAI and the global recognition of the instrument by all stakeholders' and constituencies</li> <li>• Opportunities to synergize with the many efforts underway to support greater policy framework alignment with the RAI at regional, and national level.</li> </ul>
(vi) <u>What were the major constraints and challenges in the use of the CFS-RAI?</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination with responsible government agencies</li> <li>• Lack of capacities - CSO capacity and questions/skepticism about whether reforms will really happen</li> <li>• Lack of incentives for the private sector to engage in inclusive and transparent dialogue</li> <li>• Coordination challenges involve with catering for the diverse needs of a global CoP.</li> </ul>
(vii) <u>How have these constraints and challenges been addressed?</u>	Work is ongoing.
(viii) <u>What mechanisms have been developed to monitor the use of the CFS-RAI?</u>	<p>At national/sub-national level/firm level through the roll-out of the innovation plans which include monitoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• meaningful community consultation and participation;</li> <li>• land-based compensation approaches;</li> <li>• gender implications of large-scale land-based investments, and</li> <li>• the wider policy and enabling environment at national and sub-national level.</li> </ul>
(ix) <u>Based on the experience presented, what good practices would you recommend for successful use or implementation of the CFS-RAI ?</u>	<p>Given their global and rather generic nature, the LandCollaborative co-conveners found essential to combine a diversity of approach starting with in-depth contextualization of the CFS-RAI and reduction in information asymmetry surrounding investment in land and agriculture, followed by blended demand-driven learning exchange, and supplemented with catalytic seed funding to support application of well-informed country specific strategy.</p>
(x) <u>Are there any concrete plans to further use the CFS-RAI?</u>	<p>The LandCollaborative supported RAI CoP is nascent and practitioners have expressed clear demands for continuous learning, and wider support for application and roll-out of the RAI. LandCollaborative is leading on the following work streams which will further the use, dissemination and uptake of the RAI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At national level – continue to backstop national RAI centered innovation plans, engagement process, and partnership with the private sector champion by national land networks, and MSP;</li> <li>• At global level – disseminate lessons through the LandCollaborative global platform to widely disseminate and promote the replication of successful approach and pathways options for RAI stakeholders.</li> </ul>
<u>Link(s) to additional information</u>	When ready all the learning and guidance materials will be available on the LandCollaborative website.

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