Closing the loop: From local to international frameworks in food security and land rights

Organiser(s)/Institution(s): Dr. Chamu Kuppuswamy, University of Hertfordshire, UK

Aims of the Panel

The importance of land tenure security, food security and gender rights to development are well known facts of governance and policy. This session aims to go beyond these notions, and look at them in an interrelated manner. How would increased tenure security reflect on household food security, and how would women’s rights to land reduce food insecurity. At a time when much work has been put in by the international community to shape a common understanding of development through the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 (SDGs), the use of the development indicators and targets under the SDGs is a useful and potentially harmonised tool to assess development and interlinkages. This session will address the land tenure-food security-women’s rights nexus through the lens of the SDGs by presenting data from various sources on specific identified indicators.

The VGGT is an initiative that precedes the SDGs and personifies the nexus between the three elements which is the focus of this workshop. Drafted as a legal instrument aimed at securing the first ever consensus on administrative, political and legal issues on tenure security in the context of national food security, some members in this panel will explore the implications of VGGT in the context of food sovereignty.

The administrative impediments and challenges, the structural and institutional cultures that lead to data collection and evidence-based policy making will provide an overarching theme when addressing sustainable development goals. The role of the central agency Niti Aayog in India on reporting to SDG will be discussed. Examples from other countries such as the UK, on their Office of National Statistics and reporting on SDG will provide another context to assess possibilities for good practice to be emulated.

And finally, methodologies in research for data collection for SDG will be discussed, including the challenges, limitations and opportunities available in the short, medium and the long term. This will encompass discussion including interdisciplinarity, multilateral instruments and multistakeholder focus.

The panel will be composed of a mixture of academics, practitioners, administrators and researchers. Led by the University of Hertfordshire under their UK-India project on tenure security and food security (2017-2020), this event is in conjunction with other partners.

Themes and Presenters

The following themes will be the subject of presentation and discussion at this panel - SDG indicators on land, food and gender - UK and India; Inheritance, gender and land in TN/Salem; Data for SDG indicators; Role of Indian institutions in SDG fulfilment; Women’s land rights and sustainable development; Food Security, Food Sovereignty, VGGT and customary law; VGGT and forest rights; Reports of interlinked Initiatives and policies at the local, state and national levels; FPO scheme in TN – pooling of resources.
# Session Plan

**Panel 8: Closing the loop : From local to international frameworks in food security and land rights**

**14.00 - 15.30 Hrs**

**Chair**  
Rasha Omar, IFAD-India

**Dr. Chamu Kuppuswamy**, Senior Lecturer, Hertfordshire Law School, UK

**Jasiben Makwana, Gauriben Makwana, Kherun Diwan, Shallesh Raval, Jaya Rathod, Sushila Prajpati and Nilam Patel**, WGWLO  
Single Women and Inheritance rights to land: Strategies and learning from Gujarat

**Sejal Dave, Sureshbhai Choudhry, Jayshree Deshmukh, Ravindrabhai Sisodiya, Hiral Dave, Jyotsna Tirkey, Alice Moris, Babubhai Prajpati and Karen**, WGWLO  
Tribal Women and Inheritance Rights to land: Experience and learning from Gujarat

**Sanatan Nayak**, Professor, Department of Economics, BBAU  
Agrarian Relations in Contemporary India: A District Level Analysis