

# PRELIMINARY REPORT ON COUNTRY LEVEL DATA STATUS FOR INDICATOR 1.4.2 - GLOBAL LAND INDICATORS INITIATIVE (GLII), AUGUST 2019

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## Introduction to country level data drive

In April 2019, UN Habitat through the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) and Global Urban Observatory (GUO) Units; with support from the Global Land Indicators Initiative (GLII) contacted National Statistical Offices (NSOs), National Land Registries and SDGs focal points with the aim of mobilizing existing data on land tenure security in response to SDGs indicator 1.4.2. The data drive was conducted in support of UN Habitat Database for Human Settlements Indicators, for which 1.4.2 is part of.

A total of 141 UN member States out of 191 were contacted between April and July 2019. A standardized excel template that provided guidance on the data sets required for indicator 1.4.2 was shared with the data institutions for completion. Open consultation and discussion with the respective offices was sustained via email, Skype and telephone conversations; mainly clarifying the datasets required, relevant surveys for integration of the joint module for indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 as jointly developed by the custodian agencies (UN-Habitat, World Bank and FAO).

## The purpose of this data drive is three-fold:

1. Profile the data that exists, and the level of effort required to deliver country-level data to achieve Tier I status for indicator 1.4.2.
2. Establish a baseline data on SDG indicator 1.4.2 for member States' while building on existing land datasets.
3. Inform the work of the custodian agencies in planning, dissemination of the joint module for indicator 1.4.2 and 5.a.1, and capacity support by partners' including CSOs, private sector, donors, and other development agencies for data efforts.

## Summary of Findings - Country Land Tenure Data Status and Responses from National Data Agencies

As of August 5th, 2019, GLII had received responses from a total of 50 out of the 141 member States contacted as summarized in the Table below.

### Summary of findings -141 countries reached by August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

United Nations Regional Groups	Total Number of Countries (UN Regional Groups)	No. of Countries Contacted	No. Countries that responded (proportion of those contacted)	No. of countries that responded with some data (proportion of countries contacted)	No. of Countries Yet to Respond. (Proportion of those contacted)	Countries that stated the indicator is not applicable in their contexts. (Proportion of countries contacted)	No. of remaining countries- to be contacted in September 2019. (Proportion of total number of countries per region)
Africa Region.	54	41	12 – (29%)	5 - (12%)	29 – (71%)	0 – (0%)	13 – (24%)
Asia-Pacific Region	53	31	13 – (42%)	1 - (3%) **1	18 – (58%)	0 – (0%) ** 2	22 - (43%)
Eastern European Region	23	23	9 – (39%)	3 - (13%) **	14 – (61%)	2- (9%) **	0 – (0%)
Latin America and Caribbean Region	33	19	4 – (21%)	1 - (5%)	15 – (79%)	0 – (0%)	14 – (42%)
Western European and Others (WEOG)	28	27	12 - (44%)	0 - (0%) **	15 – (56%)	4 – (15%) **	1 – (4%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>50 – (35%)</b>	<b>10 - (9%)</b>	<b>91 – (65%)</b>	<b>6 – (4%) **</b>	<b>50 – (26%)</b>

\*\* - Member States whose data agencies responded with a general assumption of 100% of its citizens having secure tenure rights to land as guaranteed by their legal framework.

\*\* - Member States whose data agencies reported that the indicator is not of priority in their contexts and therefore have no plans to generate data and report on it.

## Summary Observations

- So far, 50 out of the 141 member States contacted responded to the request; some with limited data and others without. Out of the 50 member States that responded, 10 provided some land related data, most of which do not explicitly provide the proportion of adult population with secure land tenure rights; by legal documents and perception of tenure security data.
- Some of the responding countries including Liechtenstein, Germany, Finland, Oman, Austria, Sweden, Romania, Slovakia, Guinea, Kenya, Tanzania, Mexico, Estonia, Botswana, Georgia and Tunisia provided a list of all the legally recognized documents used to safeguard land tenure rights in their specific contexts.
- It is important to note that data provided by data agencies from the 11 countries were based on pre-existing data. Data requested by GLII, needed not be fully responsive to indicator 1.4.2. It was observed that data received was either not nationally representative, lacked data on perception of tenure security, was not disaggregated by sex, type of tenure or geographical regions and other levels. Despite these limitations, existence of these data is an important demonstration of individual country data infrastructure and capacities to respond to data demand for 1.4.2 and other land indicators.
- Of the 50 respondents, national data agencies from 7-member State from the Western European and Others Group (WEOG) i.e. (Austria Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Liechtenstein and Switzerland) stated that their legal framework in place does guarantees 100% tenure security for their citizens. Additionally, 2 countries from Eastern European Region (Czech Republic and Slovakia) and 4 from the Western European and Others Group (WEOG) (France, Germany, Sweden and Switzerland) reported that the indicator is not a priority in their contexts and therefore have no plans to generate data and report on it. However, some noted that it would be important for GLII and custodians agencies to engage with the European Statistical Office (Eurostat), the regional body mandated to review and approve data and statistics plans for the region to have the land indicator including 1.4.2 considered for data collection and reporting.
- For most responses received, also it was noted that coordination between NSOs and national or sub-regional land registries/cadasters was not seamless to ensure efficient data mobilization, collection, processing and reporting, particularly for administrative data.
- States data agencies also requested more information and clarification on the specific data demands of land indicator 1.4.2 and related guidance document. These countries include Burundi, Pakistan, Tanzania, Palau, Qatar, Palestine,

Portugal, Estonia, Mauritius, Brazil, Lithuania and Malaysia. In response to the requests, the joint module for data collection for indicator 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 was shared with each of these countries among others.

- GLII also provided technical inputs and virtual support to country level data efforts including discussion on the application of relevant questions for data collection on land tenure security in Zambia's Population and Housing Census Questionnaire; and Pakistan's District Level Social and Living Standard Measurement Survey; as guided by the joint module.
- The overall assessment shows that most NSOs will require technical and/ or financial support to successfully adopt and implement the joint module for data collection for indicator 1.4.2 and 5.a.1; and report on these indicators in the SDGs. Some NSOs including Australia, Liberia, Thailand, Canada, Portugal, Mauritius and Brazil expressed interest in proceeding with data collection and reporting but cited urgent need for technical and/ or financial support from the custodian agencies.

## **Highlights from the Regions**

### **Africa Region:**

- Of the 41 countries reached out of 54 in Africa, Botswana, Burundi, Guinea, Mauritius and Tanzania responded to the request with some land-related data.

**Summary of Data from Africa Region.**

Country	Tenure Security by Legal Documentation; Disaggregated By Sex				Other administrative-related data		Data on Perception of Tenure Security; Disaggregated by sex				Other Perception-related data.	
	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Source	Statistics	Source	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Source.	Statistics	Source
Botswana					81.1% of population has legal documents for agricultural land on Freehold and 18.9% of the population has legal documents for agricultural land on leasehold.	Botswana National Statistics Office-Agricultural Census, 2015						
Burundi	5.4% legal documents for non-agricultural land			2014 Survey of Living Conditions of Households. Burundi National Statistics Office, 2019								
Guinea	10.9	8.8	2.1	Guinea 2014 General Census of Population and Housing.								
Mauritius	92.8*	92.8*	92.7*	SDGs Database for the Republic of Mauritius								
Tanzania	42	46	39	Tanzania National Statistics Office, 2019			66	62	64	2018 Tanzania Baseline Survey Report on Property Rights and Tenure Security		

- Most respondents (National Statistical Office (NSOs)) were positive about the possibility of collecting data and reporting on the indicator through various upcoming surveys and censuses. They also confirmed interest to implement the joint module for data collection and reporting on indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1. However, they indicated that both technical and financial support would be needed to facilitate effective adoption of the joint module.
- Translation of the joint module into French and Portuguese was requested to make the joint module more accessible and usable by a number of counties in Africa.
- Overall, with technical and/or financial support, Africa presents great potential for implementation of the joint module and reporting on indicator 1.4.2, thus, GLII, custodians and partners need to continue engaging NSOs and regional bodies including United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and Africa Land Policy Centre to strengthen coordination and profile the importance of monitoring and reporting on land tenure security indicators using both administrative and survey data, linking with regional initiatives including Agenda2063 and Framework and Guideline on Land Policy in Africa .

### Asia-Pacific Region

- Of the 23 out of 53 countries reached in Asia-Pacific region, 13 have so far responded to the request, with only Singapore sharing data relating to housing and land tenure security as compiled by the statistics department in 2018.

#### ***Summary of Data from Asia-Pacific Region.***

Country	Tenure Security by Legal Documentation; Disaggregated By Sex				Other administrative-related data		Data on Perception of Tenure Security; Disaggregated by sex				Other Perception- related data.	
	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Source.	Statistics	Source and Comment.	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Source.	Statistics	Source and Comment.
Singapore					91% of citizens legally own their homes. Of these homes, over 80% are public 99-year leasehold flats.	Singapore Department of Statistics.						

- Most responses from this region indicated that the indicator (1.4.2) is very important in their specific contexts and that despite the current unavailability of comprehensive data, most of them including Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Pakistan, Palau, Qatar, Palestine and Thailand would be able to provide more comprehensive data in the next 1 or 2 years. To fast-track their efforts, further mobilization and follow up by the custodian agencies and supporting partners is required to ensure implementation of joint module; including Pakistan's upcoming District Level Social and Living Standard Measurement Survey, which has integrated essential questions for measuring indicator 1.4.2.
- Effort by custodian agencies with support of GLII and other partners is required to engage NSOs, lands registries and other stakeholders on the importance of measuring land tenure security even where the legal framework is well established to guarantee tenure security for all.

### Eastern European Region

- All the 23 countries in Eastern European Region were reached. Data agencies from 9 countries responded to the request, with 3 providing some data on land tenure security.
- Estonia had data on tenure security disaggregated by type of tenure, Slovakia had some administrative data on parcels, transfer of property and ownership documents while Georgia provided data on proportion of her population with legal documents.

**Summary of Data from Eastern European Region.**

Country	Tenure Security by Legal Documentation; Disaggregated By Sex				Other administrative-related data		Data on Perception of Tenure Security; Disaggregated by sex				Other Perception-related data.	
	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Source.	Statistics	Source and Comment	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Source	Statistics	Source and Comment
Estonia					2409 different land registrations under leasehold, 9698 different registrations under freehold and 709403 different registrations belong to legal persons.	Estonia land registry, 2019						
Slovakia					4,578,613 people have legal documents	Geodesy, Cartography and Cadaster Authority of the Slovak Authority, 2019.						
Georgia	59.32 %			Georgia SDGs Secretariat, 2019.								

- Of the 9 countries that responded, Lithuania stated that their legal framework guarantees all citizens of 100% security of their tenure rights; while Czech Republic and Slovakia indicating that the indicator is not a priority in their contexts and therefore have no plans to collect data and report on it.
- Overall, it was observed that most of the member States were receptive to the adoption of the joint module for indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 including Romania, Latvia, Belarus, Estonia and Lithuania (despite some having indicated that their legal framework guarantees all citizens of 100% security of their tenure rights to land).
- More advocacy and engagement strategies by custodian agencies, GLII and other partners targeting the Eurostat, NSOs and land registries and cadaster is needed to steer regional efforts and support to measuring and reporting on indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1.



## Latin America and Caribbean Region

- The 19 out of 33 countries reached in the Latin America and Caribbean region; with four countries responding to the request i.e. (Brazil, Costa Rica, Mexico and Trinidad and Tobago). Mexico provided some statistics on estimators of own inhabited private dwellings and their percentage distribution.

### *Summary of Data from Latin America Region.*

Country	Tenure Security by Legal Documentation; Disaggregated By Sex				Other administrative-related data		Data on Perception of Tenure Security; Disaggregated by sex				Other Perception-related data	
	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Source	Statistics	Source and Comment	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Source	Statistics	
Mexico					<a href="#">Estimators of the own inhabited private dwellings and their percentage distribution according to condition of existence.</a>	Mexico National Statistics Office (INEGI), 2019- Tables of the Intercensal Survey, 2015						

- Findings also show that there is some momentum by member states to collect data on land ownership through initiatives related to land reform and titling programs as reported by countries like Brazil, Mexico and Costa Rica. However, it is so far unclear how these initiatives will robustly apply the approved methodology as provided for in the joint module for indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1, enabling collection and reporting of data on perception of tenure security at national level. Such initiatives provide a major opportunity for the joint module to be integrated in land reform efforts and be supported by responsible partners to deliver data for planning and decision making; and reporting on the SDGs at the country level. This opportunity is not fully explored.
- The National Statistics Office (NSO) of Trinidad and Tobago did not have the requested data on land tenure at the time of the request. However, they expressed willingness to apply the joint module and collaborate with custodians to facilitate data collection and reporting for indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1.

- Overall, the responses from Latin America and Caribbean Region indicate that there is a great potential for implementation of the joint module for 1.4.2 and 5.a.1; and urgent follow up is needed to make good use of the will by national data agencies and build on on-going land reform projects in specific countries.

#### Western European and Others Group (WEOG)

- 27 out of 28 countries were reached in the Western European and Others Group (WEOG), with data agencies from 12 member States responding to the request.
- Most of the responses received (7 out of 12) from data agencies noted that 100% of citizens in their respective countries had secure tenure rights going by their legal provisions.
- Additionally, 4 out of the 12 respondents (France, Germany, Sweden and Switzerland) indicated that the indicator is not a priority in their contexts and therefore going forward, have no plans to collect data and report on it.
- However, other member States in the region including Portugal and Australia, that did not have the requested data at the time, were very receptive to the joint module for data collection and showed interest to collect data and report on the indicators.
- The role of Eurostat and need to engage member States to understand the importance of monitoring and reporting on land tenure security for policy decision is recommended.

## Preliminary Conclusions

Going by the responses and data received from the countries contacted so far, we can draw the following preliminary conclusions:

- There is no comprehensive, sex disaggregated and comparable data-both administrative and perception of tenure security data available at country level to report on land indicator 1.4.2. This may also be the case for other land indicators hence the need for urgent action.
- The joint module for indicator 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 is a great resource for which country level action for land tenure data collection and reporting can easily be mobilized, supported and achieved. However, many countries need technical and financial assistance to integrate essential questions in relevant national surveys and mobilize administrative data.
- There is need to translate the joint module for indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 into all UN official languages to facilitate accessibility and use by data agencies.
- To achieve the reclassification of SDG land indicator 1.4.2 from Tier II to Tier I status, there is urgent need for custodian agencies, with the support of donors and other actors to support and facilitate individual countries to implement the joint module for indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1.
- To enhance access to correct information, communication and advocacy on responsible land governance and importance of collecting sex disaggregated land data for evidence-based policy decisions at country level and measuring progress against specific land related targets in the SDGs including 1.4. and 5.a; Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and other actors need to do more to engage governments, data agencies and participate in national SDGs processes by governments to maximize engagement.
- The role of private sector and donor support for data efforts including capacity development and data collection needs to be strengthened; including tapping into sub-national and national wide land reform projects and programs at country level in supporting data collection and reporting on indicator 1.4.2 and other land indicators.

## GLII actions moving forward

- GLII continues the data drive to reach all the remaining countries by end of September 2019. GLII shall continue to communicate and engage the data institutions already contacted; while liaising with custodian agencies for technical support in data collection and reporting; capacity and financial resources as may be advanced by donors and other partners in support of country data efforts. Progress made on country data efforts and other emerging issues will be documented and shared from time to time.
- Translation of the joint module for 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 from English to other UN languages is a priority step towards fast tracking its use by NSOs and land registries/cadasters. This is an important and urgent need in support of the data efforts, though resources are required to make this happen.
- GLII will continue supporting custodian agencies' effort in disseminating the joint module for indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 and supporting capacity development efforts for member States in integrating the module in relevant nationally representative surveys and censuses.
- GLII will continue to engage national and regional bodies including the UN Economic Commissions (UNECE through the Working Party on Land Administration), Eurostat, UNECA, ESCWA, ECLAC, ESCAP among others to enable further sensitization of member States and regional bodies support for data collection and reporting on land indicators; and other State obligations.
- GLII will strengthen engagement and collaboration with other technical bodies including FIG, UNGGIM and SPI among others to strengthen access to and dissemination of information among partners for learning and sharing of best practices, establish joint action plans and leverage their contribution in support of monitoring and reporting on land indicators in the SDGs and overall implementation of Agenda2030.

For more information: Visit [www.gltn.net](http://www.gltn.net) or write to us on: [everlyne.nairesiae@un.org](mailto:everlyne.nairesiae@un.org)