



Bundesministerium für
wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit
und Entwicklung

THE GLOBAL LAND TOOL NETWORK (GLTN) AND BMZ SIGN AGREEMENT FOR THREE-YEAR PROGRAM SUPPORTING LAND GOVERNANCE IN ARAB STATES

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, through its Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) have signed an agreement to support the Arab Land Initiative with the *"Arab Region Programme on Good Land Governance in support of Inclusive Development, Peace and Stability"*. The three-year programme has a budget of two million euros and will be implemented by the Global Land Tool Network.

The aim of the intervention is to improve the capacity of regional and national stakeholders to manage and administer urban, peri-urban and rural land in the Arab States to achieve inclusive social and economic development - particularly for women, youth and displaced people - and to foster peace and stability.

The programme is articulated around four key areas of intervention: (a) Support the Arab Land Initiative to increase alignment, coordination and collaboration on land in the region; (b) Knowledge creation, management and sharing; (c) Capacity development and training; and (d) Technical advisory services at country level.

The Support to the Arab Land Initiative will focus on consolidating existing collaborations and creating new partnerships around good land governance and tenure security among organisations and partners active in the region. The activities planned under this component are the second Arab Land Conference in 2020; the consolidation of a regional network of land centres, building on the models of GLTN and the BMZ funded Network of Excellence for Land Governance in Africa (NELGA) of the African Land Policy Initiative and in partnership with the North Africa NELGA node; and the support to the Arab Land Initiative Secretariat, based in the GLTN Secretariat within UN-Habitat.

The knowledge creation, management and sharing component of the programme aims at creating new knowledge and better share the existing one. Four research works, six expert group meetings and four knowledge exchange events will take place on the priority themes identified during the various

consultations held in the region. Some of these themes are: Land and conflict; Land and migration; Housing, land and property rights; Women and youth access to land and housing; Land governance and land administration in support of sustainable business and investments; Land related policies, laws and institutional frameworks; Management of public land; Land fragmentation and consolidation; Collaboration of the private sector; Climate change and disasters; Range lands and rights of pastoralist communities; and Monitoring land governance and land tenure security.

In addition, six twinning arrangements between land administration departments of different Arab countries and with countries outside the region will be established, to allow cross-fertilization and learning. The Arab Land Initiative web site established will be further developed into a full-fledged knowledge repository database that will include documents and materials on land, training manuals and multimedia resources and a database of institutions, land experts and trainers.

The capacity development and training component of the programme will include the development of a curriculum for land governance and land administration, building on the ongoing work of the Global Land Tool Network, NELGA and other relevant initiatives. Courses and visiting professors' arrangements on land governance and land administration will also be established and eight training sessions on specific land-related topics will be designed and implemented for different partners and audiences. Translation and adaptation of existing relevant training and learning materials on land governance and land management will be undertaken and a set of trainers on different land governance topics will be identified and trained.

Lastly, technical advisory services at country level will be undertaken in three countries in support of ongoing partners' initiatives on the ground.

BMZ, the GLTN Secretariat and the Arab Land Initiative partners are delighted about this opportunity to continue the good work started and to strengthen productive collaborations with ongoing land-related initiatives, organisations and partners active in the region.

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