



The Commission

Department of Agriculture,  
Water Resources and Environment

## FINAL REPORT

Regional methodology workshop on the monitoring of SDG  
indicators relating to rural land tenure

Videoconference, July 25-27, 2023

July 2023

## I. INTRODUCTION

From July 25 to 27, 2023, a regional methodological workshop was held by videoconference on the monitoring of SDG indicators relating to rural land tenure.

The main objective of this virtual regional workshop is to strengthen the capacities of member states in the field of monitoring SDG indicators linked to rural land tenure.

The meeting was attended by

- ORFAO focal points designated by the Ministries of Agriculture in member states
- members of the regional working group, including ECOWAS
- representatives of statistical offices, institutes and agencies;
- representatives of the agricultural data offices of the Ministries of Agriculture
- technical partners mobilized for training, including the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), FAO, Prindex and Observatoire Mondial du Foncier, and
- UEMOA Commission executives. The list

of participants is attached in Appendix I.

## It. OPENING CEREMONY

The opening ceremony was marked by a single speech delivered by **Mr. Kako NUBUKPO**, Commissioner in charge of the Department of Agriculture, Water Resources and Environment (DAREN), on behalf of **Mr. Abdoulaye DIOP**, President of the WAEMU Commission and in his own name.

In his speech, the Commissioner underlined the importance that the UEMOA Commission attaches to rural land tenure, one of the issues at the heart of the regional integration process. He recalled that, following the launch of the ORFAO in November 2022, the UEMOA Commission intends, as part of its operationalization, to support its member states in evidence-based decision-making in the field of rural land tenure, by focusing on the three indicators of the related SDGs.

It is in this context that the present regional methodological workshop is being organized in collaboration with technical partners including the UN Habitat Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), FAO, the World Land Observatory and the World Bank.

The Commissioner mentioned that, in addition to this workshop, the UEMOA Commission intends to provide its member states with financial support for the production of progress reports in the field of monitoring of SDO indicators.

After thanking the delegations of Experts and the technical partners involved, he urged all participants to follow the training course and make recommendations to These will help to advance the agenda of monitoring these indicators.

Following his speech, a round-table discussion was held to enable the various participants introduce themselves.

The opening ceremony ended with a photo shoot.

### III. WORK IN PROGRESS

Work was conducted in plenary session under the guidance of a presidium.

#### 3.1. Setting up the presidium

In accordance with the relevant rules governing the organization of meetings of the WAEMU Commission, the Presidium is composed as follows:

- **President** Mr OUA TARA Nanakan from Côte d'Ivoire
- **1 ' Rapporteur** Mr CAMARA Mamadu Serra of Guinea-Bissau ;
- **2 Rapporteur** Mr CAMARA Mohamed from Mali.

#### 3.2. Adoption of draft agenda and work program

The draft agenda was examined and adopted by the participants without amendment. The following amendments were made to the work program:

- + Day 1: replacing the introductory presentation on the SDG indicators for rural land tenure with the workshop framework note, the content of both being the same;
- + day 2: proposed joint presentation of indicator methodology 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 by FAO and GTLN, instead of two separate presentations; the addition of a World Bank presentation on the Harmonized Household Living Conditions Survey;
- + day 3: postponement of the FAO presentation on indicator 5.a.2 to 10am and presentation of the report for validation in the afternoon

#### 3.3. Presentation of workshop objectives

The presentation of the workshop's objectives focused the participants' attention on what was expected of them, and provided them with information on how the meeting would proceed, in relation to the following three indicators

- SDG indicator 1.4.2 is made up of two parts
  - A: measures the incidence of adults with legally recognized land documents among the total adult population;
  - B: focuses on the incidence of adults declaring property rights among the adult population.

Parts (A) and (B) provide two complementary sets of data on and are broken down by gender and type of land tenure.

- indicator 5.a.1 focuses on the population whose livelihoods are linked to agricultural land, i.e. farming households

A: measures the prevalence of farmland ownership/occupation rights in the reference population (farm households), by gender ;

B: monitors the proportion of women in farming households with rights of ownership or occupancy on of agricultural land in relation to the total individuals with property or occupancy rights.

The indicator makes it possible to monitor the level of deprivation of this population and the gender inequalities within it.

- indicator 5.a.2 focuses on the degree to which women's rights to land are protected by national legislation (not limited to agricultural land or farming populations). This is a legal indicator assessed through six central questions.

### 3.4. Presentations by member states

Country presentations focused, among other things, on national mechanisms for monitoring the SDGs, on the one hand, and on monitoring the SDG indicators relating to rural land tenure, on the other.

Specifically with regard to presentations, it should be noted that

- **Benin**

In 2016, the country set up a mechanism for coordinating and monitoring-evaluating the implementation of the SDGs, steered by the Direction Générale de la Coordination et du Suivi des Objectifs de Développement Durable (DGCS-ODD) and the Institut National de la Statistique et de la Démographie (INStAD). It is made up of two bodies, the Steering Committee and the Technical Steering Committee, whose mission is to ensure that the priority targets of the SDGs are taken into account in the country's planning system.

Furthermore, for the overall monitoring of ODD indicators, Benin has drawn up its latest monitoring report in 2021 entitled "Rapport national 2021 de suivi de la mise en œuvre ODD". With regard to indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1, only indicator 1.4.2 was calculated in 2015 using data from the Integrated Modular Survey of Household Living Conditions (EMICOV). 0.4% of the total adult population has secure land rights to at least one plot.

Indicators 5.a.1(a and b) have not yet been calculated although data has been collected lors the 2018-2019 EHCVM survey.

- **Burkina Faso**

The contextualization and alignment of public policies with the SDGs has enabled priority targets to be defined in development policies and strategies. Out of 100 targets, 89 have been taken on board, giving Burkina Faso an ODD profile. The results obtained serve as a basis for drawing up the Voluntary National Report (2019 and 2023), as well as periodic reports and policy notes (e.g. ODD 16) as part of the follow-up to the SDGs.

The questionnaire the Permanent Agricultural Survey (EPA), which is conducted annually as well as the second general census of agriculture (RGA II) include rural land. questions relating to However, it should be noted that improvements are necessary to perfect the collection and accuracy of indicators. For the next campaign, the plan is to improve data collection tools to take into account aspects relating to the perception of land tenure security.

The country has initiated a process to develop a strategy to fill the gap identified in achieving the SDGs.

- **Côte d'Ivoire**

The national mechanism for monitoring the SDGs is the National Development Plan (NDP) drawn up by the Ministry of Planning and Development, which takes the SDGs into account in its various programs.

The NDP 2021-2025 prioritizes 40 targets and 70 indicators for the SDGs, including the indicator

1.4.2. As for indicator 5.a.1, it was filled in by the 2018 EHCVM. However, stakeholders noted a need to re-read the proposed EHCVM questionnaire response modalities to better comply with the national legal framework.

An agricultural survey called the "50x2030 initiative" is currently underway. It will capture information on rural land ownership and occupation of rural plots.

There is a permanent system known as the Enquête Permanente Agricole (Permanent Agricultural Survey), which will be carried out on an annual basis following the complementary module of the Recensement des Exploitations et Exploitants Agricoles (REEA). It is also intended to capture information on rural land ownership: the mode of acquisition, the title of ownership and the title of occupation of rural plots.

- **Guinea-Bissau**

The country has a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) (2015-2017), followed by a second (2018-2020), and a Voluntary National Review (VNR) was presented at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July 2022.

The country does not yet have any initiatives to provide information on the SDG indicators relating to rural land tenure, but an agricultural census is planned with the support of the FAO and its partners. It is also necessary to finance annual agricultural surveys that take land tenure aspects into account. In addition, it would be desirable to draw up a national land policy defining the country's strategic orientations in terms of land tenure.

- **for Mali**

The government has aligned and integrated the SDGs into the country's development framework, with technical and financial support from the UNDP, by selecting 77 priority SDG targets in connection with the Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development (CREDD) 2019-2023, which required four (4) thematic groups to steer, including one on inclusive and sustainable economic growth, where land issues were discussed.

Mali has been conducting an agricultural survey for over forty years. variables on that are taken into account deserve to be better understood. adapted to the SDGs. This

could be taken into account as part of the Improvement and Harmonization Project. des Statistiques en Afrique de l'Ouest (PHASAO) and the 50x2030 which must strengthen the agricultural survey so that it is permanent (i.e. collect data throughout the year) in order to have variables available for the benefit of the ODD indicators and others country's needs. To secure of rural land, the Recensement Général de l'Agriculture (RGA) in November 2023 will enable the registration of rural land in collaboration with the service responsible for assigning the unique national cadastral identification number (NINACAD).

- **for Niger**

Niger has carried out an exercise to define the priority targets of the SDGs, in line with its Economic and Social Development Plan (PDES). The country has thus retained 16 of the 17 goals (with the exception of SDG 14 on aquatic life), 100 of the 169 targets and 229 of the 232 indicators.

148 indicators are monitored on a regular basis, 66 of which are aligned with the ESDP Results Measurement Framework (RMEF).

Indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 have been collected through the EHCVM and the FAO project "Measuring people's rights to land". As for indicator 5.a.2, Niger has made considerable efforts to guarantee land rights.

Niger also conducts two annual surveys

- Crop forecasting and estimation survey (EPER) for the rainy season ;
- Horticultural survey (EH) for the dry season.

Both of these surveys take into account the question on how people access land. However, these surveys ignore the question on land tenure perception and security.

- **Senegal**

Monitoring of the implementation of the SDGs in Senegal is carried out by the Ministry of the Economy, Planning and Cooperation (MEPC), under the supervision of the Cadre harmonisé de suivi évaluation des politiques publiques (CASE), placed under the direct authority of the President of the Republic, whose role is to develop and coordinate all the State's mechanisms and instruments for monitoring and evaluating public policies.

The Ministry of Agriculture from 2017 to 2022 adopted the AGRIS approach for the annual agricultural survey (EAA), which informed 4 SDGs.

From 2022 onwards, with the implementation of the 50x2030 initiative, an additional SDG "proportion of agricultural land devoted to productive and sustainable agriculture" may be included. With the support of the FAO, as part of the implementation of the AGRIS Project and the 50x2030 initiative, the Ministry of Agriculture has filled in SDGs 5.a.1.a and 5.a.1.b from 2018 to 2022. The Ministry has also completed indicator ODD 5.a.2.

Concerning ODD 1.4.2, the FAO has estimated for Senegal using the EHCVM 2018/2019. The country is also implementing, in partnership with UN Habitat, the project "Disaggregated indicators on land rights security for inclusive policies and actions in Africa" coordinated by the Agence Nationale de la Statistique et de la Démographie (ANSD) in collaboration with the sectoral Ministries, the Ministries agencies that are directly involved in land and property management- land data and the Cadastre Project et Sécurisation Foncière (PROCASEF) which are opportunities to collect more data. This project is an opportunity to inform indicator 1.4.2.

- **Togo**

The implementation of the SDGs was internalized in the National Development Plan (NDP) 2018-2022. In 2020 the readjustment of the NDP took into account the consequences linked to the COVID 19 pandemic, which led to the adoption of the Togo 2025 government roadmap thus putting social issues at the forefront of development actions.

This roadmap is broken down into 10 ambitions and 42 priority projects and reforms, including the reform of agricultural land policy. A total of 42 targets have been prioritized. However, the land indicators have not been provided.

In addition, the annual agricultural survey does not sufficiently take land issues into account. The agricultural census currently in preparation could take this into account.

This workshop on rural land tenure indicators is an opportunity for Togo to address the issue and obtain reliable data on rural land tenure.

### 3.6. Debates and discussions

The various presentations gave rise to fruitful exchanges marked by observations and contributions on :

- the need for national contextualization or adaptation of internationally-proposed survey questionnaires, including the EHCVM;  
The need to harmonize the definition of "parcel" between member states;  
the need to support member states in developing or revising their rural land policies.

### 3.7. Presentation of the Economic Policy and Domestic Taxation Department

It was made by **Mr. Mahaman Sani GARBA** and focused on data from the Harmonized Survey on Household Living Conditions (EHCVM) carried out in 2018/19 in the eight WAEMU countries.

The EHCVM collected the following data

The average size of field plots owned by households in the UEMOA zone is 4.9 ha ;

there is a discrepancy between the average size of plots owned by male-headed households (5.19 ha) and female-headed households (2.2 ha)

the average plot size of rural households (5 ha) is larger than that of urban households (3.2 ha)

There is no link between the average size of plots owned by households and the level of education of the head of household.

the average size of household field plots varies greatly between UEMOA member states. The highest values are found in Côte d'Ivoire (8.84 ha), Togo (8.51 ha) and Benin (7 ha), while the lowest values are found in Burkina Faso (1.77 ha) and Senegal (2.26 ha);

- more than three quarters of households own the plots of land they farm;
  - more than 77.6% of plots farmed by male-headed households their belong. While that female-headed households do not are own only 66.7% of the fields they farm
- in the UEMOA zone, inheritance is the main method of acquiring field plots (78%), followed by gift (11%) and purchase (7%)

- fear of loss of rural land rights is linked to inheritance (42.7%), expropriation (29.2%) and boundary disputes (14%).

### 3.8. Presentation of indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1

The presentation was made by **Mr Armand NDILMBAYE** of UN Habitat.

His presentation covered the following points

- the definition of land tenure, which refers to the relationship between institutions and individuals in relation to land, with land tenure distinguishing between customary law and formal law;
- the definition of security of tenure, which refers to the assurance that rights to land, whatever their nature, will not be contested, and that if they are, they will be confirmed by the authorities. As security of tenure has a subjective dimension, it is assessed through several dimensions, including duration, level of protection and robustness of property rights. Security of tenure distinguishes between *de jure*, *de jure* security and perception,
- the absence of a mechanical link between the holding of a land right and the perception of this right: in Senegal, the absence of documentation does not necessarily lead to a perception of insecurity, whereas in Morocco and Ethiopia, the perception of land insecurity persists despite the holding of title to the land;  
The "Disaggregated indicators on land rights security for inclusive policies and actions in Africa" 2021-2024 project is being implemented in five African countries, including Senegal in West Africa;
- harmonization of the methodologies of indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1, as both focus on the perception and documentation of legally recognized land rights, leading to the development of a single questionnaire;
- the need to contextualize methodologies at national level to take account of the legal framework.

Following this presentation, the following points were discussed

- the need to provide age- and gender-disaggregated data on land ownership;
- regarding indicator 1.4.2 on documentation of land rights, explore the possibility of collecting data at administrative level;
- the absence of any link between title ownership and the perception of players ;
- For indicator 1.4.2, decide on the relevant level of data collection, at household or individual level;
- the need to distinguish between "authenticated documents" and take account of the adult population who need to have a rural land document drawn up for them
- take into account young rights-holders, even those under 18.

### 3.9. Presentation of indicator 5.a.2

The presentation was made by Clara Park, Focal Point, of indicator 5.a.2 to the FAO, accompanied by **Muriel Veldman** and **Ghita Abouyoub**.



The presentation highlighted the importance of women in the agricultural sector. They hold 66% of jobs in the agri-food sector. However, men own more land than women in 40 out of 46 countries, and in 26 out of 31 countries in Africa. As a result, the proportion of women landowners has risen in 10 out of 18 countries over the last ten years, with substantial advances observed in several countries in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

To ensure that women's land rights are better taken into account, the FAO has initiated a worldwide consultation process, in connection with the SDGs, to develop a legal diagnostic tool to ensure that six key points are taken into account in national legislation, including:

- Proxy A: joint registration mandatory or encouraged ;
- Proxy B: Mandatory spousal consent for land transactions ;
- Proxy C: Equal inheritance rights for women and girls ;
- Proxy D: Funding allocation
- Proxy E: Formal recognition of customary right or tenure ;
- Proxy F: Mandatory quotas for women's participation.

With the exception of Guinea-Bissau, the FAO has carried out a diagnostic of legislation in WAEMU member states.

Following the presentation, the following points were discussed

- consideration of the need for a second round of data on indicator 5.a.2, in view of the inertia of legal frameworks
- support for Guinea-Bissau in filling in indicator 5.a.2 ;
- the importance of data data, think à other domestic indicators at regional and national level;
- FAO's willingness to continue capacity-building activities for member countries
- reflection on the use of data as an input for decision-making in the field of rural land tenure;
- the need to contextualize the methodology of indicator 5.a.2 according to national legal guidelines
- the development of backfill strategies for indicator 5.a.2 for all countries ;
- the need to explore opportunities for formulation of regional projects on monitoring rural land indicators.

### **3.10. General discussions on the continuation of technical and financial assistance to member states in monitoring rural land tenure-related SDG indicators, including the production of country reports.**

The discussion was conducted in plenary and led to the following conclusions

- set up a working group at national level to monitor SDG indicators relating to rural land, comprising representatives of the national SDG monitoring mechanism and rural land governance stakeholders  
draw up and implement a roadmap for monitoring SDG indicators relating to rural land.

The full presentations are attached in Appendix II.

#### IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

At the end of the work, the following recommendations were made to :

- **member states :**

systematically integrate all issues relating to rural land tenure (including stakeholders' perceptions of land tenure security) into agricultural surveys and censuses carried out in member states;  
strengthen the technical capabilities of national statistical systems and other players in the mastery and use of agricultural data collection tools.

- **of the UEMOA Commission:**

update the EHCVM questionnaire to adapt response procedures to national legal frameworks;

propose a report template for the country report on the status of rural land tenure indicators in relation to the SDGs

- support member states in developing data-sensitive land policies.

#### V. CLOSING CEREMONY

The workshop's closing ceremony was chaired by Mr. Moussa DOUMBIA, Director of Animal and Fisheries Resources. On behalf of the Commissioner in charge of the Department of Agriculture, Water Resources and the Environment (DAREN) and the President of the WAEMU Commission, he recalled the points addressed and the results obtained.

He recalled the challenges faced by players in securing rural land tenure in member states, on the one hand, and the need for evidence-based data to inform decision-making, on the other. He also congratulated the participants on their efforts to achieve the workshop's objectives. He thanked the partners, notably FAO and UN Habitat, for their contribution to the facilitation of the meeting.

In conclusion, he reiterated the commitment of the High Authorities of the WAEMU Commission to the implementation of the recommendations made to him, and wished all participants a safe return to their respective countries, before declaring the work of the regional methodological workshop on the monitoring of SDG indicators relating to rural land tenure closed.

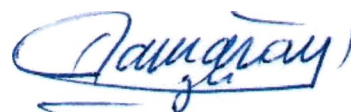
Ouagadougou, July 27, 2023



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Chairman of the meeting



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The Commission

Department of Agriculture,  
Water Resources and Environment

**Regional methodological workshop for monitoring  
Sustainable Development Goal indicators related to  
rural land tenure**

VIDEOCONFERENCE, FROM JULY 25 TO 27, 2023

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THE UEMOA COMMISSION WISHES YOUR WORK FULL SUCCESS.

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