



Advancing sustainable urbanization as a driver of development, peace and improved living conditions for all through

Good Land Governance and Access to Housing, Land and Property rights in the Arab region

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

GLTN
GLOBAL LAND TOOL NETWORK

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Acknowledgments

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ABOUT THE BOOKLET

The booklet collects the main land related projects and initiatives carried out by UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States and UN-Habitat Country Offices in Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Palestine, Sudan and Syria. Further, it provides an overview of the ongoing work as part of the “Regional Programme on Good Land Governance in Support to Inclusive Development, Peace and Stability in the Arab Region” signed in 2018 between the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, through its Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and UN-Habitat as the host of the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN).

For more information, please consult the referenced contacts and resources, visit the [Arab Land Initiative](#) and [GLTN](#) web sites, or reach out directly by writing to: unhabitat-arablandinitiative@un.org or unhabitat-gltn@un.org



EGYPT

Strengthening Development Planning and Management in Greater Cairo

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Qalyoubia Governorate, Egypt

DURATION

June 2016 - December 2021

DONORS

General organization of Physical planning (GOPP)

PARTNER

Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities (MOHUUC)

General directorate for Cadastral Affairs (GDCA)

Qalyoubia Governorate

MORE INFORMATION

Website: unhabitat.org/egypt

PROJECT GOAL

Enhance Governance and management of Urban expansion at the Greater Cairo region through piloting Land readjustment methodology.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

Greater Cairo region residents especially those who lives at Urban Expansion areas.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The project utilizes the Participatory and Inclusive Land Readjustment (PILaR) tool which relies on negotiated processes that allow local authorities, citizens and groups to articulate their interests, exercise their formally and socially legitimate rights, meet their obligations, and mediate their differences.

RESULTS

Project results include:

- 1) Preparation of four detailed plans for four areas at Qalyoubia Governorate, Egypt.
- 2) Enhancement of regulations and mechanisms on metropolitan finance and governance.

Urban Sprawl at Qalyoubia Governorate (UN-Habitat Egypt, 2017)



Implementation of land readjustment by the Survey Authority representative in Qalyoub city, (UN-Habitat Egypt, 2017)



EGYPT

Hayenna: integrated urban development project

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Qena and Demmiatta Governorates , Egypt

DURATION

January 2019 – December 2024

DONOR

Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)

PARTNERS

Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities (MOHUUC)

General Organization for Physical planning (GOPP)

Qena Governorate

Demmiatta Governorate

MORE INFORMATION

Website: unhabitat.org/egypt

PROJECT GOAL

The strategic goal of the project is to enhance the process and methodology of preparing detailed plans through the preparation of implementable detailed plans for four sites, two urban expansion areas and two inner city areas, as well as the implementation of selected infrastructure and public service projects as outlined by the approved detailed plan.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

Urban residents especially those who lives at Urban Expansion areas.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The project builds on former interventions led by UN Habitat in Qalyubia Governorate. The project utilizes the Participatory and Inclusive Land Readjustment (PILaR) tool which relies on negotiated processes that allow local authorities, citizens and groups to articulate their interests, exercise their formal and socially legitimate rights, meet their obligations, and mediate their differences. Based on UN-Habitat's experience, it has proved that it offers a comprehensive enhanced planning tool for local administration, which is cost-effective, creates value, and can produce equitable outcomes compared to the cumbersome and expensive processes currently practiced such as 'voluntary purchase' and 'compulsory acquisition'.

Representatives of the main partners of Hayenna (UN-Habitat Egypt, 2019)



Signing the Hayenna Project agreement between the Government of Egypt and the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), (UN-Habitat Egypt, 2019)

RESULTS

Preparation of detailed plans for 4 areas in two different governorates to improve the planning process. Planning an implementation of infrastructure in the inner city upgrading including water and sanitation,, solid waste and electricity. Planning and implementation of interventions aiming at supporting local economic development and job creation according to the approved strategic plans. Providing of technical support to the governorate to enable them to prepare feasibility studies for infrastructure provision and the allocation of their funding.



EGYPT

ASUD: Achievement Sustainable Urban Development Project in Egypt

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Qalyoubia Governorate, Egypt

DURATION

January 2013 - December 2016

DONORS

UN-Habitat

PARTNER

Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities (MOHUUC)
General Organization for Physical Planning (GOPP)
Qalyoubia Governorate

MORE INFORMATION

Website: unhabitat.org/egypt

Report A: [Report A link](#)

Report B: [Report B link](#)

Report C: [Report C link](#)



View of Banha City, Egypt (UN-Habitat Egypt)

PROJECT GOAL

Urban Sprawl at Qalyoubia Governorate (UN-Habitat Egypt)

The project aims to introduce innovative concepts and tools in order to explore processes and methodologies for enhanced and more sustainable urban practices.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

Banha city residents, especially those who live at Urban Expansion areas.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The project utilizes the Participatory and Inclusive Land Readjustment (PILaR) tool which relies on negotiated processes that allow local authorities, citizens and groups to articulate their interests, exercise their formally and socially legitimate rights, meet their obligations, and mediate their differences.

RESULTS

Project results include:

- 1) Improved planning, implementation and monitoring practices for urban development, especially in city extensions and new city developments, in Egypt;
- 2) Systematized knowledge for enhanced management of urban growth in Egypt;
- 3) Publication of three reports:
Report A: "Evaluation of Participatory Review of Egyptian Planning and Related Urban Development Legislation to Support Sustainable Urban Development, April 2016"
Report B: "Leveraging Land in the Arab Republic of Egypt: the Potential for Increasing Land-based Financing for Urban Development."
Report C: "Economic Housing and Urban Development Projects Fund. Legislative Framework and Development Themes."

IRAQ

Supporting the Housing, Land and Property (HLP) rights of IDPs rights in Northern Iraq

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Northern Iraq

DURATION

September 2019-September 2021

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PROJECT GOAL

Awareness raising session and delivery of OC, Sinjar (UN-Habitat Iraq, 2019)

The projects contributes to stabilization efforts in Iraq by promoting safe and voluntary returns, the reintegration in the areas liberated from ISIL, and the Housing, Land and Property rights of IDPs.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

The project targets 8,400 households among the population most affected by recent conflict and displacement, with a strong focus on ethnic and religious minorities, including Yazidis, Christians, and Shabaks.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The project support HLP rights through: a) Dealing with unresolved HLP claims in Sinjar, this include GIS/Digital collection of claims through mobile technologies; registration of claims through document verification and community endorsement; application of the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM); restoration of certificates to prove occupancy/ownership rights. b) Addressing land and property disputes in the Nineveh plains through mediation as an alternative mechanism for peaceful conflict resolution under international standards to address property disputes. c) Supporting HLP claims through the court process in Mosul by providing legal assistance to IDPs/returnees to file their HLP claims, and supporting the restitution of HLP documentation and legal representation.



Yazidi elder received OC, Sinja (UN-Habitat Iraq, 2019)

EXPECTED RESULTS

To December 2020 the project has registered over 5,900 HLP claims in Sinjar, supported the resolution of property disputes for 712 households in the Nineveh plains through trained Community Mediators; provided legal assistance and representation to 471 households in the Mosul area to present property compensation claims; supported HLP rights for over 6,500 IDPs/returnee households.

LEBANON

Housing, Land & Property Issues in Lebanon: Implications of the Syrian Refugee Crisis

Report cover (UN-Habitat and UNHCR, 2014)

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Akkar and Al Naba'a, Lebanon

DURATION

December 2013–August 2014

DONORS

UNHCR

PARTNER

UNHCR

MORE INFORMATION

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Report: [report link](#)

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PROJECT GOAL

The purpose of this research study was to inform humanitarian and government entities in designing policies, planning decisions and programmes that ensure refugees and vulnerable Lebanese households' security of tenure and the rights to safe, affordable and adequate shelter.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

Syrian refugees and host communities in Lebanon.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

UN-Habitat and UNHCR conducted an assessment of housing, land and property (HLP) issues related to the Syrian refugee crisis. The research contextualized the ongoing crisis within the larger HLP framework in Lebanon, looking both at the housing sector and legal frameworks related to refugees' access to shelter. It also included two in-depth case studies undertaken in two locations where refugees and host communities were interviewed: Al Naba'a (urban) and Akkar (rural). The report reviewed the impact of the crisis in four specific areas: i) shelter options available to refugees, ii) HLP rights of refugees and host communities, iii) housing and property markets, and iv) land use in heavily impacted cities and rural areas.

RESULTS

One report was published. The reported results contributed to formulating a set of recommendations according to five related topics: shelter conditions and trends; housing markets; HLP rights; settlement patterns and land use; and governance. The results also included suggestions regarding potential pilot projects that combine several recommendations into an integrated program approach.



Syrian refugees in an informal tented settlement in Akkar, Lebanon (UN-Habitat and UNHCR, 2014)

LEBANON

Housing, Land and Property Issues of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon from Homs City: Implications of the Protracted Refugee Crisis

Report cover (UN-Habitat and UNHCR, 2018)

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Lebanon

DURATION

January 2017–November 2018

DONOR

Ford Foundation (FF)

PARTNERS

UNHCR

Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)

Basmeh & Zeitooneh NGO

MORE INFORMATION

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Report: [report link](#)

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PROJECT GOAL

The project aimed to promote the housing, land and property (HLP) rights of populations affected by the Syrian crisis through sharing of relevant information with refugees and furthering HLP-related knowledge to refugee and host communities.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

Syrian refugees in Lebanon originating from Homs City.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The project consisted of two components: one published study and one HLP information centre. The aim of the study was to analyse, in the context of a protracted crisis, the housing arrangements that refugees coming from Homs City have secured and the implications of their legal status on their presence in Lebanon, including the role of social networks on access to shelter. For the study, a household survey targeting 1,514 refugee households from Homs was completed, in addition to an extensive desk review. An information centre was established, hosted by a local NGO (Basmeh & Zeitooneh) in the area of Bourj Hammoud, which provided legal assistance with the support of the Information, Counselling and Legal Assistance (ICLA) Programme at NRC on civil documentation and HLP rights.

RESULTS

One report was published which contributed to promoting public awareness among policymakers and shelter actors on the implications of the lack of affordable housing programmes and the restrictions that refugees in Lebanon face to access adequate shelter. One HLP information centre was established in the area of Bourj Hammoud. With the support of NRC's ICLA Programme, 49 legal sessions on civil documentation and HLP rights were conducted. More than 117 persons were provided with legal counselling sessions.



Jabal Mohsen neighborhood in North Lebanon (UN-Habitat, 2017)



LEBANON

Housing, Land, and Property Rights (HLP) Challenges Faced in Syria by Refugees Currently Living in Lebanon – Humanitarian Response

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Lebanon

DURATION

December 2019–April 2021

DONOR

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

PARTNER

UNHCR
Norwegian Refugee Council

MORE INFORMATION

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PROJECT GOAL

Daouk Ghawash gathering in Beirut, Lebanon (UN-Habitat, 2019)

The project aims to identify and analyse trends and patterns of housing, land and property (HLP) issues that selected Syrian refugee communities currently residing in Lebanon face back in Syria.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

Selected communities of Syrian refugees in Lebanon.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The research will look into HLP issues faced by Syrian refugees in Lebanon, and at their implications as relevant to human rights protection and to existing legal and land administration frameworks. The analysis will derive observations that can help inform discussions regarding HLP programming and provide actionable options in response to the different HLP challenges. Qualitative data collection will be conducted with selected refugee communities in Lebanon as well as various key informants who are familiar with the topic. Existing data on refugees' HLP issues and complementary information on challenges of different groups extracted from a literature review and other available sources will also be used to develop the analysis.

RESULTS

One synthesis report and one policy brief will be published. These results are expected to inform discussions regarding HLP programming and provide actionable options in response to the different HLP challenges, managing voluntary return and possible scenarios for restitution of properties.



Syrian refugee children in Akkar, Lebanon (UN-Habitat, 2014)



LEBANON

Housing Rehabilitation in Beirut City

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Al Naba'a, Lebanon

DURATION

November 2020–February 2021

DONOR

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

PARTNER

UNHCR
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)

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PROJECT GOAL

Armenian Elderly Woman in her damaged house in Naba'a, Lebanon (UN-Habitat, 2021)

The project aims to provide direct support to approximately 100 housing units which were damaged in the 4 August 2020 Beirut Port explosion and are in need of minor repairs and rehabilitation.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

The project targets 100 vulnerable households or around 500 persons affected by the Beirut Port explosion in the selected area.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The project began by identifying the households mostly at-risk, that are located within the area affected by the explosion (allocated area assigned by the Shelter Sector) and that are in need of intervention. This is being achieved by referring to the Multi-Sector Needs Assessment Survey (MSNA, a unified survey used across the blast area, to establish a baseline of needs) and by referring to a complementary rapid socio-economic survey of households conducted by UN-Habitat. Consultations with local actors, such as the Municipality of Bourj Hammoud, local NGOs and community representatives, were conducted to identify further shelters in need of minor repairs. Following this, a technical team is identifying the damages, required interventions and cost estimate of repairs.

RESULTS

Targeted households will benefit from critical minor repairs to their damaged homes, ensuring that they are sealed off and protected ahead of adverse winter weather conditions, ensuring adequate living conditions are returned, contributing to safeguarding the well-being of the most vulnerable, including women, children, the elderly and disabled.



Damaged buildings in building in Naba'a, Lebanon (UN-Habitat, 2021)

LEBANON

Ensuring shelter options for the most vulnerable families evacuated from their homes as a result of the Beirut Port explosion

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Rmeil and Medawar, Beirut, Lebanon

DURATION

August 2020 – February 2021

DONORS

Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)

PARTNER

Polish Center for International Aid (PCPM)

The Lebanese Women Democratic Gathering

Municipality of Beirut

MORE INFORMATION

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PROJECT GOAL

A household visit to assess the vulnerability of the identified family (UN-Habitat, 2020)

The project aims to provide 810 households who were affected by the Beirut Port explosion with emergency cash-for-rent (CfR) assistance for a four-month period, in addition to raising their awareness on COVID-19, SGBV and human rights.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

The project targets 810 vulnerable households that were affected by the explosion in Rmeil and Medawar neighborhoods within the Municipality.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The project started with the identification of potential CfR beneficiaries through referrals from the municipality of Beirut, the shelter partners, the Forward Emergency Room (FER), and through the hotline and case management. Afterwards, the identified cases are contacted for preliminary assessment, and then visited to examine their vulnerability and check if their shelters met the minimum humanitarian standards. If the household is eligible for CfR assistance, it is invited to attend an information session, whereby the signature of bipartite agreement will happen. The cash assistance amounting 780,000 LBP/month includes the rent, utilities and sometimes expenses related to shelter repairs of damaged houses and appliances.

RESULTS

The 810 vulnerable households will have their tenure secured and will be provided with timely, needs-based emergency cash transfers to mitigate sudden protection-related threats. Also, these households will be sensitized on topics related to SGBV and human rights to improve their ability to protect themselves. Moreover, the beneficiaries will have improved hygiene behaviours through the provision of life-saving information on Covid-19.



Selected beneficiaries attending an information session (UN-Habitat, 2020)

LIBYA

Paving the ground for peace and stability in Libya by addressing the land-related root causes of conflict: analysis and recommendations

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Libya

DURATION

January 2021 – June 2022

DONOR

UN-Habitat

PARTNERS

UNSMIL

UNRC

MORE INFORMATION

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PROJECT GOAL

Libyan countryside (Source: wikimedia.org)

The project aims at assessing the land and conflict nexus in Libya to provide information on the status land tenure security and HLP rights, land use, land development, land value, and land disputes resolution in relation to their broader role in sustaining peace within the humanitarian-peace-development.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

The assessment looks at the land tenure security of displaced people - IDPs, refugees, returnees, migrants and emigrants - in Libya.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The assessment will be led by the UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States and supported by national experts and international land & HLP experts in HQ. The methodology includes desk review of existing documents, information gathering from online sources, data collection using questionnaires, interviews and, if possible, focus group discussions. The framework for the Assessment of land rights and land management in Libya will be designed using the tool developed by the Global Land Tool Network "[How to do a Root Cause Analysis of Land and Conflict for Peace Building](#)".

EXPECTED RESULTS

The assessment will provide information on the status land tenure security and HLP rights, land use, land development, land value, and land disputes resolution mechanisms. The analysis will lead to the development of a set of recommendations for the Libyan government, UNCT/HCT and UNSMIL, and options that can be considered by national and international actors when taking forward the political and technical peace, reconciliation and reconstruction processes.



Shousha refugee camp, 2011 (Source: Guerric)



PALESTINE

Achieving Planning and Land Rights in Area C, West Bank

SUDAN

Strengthening Land Management for Peaceful Co-existence

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

West Bank (Area C), Palestine

DURATION

September 2019 – August 2023

DONOR

European Union

PARTNERS

Land and Water Settlement Commission (LWSC)
Ministry of Local Government (MoLG)
Global Land Tool Network (GLTN)

MORE INFORMATION

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PROJECT GOAL

To promote inclusive and sustainable economic development within a better functioning Palestinian democracy by improving socio-economic conditions of Palestinian communities in Area C.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

Palestinian communities (11 communities mainly in Area C - under full Israeli control) will be targeted in terms of land settlement in the governorates of Bethlehem and Hebron in Area C. Special attention will be given to venerable groups including women and Bedouins. Direct beneficiaries are 65,930 including 32,764 females.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

A participatory approach is used to build resilience that is inclusive of women and youth and involving communities at all levels of land-based functions, mainly to support the successful implementation of the interventions and fostering social cohesion. The Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) and Gender Evaluation Criteria (GEC) developed by the Global Land tool Network (GLTN) are adopted and customised to the Palestinian context in the mapping of land rights using the continuum of rights to support the most marginalised with the aim of achieving land rights during the registration process.

RESULTS

170,000 dunums of land surveyed in terms of ownership in Area C of which 140,000 dunums are settled and registered (at least 35 per cent registered to women), including 40,000 dunums of agricultural lands with high and medium value. A designated thematic working group is established for main national partners to engage in a collaborative discussion with development and resources partners.



Wadi Fukin, West Bank, Palestine (UN-Habitat Palestine, 2021)

PROJECT FACTS

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Darfur, Sudan

DURATION

June 2016 – December 2018

DONOR

UN Darfur Fund (UNDF)
Qatari Fund

PARTNERS

UNDP
FAO
DLC
VRRRC

MORE INFORMATION

Website: unhabitat.org/sudan

PROJECT GOAL

Strengthening land institutions including native administration to improve Darfur land management to formulate land rights disputes mechanism, making recommendations to the competent authorities on necessary land reform, policies and legislation.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

The whole Darfur community and the different livelihoods groups were the main beneficiaries of the Project in issues related to land rights and tenure, including the nomadic population, sedentary farmers, IDPs and refugees. 150,000 returnees and hosting communities of Darfur targeted through the support to 50 return villages sketch mapping.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The overall implementation strategy was based on recognition and utilization of the immense human resources existing in the government, academia and research institutions, as well as the available capacity outside the public sector, which include NGOs, community-based organizations (CBOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs), etc. The DLC, VRRRC and State Ministries of Physical Planning and Agriculture were acted as the lead agencies.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Land legislation policies reforms drafted which were generated from consultations in the 63 localities of Darfur. Land title system improved in 52 return villages through adoption of a continuum land tenure security concept and application of Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) and village sketch mapping and demarcation of village boundaries and buffer zones. Monitoring mechanism for nomadic corridors established and fully functioning whereby 13 livestock migratory routes were studied and monitoring groups were established.



Sketch mapping in Koma Garadaya, Sudan (UN-Habitat Sudan)



SYRIA

Supporting the establishment and operation of a cadastral service centre and in Al-Qusayr, Homs

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Aleppo, Syria

DURATION

September 2017 - January 2018

DONORS

Government of Norway

PARTNER

Ministry of Local Administration and Environment (MOLAE)
 General directorate for Cadastral Affairs (GDCA)
 Syrian computer Society (SCS)

MORE INFORMATION

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PROJECT GOAL

Prefabricated cadastral service center established in Qusayr city with its relevant requirements (UN-Habitat Syria)

Restoring the HLP services in the of al-Qusayr (Homs Governorate) that witnessed mass displacement during the crisis.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

77,000 direct beneficiaries (IDPs and refugees)
 50,000 direct beneficiaries (local urban and rural communities)

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

This project had been seen as part of a larger intervention that aims to improve the security of tenure in Al-Qusayr. The project corresponds to the to the block 3: Restore and Improve Access to Services of UN-Habitat's Cadastral Response Framework.



In that context, a prefab service center has been established and equipped. A Client/Server Document Management System developed by UN-Habitat Syria has been introduced to create a digital cadastral archive with the aim of protecting the district's cadastral documentation and enhance the service provision.

RESULTS

With tenure security improved and HLP services provided efficiently, this project is expected to contribute to the recovery of the economy of al-Qusayr alleviate disputes over lands and houses. The project will also allow the people to recover their lost HLP documents and reconstitute their properties, contributing thus to the creation of favorable conditions for refugees and internally displaced people to return.



Community reaching their cadastral services



SYRIA

Strengthening Citizen's Access to Tenure Documents in Aleppo

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Aleppo, Syria

DURATION

September 2017 - January 2018

DONORS

Government of Norway

PARTNER

Ministry of Local Administration and Environment (MOLAE)
 General directorate for Cadastral Affairs (GDCA)
 Syrian computer Society (SCS)

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PROJECT GOAL

Developing data management system for scanning and archiving tenure documents (UN-Habitat Syria)

The project aims at restoring the cadastral system in Aleppo, following the lost of records resulted from the conflict in Syria. The restoration of the lost records will improve the security of tenure in Aleppo city and its countryside contributing thus to the overall recovery of this vital governorate.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

Direct beneficiaries include the owners whose property records have been lost and they are estimated to be around 215.000 individuals.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

UN-Habitat developed a document management system (DMS) to be used to preserve the remaining land journals and pave the way to reconstruct the destroyed ones starting from huge amounts of contracts, court decisions and other base evidential documents. The DMS system has been developed by UN-Habitat Syria using open-source development tools based on careful need assessment and with consideration of the cadastral department's business logic. The system has been installed on a Server/client arrangement using equipment provided by UN-Habitat and tailored to the estimated workload. The system has been tested and debugged and Aleppo cadastral directorate personnel have been trained before being put in full operation.

RESULTS

So far, the base HLP documents in one cadastral district have been archived and ready to launch the restoration of the lost land journals. While work continues on other cadastral district, more people will get their tenure rights secured and the cadastral service, disrupted to a great extent in large parts of Aleppo, will be restored.



Base evidentiary documents (UN-Habitat Syria)



REGIONAL Land and Conflict

REGIONAL Monitoring Land Governance and Land Tenure Security

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Arab region

DURATION

18 months

DONOR

Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ)

PARTNERS

Arab Group for the Protection of Nature (APN)

MORE INFORMATION

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PROJECT GOAL

Land mapping (UN-Habitat/GLTN)

Assess and discuss different dimensions of the relationship between land and conflict: land-related root-causes of conflict; land-related interventions in post-conflict settings; approaches to resolve, mitigate and prevent conflict using land as entry point).

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

The study targets Arab speaking countries of the Arab League, the EGM will target experts with different professional backgrounds (academic, civil society, government, etc.) and other key stakeholders working on the land and conflict nexus.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The assessment is based on a systematic review of published secondary sources, of governance and institutional frames and on the analysis of the main theoretical contribution and frameworks that impinge on land and conflict. It will draw on contributions from the members of the Arab Food Sovereignty Network (AFSN), on the interviews with key informants and stakeholder as relevant, and on the outcomes of an Expert Group Meeting. Case studies will be identified among research projects carried out by grantees from the last 3 funding cycles of the Arab Council for the Social Sciences.

EXPECTED RESULTS

A report on Land and Conflict in the Arab region will be published. The combined knowledge produced by the study on land-related causes of conflict in the Arab region and the Expert Group Meeting on land and conflict are expected to increase knowledge and awareness in the region on the land and conflict nexus, develop a succinct analysis of the issue and a set of recommendations for governments, partners and other stakeholders on the way forward – looking at both prevention and resolution of land related conflicts. Expand the network of experts and institutions

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Arab region

DURATION

18 months

DONORS

Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ)

PARTNER

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PROJECT GOAL

Jordan countryside (Source: Brian Holsclaw)

Support national stakeholders with the development of their capacities in collecting, analysing and reporting on land-related data contributing to improving land governance in the Arab region.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

The project target key land actors from government institutions, the civil society and other relevant sectors in Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman and Lebanon.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The trainings will have two-tiered approach: one built on the expositive methods of presentations, case studies and worked examples; and one built on the collaborative methods, emphasizing social dimension of learning and engaging trainees in exchanging knowledge and views in a collaborative way, that include guided discussions, collaborative work and peer tutoring. The trainings will be conducted in an interactive way in order to combat the one-directional way of knowledge transfer that comes with lecture-style training, and to empower conversations and group interaction to allow participants to learn from each other.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Delivery of two training events on monitoring land governance. The first training event was carried out on 14-16 December 2020. Organisation of one Expert Group Meeting to assess and discuss the current state of knowledge on monitoring land governance and tenure security, the type and the quality of existing land data, as well as the used methodologies for data collection in the Arab region. Expand the network of experts and institutions that are part of the Arab Land Initiative.



Training events on monitoring land governance (Rasheed TI-Jordan 2020)



REGIONAL

Land, Women Empowerment and Socio-Economic Development

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Arab region

DURATION

24 months

DONOR

Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ)

PARTNERS

Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC)

MORE INFORMATION

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PROJECT GOAL

(UWAC, 2020))

Identify and analyse the linkages between land access and control and women socio-economic empowerment in the Arab region.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

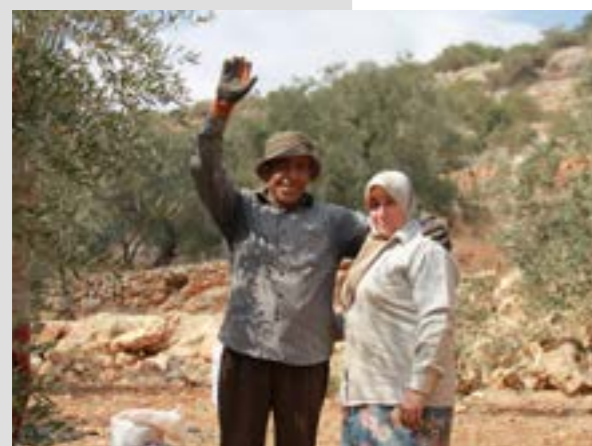
The study will target women living in the Arab region. The Expert Group Meeting and the two training events will target experts with different professional backgrounds (academic, civil society, government, etc.), as well as grassroots women and rural women in the Arab region.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The approach envisages three integrated activities, a) an empirical study that examines this impact on the ground, b) a regional EGM, to exchange and expand knowledge about women's land tenure security and women's rights to land and its impact on their socio-economic development, and c) capacity building trainings for women and other land actors in society on the importance of land tenure for women, women's rights to land, and how to attain them. area of Bourj Hammoud, which provided legal assistance with the support of the Information, Counselling and Legal Assistance (ICLA) Programme at NRC on civil documentation and HLP rights.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Expected results include the publication of a study on "evidence-based linkages between access to land and socio-economic development and empowerment, especially for women". The organisation of two training events on Women's access to Land. An Expert Group Meeting on evidence-based linkages between access to land and socioeconomic development and empowerment, especially for women was carried out on 1-2 February 2021.



(UWAC, 2020)

REGIONAL

Capacity and Knowledge Development on Land Governance in the Arab region

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Arab region

DURATION

24 months

DONORS

Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ)

PARTNER

The Urban Training & Studies Institute (UTI)

MORE INFORMATION

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PROJECT GOAL

Induction workshop, Cairo, Egypt (UTI, 2020)

The aim of the project is to assess the land sector capacities in the region, identify the learning offers and define a capacity development strategy and a set of priority capacity development initiatives to be led by leading experts and institutions from the region.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

The projects targets will target experts with different professional backgrounds (academic, civil society, government, etc.) from the Arab region.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

To achieve the objective, the project envisage a) a capacity assessment of land management and land administration expertise in the Arab region; b) a review of the existing land-related curricula offered by training and education organisations in the region to be used as the ground for adapting a curriculum on land governance for the Arab region; c) the establishment and management of a research innovation fund; d) the organisation of two capacity development events on land governance and land tools relevant for the region; and e) the adaptation and translation of relevant materials.

EXPECTED RESULTS

In February 2020, the first capacity development event was carried with participants from GLTN, UN-Habitat, the World Bank, GIZ, the Arab Union of Surveyors, International Land Coalition, Habitat International Coalition, and from the implementing partners. In late August 2020, UTI, GLTN and senior Arab Land Initiative's advisors selected seventeen research proposals that have been funded and are currently undergoing. A capacity assessment questionnaire was developed, and the assessment is currently undergoing.



Induction workshop, Cairo, Egypt (UTI, 2020)



REGIONAL Fit for purpose land administration

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Arab region

DURATION

18 months

DONOR

Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ)

PARTNERS

Regional Center for Remote Sensing of North Africa States (CRTEAN)

MORE INFORMATION

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PROJECT GOAL

(UN-Habitat Sudan)

The Programme aims at informing regional and national stakeholders in the Arab region of fit-for-purpose land administration concepts and practices to manage and administer urban, peri-urban and rural land to achieve inclusive social and economic development – particularly for women, youth and displaced - and to foster peace and stability.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

The project targets a broad range of land experts and stakeholders in the Arab region.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The project will include an EGM and two training sessions. The events will be an opportunity to introduce and inform the land expert and other stakeholders from the Arab region and elsewhere to the Fit for-purpose (FFP) land administration approach and tools. The FFP approach has interrelated core components: flexible spatial data capture approaches; participatory data capture and use to ensure community support; affordability; reliability and up-to-date information; accessibility; upgradeability with regard to incremental upgrading and improvement over time in response to social and legal needs and emerging economic opportunities.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Organisation of an Expert Group Meeting on Fit-for-Purpose Land Administration to discuss the importance of the FFP approaches on land administration, with a focus on land and property rights and land tenure security.

Organisation of two training sessions to provide land professionals and other land sector stakeholders with knowledge on fit-for-purpose land administration using existing materials developed by GLTN partners.



REGIONAL Land, Natural Resources and Climate Change

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Arab region

DURATION

18 months

DONORS

Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ)

PARTNER

Lebanese Center for Policy Studies (LCPS)

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PROJECT GOAL

ESCWA 2016 Report

Identify and analyse the correlations between land tenure security, land use, natural resources and climate change in the Arab region, and creating knowledge and sharing experience among experts and organisations working on land and climate change, and on pastoral lands and range lands in the Arab region and globally.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

The project target the Arab region, relevant case studies will be identified for the research. The EGMs will target experts with different professional backgrounds (academic, civil society, government, etc.).

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The research will take a people-centred perspective on climate change and embraces views that see climate change and natural resources scarcity –as multipliers of risks and threats that exacerbate existing societal problems such as poverty, injustice, social insecurity, violence, terrorism, or civil war. The knowledge exchange events were designed on expositive methods of presentations, case studies and worked examples, and on the collaborative method, emphasizing social dimension of learning and exchanging knowledge and views in a collaborative way.

RESULTS

Two Expert Group Meetings (EGMs) have been organised on January 18 and January 20, 2021. The first EGM brought together experts for an open discussion about the mutual impacts of land and climate change in the Arab region. The second EGM addressed, more specifically, the challenges related to pastoral and range lands. A report will be published on the different correlations between land tenure security, good land governance and combating land degradation and climate change in the Arab region.



Lebanon's Bisri Valley (Source: Alison Tahmizian Meuse)



REGIONAL

The role of Land Professionals in land governance

REGIONAL

Baseline study on land related legal and policy frameworks

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Arab region

DURATION

18 months

DONORS

Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ)

PARTNER

ISTIDAMA
Arab Union of Surveyors

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Report: [report link](#)

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PROJECT GOAL

Survey demarcation (ISTIDAMA)

The aim of the project is to undertake a capacity needs assessment of land professionals in the Arab region, and organize a knowledge exchange event to reflect on the role of land professionals and on how to adapt it to better suit fit-for-purpose land administration and the land administration needs of the region.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

The project target experts with different professional backgrounds (academic, civil society, government, land professionals etc.) working in the Arab region.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The approach of the capacity needs assessment of land professionals in the region will ensure alignment and complementarities with the overall capacities' assessment coordinated by the Urban Training and Studies Institute. The results of the capacity needs assessment will be reviewed during a knowledge exchange event which will allow to identify the key areas of professionalism available in Arab States, clarifying their roles; identify the key challenges for the capacity of the Arab Land professionals; and share recommendations on the suitable approaches to build the capacity of the Arab Land Professionals

EXPECTED RESULTS

The capacity needs assessment of land professionals in the region and the knowledge exchange event on the role of land professional in the region will bring together different land professionals from Arab countries to discuss the role they currently have and the roles they should evolve into in the coming years to ensure their full contribution to the different aspects of land governance in the region.



Planning a new road in Abyei, Sudan (ISTIDAMA, 2010)

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Arab region

DURATION

12 months

DONOR

Ford Foundation (FF)

PARTNERS

Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ)

MORE INFORMATION

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Report: [report link](#)

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PROJECT GOAL

Hadath El Jebbe, Lebanon (Source: Paul Saad)

The study aims at providing an overview of relevant policies, laws and regulations related to different aspects of land governance and land-related decision-making processes in the Arab region.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

The study targets the policy, legal and institutional frameworks of different Arab countries, so far they country identified for the assessment are Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan and Palestine.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

This study is based on case studies, empirical evidence and documentary reviews of land laws, the institutional setting and procedures from different countries of the Arab region. Data collection will be conducted on the country level. Given the regional component of the study, trends and areas of attention will be defined based on cross-cutting results from the case studies.

RESULTS/EXPECTED RESULTS

The study is expected to increase knowledge and understanding about the decision-making processes and stakeholders in the land sector, the existing laws and regulations of the land sector as well as the loopholes and gaps is an indispensable step of any research and operational programme on land governance. A first country level study – on Lebanon - was developed and brought to a final stage of completion. The Iraq national analysis was drafted and the review is currently ongoing.



الاراضي العربية مبادرة Arab Land Initiative

REGIONAL

The Role of the Civil Society in Land Governance

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Arab region

DURATION

12 months

DONORS

Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ)

PARTNER

International Youth Council of Yemen (IYCY)

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PROJECT GOAL

Report cover (UN-Habitat and UNHCR, 2014)

Share knowledge in creating a common understanding and areas of converging interest about the role of civil society in land governance in the Arab region, with a focus on land and property rights and land tenure security.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

The virtual knowledge exchange event targeted experts, government representatives, civil society partners from the Arab region, and other partners working in the land sector.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

The knowledge exchange event built on the expositive methods of presentations, case studies and worked examples, and on the collaborative method, emphasizing social dimension of learning and exchanging knowledge and views in a collaborative way. markets, and (iv) land use in heavily impacted cities and rural areas.

RESULTS

A Virtual Knowledge Exchange Event on the Role of Civil Society in Land Governance in the Arab Region was organised and carried out on 20-21 December 2021. The event provide a platform to discuss the role and challenges facing CSOs operating in the land governance sector in the region; highlight the potential areas of cooperation among CSOs and their capacity and contribution to better land governance in the Arab countries; exchange information on different points of view on the challenges facing CSOs working in the field of land governance in the Arab region; learn from current experiences; analyze common issues that CSOs face when meeting women's needs as well as women's groups focused on improving women's social rights, land rights, and land regulations across the region.



Group Discussion on Land Issues, UN-Habitat Sudan

REGIONAL

Twinning arrangements initiative

PROJECT FACTS

LOCATION

Arab region

DURATION

10 months

DONOR

Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ)

PARTNERS

To be identified

MORE INFORMATION

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PROJECT GOAL

The twinning initiative aims at pairing two organisations from the Arab region (or one from the region and one from outside the region) to exchange knowledge and experiences, build networks, work together and create opportunities to foster cross-fertilizing experiences in the area of good land governance and land administration.

TARGETED POPULATION/GROUP

The twinning initiative targets public organisations (e.g. government departments, etc.) and non-profit organisations (e.g. academia, civil society, NGOs, intergovernmental and/or international organisation, etc.) from all countries. Organisations registered and based in one of the countries composing the Arab region will be given priority.

PROJECT APPROACH AND TOOLS

Each twinning arrangement will be supported with a maximum of USD 30,000 that will be made available by UN-Habitat / GLTN through an Agreement of Cooperation or through direct payment for some of the activities proposed (e.g. travel costs, venue, etc.). Agreements of cooperation will be signed between UN-Habitat and one of the two organisations that are part of the twinning.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The twinning arrangements will create and strengthen partnership, promoting knowledge sharing and capacity building between two entities from different countries. The collaborations will contribute to the establishment of a wider land network and help achieve specific goals, creating linkages to address land related issues, developing projects, sharing experiences (e.g. best practices, advice, risks, etc.) and knowledge (e.g. IT skills, capacity building, tools, methodologies, etc.), identifying further potential partners, saving time and money through convergent activities, and creating opportunities.