



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



8th Capitalization Meeting

EU Land Governance Programme

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United Nations Centre
Nairobi, Kenya
From 18 – To 21 June,
2019

Improved Land Tenancy in Sindh (ILTS), Pakistan

Project Symbol: GCP/PAK/137/EC

Project Title: Improved Land Tenancy in Sindh (ILTS)

Duration and Starting Date: 2017-2020 (4 years)

Donor: European Union

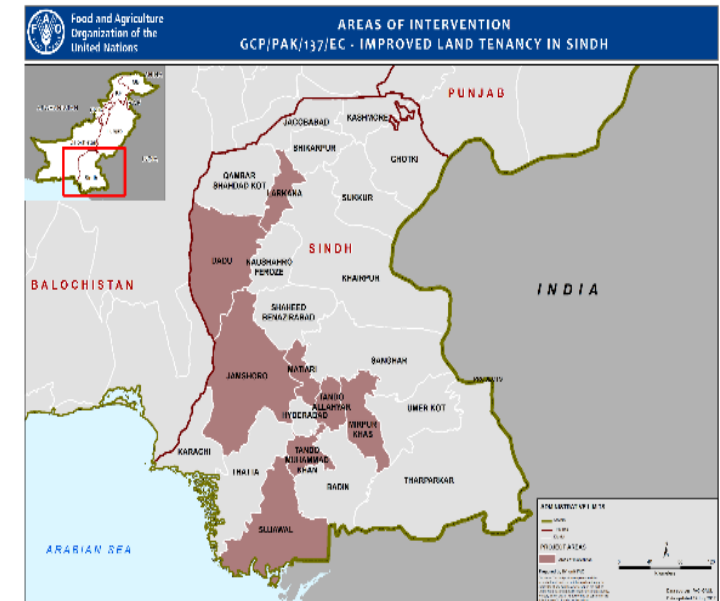
Overall Aim: The Overall Objective of the Project is to “Contribute to improved livelihoods and poverty alleviation in Pakistan, as well as sound management of natural resources, in particular for female and male smallholder farmers and other users of natural resources”

Project outcome: Improved governance of land and water in eight districts of Sindh Province in line with VGGT and with a particular focus on female and male smallholder farmers and other disadvantaged populations (e.g. haris)

Beneficiaries 12,600 (HH)

Informal Agreements 4,800 informal tenancy agreements between Landlord and Haris

FFS & WOs 504 FFSs & WOs implemented





Background



- Ownership of irrigated land in the Indus Valley is highly concentrated.
- Between 20% and 40% of rural households are reported to be landless or near-landless.
- They either lease or sharecrop land when they can or work as laborers on and off farms
- Poverty is highly correlated with landlessness and is seen as contributing to political and social instability.
- Tenants and sharecroppers have little incentive to invest in sustainable production practices. Insecure land tenure, coupled with poor water policy and management, have led to increasing degradation of land.



Progress



Research for evidence creation;

- Review of regulatory framework of Sindh Tenancy Act of 1950 and subsequent amendments (**policy, legislative and administrative issues and gaps**)
- Review of current landlords and sharecroppers relationships (**informal, verbal and exploitative**)
- Biophysical and socioeconomic profile of **08 project districts prepared**
- Underground water quality test of **80 villages of project areas** conducted through renowned government Research organization
- **960 informal tenancy agreements** signed between landlords and sharecroppers
- 13 training courses/workshops on VGGT conducted. **Total 446 professionals** from UN, NGOs and government are trained in VGGT



Progress



- 40 VGRCs formed having 200 members (81 women and 119 men)
- 2399 people participated in meetings for formation of VGRCs (1194 men and 1205 women)
- 104 farmer schools established (54 WOS and 46 FFS) to build capacity of tenants in modern agriculture practices and technologies (diversification and productivity enhancement)



Capacity Development Activities



- So far 2600 farmers trained through farmer schools (1 200 men and 1 400 women)
- 16 CSA demo sites established benefiting 400 farmers (300 men and 100 women)
- Four (04) TOT conducted for Government Officials, FFS facilitators and partners. Total 78 participants trained.
- Eight (08) study endorsement workshops conducted in eight target districts. Total 400 stakeholders participated



Challenges

implementation Related challenges

- Delayed start of the project implementation due to the government reluctance in approval
- Availability of Land governance advisor took more than anticipated time
- Other EU initiatives in same areas are delayed – which are supposed to complement FAO interventions

Policy , legal and administrative challenges

- Existing laws and regulations are not compatible with modern day needs –prevalence of tenancy act of 1950 with lots of gaps at all level
- Political party ruling since last 11 years
- Unequitable land distribution, water and fishing rights
- Weak regulatory and enforcement structures
- High poverty and illiteracy rates
- Gender issues



Lessons Learned



- Improved skills of farmers in agriculture created trust and mutual confidence between landlords and sharecroppers
- Land is a highly sensitive issue in Pakistan; to address this issue it is crucial to use a twin track strategy:
 - Working at ground level with rural people promoting sustainable practices and
 - Engaging with decision makers to develop policies fostering responsible governance of land and natural resources.



Recommendations



Draft VGGT strategy focus on three areas

Legislation

Formulating amendments to the STA to enhance the tenure security of sharecroppers.

Administration of laws

Working with government Revenue Board to develop and implement an action plan to fully implement the STA across the province and provide appropriate resources and training

Policies

a) Development of an overarching public land management policy with special reference to men and women with legitimate tenure rights over public land and b) information sharing policy using spatial data



Next Steps

1. Presentation of VGGT strategy to Sindh Government
2. Land tenancy agreement signing to complete 4800
3. Formation of remaining FFS through community facilitators
4. Engagement of parliamentarians through dialogue, meetings and exposure visits
5. Implementation of participatory land management and SOLA





Thank you!

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