Why an evaluation?

The Voluntary Guidelines on Governance of Tenure (VGGT) are an international agreement that promotes secure tenure rights and equitable access to land, fisheries and forests as means of eradicating hunger and poverty, supporting sustainable development and enhancing the environment. The VGGT were developed through an inclusive multi-stakeholder process under the technical leadership of FAO and endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) on 11 May 2012. Since then, FAO implemented several projects for the adoption of the VGGT principals and good practices in national governance tenure systems.

In 2019, Germany requested an independent evaluation focusing specifically on German funded projects related to the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure. The main purpose of the evaluation is to draw lessons from the implication of the VGGT programme and communicate the results achieved.

What is the focus?

The evaluation will focus on activities implemented by FAO in the countries benefiting from German funded projects, which are Liberia, Mongolia, Senegal River Basin and Sierra Leone. The evaluation will take stoke of the changes and results achieved on governance of tenure since the introduction of the VGGT and will make the link with FAO’s contributions.

The main questions of the evaluation are:

1) What have been the most significant changes in Governance of tenure triggered by the VGGT programme in the countries benefiting from German funded projects?

2) What have been the main results achieved at local level and to what extent the VGGT are owned by local actors?

3) To what extent are the results achieved sustainable and has the programme created the enabling environment ensuring that the processes launched will continue?

4) To what extent the approach adopted by FAO in the implementation of the programme facilitated or not the achievement of results?

5) To what extent gender has been integrated into the VGGT programme at country level?
**Evaluation Calendar**

Preparatory phase: November 2019 – January 2020
- Terms of Reference
- Recruitment of experts
- Establishment of the Reference Group

Main phase: February 2020 – July 2020
- Initial stakeholder workshop
  - Missions at country level
  - Drafting of the report

Dissemination of the results: July 2020 – September 2020
- Production of communication material and dissemination

All FAO evaluations and management responses are public documents and can be found on: [www.fao.org/evaluation/oed-home/en/](http://www.fao.org/evaluation/oed-home/en/)

**How will it be conducted?**

FAO Office of Evaluation is managing the evaluation in consultation with FAO VGGT Team.

The evaluation will be conducted by a team of independent experts hired to this purpose.

The evaluation will be lunched through an initial stakeholder workshop involving representatives from beneficiary countries and from the donor agency. The purpose of the workshop is to identify main results achieved by the programme in the beneficiary countries, define indicators for assessing results of VGGT interventions and refine the evaluation questions.

The workshop will be followed by missions at country level to meet with main stakeholders, validate the results identified during the workshop and evaluate initiatives implemented at community level.

Lessons learned from the evaluation will be broadly communicated through the production of communication material such as video etc.

**Who will be involved and who are the users of the evaluation?**

The evaluation will adopt a consultative and transparent approach with internal and external stakeholders throughout the evaluation process. The evaluation team will meet with all relevant stakeholders at country level to assess the results of the programme.

The intended users of this evaluation are the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) as well as FAO divisions that are directly accountable for the integration and/or implementation of projects related to the VGGT. Lessons learned could also serve to other partners working in areas related to Governance of Tenure.