



A MULTI-COUNTRY CAPACITY ASSESSMENT ON SDG INDICATOR 1.4.2

**GLOBAL STATUS ON LAND TENURE SECURITY DATA
COLLECTION, ANALYSIS AND REPORTING**



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ACRONYMS

AU	African Union
CAPI	Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing
CFS	United Nations Committee on World Food Security
CSO	Central Statistical Organisation
DANE	National Administrative Department of Statistics, Colombia
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
EGM	Expert Group Meeting
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GLII	Global Land Indicators Initiative
GLTN	Global Land Tool Network
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture Development
ILC	International Land Coalition
ILO	International Labour Organisation
LDC	Least Developed Country
LGAF	Land Governance Assessment Framework (World Bank)
LPI	Land Policy Initiative (African Union, African Development Bank and UNECA)
LSMS	Living Standard Measurement Survey (World Bank initiative)
LSMS-ISA	Living Standard Measurement Survey – Integrated Survey on Agriculture
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (UNICEF initiative)
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NRI	Natural Resources Institute (University of Greenwich)
NSO	National Statistical Organisation
ODK	Open Data Kit
PRIndex	Property Rights Index (Land Alliance initiative to measure perceptions of tenure security)
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UEMOA	Union Economique et Monetaire Ouest-Africaine (West African Economic and Monetary Union)
UIS	Urban Inequities Survey (UN-Habitat initiative)
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund

UN Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
VGGT	Voluntary Guidelines on the Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests
WCA	World Census on Agriculture (FAO data initiative)
WHH	Women headed household

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background to the Study

Land is of cross cutting significance for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Under SDG Goal 1, Ending Poverty, SDG Target 1.4, articulates a high priority global objective:

*"By 2030, ensure that **all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.**"*

Secure rights to land and property for women and men are a critical element of rights to economic resources, and security of land tenure is also essential in both urban and rural areas to ensure shelter and enable people to access basic and financial services, establish a livelihood and ensure wellbeing. Directly linked to SDG Target 1.4, SDG indicator 1.4.2, **Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, with legally recognized documentation and who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and by type of tenure**, is a key indicator that provides a globally comparable basis for the measurement of tenure security.

The Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDGs of the UN Statistical Commission has classified indicator 1.4.2 as Tier III indicator, signifying that so far this indicator has had no established methodology and data is not regularly collected at country level. UN Habitat and the World Bank are the custodian agencies for this indicator, tasked to provide technical support in the development of methodology for monitoring this indicator and capacity strengthening for Land and National Statistical Agencies in data collection, analysis and reporting.

For better understanding of countries' existing readiness to report against Indicator 1.4.2, UN-Habitat in collaboration with the Global Land Indicators Initiative (GLII) commissioned a rapid multi-country assessment of the existing status of data availability, data quality and data related institutional capacities at country level amongst National Statistical Organisations (NSOs) to collect, analyse the relevant data, on documentation and perceptions of security of land and property rights in both urban and rural areas.

UN Habitat commissioned the Natural Resources Institute (NRI) to conduct the assessment which was designed in collaboration with UN Habitat and GLII, with inputs from Africa Centre for Statistics (UNECA). This report presents the results of the assessment. It is intended to inform the work of the co-custodian agencies on Indicator 1.4.2 be used in developing a coherent strategy to further develop country level NSO capacities and strengthen their collaboration with land agencies.

In order to upgrade the Tier Status of the indicator it will be necessary to expand the capacity for data collection using consistent, harmonized and globally comparable methodologies to meet the reporting requirements of Indicator 1.4.2. In context of the need to upgrade the status of the indicator within the SDG monitoring framework, immediate priorities on which this report is intended to shed light, are to develop authoritative guidelines to orient the efforts of NSOs and initiate capacity building to enable them, together with national land agencies holding relevant administrative data, to fast track systematic data collection and reporting for the indicator. The report also informs GLII platform members and other stakeholders of the types of needs and opportunities for capacity strengthening that presently exist.

The research team used the following methods:

- Online survey with NSO representatives – 15 countries responses received (out of 73 countries to whom the survey questionnaire was sent; a response rate of over 20%).
- Face to Face interview of country level NSO and land ministry officials through country visits – 2 countries (Niger and Senegal).

Data availability and quality on SDG indicator 1.4.2

This assessment shows that international household survey programs like LSMS, DHS, MICS, WCA exist in 14 of the 17 countries that responded. At present, 11 of these 14 countries are collecting data related to documentation of land rights. However, only 3 of those countries are also collecting data related to perceptions of tenure security. At present, 5 of the 17 responding countries reported that their national censuses collect data related to documentation of land rights, however no country reported collection of perception data. About half of respondent countries have reported existence of other data initiatives, which can potentially supply data related to this indicator.

Several efforts across the countries give clear indication of a strong on-going movement to improve data related to measuring land tenure security over the years. Cameroon is ready to report on this indicator by 2019. Senegal DHS 2005 included the UN-Habitat's module on secure tenure. In Niger, land is part of household living conditions and agriculture survey. India undertakes separate and independent household surveys on land and farmers' working and living conditions, which include data related to documentation of land rights. The last such survey was undertaken in 2013 by India's National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). LSMS-ISA captures (e.g. for Uganda, 2013) ownership status of agriculture land and source of acquisition and also on land rights documentation and threat perception. The DHS-7 round (2013-2018) includes a limited set of questions on self-reported ownership of land and housing and available documentation, in order to measure intra-household asset ownership and its impact on indicators of women's empowerment. Recent surveys that include land questions are available for over 75 countries.

The findings of the online survey and interviews with NSOs show that gender-disaggregated data is fully or partially available in 8 of the 17 countries surveyed. Data disaggregated by income groups was reported by 12 of the 17 NSOs. Disaggregation by 'type of tenure' is currently being captured by 15 of the 17 countries surveyed, although the extent to which household survey data can be disaggregated to capture customary tenure types in countries where this applies is not clear. The data quality on 'extent of coverage' dimension shows a mixed picture. While both agriculture and residential land data is available for 15 of the 17 countries, data for community or group land holding and for slum /informal settlements is available only for 7 and 5 of those countries respectively. Most of the NSOs responding concurred on the need for refinement and additional questions to capture information which will respond to the requirement of reporting on SDG indicator 1.4.2. The Niger and Senegal NSOs pointed out that the cost of data collection, processing and analysis will depend on the length of the module.

The online survey and interviews with the NSO representatives in 17 countries gives a clear indication that medium to good availability and quality of data on the SDG indicator 1.4.2. The assessment have shown that a good range of survey opportunities currently exist in all countries, which if leveraged, can ensure robust data collection and reporting on SDG indicator 1.4.2. International survey programs in 14 of the 17 countries surveyed is a strong indicator of higher probability of success of efforts at integrating land modules (key questions within existing survey programs) and harmonizing data standards and protocols across countries.

All the NSOs in this survey have shown their willingness to include a land module into existing household surveys and other data initiatives.

NSO capacities and collaboration with land agencies and international organisations

The NSOs (surveyed) are well-equipped in terms of human resources and technology and have many years of experience of conducting households' surveys and censuses, although resource constraints for regular conduct of surveys and censuses were identified as one of the main issues by some NSOs, especially in LDCs which depend heavily on donor funding to conduct surveys and censuses. While, NSOs have upgraded their information technology infrastructure and ICT related skills in recent years, many of those responding in this assessment identified a range of needs for capacity augmentation related to use of mobile technology, GPS, exploitation of big data, computer-assisted data collection, development of strong and secure integrated data management systems, and on-line data capture application etc.

Approximately half of the NSOs have formal or informal coordination and information sharing arrangements with land agencies, such as national, provincial and local land boards, customary authorities. All NSOs (surveyed) understand that data held by land agencies and other institutions (NGOs, civil society, international organizations, etc.) will complement their survey datasets and can also be used for triangulation. There are many interesting examples of strong collaboration (for instance Colombia, India, and Sweden) between NSOs and land agencies. Other NSOs reported that their working arrangements with land agencies 'partially' exist at present. However all the NSOs responding showed willingness to develop productive engagement with the

country's land agencies. Very few NSOs (3 of 17 surveyed) currently have a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) or structured collaboration (for the SDG data reporting) with international organisations.

This multi-country assessment shows that institutionally, the responding NSOs are on a strong footing to address the requirements of data collection and reporting on the SDG indicator 1.4.2 as they have the required willingness, infrastructure and skills, even though some augmentation will be required in these areas to make reporting on this indicator more robust and effective. While this is a very positive finding, the caveat is that unknown numbers of the NSOs that did not respond, and those that were not surveyed may be in a weaker position to address indicator 1.4.2. The Responding NSOs called for strengthening their links with country's land agencies and with international organisations. To maximize the potential of these collaborations, NSOs expressed the need for increased/higher level of involvement and representation in international discussions related to this indicator (and to other SDG indicators). They also would like the role of NSOs to be clearly defined when working with UN-Habitat, the World Bank and other partners. They stressed that they should be involved in the roll out of new survey methodologies by international organizations, and especially in design and analysis of results).

Conclusion:

The study results show that in their efforts directed towards reclassification of SDG indicator 1.4.2 from Tier III to Tier II and eventually to Tier I, the co-custodian agencies can build on opportunities that presently exist while also addressing prevailing challenges. This assessment illustrates the opportunities that co-custodian agencies can leverage. At the same time, the findings identify some early challenges that can be tackled immediately or relatively quickly as well as bigger challenges that require longer term efforts. These are key points for reflection for co-custodian agencies and for GLII platform members which can inform their future planning and actions.

Recommendations:

This assessment provides a status on strengths, challenges and opportunities for land data collection, analysis and reporting on the SDG indicator 1.4.2. This report inform the work of the co-custodian agencies on Indicator 1.4.2 particularly in prioritizing the capacity needs for NSOs and land data institutions to fast track reporting on the indicator. The key recommendations below are distilled from the findings of this multi-country assessment and provide a number of pointers to the co-custodian agencies to steer their work in the next one to two years:

- 1. Leverage existing data initiatives for transitioning SDG indicator 1.4.2 from Tier III to Tier II and eventually to Tier I:** The widespread implementation of household surveys offers the possibility of adding security of land tenure modules to the household questionnaire. The international survey programs such as LSMS, DHS, MICS, and NSOs should tap these opportunities by adjustment of the newly agreed questions on land to bring these in line with the requirements of global-scale reporting on the SDG indicator 1.4.2.
- 2. Strengthen the indicator 1.4.2 Custodian Agencies' Meta data document, methodology report to the IAEG-SDG EGM in November 2017 and forward plans for capacity building utilizing the key findings of this report:** This assessment shows a significant on-going trends across all countries surveyed to improve data related to measuring land tenure security. The assessment also points out how and where this movement can be strengthened to ensure that globally comparable reporting on the SDG indicator 1.4.2 take place in the near future. It also provides the arguments for upgrading the tier status of the indicator. The key findings of this multi-country assessment can feed into the Meta data document, methodology report to the IAEG-SDG and work-plan documents due to be submitted to the IAEG-SDGs in autumn of 2017.

3. **Country level actions to improve availability and quality of data at country level:** The assessment shows that few countries are well advanced in their preparedness to report on the SDG 1.4.2 indicator. These quick-wins needs to be realized. The assessment also highlight gaps and a clear need for strengthening existing data initiatives at country level to transition to improve data availability and data quality (on the SDG indicator 1.4.2) in the next few years. Three-pronged actions are needed in such cases:
 - i. Integrating land modules / key questions within existing survey programs - both national and international survey programs.
 - ii. Working with NSOs to upgrade their information technology infrastructure and ICT related skills, and capacity augmentation related to use of mobile technology, GPS, exploitation of big data, computer-assisted data collection, development of strong and secure integrated data management systems, on-line data capture application etc..
 - iii. harmonizing data standards and protocols across countries through active national, regional and international collaborations with existing data initiatives, including other SDG indicators (e.g. 5.a.1). This will require user manuals, authoritative guidelines for harmonization.
4. **Strategic investments for ensuring disaggregated data:** Disaggregation by gender, income and tenure type etc. are crucial to gain a fuller picture. The co-custodian should deploy a team of researchers for gaining detailed understanding of methodologies used by national and international survey programs so that approaches for obtaining disaggregated data can be harmonised across countries.
5. **Catalysing formal /informal engagement of NSOs with land agencies in the country:** The co-custodian agencies should build on NSO's willingness to link with land agencies and lessons from countries where these links are well-established (for example Colombia, India, Jamaica, Tanzania etc.), and support the NSOs in strengthening their formal /informal engagement with land agencies. In this context, establishing regional steering committees could be helpful where NSOs and land departments play a central role in land data collection and analysis.
6. **Maximising active participation /involvement of NSOs:** The co-custodian agencies should develop an engagement plan that defines NSO needs and capacities and specify their roles and responsibilities for maximizing active participation and involvement of NSOs in survey design and analysis processes related to the indicator. As a first step, this report should be shared with the NSOs for their feedback. The roll out of new survey methodologies by international organization should necessarily involve NSOs in design and analysis.
7. **Specific capacity and Resource support to NSOs:** Some of the NSOs (especially those in LDCs) need support to address their bigger /longer term challenge of mobilizing financial resources for effective conduct of their national surveys. The co-custodian agencies should consider how best to work with and develop existing donor collaborative platforms to mobilize resources to support NSOs and Land agencies. The co-custodian agencies should constitute regional /country level technical task teams that can conduct research and facilitate technical and management support to NSOs and land agencies on their granular capacity building needs.

1. INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

1.1 LAND AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Relevance of land to the SDGs, SDG targets and associated indicators

United Nations Member States have committed to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within a time frame of 15 years, endorsing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/1.

Land is the primary source of food production and natural resources, the foundation for human shelter and settlement, and a source of livelihoods for people throughout the world. Opportunities and rights to access or own and utilise land are of fundamental significance for economic development: security of rights to land unlocks economic opportunities by enabling individuals and households to utilize it by producing food or running businesses, to access basic and financial services, establish a livelihood and ensure wellbeing. In these ways land tenure security is of central importance for ending poverty, in both urban and rural areas.

Equal rights to land and property for women and men is a critical ingredient of women's empowerment and necessary to eliminate gender discrimination. Clarity and certainty of land rights are also necessary to enable all land users, whether individuals, households, communities, companies, corporations and other organisations to plan and utilise land resources sustainably, in both urban and rural contexts. Land is thus of cross cutting significance for the achievement of the SDGs. According to Professor Jeffrey Sachs in a recent blog (<https://landportal.info/blog-post/2017/09/land-and-sdgs>), *Land rights determine social status, women's empowerment, and the survival or destruction of cultures, especially of indigenous peoples... [And]..... Land use is at the heart of poverty eradication, food security, gender equality, water management, and decent work, sustainable cities, ending climate change, and protecting biodiversity.*

Under SDG Goal 1, Ending Poverty, SDG Target 1.4, articulates a high priority global objective:

*"By 2030, ensure that **all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.**"*

Secure rights to land and property for women and men are a critical element of rights economic resources, and land tenure security is essential to ensure shelter and enable people to access services. In promoting and charting progress in extending people's access to economic and livelihood resources and towards ending poverty, SDG indicator 1.4.2, **Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, with legally recognized documentation and who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and by type of tenure**, provides a globally comparable basis for the measurement of tenure security.

Secure land rights, sustainable land use and good land governance more broadly are also of direct relevance to other SDGs and associated targets and indicators:

- Under Goal 2, Zero hunger, Target 2.3 which includes *the doubling of agricultural productivity and the incomes of small scale food producers in all sectors through secure and*

equal access to land and other productive resources, can also be supported by using information collected to meet indicator 1.4.2 in addition to indicator 2.4.2 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture.

- Target 5a, under Goal 5. **Gender equality**, is to *Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.* Associated Indicator 5.a.i is intended to track: a) *Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex;* (b) *share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure*
- Target 11.1, under Goal 11. **Sustainable cities** is: *By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums.* Associated indicator 11.1.1 seeks to track the *Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing,* and in practice will in part rely on data collected under indicator 1.4.2, disaggregated specifically to capture levels of security for different categories of tenure on which urban people rely to access land in informal settlements and for slum improvement. Goal 11 also requires improved urban land use and settlement planning and provision of public spaces in cities, targets that also rely on having good land information for decision making and monitoring of progress.
- Target 15.2 under Goal 15, Life on Land is to: *By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world, and indicator 15.3.1 aims to track the proportion of land that is degraded, over total land area, on a country-by-country basis.* Although this indicator can be addressed by utilising various in-country and remote or aerial photographic digital data sources, secure land rights and clarification of land user and institutional responsibilities for different publically and privately owned land areas provide a key basis for decision making on sustainable land use and the reversal of land degradation.

Given its central importance for ending poverty and tracking country progress in putting secure land and property rights in place as a central enabling condition for poverty reduction, and the relevance of data collected for 1.4.2 to other SDG targets, notably Target 5.a. i. and Goal 11 Sustainable Cities, 1.4.2 is a key indicator that countries need to report on in seeking to achieve the SDGs.

Tier classification of SDG land indicators, the roles of custodian agencies, statistical organisations and other organisations

The UN's IAEG-SDGs in collaboration with UNSC, the UN statistical commission has classified all of the accepted SDG indicators into 3 tiers according to availability of suitable data sources and methodologies for data collection and analysis and the extend of reporting by countries in tracking progress against each specific indicator.

In March 2016, The Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDGs of the UN Statistical Commission classified indicator 1.4.2 as a Tier III indicator since this indicator currently has no established methodology and data is not regularly collected at country level.

UN Habitat and World Bank are the custodian agencies for this indicator, and are tasked to provide technical support in the development of methodology for monitoring this indicator and capacity strengthening for National Statistical Organisations and Land Agencies in data collection, analysis and reporting. This process entails:

- i. development and revision of a meta-data document describing the data sources, methodologies and survey instruments presently available for countries to report against the indicator;
- ii. methodological work to develop and strengthen existing survey instruments and data sets to enable countries to collect and report on the necessary data, including utilization of available administrative data on tenure security for reporting in the short term where appropriate survey data is not so far available;
- iii. intensified engagement with and interaction and debate amongst NSOs and land agencies to assess their readiness to expand data collection using appropriate and consistent survey tools, capacity to reporting against the indicator drawing on the range of available and emerging sources;
- iv. production of evidence on Expert Group Meetings (EGMs), member states consultations, methodology improvements and data collection to meet the criteria for reclassification of indicator 1.4.2 into Tier II and subsequently Tier III (classification criteria are described below); and
- v. Assessment of capacity building needs and mobilization of the necessary resources to initiate and subsequently expand the necessary capacity.

The World Bank, UN Habitat along with national statistical systems, bilateral and multilateral aid donors including the Global Donor Working Group on Land, and with the support of the Global Land Indicators Initiative (GLII) are fast tracking efforts for reclassification of this indicator to Tier II

At present relatively few countries produce relevant land tenure data sets, and those that do collect and report relevant data do not do so using consistent and comparable methodologies. Reclassification of Indicator 1.4.2 to Tier II requires that the indicator be conceptually clear, and have an established methodology, and clearly available data standards that NSOs and other organisations involved in reporting can follow, but does not require that a critical mass of countries be already equipped for regular reporting.

Preparation of the methodology report to be submitted to the Inter-Agency Expert Group (IAEG) on SDG Indicators on 11-14 November 2017 is now, at the time of writing, the immediate priority for the Indicator 1.4.2 Custodian Agencies. The IAEG-SDG's decision on the tier status of the indicator will determine how quickly countries as a whole will embark on national level data collection and reporting on the indicator. This report is intended to shed light on the readiness of NSOs to adopt common methodologies and on complementary activities to assist development the methodology report and in promoting reclassification of the indicator.

Other key objectives of the custodian agencies and supporting organisations are to initiate systematic capacity building for NSOs to enable them to report more regularly on Indicator 1.4.2 and other SDG related land indicators, and, after a period in which methodologically consistent and regular data collection and progress reporting expands across countries in all regions, to embark on reclassification of Indicator 1.4.2 to Tier 1. This requires not only that the indicator is conceptually

clear, with established methodology and standards available, but that data is regularly produced by a growing number of countries). This assessment is therefore also intended to shed light on the type of assistance and capacity building that NSOs are likely to need to roll out data collection and reporting broadly across all global regions, the priority needs for capacity building in the short term, and how NSO status and capacity for reporting on this indicator could be assessed more systematically as a basis for sustained global capacity (which will also be needed to meet the reporting requirements of other priority indicators presently classified as Tier II or Tier III).

In most countries NSOs are the central infrastructure for data collection analysis of statistical data and production and management of official statistics and creation of accurate data sets for decision-making. Land Registries and other land agencies play a similar role in compiling administrative data on land holding, land use including the incorporation of descriptive information on land parcels and land rights holders into official cadastral and land information systems. Data gaps, however, exist in a number of sectors, including land, as land registry information is generally incomplete, certain categories of socially legitimate land rights, such as customary tenure systems may lack official recognition. Moreover data on tenure security of land rentals is generally not available from land agencies, and there is little interaction between statistical and land agencies for purposes of development of more complete and more useful data sets to support policy and decision making on land.

The requirement for reporting on SDG 1.4.2 provides a clear opportunity to strengthen country-level data generation systems, and in turn to take action to help deliver greater security of land and property rights in both urban and rural areas. Land governance can further be strengthened by an information- and monitoring-driven approach for change, within which national land institutions can develop ways of making reliable and regularly updated land and property information publically available on a routine basis. This would also improve the availability of administrative data; alongside greater availability of relevant spatial data sets and household survey data, including data on perceptions of tenure security. This can help ensure that no-one is left behind in the drive to improve security of land and property rights for all.

1.2 BACKGROUND ON MULTI-COUNTRY ASSESSMENT

An understanding of countries' readiness to report against Indicator 1.4.2 requires assessment of the existing status of data availability, data quality and data related capacities and co-ordinations at country level to collect, analyse the relevant data, on documentation and perceptions of security of land and property rights. This assessment is important to enable adoption of a coherent strategy to build on existing NSO capacities and collaborations with land agencies at country level to expand their capacities and overall coverage.

In some countries, the World Bank and FAO have supported national censuses, agricultural censuses and national household surveys through which availability of land tenure related information can plausibly be expected to have improved in the last survey round during 2010-15 where some countries took the initiative to include land tenure documentation in their national censuses. Voluntarily or in response to UN-Habitat request, some countries and a number of major cities have also included questions on tenure documentation and perceived eviction on their household surveys such as DHS and MICS. Other countries have also conducted full Urban Inequities Surveys with an entire survey module on secure tenure. This multi-country study reported here is therefore timely

and important in providing an assessment of the extent to which land tenure security data is available through national and internationally supported data sources in each country.

Against this backdrop, and for better understanding of countries' existing readiness to report against Indicator 1.4.2, UN-Habitat in collaboration with the Global Land Indicators Initiative (GLII) commissioned a rapid multi-country assessment of the existing status of data availability, data quality and data related institutional capacities at country level amongst NSOs to collect, analyse the necessary data on documentation and perceptions of security of land and property rights. UN Habitat commissioned Natural Resources Institute of the University of Greenwich., to conduct the assessment, assisted by contributions from Gora Corp. The assessment was designed in collaboration with UN Habitat and GLII, with inputs from Africa Centre for Statistics (UNECA). This report presents the results of the assessment.

The main objective of this assessment is to examine National Statistical and Data System preparedness to report on land indicator 1.4.2 for a sample of countries. The assessment has the following objectives:

1. Establish the level of data availability by type and quality at national/country level
2. Examine the data production capacities including institutional and systemic
3. Assess structural issues including coordination mechanisms and collaboration arrangement in the data production/use infrastructure for this indicator
4. Provide key recommendations on the capacity of NSOs for action by the custodian agencies for indicator 1.4.2 and other partners linked to land monitoring in the SDGs, regional and other land governance global frameworks.

This report provides a multi-country capacity status report on strengths, challenges and opportunities for land data collection, analysis and reporting on indicator 1.4.2. It is intended to inform the work of the co-custodian agencies on Indicator 1.4.2 in adopting a coherent strategy for further development of country level NSO capacities and strengthen their collaboration with land agencies.

Given the need to upgrade the Tier Status of the indicator it will be necessary to expand the capacity for data collection using consistent, harmonized and globally comparable methodologies to meet the reporting requirements of Indicator 1.4.2. This report is also to shed light on the readiness of NSOs to adopt and implement appropriate survey tools and methodologies and initiate active country reporting on the indicator.

The report also GLII platform members and the GDWGL as "Friends of the Custodian agencies" (name of an informal committee established by GDWGL in April 2017) and other stakeholders of the types of needs and opportunities for capacity strengthening that presently exist and to which they can contribute. In addition to reporting on overall progress towards SDG 1, *Eliminating Poverty*, Global efforts to gather data to report on indicator 1.4.2 and other land related SDG indicators can also lead to better reporting and tracking of countries efforts to adopt and implement the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGTs).

A fundamental principle of the VGGTs is for countries with support of development partners in public and private sectors and in civil society to pursue the development and implementation of sound legal and institutional frameworks, and fit-for-purpose land administration, information and

spatial data systems that recognise, incorporate and offer security to all socially legitimate forms of tenure are fundamental. Existing land administration data and survey data on tenure security where available can be utilized to refine, advocate and measure progress of land policy reforms and associated development assistance programmes.

1.3 METHODS & ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

1.3.1 ASSESSMENT METHODS AND PROCESS

This multi-country assessment was designed in collaboration with UN Habitat and GLII, with inputs from Africa Centre for Statistics (UNECA). The research have used the following methods:

- Online survey with NSO representatives – 15 countries' responses were received, out of 73 countries to whom the survey questionnaire was sent). In addition, research team conducted one to one discussions with NSO representatives during EGM in Washington DC – 6 countries (whose online survey responses were also received)
- Face-to Face interview of country level NSO and land ministry officials through two country visits (Niger and Senegal¹).

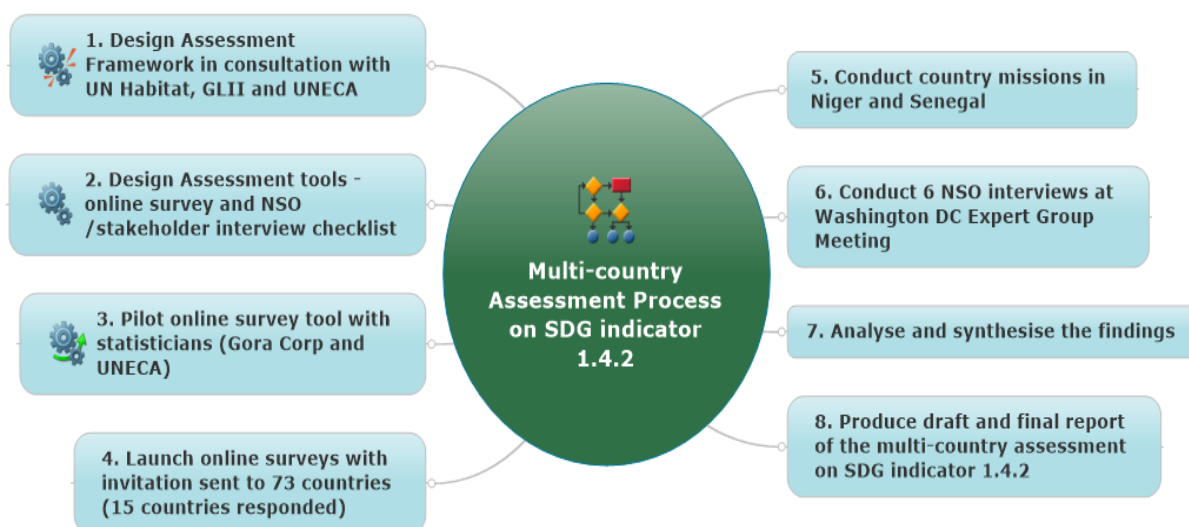
The 73 countries, targeted for the survey, were selected to ensure representation across different regions in the world. As the survey was initiated in only one language (English), consideration was given to select 'English' speaking countries, even though some French /Spanish speaking countries were also targeted where it was assumed that response was possible in English. At over 20% this was a relatively high response rate for this online survey, although a higher level of responses would have been desirable. The online survey was available for response by targeted NSO respondents during one month (15 May to 15 June 2017). To encourage responses three follow up reminder notes were sent to the potential respondents during this period.

The multi-country assessment was carried out using 8-steps, described in figure 1 below. The starting point was to develop a concept note detailing the objective of the assessment and its utility in understanding country level preparedness to report on the SDG indicator 1.4.2. The assessment framework was developed consultatively with UN Habitat, GLII, Gora Corp. and UNECA's Africa Centre for Statistics (ACS). The online survey was designed and administered through University of Greenwich (UoG)² subscription service of an online survey portal (BOS online surveys). The online survey tool and stakeholder interview checklists are annexed. The online survey was conducted during 15 May to 15 June 2017.

¹ Niger and Senegal were selected opportunistically and the interviews conducted by team member Dr Gora Mboup of Gora Corp. as he was able to schedule the interviews during a visit to those countries in May 2017.

² We have signed up to and followed UoG code of practice for collecting and processing personal data. Confidentiality is maintained throughout and respondent identifies are protected in this research.

Figure 1. Schema of process of conducting multi-country assessment on SDG indicator 1.4.2

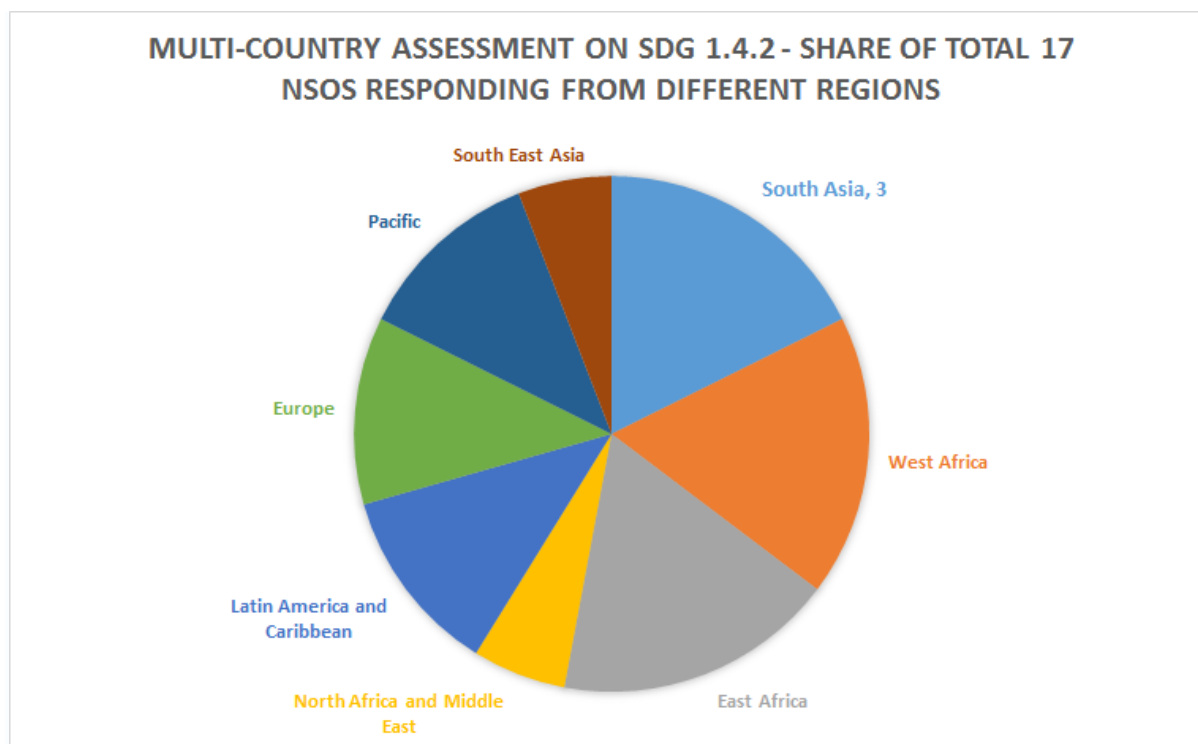


Upon receiving the responses from the survey and report of country missions, we carried out analysis and synthesis of data and perspective to prepare this assessment report.

1.3.2 COUNTRY SAMPLES

Overall the research data comes from 17 countries (15 online surveys + 2 country missions) representing different regions across the world. Overall, Africa was most strongly represented (7 countries), followed by Asia (4 countries):

Figure 2. Sample of countries covered in the multi-country assessment on SDG 1.4.2



The report presents summary and comparative analysis of country level situation across 17 countries. This although providing an indicative overview of NSO readiness for SDG indicator 1.4.2,

is not representative of the global level situation as country samples are based on self-selected voluntary participation of 17 countries in an online survey broadcasted to a total of 73 countries.

The full set of 73 countries were selected jointly with UN Habitat based on criteria of regional representation, and familiarity with the English language, given inadequate resources to conduct the survey and analysis in other languages. Niger and Senegal were chosen for face to face interviews through country visits due to proximity of one of the French speaking consultant; who lives in Senegal.

1.3.3 ANALYSIS FRAME

The multi-country assessment is structured around three components: DATA, CAPACITY and STRUCTURE. This structure of assessment is used as an analysis framework for understanding the global status on data collection, analysis and reporting on SDG indicator 1.4.2.

1. **DATA:** Assessment related to data availability and data quality.
2. **CAPACITY:** Assessment related to data collection and management capacity at NSOs
3. **STRUCTURE:** Assessment related to coordination and collaborative arrangement at the country level for collecting, analysing and reporting data.

The analysis framework is described in Figure 3. In addition, assessment of data availability and quality on SDG 1.4.2 was done through micro data³ available at World Bank and DHS websites.

³ <http://dhsprogram.com/What-We-Do/survey> ;

<http://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/lsm>