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Enabling poor rural people  
to overcome poverty

## **President's report on a proposed grant under the global/regional grants window to a non-CGIAR-supported international centre**

### **International Land Coalition (ILC)**

#### **Note to Executive Board representatives**

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**For: Approval**

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## Recommendation for approval

The Executive Board is invited to approve the recommendation for a grant under the global/regional grants window to a non-CGIAR-supported centre as contained in paragraph 8.

### President's report on a proposed grant under the global/regional grants window to a non-CGIAR-supported international centre

I submit the following report and recommendation on a proposed grant for agricultural research and training to a non-Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)-supported international centre in the amount of US\$2 million.

#### Part I – Introduction

1. This report recommends the provision of IFAD support to the research and training programme of the following non-CGIAR-supported international centre: International Land Coalition (ILC).
2. The document of the grant for approval by the Executive Board is contained in the annex to this report:
 

International Land Coalition (ILC): Securing Access to Land for the Rural Poor with the International Land Coalition
3. The objectives and content of this applied research programme are in line with the evolving strategic objectives of IFAD and the Fund's policy for grant financing.
4. The overarching strategic goal that drives the Revised IFAD Policy for Grant Financing, which was approved by the Executive Board in December 2009, is to promote successful and/or innovative approaches and technologies, together with enabling policies and institutions, that will support agricultural and rural development, empowering poor rural women and men in developing countries to achieve higher incomes and improved food security.
5. The policy aims to achieve the following outputs: (a) innovative activities promoted and innovative technologies and approaches developed in support of IFAD's target group; (b) awareness, advocacy and policy dialogue on issues of importance to poor rural people promoted by, and on behalf of, this target group; (c) capacity of partner institutions strengthened to deliver a range of services in support of poor rural people; and (d) lesson learning, knowledge management and dissemination of information on issues related to rural poverty reduction promoted among stakeholders within and across regions.
6. The proposed programme is in line with the goal and outputs of the revised IFAD grant policy. The grant corresponds mainly to two of the priority outputs of the IFAD policy on grant financing, namely:
  - Awareness, advocacy and policy dialogue on issues of importance to poor rural people promoted by, and on behalf of, this target group;
  - Lesson learning, knowledge management and dissemination of information on issues related to rural poverty reduction promoted among stakeholders within and across regions.
7. It will also contribute to a third output of the grant policy related to the strengthening of the capacity of partner institutions, through training, learning routes, networking and direct financial support to ILC members.

## **Part II – Recommendation**

8. I recommend that the Executive Board approve the proposed grant in terms of the following resolution:

RESOLVED: that the Fund, in order to finance, in part, the programme Securing Access to Land for the Rural Poor with the International Land Coalition, shall provide a grant not exceeding two million United States dollars (US\$2,000,000) to the International Land Coalition for a two-year programme upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented to the Executive Board herein.

Kanayo F. Nwanze  
President

# International Land Coalition (ILC): Securing Access to Land for the Rural Poor with the International Land Coalition

## I. Background

1. Commitment to secure and equitable access to land for poor rural women and men has been reaffirmed as a strategic priority of IFAD under its 2011-2015 Strategic Framework. It is also the core mission of the International Land Coalition (ILC), of which IFAD was a founding member in 2003.
2. In 2010, as an input for the formulation of its new Strategic Framework (2011-2015), ILC commissioned an external evaluation that noted that the Coalition: (i) had developed into a growing platform of intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), NGOs and research institutes capable of multistakeholder influence; (ii) influenced international and national policy processes; and (iii) had developed an array of network capacities to realize change, most notably for learning, research, capacity development and advocacy. The external evaluation recommended the: (i) adoption of a more open multistakeholder strategy by reaching out to national governments and the private sector, which are key actors in land issues; (ii) a shift in emphasis from policy formulation to implementation; and (iii) a more strategic approach to prioritizing and allocating resources. Over the last two years, the ILC went through a successful reform process, which stabilized its governance structure and promoted decentralization through the establishment of regional platforms and regional node coordination mechanisms hosted by members in developing countries. Furthermore, ILC launched the National Engagement Strategy in focus countries.
3. Today, as a unique network of 116 member organizations, ILC promotes access to land and tenure security through research, knowledge management and sharing, capacity-building, policy dialogue and advocacy. Through its presence at both the national and the global level, it is becoming the main reference network able to link land with rural poverty issues in fast-changing contexts. The continuous expansion and diversification of ILC membership,<sup>1</sup> the development of new programmes and knowledge partnerships (such as the Land Matrix and the Land Portal) and successful resource mobilization reflect the growing attractiveness of the Coalition. The ILC secretariat and members contributed to the preparation of the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in May 2012. Both the secretariat and ILC members are committed to contributing to the promotion and implementation of these guidelines.

## II. Rationale and relevance to IFAD

4. Land governance, and equitable access and security of tenure for poor rural women and men continue to be a critical issue for food security, poverty reduction, agricultural development and environmental sustainability. IFAD's engagement with and support to the ILC have been reaffirmed in the IFAD Policy on Improving Access to Land and Tenure Security (2008). The proposed grant is in line with IFAD's first strategic objective and area of thematic focus: "IFAD will promote secure and equitable access to land and water for poor rural women and men and enhance their land tenure security, based on the IFAD Policy on Improving Access to Land and Tenure Security."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Following the 2011 Assembly of Members in Tirana, Albania, the ILC membership expanded from 81 to 116 organizations, of which 33 were new local and regional civil society organizations (CSOs) and three were IGOs.

<sup>2</sup> IFAD Strategic Framework 2011-2015, page 32.

5. The grant corresponds mainly to two of the priority outputs of the Revised IFAD Policy on Grant Financing, namely: (i) awareness, advocacy and policy dialogue on issues of importance to poor rural people promoted by, and on behalf of, this target group; and (ii) lesson learning, knowledge management and dissemination of information on issues related to rural poverty reduction promoted among stakeholders within and across regions. It will also contribute to a third output of the grant policy, related to capacity-building of partner institutions through training, learning routes, networking and direct financial support.
6. This grant is part of the joint strategic workplan of the Policy and Technical Advisory Division and the Strategy and Knowledge Management Department for 2012, contributing to the thematic area of natural resources governance. The two-year duration (as compared with the previous one-year IFAD grants to ILC in 2009 and 2011) will reduce the transaction costs of the IFAD contribution to ILC, contribute to more predictable funding of ILC annual workplans and leverage cofinancing. The grant supports the implementation of the current ILC Strategic Framework that was approved by the Coalition Council in 2011.

### III. The proposed programme

7. The overall goal of the programme is to enable poor women and men to achieve secure and equitable access to land.
8. The programme's objectives are aligned with the pillars of the 2011-2015 ILC Strategic Framework: (i) influence the formulation and implementation of national land policy for the benefit of poor rural women and men; (ii) influence global and regional land-related processes and systems in favour of pro-poor land policies and governance; and (iii) build a leading knowledge network on land governance, contributing to substantive improvements in the monitoring, sharing and uptake of land-related knowledge.
9. ILC's target groups are: smallholder and marginalized farmers, especially women; rural people relying on common property resources; landless rural people; and people affected by land-related conflicts. The immediate beneficiaries of this grant are the local and national partners of ILC that represent these target groups or support their land-related interests through technical assistance, capacity-building, information sharing, advocacy and policy dialogue.
10. The programme comprises three components:
  - (i) **Component 1: Supporting land policy formulation and implementation at national level.** Working through its members, ILC will provide financial and technical support for activities aimed at strengthening the rights and access to land of rural poor people at local level. ILC will facilitate in-country collaboration among civil society organization (CSO) and IGO members and increase opportunities for engagement with governments and other key actors. This will involve: (i) national and subnational dialogue and advocacy for land and agrarian reform and the implementation of land-related laws; (ii) awareness-raising about the land rights of rural women and marginalized groups; and (iii) empowerment and capacity-building of CSOs, especially farmers' organizations to enhance the effectiveness of their work on land issues. To carry out these interventions, ILC will use its programmes and funding mechanisms including land partnerships, the Land Reporting Initiative, Commercial Pressures on Land and Women's Land Rights. Along with the persisting need for land policy formulation, ILC will focus on the implementation of existing progressive policies. Both require geographically focused ILC support to members and partners in order to take advantage of opportunities for direct impact (recently adopted land laws, champions in government, etc.) or for scaling up innovative interventions. In consultation with IFAD regional divisions, ILC selected nine countries from a list of 15 focus countries involved in National Engagement Strategy processes, in which

collaboration with IFAD will be strengthened (Cambodia, Ethiopia, Malawi, Nepal, Niger, Peru, the Philippines, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Togo). The programme is designed to support, where possible and appropriate, IFAD's efforts to promote secure land tenure for the rural poor through collaboration with ILC members and partners.

- (ii) **Component 2: Influencing global and regional land-related policy processes.** Working through its members, ILC will engage in global and regional processes to ensure that internationally agreed land-related policies or guidelines are translated into commitments to pro-poor land governance. This will include the following interventions: (i) promote and contribute to the operationalization and implementation of key internationally agreed policies and instruments, with special emphasis on the CFS Voluntary Guidelines; and (ii) initiate or facilitate dialogue among key actors including civil society, governments, private sector, and bilateral and multilateral development agencies on critical and emerging land-related issues. Having mobilized members in 2010-2012 to engage in the formulation of the Voluntary Guidelines, ILC will focus its interventions in 2013-2014 on working with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) land tenure team, IFAD and other relevant partners to promote the implementation of the guidelines.
- (iii) **Component 3: Knowledge management and land monitoring.** ILC aims to build credible evidence as a basis for advocacy, through the monitoring and assessment of the state of land governance. ILC will facilitate collective learning among its members through: (i) further development of the Land Portal into a leading source of information on land governance; (ii) monitoring activities to build an evidence base for advocacy, including the production of a land feasibility index study and global land report with quantitative and qualitative assessments of land governance; (iii) research on the evolving linkages between land and key development challenges, including investment in agriculture; and (iv) support for the identification, sharing, and uptake of good practices related to land governance.

#### IV. Expected outputs and benefits

11. The main results expected under component 1 are: (i) pro-poor provisions in national land law, policy or programmes are strengthened in 10 focus countries, taking into account the Voluntary Guidelines (land watch observatories established); and (ii) implementation of existing progressive land policy is improved in 10 focus countries and at least 100,000 rural households gain land rights or have their land rights protected as a result of ILC action on the ground.
12. Under component 2: (i) activities to promote and disseminate information on the Voluntary Guidelines are conducted in at least 15 countries, and ILC contributes to developing implementation and monitoring tools in collaboration with the FAO land tenure team; (ii) awareness of the Voluntary Guidelines is raised among global, regional and national actors and policymakers; (iii) relevance and impact of ILC-developed policy briefs and information tools are positively rated (scoring 4 on a 5-point scale) by the target audience; (iv) relevance and impact of three ILC-initiated and -supported multistakeholder dialogue initiatives at the regional and national levels are rated positively (4 on a 5-point scale).
13. Under component 3: (i) the Land Portal, a world-leading, easy-access online platform for the sharing of land-related information and knowledge, is fully developed and the number of hits, logins to the Portal at least double in two years (against a baseline of 10,000 hits per month in 2012); and (ii) the knowledge gap between grass-roots organizations, research institutions and policymakers working on land issues is significantly reduced through learning routes and other training

activities and through the monitoring of trends related to access to land, land deals and land governance.

## **V. Implementation arrangements**

14. All activities will be implemented by ILC members and partners. Implementation will be led and coordinated by the secretariat under the guidance of the Coalition Council. At the regional level, the decentralized secretariat is currently hosted by regional CSO members: the Rwanda Initiative For Sustainable Development for the Africa node and the Asian NGO Coalition in the Philippines for the Asia node, while in Latin America, Centro Peruano de Estudios Sociales in Peru is hosting a communications node. The staffing of each node is typically limited to a regional coordinator supported by a communication assistant, while in Latin America, full decentralization to the region will be completed in 2013.
15. The commitments, accounting, disbursements and operations of the programme will be carried out by IFAD, on behalf of the ILC, in accordance with the rules and procedures applied by IFAD in managing its own resources. The procurement of the goods, services and consultant services required for the programme will be carried out in accordance with IFAD's procedures.

## **VI. Indicative programme costs and financing**

16. The grant will finance the implementation of the ILC Strategic Framework in 2013 and 2014. Over these two years, the total cost of ILC activities is projected at US\$15.39 million. The programme will be funded by an IFAD grant of US\$2 million and a further US\$13.39 million will be funded by other members, strategic partners (European Commission, Netherlands and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation) and other donors.<sup>3</sup> Of the US\$13,39 million of cofinancing for 2013-2014, US\$11,36 million has already been secured (with funding agreements already signed or at an advanced stage of preparation and to be signed within 2012) and US\$2.03 million will be mobilized in 2013.
17. The document IFAD's plan for its future relationship with the International Land Coalition (EB 2006/89/R.36) set as a target that at least 65 per cent of ILC funding should be from non-IFAD sources. ILC has met or surpassed this target since December 2008 and is committed to continuing to do so. For the total budget of the programme proposed under this two-year grant (2013-2014), the new IFAD contribution would be equivalent to 13 per cent of the total funding of the ILC budget.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> In 2011-2012, ILC mobilized new funds from: (i) the Government of Netherlands for another four years (2012-2015) for a total of US\$5.6 million; (ii) the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, for core support from 2012-2014, for a total US\$1.92 million; (iii) Irish Aid, for US\$534,000; (iv) SDC in an amount of CHF 39,000, for the Transparency Initiative and CHF 800,000, for the Land Matrix Knowledge Platform; and (v) the Ford Foundation, in an amount of US\$4.3 million. A grant proposal for core funding from the European Commission for EUR 4 million for three years (2013-2015) has been pre-approved and is awaiting final approval. SDC has made a pledge of about US\$600,000 of core funding per year over four years.

<sup>4</sup> The annual budget of ILC has been growing continuously over the last five years, reaching US\$5.8 million in 2012, and is expected to continue this trend in 2013 and 2014. The IFAD contribution to the Coalition has been slightly reduced since 2009 and has now stabilized at around US\$1 million per year, resulting in a major reduction in the relative share of IFAD funding in the overall ILC budget (from 35 per cent in 2009 to 16 per cent in 2012 and a projected 12 per cent in 2014), which includes the funding of the secretariat administrative costs and technical staff.



**Summary of budget and financing plan**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Number</i>	<i>Type of expenditure</i>	<i>IFAD</i>	<i>Cofinancing</i>
1	Secretariat administrative cost	100	873
2	Programme staff, global and regional activities	460	3 685
3	Travel and monitoring and evaluation	80	183
4	Programme grants/activities	1 360	8 649
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2 000</b>	<b>13 391</b>

## Results-based logical framework

	Objectives-hierarchy	Objectively verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions
<b>Goal</b>	Enable poor women and men to achieve secure and equitable access to land	% of farm households with tenure security in areas covered by ILC land monitoring activities. Frequency of land disputes in areas covered by ILC land monitoring	Compilation of results of CSO-IGO monitoring (Land Watch, Observatories, World Bank LGAF) Impact surveys	
<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) influence the formulation and implementation of national land policy for the benefit of poor rural women and men</li> <li>ii) influence global and regional land-related processes and systems in favour of pro-poor land policies and governance</li> <li>iii) build a leading knowledge network on land governance, contributing to substantive improvements in the monitoring, sharing and uptake of land-related knowledge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nbr of target countries in which pro-poor provisions in national land law and policy are strengthened</li> <li>Nbr of target countries in which implementation of progressive land policy is significantly improved</li> <li>Nbr of rural households (M/F) that gained or protected their land rights as result of ILC action</li> <li>Nbr of popularization, implementation or monitoring tools related to the VGs with inputs from ILC</li> <li>Average rating of relevance and impact of ILC policy briefs and info tools on the VGs</li> <li>Average rating of relevance and impact of 3 multi-stakeholders dialogues initiated by ILC</li> <li>Nbr of hits/month log-ins to Land Portal</li> <li>Average rating of satisfaction by beneficiaries of learning routes and training activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislative and legal provisions in target countries</li> <li>Monitoring governments targets and media reports</li> <li>Progress reports of supported actions</li> <li>Monitoring international targets and media reports</li> <li>Biennial survey of ILC membership</li> <li>Land Portal webpage</li> <li>Survey reports Participants questionnaire</li> </ul>	Target countries enjoy a stable political environment necessary for land reform and policy implementation
<b>Outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) 10 country- level collaborative partnerships deliver pro-poor provisions in national land law, policy or program taking into account the Voluntary Guidelines. Land watch established. Country profiles completed.</li> <li>ii) 10 direct interventions in for improving implementation of existing progressive land policy in 10 countries. 100,000 rural households gained or protected their land rights</li> <li>iii) Popularization, information, implementation &amp; monitoring tools on VGs are developed and used in 15 countries in collaboration with FAO</li> <li>iv) Awareness of the VG is raised among global, regional and national actors and policy makers</li> <li>v) Policy briefs and information tools developed, used and positively rated by target audience</li> <li>vi) 3 ILC initiated and supported global/regional multi-stakeholders dialogues rated positively</li> <li>vii) Land Portal is fully developed and the number of hits, log-ins to the Portal at least doubled in two years</li> <li>viii) Knowledge gap between grassroots organizations, research institutions and policy makers is significantly reduced through learning routes and other training activities and through monitoring of trends in access to land, land deals and land governance</li> </ul>			Land issues retain or gain attention by decision-makers, researchers and donors and in the global development agenda
<b>Key Activities</b>				

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