

## Workshop

### “Sharing practices to recognize and support commons and collective tenure rights”

When: **10<sup>th</sup> November 2014, 16:00-18:00**  
**11<sup>th</sup> November 2014, 9:00-17:00**, afterwards going jointly to the opening of the “Conference on Land Policy in Africa” organized by the Land Policy Initiative / UNECA on 11-14 November

Where: **GIZ - German Development Cooperation Office**  
Kirkos Sub-City, Woreda 08, Cazanchise, P.O. Box 100009 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) cordially invites to the workshop “Sharing practices to recognize and support commons and collective tenure rights”.

*The Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (VGGT)* provide a historical opportunity to recognize, protect and support tenure rights to commons for national food security, sustainable resource management and wellbeing. The workshop focuses on the realization of collective tenure rights and commons as one tenure system which is particularly relevant to the livelihoods of vulnerable and marginalized people. The commons are a fundamental safety net for many rural families. However, communities across continents face involuntary loss of common resources due to increasing pressure on natural resources, land grabbing, urbanization, and user conflicts. This is often because of an unclear legal situation.

So, how can the rights of these communities be secured, i.e. recognized, protected, supported? Which practices, approaches and strategies do you use to make collective tenure rights to natural resources real?

With this workshop, we invite you to collect and exchange with us practices to recognize, protect and support commons and collective tenure rights. With this, we also invite you to get involved in the development of the Technical Guide on Commons which is currently being drafted by the IASS on behalf of FAO in order to increase the uptake of the VGGT. The Technical Guide aims to provide practices and strategies with regard to legal and non-legal recognition and protection, administration and conflict resolution, institution building, empowerment and advocacy amongst others. A side event on the Technical Guide on Commons will take place at the “Conference on Land Policy in Africa”.

This workshop contributes to the Global Soil Week’s work stream on land governance. About three years after the adoption of the VGGT, participants of the next Global Soil Week 2015 (19-23 April 2015) will discuss how to further support the uptake of the VGGT in national contexts to support the realization of tenure rights.

## Agenda

### Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2014

- 16:00-18:00 **Get-together:** To get to know each other and start to introduce and discuss the work on the Technical Guide on Commons for the VGGT
- 18:00-open **Joint dinner**

### Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014, 9:00 – 17:00

- 9:00-9:30 **Welcome and introduction to the day**
- 9:30-10:30 **Collecting practices for the recognition, protection and support of commons and collective tenure rights**  
Which concrete practices, approaches and/or strategies do you use or apply in your context to make collective tenure rights / commons real? (Which challenges do you face and what do you do to overcome them?) Each participant is invited to collect his/her practices on a poster
- 10:30-10:45 Time for a refreshment break
- 10:45-12:00 **Exchanging practices**  
Exchange of practices, approaches and/or strategies using the prepared posters, followed by a short round of questions & answers
- 12:00-13:30 Joint lunch
- 13:30-15:00 **Exchanging practices – continued**
- 15:00-15:15 Time for a refreshment break
- 15:15-16:45 **Joint discussion of practices and related challenges**
- 16:45-17:00 **Conclusions & next steps**

Afterwards, we will jointly go to the opening ceremony of the "Conference on Land Policy in Africa" at the African Union Conference Center in Addis.