

# Investments and Land Rights



## The role of the private sector in ensuring responsible governance of tenure

A seminar hosted by FoHRC- Food, Human Rights and Corporations, and FIAN Norway

**Time:** Monday 13 June 09:00 - 15:30

**Where:** Norwegian Centre for Human Rights (NCHR), Cort Adelers gate 30, Oslo

09:00-09:15 Registration

09:15-12:00 **Morning Session**, moderated by Aksel Tømte, NCHR / FoHRC:  
*When states fail to provide adequate rights protection to small-scale farmers and forest-dependent communities, should companies be encouraged to take on that role?*

09:00-11:00 Welcome by Wenche Barth Eide, Department of Nutrition, UiO / FoHRC Coordinator  
Aksel Tømte, NCHR / FoHRC: *Introduction to the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGT) and the role of the private sector*

**Keynote speaker: Andy White, Coordinator of the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI) and Co-chair of the Interlaken Group:** *Working with the private sector to respect local land rights: RRI's approach and the role of the Interlaken Group*

**Henry Thomas Simarmata, La Via Campesina:**  
*The Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure at a crossroads*

**Poul Wisborg, Noragric, Norwegian University of Life Sciences:**  
*Large-scale land acquisitions and the interdependence of rights*

**Gunnvor Berge, Section for UN Policy, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs:**  
*The forthcoming VGGT stocktaking during the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in October in Rome - what signals for the planning process?*

Panel discussion and Q&A

11:00-11:20 Coffee/tea

11:20-12:00 Plenary discussion

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-15:30 **Afternoon Session**, moderated by Kristin Kjæret, Former Executive Director of FIAN Norway:  
*The impact of land and forest investments on food security and small-scale farmers - how to ensure meaningful consultation and participation?*

13:00-14.15 **Hans Morten Haugen, VID Specialized University:** *Consultation and participation by affected groups - a wider application of the principles of 'Free, Prior, and Informed Consent' (FPIC)?*  
**Elin Cecilie Ranum, The Development Fund:**

*Large-scale investments, land ownership, and food security in Central America*

**Frankie Abreau, Tenasserim River and Indigenous Peoples' Network (TRIP NET), Myanmar:**  
*Threats to Karen land and food security in Tanintharyi, Myanmar*

Q&A

14:15-15:30 **Eivind Fjeldstad, Norwegian-African Business Association (NABA):**  
*Norwegian investments in African markets: some perspectives from NABA*  
**Knut Olav Krohn Lakså, Section for Private Sector Development, Norad:**  
*Private sector investments and responsibilities - expectations by Norad*

Discussion

Summary and closure