

## WHAT ARE ILC LAC REGIONAL INITIATIVES?

Regional Initiatives are collective actions on key regional issues or processes for land governance in Latin America and the Caribbean, based on the ILC's 10 commitments. They are implemented at multi-country level by groups of ILC member and non-member organizations, under the coordination of one of them serving as a focal point.

They are linked to the National Engagement Strategies (NES) promoted by ILC LAC, which allows them to feed back and empower each other. Currently, 10 initiatives are being promoted in which members from 15 countries of the region participate.

### INTERNATIONAL LAND COALITION

ILC is a global alliance of civil society and intergovernmental organisations working together to put women, men and communities at the centre of land governance. Its 255 members in 77 countries include NGOs, research institutes, indigenous and producers' organisations and United Nations agencies.

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## Regional Initiatives in LAC for People-Centered Land Governance

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INTERNATIONAL  
**LAND**  
COALITION

AMÉRICA  
LATINA Y  
EL CARIBE

# WHAT ARE THEY ACHIEVING?

Collective actions in multiple countries to promote people-centered land governance



## PROTECTION OF DEFENDERS OF LAND AND TERRITORY

**Countries:** Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia, Peru, Mexico

In response to the serious violations of human rights faced by community leaders in the region, the Latin American Network of Defenders of Land and Territory (RLDTT) was created, which promotes advocacy and mobilization work to support these important actors of the rural world. Work is being done to strengthen capacities and implement mechanisms for the defense of collective land rights of indigenous and peasant communities. Dialogue spaces are also promoted with public bodies to deal with cases of persecution and criminalization of defenders, having reached favorable resolutions that absolved defenders.

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## LATIN AMERICA SEMI-ARID PLATFORM

**Countries:** Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay, Venezuela, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala



Comprised of more than 20 organizations from nine countries, it has become a leading actor in the issue of access and management of land, water and other natural resources by indigenous and peasant communities in semi-arid regions. It has established agreements with various actors, creating spaces for coordination between civil society and the public sector such as the Salta Water Management and Access Roundtable in Argentina, an initiative that has achieved safe access to water for more than a thousand people. It also promotes actions in alliance with other organizations such as IFAD and Mercosur REAF, promoting advocacy and learning processes on regional water issues.

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## LAND AND TERRITORY IN THE CENTRAL AMERICAN TERRITORIAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (ECADERT)

**Countries:** Tri-border region (El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras)

It has favored an adequate approach to the issue of land and territories in the context of ECADERT implementation. It has contributed to strengthening the coordination of public bodies and social organizations of the tri-border region, and promoted the creation of networks of women, young people and small farmers. It has also fostered leadership-building processes with these actors, to promote their participation in work spaces with authorities, and to influence government agendas.

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## RURAL WOMEN AND LAND RIGHTS

**Countries:** Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru



Successful grassroots experiences promoting the rights of rural women have been identified, generating inter-learning spaces on the basis of these experiences. It has generated relevant information and analysis on the situation of women in eight countries, as well as tools to guarantee their rights. Recommendations have been generated to different levels of government in order to improve the situation of rural women.

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## ILC LAC PROMOTES 10 REGIONAL INITIATIVES IN SUPPORT OF ITS 10 COMMITMENTS

## RURAL YOUTH AND ACCESS TO LAND

**Countries:** Colombia, Ecuador, Argentina, Bolivia, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico

It has contributed to the improvement of advocacy capacities through processes that build and strengthen youth leadership. Good practices have been systematized to facilitate the intergenerational transfer of land, as well as information and evidence to make visible the contribution of rural youth to the development of their territories. Orientations have also been generated for development policies and strategies aimed at improving the situation of young people - including their access to assets such as land. Another achievement has been to connect youth networks with spaces for policy dialogue to place the issue of youth on public agendas.

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## RIGHTS TO LAND AND TERRITORY FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND AFRO-DESCENDANTS

**Countries:** Guatemala, Peru, Mexico y Nicaragua, Ecuador, Bolivia, Guatemala, Brazil

It promotes a line of advocacy in regional political instances, actively participating in spaces with government, UN institutions and other actors promoting the rights to land and territories of indigenous and afro-descendant populations. It contributes to the promotion of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land (VGGT) in partnership with international organizations, and promotes training in participatory tools for territorial management.

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## REGIONAL NETWORK OF INITIATIVES TO MONITOR LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE



**Countries:** Colombia, Honduras, Venezuela and Bolivia

Formed by institutions from four countries, since 2018 it documents and monitors processes related to land access in order to promote peasant and indigenous peoples' rights to land and territory. It has involved representatives of international organizations, platforms, universities and national governments as key informants for the preparation of country reports that will serve as a tool for national-level decision makers. The network also coordinates with the ILC Dashboard Global Initiative to monitor progress of regional people-centered land governance.

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## LAC LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

**Countries:** Guatemala, Honduras, Peru

Launched in 2018, the Leadership Programme in LAC contributes to the strengthening of grassroots social organizations that represent more than 250,000 peasants and indigenous people. It focuses on strengthening their management, advocacy and political representation capacities, as well as on the consolidation and renewal of their youth leadership. As a result of their participation in the program, some organizations have begun to incorporate results-based management elements into their analysis of how to achieve lasting change within their organizations. The Program is coordinated with the Rural Youth Initiative to enhance impact of their work.

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## LAND MATRIX LATIN AMERICA FOCAL POINT



**Countries:** Latin America

Thanks to the Land Matrix Latin America Focal Point, more than 600 large-scale land transactions have been mapped and their data has been collected, making it possible to show the growth of this problem in the region. The information gathered and the technical studies carried out -available on its online platform- have evidenced the dispossession of land from peasants and indigenous people, as well as the environmental damage that is being generated as a result of large-scale acquisitions. It has managed to establish alliances to promote advocacy processes, reaching such achievements as the enactment of Law 13666 in the province of Santa Fe, Argentina, making it possible to prevent the eviction of peasant and indigenous communities.

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**FAMILY FARMING:** An initiative that is currently being formulated, and that will focus on supporting regional processes for the promotion of Family Farming, on generating spaces for inter-learning for the promotion of good practices, and on supporting advocacy processes on national policies on this issue.

**LANDMARK:** Is a global initiative with the participation of ILC LAC members that gathers, in an online platform, information about the lands and territories that indigenous peoples and communities collectively possess and use, in order to help protect their rights and guarantee the safety of their lands.