



# HOUSING AND LAND RIGHTS NETWORK

Habitat International Coalition

## International sources on the concept and criteria of “landlessness”

HIC-HLRN Contribution to the CSM Landless Constituency Literature Review

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### Definitions:

#### [Cambridge Dictionary:](#)

##### **landless**

adjective: /'lənd.ləs/

used to refer to people who do not have any land for farming or who are prevented from owning the land that they farm by the economic system or by rich people who own a lot of land: landless labourers/peasants

#### [Dictionary.com:](#)

##### **Landless** *adjective*

1. without landed property; not owning land:

*a landless noble*

#### **Land Research Center** (Palestine):

Residents of rural areas, be they small holders of land, land users and those willing to use the land for agricultural production, but who are denied their right to land due to natural phenomena and/or manmade practices, including land expropriation, tyrant regimes, unjust feudal system and political, ethnic, and religious conflicts and/or civil war and alien occupation, confiscating indigenous lands for objectives of the occupying power.

هي كل من يسكن المناطق الريفية سواء كان مالكا للأرض الزراعية أو مستخدماً لها أو راعياً باستخدامها من أجل القيام بنشاط إنتاجي زراعي وممنوع من ذلك سواء بسلب الأرض التي يمتلكها أو يستخدمها أو وضعت عقبات أمامه لمنعه من استخدامها من قبل الأنظمة المستبدة أو النظام الإقطاعي المهيمن، أو شركات استثمارية كبرى محلية أو عالمية أو بسبب صراعات سياسية، عرقية، دينية، أو حروب داخلية، أو سواء كانت من قبل احتلال خارجي بسلب الأرض من أصحابها الأصليين لاستخدامها لأغراض احتلالية.

### **HICtionary:**

Landless: A person or group living without equitable access to, and use of rural or urban land with secure tenure as needed to fulfill one or more human needs and/or human rights due to any single, or combination of means and factors, including but not limited to:

- Discrimination;
- Dispossession;
- Displacement, including forced eviction;
- Denial (of use, access, etc.);
- Scarcity of land;
- Insufficient capability;
- Damage or destruction of land and/or means of access.

A person or community is landless by virtue of being subject to landlessness due to any single or combination of above means and factors.

Landless persons or groups may be variously characterized as:

- “Victims” (of crime or abuse of power and entitled to reparation),
- Affected (whether the perpetrator(s)/duty holder(s) known or not),
- Vulnerable (subject to policy priority and/or temporary special measures),
- Potential producers on land,
- Agents of remedy.

(See Landlessness below)

Landlessness may result from causes involving:

- Political tyranny, social injustice;
- Conflict, occupation, war and colonization;
- Natural disasters and climate change;
- Failed land laws and policies;
- Corruption and fraud;
- Land grabbing;
- Insufficient lands for suitable use;
- Poverty and debt;
- Forcible displacement/population transfer;
- Corporate exploitation<sup>1</sup>;
- State acquisition/public purpose<sup>2</sup>;
- Temporary measures prolonged<sup>3</sup>;
- Refugees crisis<sup>4</sup>;
- Land degradation.<sup>5</sup>

A landless person or group may need land for:

- Cultivation and plantation;
- Dwelling and cultivation;
- Residence only;
- Other forms of livelihood, including investment and trade.
- Access to, and use of land as a natural resource (e.g., for grazing or recreation).

**Landlessness:** is the condition of being without equitable access to, and use of rural or urban land with secure tenure as needed to fulfill one or more human needs and/or human rights. (See **Landless** above.)

### **UN Human Rights Council’s Advisory Committee**

The Advisory Committee’s final study defined the rights-holders addressed by the Declaration as “peasants and other people working in rural areas,” understood to include smallholder farmers, landless people working as tenant farmers or agricultural labourers, people living from traditional fishing, hunting and herding activities, and rural women.<sup>6</sup> The Committee excluded “the rights of other people working in rural areas, such as those working in the business, industry or public administration.”<sup>7</sup>

The Human Rights Council confirmed this definition when it created the working group to negotiate a “UN Declaration on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas” in September 2013.<sup>8</sup>

The Advisory Committee’s study reports that approximately 20% of the world’s hungry are landless. “Most work as tenant farmers or agricultural labourers. Tenant farmers usually have to pay high rents and have little security of possession from season to season. Agricultural labourers usually work for extremely low wages that are insufficient to feed their families, and often have to migrate from one insecure, informal job to another.”<sup>9</sup>

According to the Advisory Committee, “The term peasant also applies to the landless.”

### **Food and Agriculture Organisation**

[T]he following categories of people are considered to be landless and are likely to face difficulties in ensuring their livelihood:

- (a) Agricultural labour households with little or no land;
- (b) Non-agricultural households in rural areas, with little or no land, whose members are engaged in various activities such as fishing, making crafts for the local market, or providing services;
- (c) Other rural households of pastoralists, nomads, peasants practising shifting cultivation, hunters and gatherers, and people with similar livelihoods.

**Hopper. Frank.** “[What It Means to Be Landless: Alaska Native Bill in Congress](#),” *Indian Country Today* (1 July 2015):

“Landless. To the modern world it describes a social category. To the ancient Tlingit it described a spiritual disability. The Tlingit believed all things were imbued with a spirit that existed interdependently with the spirits of all other things....To be landless meant to be cut off from this spiritual relationship with the land, in essence to be spiritually destitute.”

[Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English:](#)

land·less /'lændləs/ adjective

owning no [land](#)

Longman Business Dictionary:

landlessland·less /'lændləs/ adjective not owning land

The Nicaraguan government redistributed more land to previously landless peasants.

[Macmillan Dictionary:](#) landless people are poor and do not own any land

Synonyms and related words: Poor: brassic, the poor, impoverished

[Quora blog:](#)

Monoj Narzari, studied at Assam Agricultural University: “In India farmers having less than one acre land is known as landless farmers.”

Sampathkumar D G, B.Sc Agri from University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK, Bangalore (2015): “The farmers who do not have tenancy rights over the piece of land but only practice the cultivation activities and get some part of the final output as a return for their efforts put on in the agricultural production activity are called landless farmers”

[The Free Dictionary:](#)

land·less (lænd'lis)

*adj.* Owning or having no land.

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**land'less·ness** *n.*

(American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fifth Edition. Copyright © 2016 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.)

land•less ('lænd lɪs)

*adj.* without landed property.

(Random House Kernerman Webster's College Dictionary, © 2010 K Dictionaries Ltd. Copyright 2005, 1997, 1991 by Random House, Inc.)

[Wiktionary:](#)

[Landless](#)

Etymology: From [Middle English \*londlees\*](#), from [Old English \*landlēas\*](#), equivalent to [land](#) + [-less](#). Cognate with [Dutch \*landeloos\*](#) (“landless”), [German \*landlos\*](#) (“landless”), [Icelandic \*landlaus\*](#) (“landless”).

Adjective (not [comparable](#))

1. Not owning land.

*The **landless** younger sons of the gentry often entered the military as the only way to make a living.*

*The **landless** flock to the cities seeking jobs.*

2. Not containing any land.

*We set sail toward the **landless** horizon.*

Antonyms: [landed](#)

Derived terms: [landlessness](#)

Translations: not owning land

### [Landlessness](#)

Etymology: [landless](#) + [-ness](#)

Noun: landlessness ([uncountable](#))

1. The state or condition of being [landless](#).

## Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Framework

Internationally codified human rights affected by landlessness may include:

Life,  
Decent work,  
Livelihood,  
Adequate housing,  
Food,  
Family,  
Social security,  
Highest attainable standard of mental and  
physical health,  
Freedom of movement,  
Water,  
Property,  
Freedom from discrimination,  
Gender equality,  
Fair trial/rule of law,  
Self-determination.

International humanitarian law provisions and prohibitions include:

- Evacuations only temporary (Hague, §§42–56; Geneva IV, §§27–34, 47–78)
- Prohibited: discrimination, exploitation, causing loss or depletion of, or endangering natural resources in the occupied territory (e.g., Palestine, Western Sahara, Cyprus) (Hague, §55; Geneva IV, §55)
- Altering legal system in occupied territory prohibited (Hague, §43)
- Population transfer criminalized (Rome, §§7,8)

## Populations of landless people and landless movements:

**Global:** It is estimated that 50% of the world’s hungry are small-holder farmers, 20% landless families who survive as tenant farmers or poorly paid agricultural labourers who often have to migrate from one insecure, informal job to another, and 10% herders, pastoralists or fisherfolk.

UN Millennium Project, Task Force on Hunger. [Halving Hunger—It Can Be Done](#) summary version (New York: United Nations Development Programme, 2005), pp. 4–6.)

**Algeria:** “The poorest in Algeria are the landless farmers who live in the mountainous regions to the north or near the south Saharan region. Working on the production of crops, and unable to procure their own land, they have been particularly affected by soil erosion and degradation, droughts, poor irrigation, and drainage.” (Farahnaz Mohammed, “[Poverty in Algeria](#),” 2 July 2013.

In 1873, the French colonial authorities carried out a land census on the territories of 402 tribes (about half at the time), finding 2% of them landless. (Mahfoud Bennoune, *The Making of Contemporary Algeria, 1830-1987* (Cambridge University Press, 2002), p. 24.)

**Bangladesh:** of more than 160 million inhabitants, close to 4.5 million are completely landless, mostly in rural areas, according to a [2008 Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics survey](#); according to [Unnayan Onneshan think-tank](#), on average, 39 million people in Bangladesh are displaced by each major flood, with three million more displaced by each cyclone. (“[Landless numbers on the rise](#),” *IRIN News*, 8 June 2010);

“...more than two thirds of rural people are now landless (owning less than 0.2 hectares)<sup>10</sup> and landlessness is increasing rapidly owing to demography and inheritance laws that divide holdings into ever smaller plots, but also to land-grabbing by powerful people.”<sup>11</sup> ()

**Brazil:** [Landless Workers' Movement](#) (MST) of Brazil is the hemisphere's largest social movement organization, claiming 1.5 million members.

### Cyprus:

**Hawaii:** Native Hawaiians were a landless and dying people when Congress passed the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act in 1920...[Al Jazeera](#);

Thousands of landless Hawaiians. Noel J. Kent, [Hawaii: Islands Under the Influence](#) (Honolulu: University of Hawaii press, 1993), p. 76;

“On January 24, 1895, the last queen of Hawaii abdicated. ... Landless Hawaiians drifted into city and town slums...” Robert W. Kirk, [\*Paradise Past: The Transformation of the South Pacific, 1520–1920\*](#) (Jefferson NC and London: McFarland & Co. 2012), pp. 232–33.

**India:** finance minister [Arun Jaitley](#) said 300 million people do not own land, while launching the government’s Mudra refinancing scheme for micro enterprises. His office didn’t reply to queries on the source of the number despite repeated calls and emails.

“The current estimate for India’s landless is around 100 million households, which would constitute at least 300 million of our population,” Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) spokesman [M.J. Akbar](#) wrote in his column in the *Times of India* on 5 April. Roshan Kishore, “[How many Indians are landless?](#)” *Live mint* (4 May 2015);

"The number of landless agricultural workers in India as per Census 2001 was 10.67 crore and as per Census 2011 it was 14.43 crore," according to Labour Minister Bandaru Dattatreya (“[Number of landless agricultural labourers in India rises to 14.43 crore](#)” [144.3 million], *The Economic Times* (11 May 2015).

**Indonesia:** The last census in 1993 showed that 5,989,534 peasant households in Indonesia, or 28% of the total, owned between zero and 0.1 hectares of land. The economic crisis will have increased that figure as unemployed people return to the land from the city. Many of them had migrated to the city in the first place because there was no more land.

A similar number, 6,315,091 households or 29% of the total, had between 0.1 and 0.49 hectares. If we consider half a hectare as adequate for small agricultural production we can see that 57% of rural households in Indonesia do not have enough land. This is a minimal figure, because it does not count all those who have been permanently removed from the land but who still want to return there. Dianto Bachriadi, “Land for the landless,” *Inside Indonesia* (30 July 2007), at: <http://www.insideindonesia.org/land-for-the-landless>.

**Iraq:** 3,300,000 displaced

“After Iraq gained independence in 1932, successive governments attempted to “Arabize” Mosul and other areas of northern Iraq, by forcibly displacing hundreds of thousands of ethnic Kurds, Turkmens and Assyrians, and encouraging landless Arabs from central and southern Iraq to resettle there.”

Iraqi landless persons in exile: “Our food has become dependent on a hidden army of illegal workers, both foreign and British.” (Felicity Lawrence, “[The new landless labourers](#),” *The Guardian*, 17 May 2003.)

Travel journal from the Kawergosk refugee camp, in the heart of Iraqi Kurdistan: Laurent Gaudé, “[A landless people](#),” *arte* Vol. 1,, No. 6 (3 October 2014).

**Kenya:** “Fifty years after independence, there are thousands of third generation squatters and landless people whose grandparents were dispossessed of their land by British colonialists to make room for settler farms.” Kipkirui Kap Telwa, “[Government must settle all landless Kenyans](#),” *Standard Digital* (23 April 2011)).

“In Kenya, members of the Sengwer community who live in Embobut Forest, 400 kilometers from Nairobi, are facing eviction from their ancestral communal land. The government has deployed security forces to evict the group in an effort to preserve forest cover.

[Thomas] Chelimo, who was born and raised in the forest, as were his father and grandfather, says that the forced eviction by the government agency will render the community homeless and landless. Chelimo says his children and grandchildren ran away because of fear of eviction.” Lenny Ruvaga, “[Kenyan Minority Group on Verge of Being Landless](#),” VOA (17 January 2018).

**Kosovo:** Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian (RAE) communities: “In April 2010, the prime minister of Kosovo, Hashim Thaçi, sent a letter to all municipal leaders requesting that they allocate land for landless displaced families (OSCE, May 2011), but little action has been taken.” (IDMC and NRC, “[KOSOVO: Durable solutions still elusive 13 years after conflict](#),” A profile of the internal displacement situation (10 October 2012), p. 17).

“...we have more than 300,000 families in the country who are absolutely landless. In addition, we have about 670 households that are suffering because of the problem of inadequate land.” Mr. Wamwere in “Motions: Preference to Landless Groups in Sale of Land,” [Kenya National Assembly Official Record \(Hansard\) Dec 4, 1979 - Jun 18, 1980](#), 28<sup>th</sup> of May, pp. 1310–1337, at p. 1312.

**Libya:** 543,844 displaced, 75,000 properties subject to restitution prior to 2011

**Morocco:** les femmes soulalyates et guichiates

**Namibia:** those removed from ancestral lands

“[Just who are the Landless People’s Movement?](#)” *New Era* (17 February 2017)

“[Landless Peoples Movement](#),” *Namibia Broadcasting Corporation*

Mabasa Sasa, “[Namibia: Landless In The Land Of The Brave](#),” *NewAfrican* (15 February 2013).

**Nepal:** Some 1.3 million households are landless or land-poor ([UN Nepal Information Platform](#)).

**Palestine:** 7,555,000 in exile, 5.5 million registered refugees, 250,000 internally displaced, 36.6% of West Bank land dispossessed by colonists, 2,159,622 ha subject to restitution.

“landlessness among Palestinians as a facet of colonial policy in Mandate Palestine before the 1936 revolt. The growth of what was sometimes called a ‘landless class’ came into official view after the violence of 1929. Subsequent investigations indicated that landlessness was a significant problem and that it threatened to destabilize the Mandate. The effort to ameliorate the crisis of landlessness, however, clashed with the dominant colonial conception of settler developmentalism, the notion that Jews, not Arabs, were the agents of modern economic development in Palestine.” (Charles Anderson, “The British Mandate and the crisis of Palestinian landlessness, 1929–1936,” *Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol. 54, Issue 2 (2017), 171–215.)

**Paraguay:**

**South Africa:**

**Sri Lanka:** “Yahapalana is going to turn Sri Lankans to landless citizens like Hawaii” [Shenali D Waduge](#)

**Sudan:** 3,300,000 displaced

**Syria:** 6.6 million internally displaced, five million refugees

**United States:**



**Western Sahara:** 165,000 refugees, 21,280,000 ha subject to restitution

**Yemen:** three million displaced

**Zimbabwe:** over 500,000 landless people who have applied to the Ministry of Lands and Rural Resettlement to be allocated pieces of arable land (Elita Chikwati and Alec Mubani. [““Landless waiting list tops 500 000,”](#) *The Herald* (8 April 2018).

## Typology of landlessness:

### *Rural:*

Farmers who work for landlords and get payment by them;  
People subject to land expropriation in favor of local, regional and/or global companies;  
People subject to institutionalized, material discrimination in their own country

### *Urban:*

[Landless Moroccans](#) (documentary film)

### *Conflict, occupation and war context:*

1. People subject to land dispossession, denial of access to land, displacement, colonization, institutionalized material discrimination, ethnic cleansing and population transfer, in general: indigenous Palestinian people as citizens of Israel, refugees, residents of the Israeli-occupied territory of Palestine; indigenous Ahwazi Arabs subject to colonization and dispossession of their private, collective and public lands; indigenous Kurds in the states in which they live; indigenous urban and rural Uighurs subject to Chinese occupation; indigenous urban and rural Tibetans subject to Chinese occupation; Sahrawi refugees and dispossessed persons under Moroccan occupation;
2. Settled populations in Darfur, Nuba Mountains and South Sudan dispossessed and unable to access their lands as a result of conflict;
3. People dispossessed and/or displaced due to their religious or ethnic minority status in the areas controlled by Islamic State and other insurgent groups;
4. Sectarian conflict in Yemen and Iraq as a function of external forces conducting proxy warfare;
5. Ethnic cleansing/genocide carried out by Myanmar military against Rohingya and Kachin minorities;
6. Indigenous Cypriots on both sides of the partition and population transfer of 1974 who have lost lands as a result of the 1974 Turkish invasion, 1963 conflict, or other phase of communal conflict;

### *Development context:*

Project type	Examples	Possible monitoring approaches
Water supply	Irrigation dams, reservoirs, canals and irrigation systems	Direct observation Import others' data Crowdsourcing Satellite / drone imagery analysis Semi-automated event detection Apply other models (e.g., flood models) Infer new flows from changes in stock
Transport	Roads, railways, canals, airports, ports	Direct observation Import others' data Crowdsourcing Satellite / drone imagery analysis Semi-automated event detection Infer new flows from changes in stock
Energy	Hydropower dams, mining of non-renewable resources, thermal power plants, exploitations for oil and gas	Direct observation Import others' data Crowdsourcing Satellite / drone imagery analysis Semi-automated event detection Infer new flows from changes in stock
Agriculture and forestry	Biofuels, food production, logging, cattle raising	Direct observation Import others' data Crowdsourcing Satellite / drone imagery analysis Semi-automated event detection Infer new flows from changes in stock
Environmental protection	Nature parks, forest reserves, wildlife sanctuaries, embankment fortification	Direct observation Import others' data Crowdsourcing Semi-automated event detection Infer new flows from changes in stock
Environmental degradation	Pollution, soil erosion/degradation, overdevelopment	Direct Observation Import Others' Data Crowdsourcing Satellite / drone imagery analysis Semi-Automated Event Detection Satellite / Drone Imagery Analysis Infer New Flows from Changes in Stock
Urban renewal	Public transport, housing projects, parks, markets, new townships, city beautification, sewage systems	Direct observation Import others' data Crowdsourcing Satellite / drone imagery analysis Semi-automated event detection Infer new flows from changes in stock
Private-sector investment	Smaller-scale private-sector "developments," other capital accumulation	Direct Observation Import Others' Data Crowdsourcing Satellite / drone imagery analysis Semi-Automated Event Detection

		Satellite / Drone Imagery Analysis Infer New Flows from Changes in Stock
Enforcement of policy and/or legislation	Institutionalized material discrimination, dispossession, demographic manipulation	Direct Observation Import Others' Data Crowdsourcing Satellite / drone imagery analysis Semi-Automated Event Detection Satellite / Drone Imagery Analysis Infer New Flows from Changes in Stock
Infrastructure for social services	Hospitals, public health centres, schools, colleges	Direct observation Import others' data Crowdsourcing Satellite / drone imagery analysis Semi-automated event detection Infer new flows from changes in stock
Infrastructure for commercial purposes	Special economic zones, info-technology parks	Direct observation Import others' data Crowdsourcing Satellite / drone imagery analysis Semi-automated event detection Infer new flows from changes in stock
Mega-events	Olympic Games, World Cup, Eurovision Song Contest	Direct observation Import others' data Crowdsourcing Satellite / drone imagery analysis Semi-automated event detection Infer new flows from changes in stock
Metals and construction materials industry	Steel, cement and aluminium factories	Direct observation Import others' data Crowdsourcing Satellite / drone imagery analysis Semi-automated event detection Infer new flows from changes in stock
Extractive industry	Mining for metals, minerals and gemstones; petroleum exploration, extraction and refining	Direct Observation Import Others' Data Crowdsourcing Satellite / drone imagery analysis Semi-Automated Event Detection Satellite / Drone Imagery Analysis Infer New Flows from Changes in Stock
Tourism	Hotels, tourist resort infrastructure	Direct observation Import others' data

		<p>Crowdsourcing</p> <p>Satellite / drone imagery analysis</p> <p>Semi-automated event detection</p> <p>Infer new flows from changes in stock</p>
Severe climate event	Volcano, tsunami, flood, landslide, sever storm pattern, wildfire	<p>Direct Observation</p> <p>Import Others' Data</p> <p>Crowdsourcing</p> <p>Satellite / drone imagery analysis</p> <p>Semi-Automated Event Detection</p> <p>Satellite / Drone Imagery Analysis</p> <p>Infer New Flows from Changes in Stock</p>
Climate mitigation	Reforestation, carbon sequestration	<p>Direct observation</p> <p>Import others' data</p> <p>Crowdsourcing</p> <p>Semi-automated event detection</p> <p>Infer new flows from changes in stock</p>
<b>Contexts</b>	<b>Examples</b>	<b>Recommended analytical approach</b>
<b>Trade and Investment</b>	Transactions based on "free" trade, bilateral and multilateral agreements	ETOs, hierarchy of laws (e.g., WTO rule v. Public International Law, preemptory norms), destination state's obligations, externalized/public costs
<b>Bilateral development assistance</b>	ODA: grant aid, cooperative agreements, loan aid, implementation	ETOs, hierarchy of laws (Public International Law/treaties trump contracts), recipient state's obligations, externalized/public costs
<b>Multilateral Institutions</b>	grant aid, cooperative agreements, loan aid, subcontracting and procurement	ETOs, hierarchy of laws, R&R/other safeguard policies, recipient state's domestic obligations, externalized/public costs
<b>TNC's, private actors and their regulation</b>		ETOs, domestic legal and policy safeguards, host state's domestic obligations, externalized/public costs
<b>Cross-border issues</b>	Transboundary environmental, demographic and/or economic consequences of "development" interventions	ETOs, IHL, Articles on State Responsibility, Principles on Prevention of Trans-boundary Harm, Liability for injurious consequences arising out of acts not prohibited by international law (international liability in case of loss from transboundary harm arising out

Monitoring approach	Description of approach	Questions answered
		of hazardous activities, externalized/public costs
Direct observation	Partners report displacement and other movements of IDPs	How many? Possible where? Possibly how come? Possibly who?
Import others' data	Populate database with historical and new displacement events and other movements of IDPs based on others' data	How many? Possibly where? Possibly how come? Possibly who?
Crowdsourcing	Build network of partners who identify and report new and protracted displacement events, as well as other movements of IDPs	How many? Possibly where? Possibly how come? Possibly who?
Semi-automated event detection	Use natural language processing to identify potential new displacement events and other movements of IDPs reported on the internet	How many? Possibly where?
Infer new flows from changes in stock	Start with zero IDPs and calculate new displacement by measuring net changes in stock over time using time series data	How many?
Satellite / drone imagery analysis	Estimate displacement from houses damaged/destroyed, land use change or landscape change and household size data	How many? Where?
Apply other models (e.g., flood models)	Estimate displacement from extent of area inundated and household size data	How many? Where?

## Landless organizations, movements and initiatives:

1. [Abahlali baseMjondolo](#) (South Africa)
2. [Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara](#) (AMAN)
3. **Asia Network of Indigenous Lawyers** (ANIL) with 23 indigenous lawyers from the Philippines, Nepal, Bangladesh, India and Indonesia.
4. [Asian Indigenous Women's Network](#) (AIWN) with 19 member federations and organizations from 12 countries: Indigenous Women's Network of Thailand (IWNT) – Thailand; BAI/Philippine Indigenous Women's Federation – Philippines; Naga Women's Union, Indigenous Women's Forum in Northeast India and Adivasi Women's Network – India; Women's Resource Network and Taungya – Bangladesh; Center for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas – Viet Nam; Palaung Women's Organization – Burma; Dongba Cultural Institute of Lijiang and Yulong Culture and Gender Research Center – China; Association for

- Taiwan's Indigenous Peoples' Policies (ATIPP) – Taiwan; Partners of Community Organisations (PACOS) – Malaysia; Centre for Human Rights and Development – Mongolia; National Network of Indigenous Women, Nepal Indigenous Women's Federation and Association of Newar Women – Nepal; Aliansi Masyarakat [Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara](#) (AMAN) – Indonesia;
5. [Asian Peasants Coalition](#) – APC (Philippines):
  6. [BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Refugee and Residency Rights](#) (Palestine)
  7. [Center for Sustainable Development and Environment](#) – CENESTA (Iran):
  8. [Centre for Research and Development in Upland Areas](#) – CERDA (Viet Nam)
  9. [Centro de Culturas Indígenas el Perú](#) – CHIRAPAQ (Peru)
  10. [Centro para la Autonomía y Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas](#) - CADPI (Nicaragua)
  11. [College of the Atlantic](#) ? (USA):
  12. [Community Development Association](#) (CDA) (Bangladesh)
  13. [Conselho Indígena de Roraima](#) – CIR (Brazil)
  14. [Dignité Pygmée](#) (Democratic Republic of Congo)
  15. [Egyptian Farmers Solidarity Committee](#) – *Tadamon* (Egypt):
  16. [Ekta Parishad](#) (India):
  17. [Federación por la Autodeterminación de los Pueblos Indígenas](#) (Paraguay)
  18. [Friends of the MST](#) (USA)
  19. [Fundación para el Desarrollo, la Justicia y la Paz – FUNDAPAZ](#) (Argentina)
  20. [Habitat International Coalition – Housing and Land Rights Network](#) (HIC-HLRN) (Egypt, global):
  21. [Homeless Workers' Movement](#) (Brazil)
  22. [Indigenous Livelihoods Enhancement Partners](#) – ILEPA (Kenya)
  23. [Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility - Asia Pacific](#) with 9 partners: ARDO (Adivasi Resource Development Organization), Bangladesh; Amasangathan and BHYC ( Bible Hill Youth Club), India; CAMKID (Community Association for Mobilizing Knowledge in Development), Lao PDR; NRMC ( Navi Resource Mobilization Center, Nepal; UoG ( University of Goroka), Papua New Guinea; CWEARC (Cordillera Women's Education, Assistance and Research Center) and HAGIBBAT-Mangyan Mindoro, Inc. Philippines; ALCAA (Aoke Langalanga Constituency Apex Association), Solomon Islands, with IFAD funding
  24. [Institut Dayakologi](#) (Indonesia)
  25. [International Land Coalition](#) – ILC (Italy)
  26. [Environment and Development Association “JASIL”](#) (Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan)
  27. [Kenya Small Scale Farmers Forum](#) – KESSFF (Kenya)
  28. [La Via Campesina](#) – LVC (Mozambique, global)
  29. [Land Access Movement of South Africa](#) – LAMOSA (South Africa)
  30. [Land Research Center](#) – LRC (Palestine)
  31. [Landless Natives of Ketchikan](#) (USA)
  32. [Landless Peoples Movement](#) – LPM (South Africa)
  33. [Landless Voices](#) hosts a series of multi-disciplinary and multi-region research projects into the cultural expressions emerging from landlessness - the experience of the mass movement and re-settlement of peoples. It is a database at Queen Mary University of London, School of Languages, Linguistics and Film containing the cultural expressions of the Brazilian Landless in the formative years of the MST 1984–2003
  34. [Landless Workers' Movement](#) (Brazil): Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra (MST) is a social movement in Brazil, inspired by Marxism, generally regarded as one of the

largest in Latin America with an estimated informal membership of 1.5 million across 23 of Brazil's 26 states

35. [Lelewal](#) (Cameroon)
36. [Mainyito Pastoralist Integrated Development Organisation](#) – MPIDO ()
37. [Maleya Foundation Indigenous Peoples Network](#) (Bangladesh)
38. [Maldahari Rural Action Group](#) – MARAG (India)
39. [Million Rural Women](#) (Tunisia)
40. [Movement and Action Network for Transformation of Rural Areas](#) – MANTRA (India)
41. [Movement for Justice in el Barrio](#) (USA)
42. [Movimiento Regional por la Tierra](#) (Bolivia)
43. [Narmada Bachao Andolan](#) (India)
44. [Naxalites](#) (India)
45. [Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities](#) – NEFIN (Nepal)
46. [Palestine Land Society](#) (England, Palestine)
47. [Palestine Return Center](#) (England, Palestine)
48. [Philippine UNDRIP Network](#) with 5 indigenous national and regional federation/alliances (aside from the NGO, government and UN/Multilateral Bodies clusters (Philippines))
49. [Poor People's Alliance](#) formed by the Johannesburg branches of the Landless People's Movement (South Africa)
50. [Regional Council of Unrecognized Villages](#) – RCUV (Israel/Palestine)
51. [Resource Conflict Institute \(RECONCILE\)](#) (Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia)
52. [Servicios del Pueblo Mixe](#) – Asamblea Mixe Para el Desarrollo Sostenible (Mexico)
53. [Silingang Dapit sa Sidlakang Mindanao](#) – SILDAP (Philippines)
54. [Take Back the Land](#) (USA)
55. [Tebtebba Indigenous Peoples' International Center for Policy Research and Education](#) (Philippines, global)
56. [Terra de Direitos](#) (Brazil)
57. [War on Want MST project](#). UK charity [War on Want](#) provides support to MST (England, Brazil)
58. [Zimbabwe People's Land Rights Movement](#) (Zimbabwe)

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## Endnotes:

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- <sup>1</sup> Land owners or users (farmers) expelled in favor of investment and global companies.
- <sup>2</sup> For the sake of selling or leasing to generate revenue for the state or government.
- <sup>3</sup> Whereby acquisition takes place under the pretext of rehabilitation, conservation, development, or reconstruction, especially after natural disasters, wars and drought, and lands are not returned to their rightful owners.
- <sup>4</sup> In the case of a refugee or asylum seeker's well-founded fear of persecution or security threat.
- <sup>5</sup> Due to mismanagement, desertification, contamination or climate change.
- <sup>6</sup> Final study of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee (on the advancement of the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas), A/HRC/19/75, 24 February 2012, paras. 9–23, at: [http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session19/A-HRC-19-75\\_en.pdf](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session19/A-HRC-19-75_en.pdf).
- <sup>7</sup> Ibid., para. 10.
- <sup>8</sup> Human Rights Council, resolution 21/19 (on the promotion and protection of the human rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas), 27 September 2012, para. 1, at: [http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage\\_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/21/L.23](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/21/L.23).
- <sup>9</sup> A/HRC/19/75, para. 15, citing IFAD, *Rural Poverty Report 2001*.
- <sup>10</sup> The right to food, Report of the Special Rapporteur, Jean Ziegler, Addendum: Mission to Bangladesh, E/CN.4/2004/10/Add.1, 29 October 2003, para. 9, at: <https://daccess-ods.un.org/TMP/1200246.66190147.html>.
- <sup>11</sup> Abu Tayeb Rafiqur Rahman, *Human Security in Bangladesh: In Search of Justice and Dignity* (Bangladesh, UNDP, 2002), at: <http://www.worldcat.org/title/human-security-in-bangladesh-in-search-of-justice-and-dignity/oclc/52269699>.