

CLOSING REMARKS OF THE ORGANIZERS



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Our conference theme is how to mainstream land rights in the context of climate change. This is a very crucial issue. Climate change is a reality. At this point, there are no two thoughts about it.

What we can discuss about is how much the world is taking climate change as seriously as it could. Despite all the resolutions and decisions made in global multilateral conferences, I do not think there is real interest or real commitment to follow those up.

For most part, the commitments are only on paper. In reality they do not really work at the country level because they do not have the proper intent.

We are all victims of climate change, especially countries like Bangladesh. Not only have we been victims of the western world's emissions, but we should also analyze our actions – what are we doing about it? Our country may not contribute to mitigation, but we have initiatives that help mitigate climate change for women, farmers, fishers, and indigenous peoples.

On top of everything, how can we mainstream land tenure? This is very important. Our honorable minister is the chief guest of the conference and he has highlighted the importance of land rights.

Maybe we can look at the means how land is being made more productive, since if the character of the land changes completely, then it changes the way land is owned.

If we prioritize profit maximization that reduces and demeans the rights over land and prioritizes commerce, and businessmen have more control over the land, what is sold in the market is controlled by those who control the land.

If we can bring this context to the discussion, then we will see climate change in a different light and overlook land rights. Thus, commercialization of land should not be the priority.

Finally, my appreciation to all the participants (in person and virtual), presentors, session moderators, our special guests from the Government of Bangladesh, the ALRD team, and our co-organizers – ANGOC, BftW, GFAR/GFAiR, GLTN, and LPF.





The Global Forum on Agricultural Research and Innovation (GFAR/ GFAIR) is a unique global multi-stakeholder platform operating in the agricultural Research and Innovation (R&I) system and driven by more than 900 members from 13 constituencies. This inclusive nature rooted in the regions brings to our dialogues and actions diverse interests, capacities, and perspectives, but with one focus: agricultural R&I that recognizes small-scale producers as key global actors and co-innovators.



The Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) is an alliance of global, regional, and national partners contributing to poverty alleviation and the Sustainable Development Goals through increased access to land and tenure security for all. The Network's partnership of organizations is drawn from the rural and urban civil society, international research and training institutions, bilateral and multilateral organizations, and international professional bodies. GLTN takes a more holistic approach on land issues and improves on global land coordination through development, dissemination and implementation of pro-poor and gender responsive land tools. These tools and approaches contribute to land reform, good land governance, inclusive land administration, sustainable land management, and functional land sector coordination.



The United Nations Human Settlements Programm (UN Habitat) helps the urban poor by transforming cities into safer, healthier, greener places with better opportunities where everyone can live in dignity. UN-Habitat works with organizations at every level, including all spheres of government, civil society and the private sector to help build, manage, plan and finance sustainable urban development. UN-Habitat envisions cities without slums that are liveable places for all, which do not pollute the environment or deplete natural resources.



The Land Portal Foundation believes access to information is crucial to achieve good land governance and to secure land rights for vulnerable people. The Foundation creates, curates, and disseminates land governance information through linked and open data technologies, and support our partners to take the same steps.



Brot für die Welt (Bread for the World or BftW) is the globally active development and relief agency of the Protestant Churches in Germany working towards empowering the poor and marginalized to improve their living conditions. BftW and partners address issues related to food security, access to water, strengthening of democracy, respecting human rights, keeping peace, and the integrity of creation. BftW takes steps to make sure that there is enough food for everyone.