CBI Commons

Strategy

Commitment-Based Initiative on Commons and Common Land Rights in Europe Middle East and North Africa (EMENA)

2018
Title: Commons and Common Land Rights in EMENA

Region: EMENA (Europe, Middle East and North Africa)

Country/ies: Albania, Croatia, Finland, France, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Sapmi (including part of Finland, Sweden, Norway and Russia), Spain and United Kingdom

Coordinating Member (focal point or resource hub): Iniiciativa Comunales (iComunales)

Other members participating:

ILC members: NGO BIOS; Community Land Scotland (CLS); Iniiciativa Comunales (iComunales); Trashumancia y Naturaleza (TyN); Dana And Qadisiyah Local Community Cooperative (Dana Cooperative); Centro De Estudios Rurales y Agricultura Internacional (CERAI); Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche pour le Développement (CIRAD); National Federation Of Communal Forests And Pastures Of Albania (NFCFPA); Sheffield Institute For International Development- University Of Sheffield (SSID); Transborder Wildlife Association (TWA) and Asociación Forestal de Soria (ASFOSO).

Non-ILC members (partners): Centro de Estudos Sociais, Universidade de Coimbra (CES); Baldios de Alvadia; Partezipanza Agraria de Nonantola; Irish Natura And Hill Farmers Association (INHFA); Brod Ecological Society (BED); Arava Institute; Ellos Deatnu; Universidad Pablo Olavide; Universidad de Granada; LIFE CommForest.

Expected outcomes:

- Changes in policies
- Changes in Practices
- Changes in Agendas

Commitment areas:

- 1. Secure tenure rights;
- 2. Strong small-scale farming systems
- 3. Diverse tenure systems
- 4. Equal land rights for women;
- 5. Secure territorial rights for Indigenous Peoples
- 6. Locally managed ecosystems
- 7. Inclusive decision-making
- 8. Transparency and accessible information
- 9. Effective actions against land grabbing
- 10. Protected Land rights defenders

CONTEXT AND STRATEGIC APPROACH OF THE INITIATIVE (MAX 10 PAGES)

Overview of the issue(s) at stake: context, terms of debate and baselines: for each priority area identify the expected overall change you think is needed.

EMENA (Europe, Middle East and North Africa) landscapes, biodiversity and natural and semi-natural ecosystems have been shaped by local communities for centuries, through their own governance systems, usually in the form of commons (common managed forests, grasslands, irrigation systems, hunting societies, etc.). Current figures indicate
that common management and governance of natural and semi-natural ecosystems in EMENA (by legal common rights or de facto) is still a very relevant phenomenon providing key socio-economic and environmental values to society in general. Nonetheless, the role of these communities in the governance and management of natural resources, and its conservation, has been largely unrecognized and their support neglected. In addition, the social and economic role of these governance systems, although crucial for the communities, has been disregarded as a result of judging it by a pure short-term market value approach. Furthermore, some policies, such as the EU Common Agricultural Policy, are detrimental for these collective, participative, local and sustainable governance and management systems, conversely promoting highly intensified, unsustainable and high carbon footprint exploitation systems. Nonetheless, in the last few decades, local communities and indigenous peoples’ organisations, with the support of some NGOs and academics, have increasingly raised the issue of common governance values, achieving very relevant goals, not only at local level but also regarding legal recognition at national and international level, as well as increasing public awareness on issues such as direct democracy, sustainability, participation and responsibility.

Taking this context and baseline into account, the following overall changes related to some specific ILC commitments are needed:

1. Secure tenure rights: Common governance rights should be better supported and recognized in EMENA. They should be protected from current ongoing threats as land grabbing or other forms of alienation or privatization. The common tenure rights (and other common rights related to collective governance of land and other natural resources) should be fully recognized and protected by state laws and any other administrative regulation or policy from the local arena to the global.

3. Diverse tenure systems: There is a wide variety of common land rights, adapted to each particular historical background and socioecological context. The diversity of these governance systems is an important part of the cultural heritage of the communities governing commons and the entire society, and they are shaped to provide the best possible outcomes adapting to each particular set of natural resources, territory and ecosystems. This diversity should be recognized and understood as valuable and their diversity should be protected.

5. Secure territorial rights for Indigenous Peoples: Territorial rights should be secured on a bottom-up approach and in full respect of governance standards as the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). Indigenous Peoples territorial rights and their common governance institutions and systems should be understood as a whole and they should be recognized and defended alike.

7. Inclusive decision-making: Common governance systems are designed on an inclusive decision-making system. This inherent component of common land rights should be further enhanced, updating common land governance systems to better include traditionally underrepresented sectors on a gender, age or wealth basis (among others). Often there is the case of overlapping among common land rights and common land governance systems and other land governance systems and rights (as e.g. National Parks, state subsidies systems, private sector business, etc.). In these cases, the adequate integration of the common land rights in the decision processes should be improved, avoiding the often common situations that ignore or undermine common land rights and the common governance systems that support them.

9. Effective actions against land grabbing: Common land rights have been proved as a powerful tool against land grabbing. The common land rights should be further explored and supported as an effective action against land grabbing.
Stakeholder analysis\(^1\) and key target audiences: List, describe most relevant state, non-state and private actors with a stake in your priority area of work and describe an actor engagement plan: who will be your allies and whom do you plan to influence?

Based on the planning workshop held in Granada in October 2017: “Europe and Middle East Workshop on the Commons: Establishing a Common Strategy for the support and recognition of common governance of natural resources in Europe and the Middle East” participants identified the following Actors and placed them in the spectrum.

It was recognised that main allies are the communities governing the commons, including its associations, federations, etc., NGOs (civil society organizations) and IGOs that share a common vision on the topic, the same is valid for Research and Development organisations, scientists, HR Lawyers, other Grassroots movements, like minded networks and private companies.

Important actors to influence are national and local governments, depending on the context; the EU (European Union), especially when it comes to the CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) and other policy frameworks such as Natura 2000 Network; young people who less and less seem interested in staying on the land and engaging in common practices and experiences; donors, who seem not to be well informed about the issues and who could play an important role in influencing the EU; politicians at all levels from National to European; education systems, such as high schools and universities, that could play an important role in informing and engaging young people in discovering the Commons in Europe as a positive practice and future opportunity; IGOs, INGOs and NGOs that aren’t aware of the matter and could be supportive of influencing the EU as well as supportive of efforts at publicising experiences and good practices in the Commons in Europe; and the private sector.

Existing platforms or initiatives: List and describe broadly in terms of objectives, functioning and participation, existing platforms dealing with your specific area of intervention at national, regional or global level, including both civil society, private sector, state or mixed platforms. How will you ensure avoiding duplication of efforts? Is there any means to coordinate/engage with these? What is the added value of your contribution?

In September 2011, the ICCA Consortium gathered over thirty-five people in Gerace (Italy), for a workshop entitled “Understanding community conservation in Europe”. The result of the workshop was to provide a focused opportunity for assessing the current state of community conservation in Europe and to examine how local communities contribute to managing and governing their own natural environments.

\(^1\) For further guidance, you could refer to ODI [http://www.odi.org/publications/5257-stakeholder-analysis](http://www.odi.org/publications/5257-stakeholder-analysis)
In October 2013, local communities governing commons in Spain gathered in Valdeavellano de Tera (Spain), along with members of the ICCA Consortium, to coordinate the support and recognition of commons governance in Spain. As a result, “The Valdeavellano de Tera Declaration on the Recognition and defence of the Commons and ICCAs in Spain” was issued and a working group was established, which continued to link communities during the subsequent years and eventually became what is today, the national association of commons in Spain - “Iniciativa Comunales”.

More recently, on the 29th and 30th of October 2015 in Bilbao took place the 2nd International Land Coalition Global CSOs Meeting. In this meeting it was established the European reference group on commons/community land rights. This Reference Group was initially started by three of the current CBI members: Dana Cooperative, ICCA Consortium and National Federation of Communal Forests and Pastures of Albania. This group was the first step in what now is the ILC Working Group on Commons and Common Land Rights.

Soon after, on the 18-19th November 2015 in Brussels, at a workshop organised by the European Forum for Nature Conservation and Pastoralism (EFNCP) and the ICCA Consortium: “Exploring our Common Ground A Networking Event on Common Grazing in Europe”, more than thirty commoner organisation representatives from nine countries met to analyse the detrimental impact of EU policies on common farming and its governance institutions. One of the main conclusions was the need to network at European level with other affected commons institutions to promote a more sustainable approach to European agricultural policies, including the consideration of the existence of common rights along with private and public rights.

Additionally, on 10th May 2016, in Bern, the first meeting of the “European Reference Group on Commons and Common Land Rights” of the International Land Coalition (ILC) was held. One of the conclusions was the need for data at a European level on figures and current legislation on common governance, including a preliminary common approach to the socio-economic value of common governance at European level. To achieve this, the need for a meeting with representatives of a minimum of fifteen European countries – including both practitioners’ leaders and other representatives of civil society and NGOs - was identified.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identification of common challenges:</th>
<th>Needs expressed by participants:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governance is more relevant than titling/ownership</td>
<td>Collect data on commons, people working on it and successful cases (link to the Land Mark), Collect references to existing laws to protect the commons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple uses of territorial commons, but separation of uses between departments threatens the commons</td>
<td>Work on how to normalise and legitimate commons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community land rights and commons? Differences and commons features: look into the commons features, Right holders vs ownership</td>
<td>Work on how to involve people to govern resources collectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needs of the community and individuals rights to be addressed Alternative way of thinking</td>
<td>Legal recognition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combination of socio-economic and environmental argument</td>
<td>Identification of policy spaces to be addressed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difficult coordination with “new commons”, but useful for lobbying</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In November (8-9th) 2016 took place in Edinburg the first meeting of the European and Middle East CSO meeting of the ILC. The main aim of the already stablished Reference Group on the Commons, was to become a Working Group with larger representation. The goal of this group is to support and recognise common governance of land (including ownership, but also other common rights), by sharing knowledge, experience and promote networking. One of the conclusions was the need for data at a European level on figures and current legislation on common governance, including a preliminary common approach to the socio-economic value of common governance at European level. The need of identifying contact point organisations and persons working or representing communities governing commons was also pointed out.

The activities agreed for the immediate future were:

**Connect:**
Map who is working in commons in each region and who is interested in commons (organisations and individuals). Then hold a meeting with interested parties, and from that meeting develop a strategy.

**Mobilise:**
To first understand what is happening in commons.
Following the Edinburg agreements, from the 23-25 October 2017 the Workshop: *Europe and Middle East Workshop on the Commons. Stablishing a Common Strategy for the support and recognition of common governance of natural resources in Europe and the Middle East* was held in Granada (Spain). The goals of the workshop were to improve the common knowledge, networking capacity and communication tools between organizations working on the support and recognition of common governance of natural resources in European and the Middle East; to identify key threats and opportunities for the commons in Europe and the Middle East; to develop a Strategic Plan to prioritize and tackle the identified threats and respond to the identified opportunities at supranational level and to share tools, responsibilities, approaches and means for the implementation of the Strategic Plan. From this meeting comes the current CBI.

Currently, at EMENA level, several national and regional organizations supporting and representing communities governing commons are starting to network, learn from each other’s work and find out that there is much to be done at supra-national level, both in terms of community conservation of natural resources, but also regarding the survival of the common governance systems and rights that makes this collective approach possible. In addition, these systems and rights provide very important added values, such as direct democracy and participation, social justice and cohesion, transparency, access to livelihoods, sustainable use and a healthy environment (among many others). A clear common goal is to consolidate a fluent and resilient EMENA Network on Commons.

Most communities governing commons are working almost exclusively at a local or regional level. Nonetheless, this is greatly changing, as they become aware of how much is at stake (including their own future) in supra-national arenas. At the same time, society in general, Civil Society Organizations, governments and academics are beginning to recognise their beneficial social, economic and environmental role, resulting in an increasing recognition in policies and regulations. As a consequence of this awakening, communities are increasing their level of self-awareness, organisation and networking outside their natural boundaries, and many of them are now joining national and regional networks, federations and associations in order to pursue common environmental, social and economic goals.

The current movement for the support and recognition of the commons in EMENA is based on several focal organizations that are promoting both local actions but also a better coordination at national and regional level. Our approach and strategy is focused on continuing to facilitate and improve communication and coordination among those organizations and initiatives. The added value of this initiative is to upgrade the scale of networking at EMENA level, minimizing duplication of effort (e.g. when influencing EU policies or when designing awareness-raising material on the commons), and developing synergies by sharing experiences and promoting replication and transferability of best practices and demonstrative initiatives.

**ILC niche - the difference we make**: Describe how this initiative is different, why and how it effectively contributes to change with respect to other similar initiatives. Also identify relevant expertise and capacity to support the initiative among participating members and partners.

Currently there are no other similar initiatives besides those already identified in the previous section. At EMENA level, communities governing commons and the organizations/ institutions supporting them have so far little knowledge of each other (even at national level) and common initiatives are very scarce. Current initiatives involve few actors with sectorial interests (e.g. common grazing) or isolated national events. In this context it is very unlikely that the current common threats (as described in section “Overview of the issue(s) at stake”) to common land rights could be strategically addressed at AMENA level. The current situation means lack or very few synergies among the actors described and little replication and transferability among the demonstrative cases and innovative solutions found.

In general terms, participating members and partners have strong background on the day to day work with and support to communities governing common land and other natural resources on a common right bases. The strong first-hand knowledge is the key basis from which build a community based initiative realistic and adequate to the
communities’ needs. At higher level, some organizations have strong backgrounds influencing policies at national and national level.

The members and partners have the capacity too to contribute to the identification of many communities governing commons (and the organizations representing them) in their countries and sectors. The legitimacy of the strategy and the initiatives for implementing it are mostly based on the participation and commitment of the European communities themselves. Facilitation for their participation will be a key issue in which the current partners have full capacity and long experience.

OVERARCHING GOAL, INITIATIVE OBJECTIVES, OUTCOMES and ACTIVITIES (MAX 5 pages)

Describe the Goal: the longer term development impact that this Initiative wants to achieve. Define the broader issue that it seeks to contribute to. This is the highest level of change and should relate to the indicators in the ILC Strategy (Number and type of people with legally enhanced tenure security contributed to by collaborative efforts of ILC members and Amount of land more sustainably managed contributed to by collaborative efforts of ILC members).

Good governance of natural resources by empowered existing and future communities based on values of equality, fairness and sustainability.

Contributions to NES agendas: Which ones, what and how? Describe how this initiative contributes to NES countries, strategies and/or agendas, show linkages with their priorities to policy processes serving a wider member interest. Global, regional, national and local level actions complement each other.

At EMENA level there are currently ongoing 2 NES Albania and Moldova. Moldova NES have not been yet published in the ILC webpage.

In relation to the Albania NES, the current CBI contributes especially to the strategic objective 1 as “influencing the formulation of policies, decisions, and an institutional framework on land and natural resources for the benefit of rural people” is a common goal with the current CBI (goal 1) and to strategic objective 3 “Ensure secure user rights for rural families and traditional users through participatory processes based on successful experiences, and promote investment for collective benefits in forest and pasture areas”, as it overlaps with the current CBI goal 4.

In relation to the NES Moldova, the current CBI contributes especially to the Goal of NES: “Conflict resolution of land issues and sustainable management of land and natural resources for the benefit of rural people”. Strategic objective 1 “Inclusion of problems related to land governance on the agenda of the Government and Parliament”, 2 “Government and local public authorities consult civil society and apply international and national legal provisions in the activities related to land governance” and 3 “Improvement of existing policies and adoption of new policies, laws or regulations related to land governance catalyzed by NES” of the NES Moldova are overlapping with CBI Target 1 “Influence international, national and local policy formulation and implementation”. Also activities at Connect and Mobilize level planned within NES Moldova are correlated with activities planned under CBI Targets 2-4.

According to NES Moldova it is foreseen to create ad hoc working groups in the framework of NES Platform in order to discuss existing problems and to find solutions with participation of decision-makers. Up to now, three working groups have been created in NES Moldova Platform. One of them is a Working Group on Commons. The first meeting of this group has already taken place, where current problems were discussed and some draft solutions were proposed. This is expected to be discussed with decision makers during the Annual Meeting of the NES Platform, on 14th December 2018. Taking this into account, there is a clear synergy among regional and Moldova national initiatives on Commons.

Albania and Moldova ILC members are already part of this CBI and have contributed to the current strategy (e.g. Moldovan ILC member NGO BIOS attended the Granada workshop from which the current strategy emerge). In the case of Kosovo, an ILC member (National Association of Private Forest Owners of Kosovo) has also shown interest in
participating in this CBI. We plan to deepen the participation of this ILC members for, based on common strategic objectives among the aforementioned NES and the current CBI, integrate specific commitments and activities in the yearly revision proposed (see outputs table) for this CBI that contributes to establish synergies and improve outcomes both in NES and this CBI.

**Strategic Objectives (max 3) and outcomes:** The changes the initiative will support in order to achieve the goal. What are your objectives mainly seeking to change? Policies, the way the issues are dealt with in practice, or wider agendas on the issue?

In general terms, there are two main conclusions outlined by the CBI members in the Granada Workshop, considered as immediate strategic objectives:

1.- At EU level the main focus will be on influencing policies and practices related to Common Agricultural Policy.

2.- At National level, depending on the context, pressure will be made to influence the recognition and support of commons.

From these two main strategic objectives, four main targets with specific goals have been agreed:

**Target 1: Influence international, national and local policy formulation and implementation**

- **EMENA level:**
  
  1.1-Influencing the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)
  1.2-Networking (e.g. joining other campaigns, such as “LIVING LAND”, “Land Rights Now”, etc.)
  1.3- Produce a policy brief with clear arguments and examples
  1.4- Provide examples on the values of the commons
  1.5- Prepare and empower communities for influencing policies, including knowledge transfer

- **National level:**
  
  1.6- Develop methodology for influencing national policy formulation and implementation
**Target 2: Improve public knowledge and perception**

2.1- Document cases of communities and actions providing values and services
2.2- Make the demonstrative cases available to the public
2.3- Define what commons are from the communities’ perspective
2.4- Basic guidelines for policies and politicians on commons
2.5- Simultaneous actions and campaigns through Europe on the commons
2.6- Platform on initiatives & tools on the commons
2.7- Volunteer camps
2.8- Training materials on common rights, rules and responsibilities
2.9- MOOC and other online tools
2.10- Study and explore the overlaps between the Natura 2000 Network and the commons
2.11- Develop and support tourist experience on the commons

**Target 3: Reduce pressures on common land**

3.1- Sustainable tourism
3.2- Local mapping and planning
3.3- Evaluate and recognise the environmental contribution of the commons (e.g. ICCAs)
3.4- Sharing examples and knowledge on reducing pressure on the commons
3.5- Evaluation of environmental regulations on the commons
3.6- Promote more dialogue and information among local stakeholders
3.7- Educate on the commons
3.8- Lobbying and research funding at all levels
3.9- Promote capacity building and self-sustainability
3.10- Empowering communities

**Target 4: Cultural and social enrichment**

4.1- Role playing games on commons as educational tools for community building
4.2- Compile cases and examples for sharing (e.g. ecomuseums, etc.)
4.3- Networking activities among communities
4.4- Support the bottom-up approach
4.5- Learning projects and tools involving communities and academia
4.6- Biocultural protocols, peer to peer exchanges and training
4.7- Dialogue to defend common vision
4.8- Engage with influential people at local level

**Your approach:** How will you achieve? Is your focus on alliance-building, building of platforms, and/or linking up to dialogue spaces (CONNECT)? Will you focus on capacity building and knowledge production and new approaches (MOBILIZE)? Will you opt for mass-mobilization, advocacy with parliamentarians and public hearings, etc, (INFLUENCE)?

Activities will mainly focus on engaging the existing group and reaching out to other like-minded organisations - with a special focus on communities governing commons and their representative organizations -, networking to create a...
larger network to better undertake activities planned under this strategy. A common online platform will be developed to better interact and share experiences and thoughts. (Connect).

Gather, document and share good practices and examples, to influence international and national policies, to improve public perception of the commons, preserve the environment and natural resources related to common land, and to encourage cultural and social enrichment, internally to the communities and externally. To reduce pressures on land resulting from various sources, mapping exercises will be undertaken to track common lands and reduce pressure coming from inadequate tourism as well as privatization. Capacity building and peer-to-peer exchanges will be organised to build on good examples and possibly replicate best practices in matters such as self-sustainability, economic sustainability, advocacy at local level, project based learning and biocultural protocols, keeping a bottom up approach. Other innovative learning methodologies will be used such as role playing games to involve and engage youth for community building, voluntary camps (EVS) or woofing. To further enhance this community building, existing knowledge will be shared about national and international policy frameworks and how to influence them. Basic guidelines on commons will be prepared to inform governments and INGOs. (Mobilise).

To influence the CAP a joint policy brief will be prepared with clear arguments and examples derived from the ground on how to reduce pressures on common lands, dialogue will also be organised with local stakeholders to develop results based measures and common targets. Within communities and with influential local actors, dialogue events will be organised to define a common vision on commons. Finally, to improve public perception on the commons, campaigns and simultaneous actions will be organised (Influence).

**Main components and expected ILC success measures:** Describe the different components of the initiative as per their relevance to the specificity of the context and the change capacity of the platform of actors. Also describe whether activities include piloting or demonstration of new approaches and/or focus on practical tools/approaches for uptake by members.

A balanced and comprehensive approach; a successful CBI plan seeks and finds a balance between these different components, by exploiting diverse capacities of its members. Explain how components are related to each other to make the change.

Besides those activities already described for being implemented before March 2019 (see down here), the details of the implementation of the rest of the activities planned for the first phase of the CBI (2018-2019) will be decided along with the rest of the CBI members in the next workshop to be held before March 2019. The main components for the implementation of 2018 work plan on the EMENA Commons CBI are related to three actions:
1.1 Digital EMENA commons Online Platform

Background: The need of a common Digital Online Platform started to take shape since the very first meetings of the EMENA Commons Working Group (Reference Group back then).

In 2015 in Bilbao (2nd International Land Coalition Global CSOs Meeting) it was agreed the need of collecting and putting together the contact info of those institutions (CSO, Academics, etc.) working with, supporting or governing the commons at European and Middle East level. As first step to achieve this, a cooperative database was created to gather the Reference Group members’ contacts, making them available for the whole group. Those preliminary results can be seen here.

On 10th May 2016, in Bern, the first meeting of the “European Reference Group on Commons and Common Land Rights” took place. One of the conclusions (“needs expressed by participants”) was to collect data on commons, people working on it and successful cases.

In November 2016 (8-9th) took place in Edinburg the first meeting of the European and Middle East CSO meeting of the ILC. In that meeting the need of identifying contact point organisations and persons working or representing communities governing commons was one of the main needs still to be achieved. One of the main activities agreed for the immediate future were: “Connect: Map who is working in commons in each region and who is interested in commons (organisations and individuals)”.

Eventually, the 23-25 October 2017 it the Workshop: Europe and Middle East Workshop on the Commons. Establishing a Common Strategy for the support and recognition of common governance of natural resources in Europe and the Middle East, held in Granada (Spain), the current CBI strategy was agreed among the Working Group, establishing that “Activities will mainly focus on engaging the existing group and reaching out to other like-minded organisations - with a special focus on communities governing commons and their representative organizations -, networking to create a larger network to better undertake activities planned under this strategy. A common online platform will be developed to better interact and share experiences and thoughts.”, and define a “Platform on initiatives & tools on the commons” as target 2.6.
Change capacity: Currently the needs of basic information for networking and advance on many of the proposed goals, outcomes, outputs and actions, are strongly influenced for the lack of a centralized tool for creating/compiling and sharing this basic information. The current situation is that the info about Common Land in EMENA is patchy and dispersed or even non-accessible in many countries, and there is an outstanding lack of even contact points on the issue for many countries. The platform will centralize all this in a useful and clear format (e.g. directory, demonstrative cases, tools, events, news) in a user-friendly way, so any CBI member will be able to access and provide their piece of the puzzle and get an increasingly clear view of the situation in EMENA. This will be an invaluable tool that will provide sound evidence basis for further updating of this strategy and a better planning and implementation of the common actions of the CBI members, including better focusing on practical tools/approaches for uptake by members.

Components: The components of this action are related directly with outcomes (e.g. networking, peer to peer exchanges, etc.), outputs (e.g. learning tools, demonstrative cases, etc.) and goals (e.g. improve public knowledge, compile cases, training materials, etc.).

Relation with other components: the Online Digital Platform will be the keystone action for centralizing, work and sharing many of the components of this CBI, including those activities related to information (e.g. news, events), documents (reports, policy briefs) resources (learning tools, common role playing games, etc.) and, very important, the directory of those persons and institutions working on commons at EMENA level (networking).

1.2 Meeting for the CBI Commons Strategy update

Background: In 2017, in the aforementioned Granada workshop, the first EMENA Commons Working Group strategy was drafted, giving as a result the current CBI. One of the conclusions agreed in the panels was that a “dialogue to defend common vision” was a strategic target (target 4.7). Once stablished the targets, outcomes and outputs and activities for 2018, it is clear the need for a periodic collective work among the CBI members for checking the implementation status of the CBI strategy, update and stablish new priorities, decide who among the CBI members lead each of the currently stablished targets and actions and, in brief, guarantee that the strategy is yearly updated to better deliver its expected results.

Change capacity: This action is oriented to make the current CBI document as an evolving strategy, making possible to adapt it and improve it every year. In the programmed workshop current and new members will be able to participate in the implementation and improving of the strategy, by reviewing the current components and propose new ones.

Components: This action is directly related to output “CBI Commons activities are based on a yearly updated and participative common strategy at EMENA level”.

Relation with other components: The rest of the components needs to be regularly updated, e.g. in accordance with the arrival of new CBI members, the achieving of new collective agreements on approaches or priorities or reschedules needed on the basis of the actions implementation status. Furthermore, some of the components still needs to be undertaken by leading CBI members with special expertise on the issue, reason for which they are not still foresee a starting date (see “Triannual Plan Timeline”). This situation will be solved with a yearly meeting to review and update the current CBI strategy.

1.3 Policy Brief on EU CAP and common land rights

Background: Soon after the creation in October 2015 of the Reference Group that ended up in this CBI, on the 18-19th November 2015 in Brussels, at a workshop organised by the European Forum for Nature Conservation and Pastoralism (EFNCP) and the ICCA Consortium: “Exploring our Common Ground A Networking Event on Common Grazing in Europe”, more than thirty commoner organisation representatives from nine countries met to analyse the detrimental
impact of EU policies on common farming and its governance institutions. One of the main conclusions was the need to network at European level with other affected commons institutions to promote a more sustainable approach to European agricultural policies, including the consideration of the existence of common rights along with private and public rights.

In the aforementioned Granada workshop in October 2017, one of the agreed four main targets for this CBI was to “influence international, national and local policy formulation and implementation”, and more specifically, to “1.1-Influencing the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)”. The CAP is the Common Agriculture Policy one of the EU’s oldest, most influential, most debated and most costly policies. Its impact on commons in European Union is huge, but also influences greatly other EMENA countries. CAP promotes the intensification of the EU agriculture and an export-import approach, that makes necessary massive resource inputs from surrounded countries, leading to direct formal and informal trade agreements for the development of massive intensive crops (e.g. for feeding EU industrial farm cows), in detriment of traditional small scale family farming and the land tenure associated with it.

**Change capacity:** The CAP is the Common Agriculture Policy one of the EU’s oldest, most influential, most debated and most costly policies. Its impact on commons in European Union is huge, but also influences greatly other EMENA countries. By working on a common policy brief, the CBI members expect to have their say and influence the new CAP regulation which is now been debated and will enter in effect in 2020.

**Components:** This action is directly related to outcome “Local, regional, national and EMENA policies adequately recognize and protect common land rights and other common governance systems of natural resources”, output “Policy Brief on EU Common Agricultural Policy and common land rights” and target 1.1 of this strategy “Influencing the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)”.
**Timeline:** please provide an annual action plan with a timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1t</td>
<td>2t</td>
<td>3t</td>
<td>4t</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Target 1: Influence international, national and local policy formulation and implementation**

- **EMENA level:**
  - 1.1- Influencing the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)$^3$
  - 1.2- Networking (e.g. joining other campaigns: Living Land, Land Rights Now, etc)$^{1,2}$
  - 1.3- Produce a policy brief with clear arguments and examples$^4$
  - 1.4- Provide examples on the values of the commons
  - 1.5- Prepare and empower communities, for influencing policies [...]  

- **National level:**
  - 1.6- Develop methodology for influencing national policy [...] implementation

**Target 2: Improve public knowledge and perception**

- 2.1- Document cases of communities and actions providing values and services$^1$
- 2.2- Make the demonstrative cases available to the public
- 2.3- Define what commons are from the communities’ perspective$^{1,2}$
- 2.4- Basic guidelines for policies and politicians on commons
- 2.5- Simultaneous actions and campaigns through Europe on the commons
- 2.6- Platform on initiatives & tools on the commons$^1$
- 2.7- Volunteer camps
- 2.8- Training materials on common rights, rules and responsibilities$^1$
- 2.9- MOOC and other online tools
- 2.10- Study and explore the overlaps between N2000 Network and the commons
- 2.11- Develop and support tourist experience on the commons
### Triannual (2019-2021) plan timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target 3: Reduce pressures on common land</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1- Sustainable tourism</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2- Local mapping and planning</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3- Evaluate/ recognise the environmental contribution of commons (e.g. ICCAs)</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4- Sharing examples and knowledge on reducing pressure on the commons</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5- Evaluation of environmental regulations on the commons</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6- Promote more dialogue and information among local stakeholders</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7- Educate on the commons</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.8- Lobbying and research funding at all levels</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.9- Promote capacity building and self-sustainability</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.10- Empowering Communities</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target 4: Cultural and social enrichment</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.1- Role playing games on commons as educational tools for community building</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2- Compile cases and examples for sharing (e.g. ecomuseums, etc.)</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3- Networking activities among communities</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4- Support the bottom-up approach</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5- Learning projects and tools involving communities and academia</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.6- Biocultural protocols, peer to peer exchanges and training</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.7- Dialogue to defend common vision</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.8- Engage with influential people at local level</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1: These targets are implemented through activity 1.1 “Design and implementation of the Digital EMENA commons Online Platform” (see 2018 actions logframe)

2: These targets are implemented through activity 1.2 “Meeting for the CBI Commons Strategy yearly update” (see 2018 actions logframe)

3: These targets are implemented through activity 1.3 “Policy Brief on EU Common Agricultural Policy and common land rights” (see 2018 actions logframe)
### TRIANNUAL (2019-2021) Logframe

#### Goal

Longer term development impact and highest level of change — eg people’s lives and is realised at the end of the Strategy (6 years)

Good governance of natural resources by empowered existing and future communities based on values of equality, fairness and sustainability.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective verifiable indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>evidence that the goal has been achieved</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Objectively verifiable indicators

- Number and type of communities involved in enhancing their Common Land tenure security contributed to by collaborative efforts of ILC members and partners in this CBI
- CBI members report
- No available information so far

#### Means of verification

- **Baseline 2018**

---

#### Outcome level

The change that the initiative will deliver in order to achieve the goal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectively verifiable indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHAT is measured to indicate that outcomes and outputs have been achieved.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Outcomes

(iii) Changes in policies catalysed by your action:

Local, regional, national and EMENA policies adequately recognize and protect common land rights and other common governance systems of natural resources

- Number of new laws/regulations influenced: e.g. New EU CAP improved in relation to the recognition and support of common land rights and common governance systems of natural resources
- 1 new EU Common Agricultural Policy regulation and its implementation improved in relation to the recognition and support of common land rights and common governance systems of natural resources
- New EU Common Agricultural Policy publication, including its national implementations
- Some of the current EU CAP approaches are detrimental for common land rights

- Number of organizations/stakeholders at EMENA level that use the supporting documents (see outputs) for change and influence policies
- At least 10 CBI members use (e.g. quote, write, etc.) the supporting documents (e.g. policy brief) in their advocacy for improving common land rights policies
- Copy of relevant reports, presentations, proceedings, etc.
- No available information so far

#### Means of verification

- **Baseline 2018**

---

#### Outcome level

(ii) Changes in practices of change makers catalysed by your action:

Stakeholders and target audiences network for

- CBI/EMENA Commons working group members implement peer to peer exchanges
- 30 active members and partners using the platform
- 15 EMENA countries involved
- Availability of the Online Platform
- Currently only 11 members and 11 partners, around half very inactive

#### Means of verification

- **Baseline 2018**

---
implementing, coordinating and scaling up the current local and national commons recognition and support initiatives at supranational and EMENA level

| Number of stakeholders informed/included in a dialog process | Stakeholders of at least 15 EMENA countries involved in at least one of the CBI activities | Activity reports | No available information so far |
| Number of common supranational simultaneous initiatives promoted/participated by the CBI Commons Working Group | A minimum of 5 common initiatives supported at supranational level by several of the CBI members and partners | Activity reports, press releases, proceeding, minutes, etc. | Very few or no activities at EMENA level on the commons |
| Implementation level of the CBI on Commons in EMENA | On time implementation of the activities available on the Online Digital Platform | Activity reports | Currently CBI members have only very punctual info on this |
| Number of initiatives of lobbying and funding initiatives (including research, advocacy, etc.) achieved at all levels | At least 5 initiatives of lobbying/funding at supranational level involving several Commons CBI members | Activity reports, written proposals, etc. | No available information so far |

(i) Changes in agendas of change makers (narrative shifts) catalysed by your action
Increase of the initiatives for the adequate recognition and support of commons and common land rights among the stakeholders and target audiences at national and international level

<p>| Level of achievement of an EMENA common vision on what the commons are with special regard to the communities’ perspective | Document on English, Spanish and French on the EMENA common vision on commons (including Common Land Rights and Common Governance Systems) | Specific document online (e.g. pdf on the Commons CBI online platform) | No available information so far |
| Number of networking activities and peer to peer exchanges among communities governing commons and other relevant stakeholders (e.g. volunteering and tourism initiatives) | At least 1 event at EMENA level focused on peer to peer exchange and networking among communities, CBI members, partners and other relevant stakeholders | Proceedings and other outcomes (action plan, proposals, etc.) from the event | No available information so far |
| CBI Communication Plan document disseminated and used among CBI members, partners and other relevant actors (communities, policy makers, etc.) | All CBI members and main partners follows a coordinated common CBI Communication Strategy | Members reports on the CBI communication impact | A coordinated communication strategies among the CBI partner is absent |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Objectives</th>
<th>Connect</th>
<th>Mobilise</th>
<th>Influence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expected tangible Results/ Outputs</td>
<td>Enhance and consolidate the communication and networking on the EMENA working group on Commons and Common Land Rights</td>
<td>CBI members and partners with adequate tools and capacities</td>
<td>CBI members have a representative (sectorial &amp; geographical) demonstrative cases of commons in EMENA, focusing on their values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Strategic Objectives</strong></td>
<td><strong>Connect</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mobilise</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Categorised by: Connect, Mobilise, Influence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Expected tangible Results/ Outputs</td>
<td>(few samples below)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Indicators</strong></td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Online Platform created and functional</td>
<td>1 online platform fully functional</td>
<td>1 online platform fully functional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contents and use of the Digital EMENA commons online platform</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Capacity building / learning/ educational tools available online on the Digital Platform in English, Spanish and French</td>
<td>Number of capacity building and educational resources and tools on common land rights provided at EMENA level</td>
<td>At least 2 learning resources / tools on commons available in the CBI digital platform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CBI Commons Strategy yearly updated (implementation status, new priorities, etc.)</td>
<td>Number of demonstrative examples of the values of the commons online in the digital platform (e.g. including examples on reducing the pressure on commons, provision of values and services, environmental contribution of commons, etc.)</td>
<td>-5 demonstrative cases online of 5 EMENA countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CBI Commons strategy updated (document available online)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Baseline 2018**

- Currently it does not exist an Online Platform level on Common Land Rights at EMENA, European, Middle East or North Africa level.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Influence</th>
<th>Policy Brief on EU Common Agricultural Policy and common land rights</th>
<th>Number of policy briefs: e.g. Policy Brief on EU Common Agricultural Policy and common land rights</th>
<th>1 draft of the policy brief</th>
<th>1 final version online</th>
<th>Pdf format policy brief on EU Common Agricultural Policy and common land rights</th>
<th>We have no information about any policy brief focused on Common Land Rights</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Influence EU Common Agricultural Policy as the main policy affecting commons at EU level</td>
<td>Supporting document at EMENA level on common land rights policy</td>
<td>Supporting document at EMENA level on common land rights policy (e.g. basic guidelines for policies and politicians on commons, guidelines/good practices on local mapping and planning on common land and other common governed natural resources, etc.)</td>
<td>1 draft</td>
<td>1 final version online</td>
<td>Supporting document available online</td>
<td>As far as we know this documents does not exist yet at EMENA level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Objective</td>
<td>Actions for 2018 budget</td>
<td>Indicator</td>
<td>Deadline</td>
<td>Means of verification</td>
<td>Current baseline</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Connect**         | **1.1- Design and implementation of the Digital EMENA commons Online Platform** | The Digital EMENA Commons Platform is online and fully functional | • Basic design available for members revision before 28th February 2019  
• Fully functional before the 31st March 2019 | Platform accessible online | Currently there is only an excel incomplete directory of commons at European level |
|                     | **1.2- Meeting for the CBI Commons Strategy yearly update (implementation status, new priorities, etc.)** | The yearly workshop for updating the CBI EMENA Commons Strategy is held | • The workshop is held before the 31st March 2019 | Workshop minutes and CBI members attendance signature | There is still the need for discuss collaboration, report on progress, attract new partners, link to other members' interests, establish members commitments for implement the strategy and plan for further phases |
| **Mobilize**        | **1.3- Policy Brief on EU Common Agricultural Policy and common land rights** | The final version of the EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Policy Brief is available online and has been widely distributed | • The final version of the Policy Brief is available online before the 31st March 2019 | Policy Brief final version available online | Current CAP is detrimental for commons |
| **Influence**       | **1.3- Policy Brief on EU Common Agricultural Policy and common land rights** | The final version of the EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Policy Brief is available online and has been widely distributed | • The final version of the Policy Brief is available online before the 31st March 2019 | Policy Brief final version available online | Current CAP is detrimental for commons |
Learning as a key strategic component: Learning is expected to play an important role in any initiative. How do you envisage learning to happen within the scope of the Initiative? Through working groups? Through setting up of mechanisms for horizontal learning? Through pilot testing/documenting good practices? How will you communicate your progress? Do you have a Communication plan? Please describe it using the format attached.

Most of these CBI activities are focused specifically on learning and communicating (see examples further below), this is so due to the traditionally local scope of most of the work done so far for the recognition and support of Commons and Common Land Rights in the EMENA region. As this situation has been identified in several occasions as one of the threats for common governance systems of natural resources, to learn from the communities governing commons and from the different CBI members working with them is a crucial component of these CBI goals. This will include not only to gather basic information (including demonstrative cases), but to implement peer to peer learning activities and develop specific learning tools coming from the mutual learning processes implemented, making all the stages of this learning process available to the members, partners and other relevant actors (including general public), e.g. through an Online Platform. Following this approach, the goals and activities proposed in this CBI can be classified as follows:

Gathering and documenting (including multimedia) demonstrative cases and case studies information: to support Common Land Rights it is very important to help actors to understand what commons are, which values they have and how they deliver social, economic and environmental services to the society. We mostly focus these activities through documenting demonstrative cases as the main tool for learning and communication. Related targets include:

- 1.3- “Produce a policy brief with clear arguments and examples”.
- 1.4- “Provide examples on the values of the commons”.
- 2.1- “Document cases of communities and actions providing values and services”.
- 2.2- “Make the demonstrative cases available to the public”.
- 2.10- “Study and explore the overlaps between N2000 Network and the commons”.
- 4.2- “Compile cases and examples for sharing (e.g. ecomuseums, etc.)”.

Sharing knowledge and experience on Common Land Rights among CBI members, partners and other relevant stakeholders: up to now there has been no or very little communication and horizontal learning among different actors related to Common Land Rights. This lack of mutual learning and communication includes insufficient communication among countries and actors throughout EMENA and little communication and exchanges among sectors related to common governance of natural resources (fishing and shell-gathering, forestry, watering, pastoral, hunting, spiritual and agricultural commons). We focus the activities related to these needs by horizontal learning, exchanges both among communities governing commons, CBI members and partners and other actors, in order to share tools, experiences and solutions, very often based on demonstrative cases. Related targets include:

- 2.3- “Define what commons are from the communities’ perspective”.
- 2.6- “Platform on initiatives & tools on the commons”.
- 2.11- “Develop and support tourist experience on the commons”.
- 3.4- “Sharing examples and knowledge on reducing pressure on the commons”.
- 3.6- “Promote more dialogue and information among local stakeholders”.
- 3.7- “Educate on the commons”.
- 3.9- “Promote capacity building and self-sustainability”.
- 4.3- “Networking activities among communities”.
- 4.5- “Learning projects and tools involving communities and academia”.
- 4.6- “Biocultural protocols, peer to peer exchanges and training”.
Develop key communication tools to enhance and facilitate the CBI goals: For learning and communicating effectively we plan to develop specific communication tools and materials with demonstrated efficiency for achieving a relevant impact. Related tools include:

- 2.4- “Basic guidelines for policies and politicians on commons”.
- 2.8- “Training materials on common rights, rules and responsibilities”.
- 2.9- “MOOC and other online tools”.
- 4.1- “Role playing games on commons as educational tools for community building”.

**CBI Communication Plan**

A communications plan will help define the direction and focus of the CBI’s communications efforts so that it can support in achieving the group’s overall goal. Please use this template as a guide in developing your plan, making sure that the objectives are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and time-bound. For any feedback/support please contact a.vonanrep@landcoalition.org or the communication specialist in your Regional Coordination Unit.

Currently there are no constant and sound coordinated efforts among the CBI members regarding Communication activities. A Communication Plan for the CBI on Commons and Common Land Rights in EMENA is one of the most urgent and crucial needs of this Working Group, nonetheless, this will require an additional coordinating effort among the CBI members and partners, in one hand, to work on define basic common approaches and concepts (e.g. target 2.3 says: “Define what commons are from the communities’ perspective”) and, additionally, to adequately participate all relevant CBI members in the design of such a relevant document.

To achieve all this in an open and bottom-up process, we have included the preparation of the Communication Plan as one of the activities foreseen for 2019, and will be provided as output for the activities of that year.

**SUSTAINABILITY AND RESOURCE MOBILISATION (2 PAGES MAX)**

ILC support is catalytic for creating a space at regional/global thematic level for multi-stakeholder land governance. The typology of ILC support may change along the process. Please describe the sustainability of the action, the potential for innovation, replication or upscaling.

Considering the above, please provide a budget for the action and describe the CBI resource mobilisation strategy to be undertaken.

Common and Common Land Rights is an emerging topic that is rapidly gaining relevance at global and regional level. Most of the CBI members and partners have started already (mostly quite recently) to mobilize resources for implementing their own agendas on supporting and recognizing Common Land Rights in their context. Taken this into account we can expect for the near future a relevant capacity from the CBI member to co-fund the activities programmed in this CBI.

Along with the ILC co-financing to implement this CBI, and along with the support of this EMENA common strategy we expect to increase our collective capacity for access to budget and other resources. Our approach on the subject is that for each of the target identified at least one CBI member or partner must be identified as focal organization before starting to implement the activities related to this target. This focal organization should be in charge of mobilizing the co-financing for the resources needed, with the support of other CBI members, partners and other actors.