

The Fourth Conference on National Dialogues, 11—12 June 2019  
The House of the Estates, Helsinki

## Land rights in peace negotiations: The key to sustainable peace and natural resources management

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### Objective of the session

The aim of this session is to assess the processes for inclusion of land issues in conflict analysis and resolution mechanisms including development and implementation of peace agreements. The session objective is to identify the land related grievances as base causes for the conflict, which mostly relate to agriculture, indigenous land rights, forestry and other natural resources. It will also examine best approaches, challenges and lessons learnt in the inclusion of land issues in conflict analysis and negotiation of peace agreements. In addition, it will review national, regional and or global frameworks and processes that leverage land and conflict efforts.

The session will feature experiences from several countries including Colombia and Myanmar. At the end of the session, participants will have better understanding of key land and natural resource issues linked to conflict, practical approaches for integration of land in conflict analysis and resolution including negotiation and development of peace agreements.

### Background

The link between land and conflict has increasingly gained attention at national and global level. Despite limited data and statistics, studies and literature have increasingly profiled land and natural resource rights as a source of conflict and key ingredient for sustainable peace and stability. SDG16 underscore the importance of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development. Rights to land and natural resources for local communities and investors is a key contributing factor to peace and stability. Yet only 15% of peace agreements have included a land solution. The agreements including land solution have resulted in long lasting peace and stability.

### Key questions

- Can peace agreements succeed without land solutions: is property and resource division always a key aspect of the overall conflict?
- What are the desirable methods and process in negotiating land issues?
- What can be done to increase the technical knowledge of land management in National Dialogue Processes

**Composition of the session**

- Ms SiuSue Mark (PhD), Land & Natural Resources Advisor, Joint Peace Fund
- Ms Everlyne Nairesiae, Global Land Indicator Initiative (GLII) Coordinator, Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), UN Habitat
- Dr Andrés García Trujillo, Researcher, the Institute for Integrated Transitions
- *Moderator: Mr Sami Frestadius, Advisor for Just Peace, Felm*

