

15th International LANDNET Workshop

Middelburg, Netherlands

5-7 June 2024



Organized in cooperation with:



Concept Note
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Since 2002, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia has organized 22 annual regional workshops on land tenure topics such as land consolidation, land banking, state land management, land abandonment and land market development. Since 2010, the technical network is known as LANDNET. In September 2023, more than 100 participants from 30 countries participated in the 14th International LANDNET workshop organized in Istanbul, Türkiye.

The 15th International LANDNET workshop will take place in a physical format from 5 to 7 June 2024 in Middelburg, the Netherlands, at the House of the Province of Zeeland. The workshop is co-organized in partnership with Kadaster and the Province of Zeeland.

The objectives of this year's LANDNET workshop are to:

- Commemorate 100 years of land consolidation in Europe;
- Learn from land consolidation experiences in the Netherlands; and
- Present and discuss how multi-purpose land consolidation can support the implementation of public projects related to climate change adaptation and mitigation, nature restoration, improving biodiversity and environmental conditions.

The workshop will take place over two and a half days. On the first day, the main focus will be on land consolidation and challenges in land use. On the second day, the focus will be on commemorating 100 years of land consolidation in Europe, taking stock and looking forward. The final half day will focus on multi-purpose land consolidation.

The workshop language is English with translation to Russian.

A maximum of 100 people can participate in the workshop. In the event, that more than 100 people register, the order of registration will determine participation.

The workshop can be followed virtually by clicking on the registration link below. After registering, you will receive an email with a Zoom link.

https://fao.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_D2cJo9swRuCE24GhO5ud4w



100 years of land consolidation in Europe

Land consolidation started in many countries in Western and Central Europe in the years after the First World War ended in 1918. In 1923, Poland adopted its first Land Consolidation Law, followed by Denmark and the Netherlands in 1924. Shortly after, Estonia adopted its own legislation on land consolidation.

After now a century of experiences with land consolidation in Europe, it is time to commemorate, take stock and based on the lessons learned discuss the way forward taking into account today's challenges.

Global issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, land degradation and declining water quality affect us all. It is imperative to give nature space to recover and strengthen, improve water and soil quality, and intensify efforts to combat climate change. The state of food security and quality necessitates a transformation of the local agri-food systems towards a more sustainable use of natural resources. This demands a holistic approach, emphasizing cross-sectoral perspectives, international collaboration, and human-centricity. By sharing good practices and experiences, we can collectively address these challenges.

The impacts of climate change in the Netherlands, such as the threat of flooding, are evident around us. What lessons can we learn from history? During the Second World War in 1944, a significant portion of the Province of Zeeland was submerged under saltwater as a result of the bombing by the Allies to ensure safe passage for ships to the port of Antwerp. This resulted in the loss of fertile agricultural land. Special legislation was made for the island of van Walcheren after the War to recover the land and the farms and to make landscape plans part of the mandatory land consolidation plan. Subsequently, in 1953, a severe storm surge led to extensive flooding in the Southwest of the Netherlands, Northwest Belgium, overwhelming many sea dikes. The delta landscape had to be redesigned again, creating an entirely new landscape. The experiences from that period serve nowadays as a significant source of inspiration as we once again transform rural areas due to global challenges like rising sea levels, biodiversity loss, unsustainable land use and land degradation.

We invite you to join us in exploring how land consolidation after a century of implementation can be part of the solution to the multiple crises that we face. How do we tackle these challenges? What are good practices?



Workshop agenda

Wednesday, 5 June 2024 <i>Theme of the day: Land consolidation in the Netherlands</i>	
08:15 – 08:55	Registration of participants
Session 1: Opening Moderator: Mr Jan Spijkerboer, Dutch Kadaster	
09:00 – 09:10	Welcome by Mr Elmar Francken, Provincial Secretary and CEO of the Province of Zeeland
09:10 – 09:20	Welcome by Mr Johan Osinga, Director General, Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality of the Netherlands
09:20 – 09:30	Welcome by Ms Cora Smelik, Board of Directors, Dutch Kadaster
09:30 – 09:40	Welcome by Mr Morten Hartvigsen, FAO
09:40 – 09:50	Overview of the programme and setting the scene for the workshop by Mr Jan Spijkerboer, Dutch Kadaster
09:50 – 10:20	<i>Coffee & Tea Break</i>
Session 2: Introduction of land consolidation in the Netherlands Moderator: Mr Johan Wedts de Swart, Province of Zeeland	
10:20 – 10:40	Geopark Schelde Delta - An introduction by Mr Jean-Marie Buijs, Associate Lecturer, HZ University of Applied Sciences
10:40 – 11:00	Land consolidation in the Netherlands and the Province of Zeeland by Mr Johan Heinen, Legal Advisor, Dutch Kadaster
11:00 – 11:30	Introduction to landscape plans in land consolidation projects by Dr Henk van Blerck and introduction game "Samenspel"
11:30 – 12:00	Q&A and discussion
12:00 – 13:15	<i>Lunch hosted by the Province of Zeeland</i>
Session 3: Interactive workshop on land consolidation and landscapes, including field visit Moderator: Dr Henk van Blerck	
13:15 – 14:40	"Samenspel" – Interactive game where groups prepare the best possible Land Consolidation Plan
14:40 – 14:50	"Samenspel" debrief
14:50 – 15:00	Group photo
15:00 – 18:30	Field visit by bus around Walcheren - showcase of a landscape plan and visit to two farms
18:30 – 21:30	<i>Common dinner at Pier 7 in Vlissingen, hosted by Kadaster</i>

Thursday, 6 June 2024

Theme of the day: 100 years of land consolidation in Europe

Session 4a: 100 years of land consolidation in Europe – overview and country cases

Moderator: Prof Evelin Jürgenson, Estonian University of Life Sciences

09:00 – 09:30	Taking stock and looking forward after a century of land consolidation in Europe by Mr Morten Hartvigsen, FAO
09:30 – 09:50	Agricultural law and land consolidation in Germany by Prof Antje Tölle, Berlin School of Economics and Law
09:50 – 10:10	The evolution and adaptation of land consolidation: from an agricultural to a multi-purpose instrument by Prof Jeroen Rheinfeld, University of Groningen
10:10 – 10:30	Q&A and discussion
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee & tea break</i>
Session 4b: 100 years of land consolidation in Europe – country cases (continued)	
Moderator: Prof Jeroen Rheinfeld, University of Groningen	
11:00 – 11:20	Overview of land consolidation in Poland by Prof Jaroslaw Janus, University of Agriculture in Krakow
11:20 – 11:40	Experiences with land consolidation in Vlaanderen (Belgium) by Ms Griet Celen, Flemish Land Agency
11:40 – 12:00	The legal framework of land consolidation in Estonia 1918-1940 and today by Ms Triinu Rennu, University of Tartu
12:00 – 12:20	Q&A and discussion
12:20 – 13:30	<i>Lunch hosted by the Province of Zeeland</i>
Session 5: What have we learned? The way forward for land consolidation in Europe	
Moderator: Mr Jan Spijkerboer, Dutch Kadaster	
13:30 – 13:50	The participatory and environmental approach to land consolidation in France by Mr Loïc Jegouzo, Deputy Head of the Studies, Monitoring and Foresight Department, FNSafer; and Mr Patrick Maury, Associate Surveyor-Expert, National Union for land consolidation and environmental development (SAVE)
13:50 – 14:10	Overview of land consolidation and new land development instruments in Galicia by Mr Quico Ónega López, Project Manager - Land Lab, Campus Terra - University of Santiago de Compostela
14:10 – 14:30	Land consolidation in Georgia – preconditions and plans by Gizo Chelidze, Head of the Hydro-melioration and Land Management Department, Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia; and Ms Elene Grigolia, Project Manager, National Agency of Public Registry
14:30 – 14:50	Q&A and discussion
14:50 – 15:00	Introduction and instructions for the field visit by Mr Jan Spijkerboer, Dutch Kadaster
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee & tea break</i>
Session 6: Field visit	
15:30 – 17:30	Field visit: Historic walk through the City of Middelburg
17:30 – 21:00	<i>Dinner (self-organized and at own expense)</i>



Friday, 7 June 2024

Theme of the day: Multi-purpose land consolidation

Session 7: Multi-purpose land consolidation – challenges and opportunities

Moderator: Mr Morten Hartvigsen, FAO

09:00 – 09:20	Integrated area-oriented approach to land consolidation and the role of Kadaster by Dr Sanne Holtslag-Broekhof, Dutch Kadaster
09:20 – 09:40	Land consolidation in Denmark – towards a multi-purpose approach by Mr Uffe Jimenez Ravn-Christensen, Team Manager, and Mr Jacob Busch, Land Consolidation Planner, Land Consolidation Office, Ministry for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries of Denmark
09:40 – 10:00	Cross border land consolidation by Prof Walter Timo de Vries, Technical University of Munich
10:00 – 10:30	Moderated panel discussion with the presenters
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee & Tea Break</i>
Session 8: Wrap up and closing of the workshop	
Moderator: Mr Bradley Paterson, FAO	
11:00 – 11:15	Transforming Land Use in Ukraine: Land Consolidation as Strategy for Agricultural Resilience and Recovery by Mr Taras Ievsiukov, Dean of the Faculty of Land Management, National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine; and Mr Andrii Martyn, Senior Project Manager, Reforms Delivery Office of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine
11:15 – 11:30	Planned FAO support to land consolidation in the region by Mr Maxim Gorgan, FAO
11:30 – 11:45	Q&A and discussion
11:45 – 12:00	Closing of the workshop by Prof Jeroen Rheinfeld, University of Groningen; Mr Jan Spijkerboer, Dutch Kadaster; Mr Johan Wedts de Swart, Province of Zeeland; and Mr Morten Hartvigsen, FAO
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch hosted by the Province of Zeeland and departure</i>

