

# 15<sup>th</sup> International LANDNET Workshop

Middelburg, Netherlands

5-7 June 2024



Draft

Organized in cooperation with:



**Concept Note**  
**15<sup>th</sup> International LANDNET workshop**  
**Middelburg, Netherlands**  
**5-7 June 2024**

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 14<sup>th</sup> International LANDNET workshop organized in Istanbul, Türkiye.

The 15<sup>th</sup> 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 event will also be streamed via YouTube.

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.



## 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?



## Preliminary workshop agenda

<b>Wednesday, 5 June 2024</b>	
<i>Theme of the day: Land consolidation in the Netherlands</i>	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration of participants
<b>Session 1: Opening</b>	
Moderator: Morten Hartvigsen, FAO	
09:00 – 09:10	Welcome by Mr A.R.M Vael, Council of the Province of Zeeland (TBC)
09:10 – 09:20	Welcome by Mr Morten Hartvigsen, FAO
09:20 – 09:30	Introduction and setting the scene for the workshop by Morten Hartvigsen, FAO
09:30 – 10:00	<i>Coffee &amp; Tea Break</i>
<b>Session 2: Introduction of land consolidation in the Netherlands</b>	
Moderator:	
10:00 – 10:20	Geopark Schelde Delta - An introduction by Walter Jonkers, Province of Zeeland
10:20 – 10:40	Land consolidation in the Netherlands (speaker TBD)
10:40 – 11:00	Land consolidation in the Province of Zeeland (speaker TBD)
11:00 – 11:20	<i>Timeslot open for proposals</i>
11:20 – 11:40	<i>Timeslot open for proposals</i>
11:40 – 12:00	Q&A and discussion
12:00 – 12:15	Group photo
12:15 – 13:30	<i>Lunch hosted by the Province of Zeeland</i>
<b>Session 3: Interactive workshop on land consolidation and landscapes, including field visit</b>	
Moderator:	
13:30 – 14:00	Introducing landscape plans in land consolidation, and instructions for the “Samenspel” interactive game by Dr. ing. H.J.J.C.M (Henk) van Blerck
14:00 – 15:30	“Samenspel” – Interactive game where groups prepare the best possible Land Consolidation Plan
15:30 – 19:00	Field visit by bus to Walcheren Island - showcase of a landscape plan and visit to two farms
19:00 – 21:30	<b>Common dinner hosted by Kadaster</b>



## 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. Mr. J.W.A. Rheinfeld, University of Groningen

09:00 – 09:30	Taking stock and looking forward after a century of land consolidation in Europe by Morten Hartvigsen, FAO
09:30 – 10:00	Agricultural law and land consolidation in Germany by Prof. Dr. A. (Antje) Tölle, Berlin School of Economics and Law
10:00 – 10:30	Q&A and discussion
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee &amp; tea break</i>

### Session 4b: 100 years of land consolidation in Europe – country cases (continued)

Moderator: Prof. Mr. J.W.A. Rheinfeld, University of Groningen

11:00 – 11:20	Overview of land consolidation in Poland (speaker TBD)
11:20 – 11:40	Overview of land consolidation in Denmark (speaker TBD)
11:40 – 12:00	Land consolidation in Estonia (speaker TBD)
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 and beyond

Moderator: Jan Spijkerboer, Dutch Kadaster

13:30 – 13:50	<i>Timeslot open for proposals</i>
13:50 – 14:10	<i>Timeslot open for proposals</i>
14:10 – 14:30	<i>Timeslot open for proposals</i>
14:30 – 15:00	Q&A and panel discussion
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee &amp; tea break</i>

### Session 6: Field visit

Moderator: Dr. Tobias van Gent, University College Roosevelt

15:30 – 15:45	Introduction and history of the Delta area and its cities, and instructions for the field visit by Dr Tobias van Gent, University College Roosevelt
15:45 – 17:30	Field visit by i) bicycle around Walcheren or ii) City of Middelburg on foot



## Friday, 7 June 2024

*Theme of the day: Multi-purpose land consolidation*

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

Moderator:

09:00 – 09:20	Integrated area-oriented approach to land consolidation and the role of Kadaster (speaker TBD)
09:20 – 09:40	Land consolidation experiences in Flanders (Belgium) by Griet Celen, Flemish Land Agency
09:40 – 10:00	Cross border land consolidation - An Utopia or reality (speaker TBD)
10:00 – 10:15	Planned FAO support to land consolidation in the region by Maxim Gorgan, FAO
10:15 – 10:30	Q&A and discussion
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee &amp; Tea Break</i>

### Session 8: Land consolidation beyond Europe and closing of the workshop

Moderator: Bradley Paterson, FAO

11:00 – 11:15	<i>Timeslot open for proposals</i>
11:15 – 11:30	<i>Timeslot open for proposals</i>
11:30 – 11:45	<i>Timeslot open for proposals</i>
11:45 – 12:00	Q&A and discussion
12:00 – 12:15	Closing of the workshop
12:15 – 13:30	<i>Lunch and departure</i>