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Farmland
Rural Development
in Urban Landscapes



Republic of Macedonia
Ministry of agriculture, forestry and water economy




Aim

The aim of the LANDNET is to stimulate proper and timely responses to (changing) needs of society regarding land use and land tenure in rural and peri-urban areas. By various activities like studies, collection of knowledge and experiences, exchange and capacity building, innovation of institutional frameworks and implementation approaches is stimulated.




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Scope

The scope is the broad set of institutional requirements needed to facilitate, guide and complement rural land markets. This concerns both the 'hard side' of regulatory / legal frameworks for market functioning like laws of land ownership and leasing, taxation and the 'soft side' like promotional measures, mediation and solving of land use conflicts. Moreover it includes the range of public and public/private interventions to adjust the use and/or the ownership structure of land to the current economic, environmental and social reality.

Interventions often take place as integrated territorial development projects serving different objectives at local, regional and national level, including instruments like land swapping, land consolidation (voluntary or statutory) and land banking. Approaches are 'people oriented' in the sense that they are carefully planned and implemented and contain sufficient opportunity for recourse. LANDNET activities are based on principles laid down in the "Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security"



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Operational objectives

1. Deepen the understanding of the issues that hamper rural land markets and their interrelation in various parts of Europe
2. Exchange knowledge and experience to enhance capacity among its members and to create a broader knowledge base
3. Identify good practice in order to formulate common visions on the main elements needed to come to effective policies
4. Stimulate the establishment and upgrading of regional and national approaches and institutional frameworks
5. Influence upgrading of the national and European policies by joining policy consultations and taking part in public and policy debate
6. Stimulate and facilitate professional training and capacity building in order to create the organisational preconditions for implementation



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Activities

- Organise thematic international workshops focused on knowledge exchange
- Organise study visits focused on new (experimental) applications and approaches
- Study specific themes and country cases
- Contribute to implementation of pilots in different areas of the LANDNET mandate
- Contribute to guidelines and good practice manuals
- Formulate common positions related to new policy developments
- Mobilise and organise the participation in other events or programmes
- Participate in policy debate sessions

incidental

- Facilitate E-discussions and a web forum
- Identify relevant international events and subsidy programmes
- Maintain a webpage (linked to the FAO site and the FARLAND site)
- Issue a yearly newsletter
- Support and maintain an international secretariat
- Compile and maintain a database of experts

structural



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Additional declaration

LANDNET Declaration of 15 November 2012

As a follow-up to the LANDNET Declaration of March 2012, the LANDNET members assembled in Budapest on 15 November 2012, conclude and call upon FAO to establish a Multilateral Trust Fund (MTF) in order to enable interested Governments to provide funding for the implementation of the LANDNET Set-up, as presented and endorsed on 14 November 2012 by the LANDNET.

Attachments and integral part of this declaration:

- LANDNET Set up (endorsed on 14 November 2012)
- Preliminary LANDNET work program for the first 3 year
- Shortlist of proposed topics for the first 3 year program to be implemented under the LANDNET Trust Fund

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Topics incidental activities

1. **Agricultural land market data: information / transparency**
2. **Leasing and crop consolidation for structural improvement**
3. **Land mobility instruments and land abandonment**
4. **Stakeholder involvement**
5. **Integration between agricultural objectives and regional / spatial development objectives**
6. **Country developments (land related policies / instruments)**

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Organisation

FAO REU in Budapest is willing to be the Network Manager and to fulfil a function as Secretariat

Each country (EU / Candidate EU and New Neighbours) appoints a national contact person to ensure linkages with the relevant government organisation.

In each country, the organisations that support the LANDNET will be formalised by registering as LANDNET partner organisation

A small board of high level representatives representing FAO and the members determines the main directions

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A small core team of European experts is created to support the FAO secretariat in the preparation and implementation of content related activities (workshop programs, studies etc.)

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Thank you!

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