



REPUBLIC OF LATVIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Funded / Supported by



немачка
сарадња
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

implemented by



giz

Technische Fachagentur
für Internationale
Kooperationen (TFZ)



Project Funded by
the European Union



FAO
FIAT PANIS

Session 2: From pilot experiences to land consolidation framework: the Latvian experience

Daiga Paršova
daiga.parsova@varam.gov.lv

LANDNET 2014, 23rd - 25th June, Belgrade



REPUBLIC OF LATVIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Funded / Supported by



немачка
сарадња
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

implemented by



giz

Technische Fachagentur
für Internationale
Kooperationen (TFZ)



Project Funded by
the European Union



FAO
FIAT PANIS

The Experience with LC Pilots

- ❖ 1998-1999 pilot in Gārsene, Jēkabpils district:
the improvement of the structure of holdings;
- ❖ 2000-2002 pilot in the Gauja National Park:
the exchange of private and state land in order
to eliminate the private ownership inside the
protected areas.



LANDNET



REPUBLIKA OF LATVIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Funded / Supported by



немачка
сарадња
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

implemented by



giz
Technische Fachagentur
für internationale
Kooperationen



Project Funded by
the European Union




FAO
F A O
F A T P A N T S


Why LC instrument was not introduced

- ❖ The lack of political will
Parliament elections on 5 October 2002
- ❖ Legal difficulties
According to the Law on Forests, the Parliament had to issue a special decision for each case of the acquisition of state forests

- ❖ The lack of institutional memory
- ❖ Too interdisciplinary topic
- ❖ The lack of awareness?
- ❖ Wrong goals?
- ❖ etc.




LANDNET




REPUBLIKA OF LATVIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Funded / Supported by




немачка
сарадња
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT


implemented by



giz
Technische Fachagentur
für internationale
Kooperationen



Project Funded by
the European Union

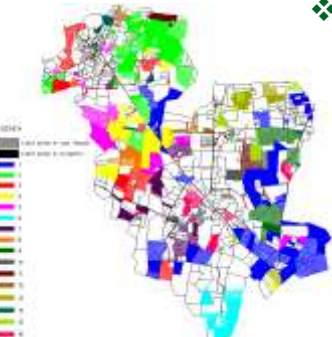


FAO
F A O
F A T P A N T S

The Current Situation (I)

- ❖ Land fragmentation as a result of land reform – many small plots in one holding.
- ❖ Higher production expenses for farms with higher number of smaller land plots.

No. of farms	Total area, ha	Number of land plots
16	4021.3	242
Average	251.3	15

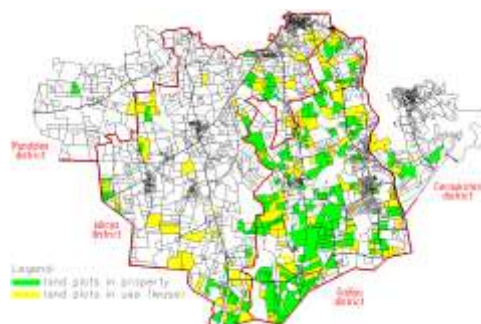


Source of figures: the unpublished research of Dace Platonova, PhD candidate, Latvia University of Agriculture

The Current Situation (II)

- ❖ According to the farmer associations, up to 40% of land managed by agricultural holdings is leased.

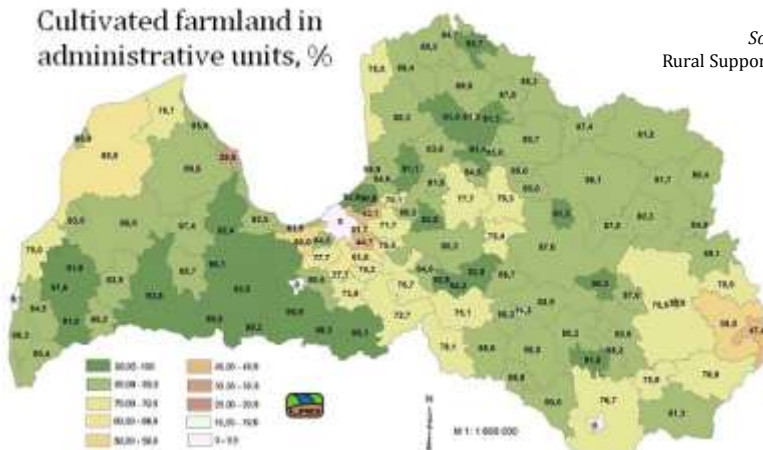
Source of picture:
the unpublished research of
Dace Platonova, PhD candidate,
Latvia University of Agriculture



The Current Situation (III)

Cultivated farmland in
administrative units, %

Source of picture:
Rural Support Service, 2013



The Current Situation (IV)

- ❖ The problems with access to land parcels: legal and physical



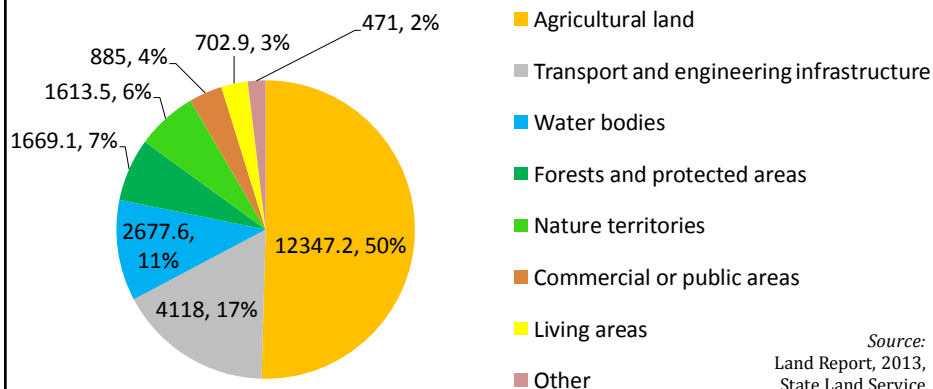
- ❖ Outdated, non-functioning amelioration systems



- ❖ Uncultivated state land

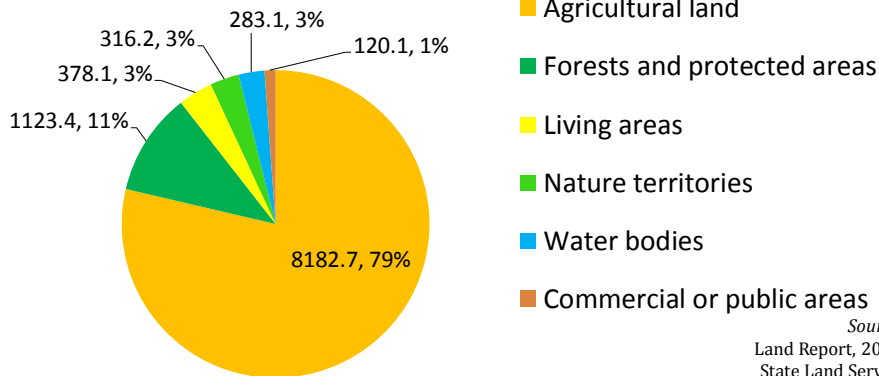
The Reserve Land Fund

- ❖ 24 483 ha (av. size 1,12 ha)



The Land for Completion of the Land Reform

❖ 10 527,4 ha (av. size 2 ha)



Today's challenges

- ❖ What to do with the remaining state land?
- ❖ The end of transition period of the land market on 1 May 2014
- ❖ High fragmentation and comparatively low competitiveness of agricultural holdings
- ❖ Land abandonment



The steps to be taken

- ❖ Introducing the state land fund (for market regulation) managed by state enterprise
- ❖ Introducing local land funds (for LC) managed by local municipalities
- ❖ Land consolidation pilots in 2015/2016 and Land Management Law proposal



LC pilots 2015/2016

- ❖ Organised by the State Land Service
- ❖ Supported by the local municipalities
- ❖ Initiated by individuals, farmers, local authorities etc.
- ❖ LC area set by the State Land Service
- ❖ Related to the adoption of the Land Management Law (~the middle of 2015).

LC pilots 2015/2016

The aims:

- ❖ To identify the most relevant issues
(land fragmentation, access, drainage etc.)
- ❖ To choose the most appropriate legal framework
- ❖ To develop the LC procedure for government regulation
- ❖ To understand the possible complications of the LC process
(legal restrictions, the lack of awareness, high expenses, missing landowners, non-eligible costs etc.)

The Unexplored Topics (I)

- ❖ LC plan:
 - ? a specific land survey project or rather a thematic development planning document
 - ? legally binding or voluntary
- ❖ How strict LC procedure should we introduce:
 - ? To set in the law the main principles or detailed procedure
 - ? To adopt the law and then to have pilots or vice versa

The Unexplored Topics (II)

- ❖ The implementation of LC plans:
 - ? Are there any instruments to favour the implementation of LC plan in certain time limit?
- ❖ The acquisition of the state/municipal land:
 - ? How to favour transparency?
(normally acquisition as a strict, legally set procedure via auction)

It is time for discussion!

Daiga Paršova

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development
Spatial Planning Department, Land Policy Division

+371 66016512

daiga.parsova@varam.gov.lv