

FIG WORKING WEEK 2019

22-26 April, Hanoi, Vietnam

Presented by the FIG Working Week 2019,
April 22-26, 2019 in Hanoi, Vietnam

"Geospatial Information for a Smarter Life
and Environmental Resilience"



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An Analysis of Long-Term Experiences with Land Consolidation Projects and Programs in Europe (9781)

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Purpose of study

- To better understand the breadth and depth of the **internal** perspectives and **experiences** with land consolidation
- To acquire **senior level** experiences, and learn from how experts dealt with difficulties and found solutions
- To synthesize such experiences in order to provide recommendations for:
 - future land consolidation projects
 - When, how and under which conditions to use land consolidation as a land management instrument

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Method – Use of narrated vignettes (personal stories)

- Data collection thorough -> **narrated vignettes**
- Narrated vignettes is best to capture **subjective experiences and views**.
- Narrated vignettes are, simply put, stories generated from a range of personal sources and **personal experiences** (Wilks 2004).
- Vignettes are not necessarily about the issue of land consolidation itself, but they **describe the feelings and associations which the staff members** have once talking about land consolidation

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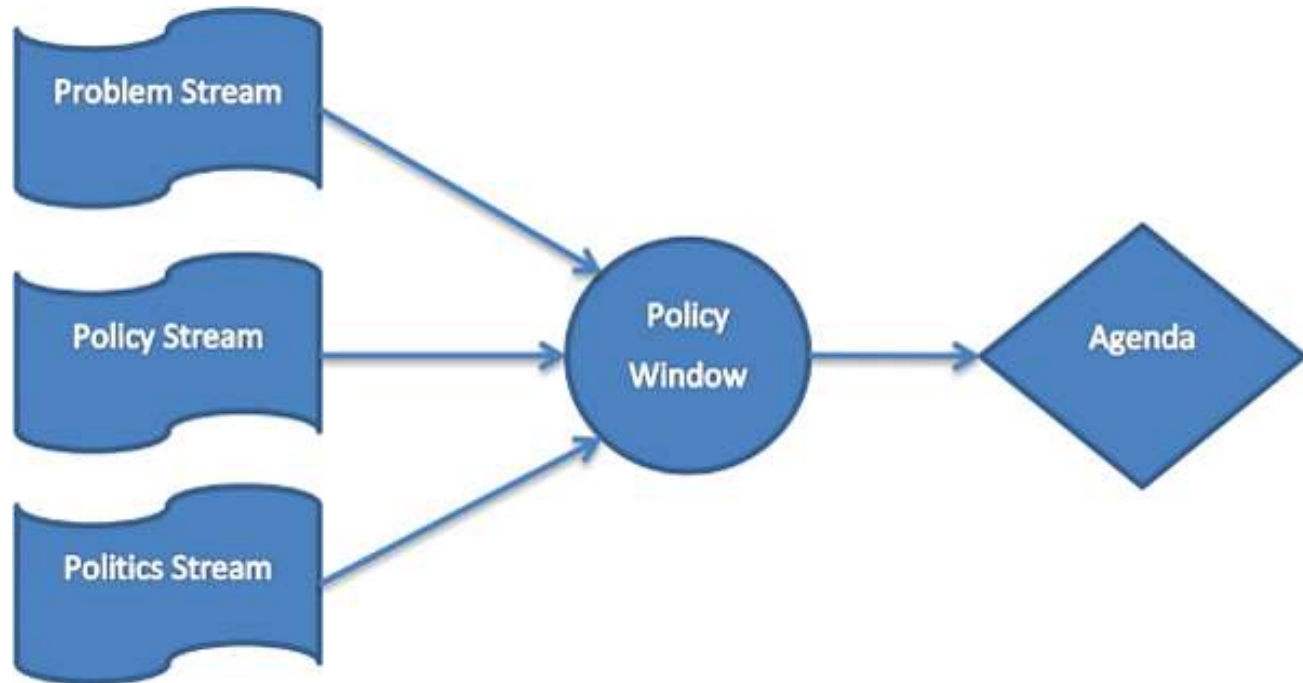
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Analytical framework – 3 streams influence success of adoption and acceptance



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Excerpts from narratives - 1

- It was during these years as a farmer I had a glimpse of what we refer to as “the classical village land consolidation”. The local land surveyor had initiated a land consolidation in our village. In those days, the Ministry of Agriculture had an annual budget for land consolidation.
- I was very young and I had just graduated university, I was working in a cadastral office in the southwestern part of the country, (...) I was fascinated by the fact that so much land could be very well managed, and for sure its productivity could be as high as possible. The only regret of those who harvested the corn was that they did not own that land. I left that institution ...

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Excerpts from narratives -2

- Personally **the project makes me very proud**, as there was a very successful end: despite massive changes of the agricultural structure and a many accompanying technical projects there were only 6 legal objections by the involved parties.
- As a senior officer **I was leading several land consolidation and village renewal procedures** (chair of
- the board). During that period I became also an expert for public planning processes with broad citizen participation (bottom-up) in rural development projects and Agenda 21 activities

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Policy windows arise if:

- Policy windows the LC project **'ignites' further economic development** projects, e.g. new (integrated) rural development (D), recreational areas in a municipality (AU)
 - Start to allow or **increase 'voluntary' (bottom-up) activities**, incl. voluntary LC projects
- In addition, some other external drivers generated policy windows for different kinds of LC projects:
 - A **shift in farming practices** – partly to address environmental protection and biodiversity
 - A **shift in professional focus** (from emphasizing quality of surveying to quality of GI)
 - A **shift in educational focus** (including negotiation / social / entrepreneurial skills alongside technical skills in formal curricula)

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Categories of experiences

1. Active nationwide multipurpose land consolidation procedure working and in action. No large issues with land ownership or land registration. Examples: Germany, Netherlands, Denmark, Austria, Slovenia
2. Active nationwide agricultural land consolidation procedure working and in action. Other land consolidation-goals are also possible. No large issues with land ownership or land registration. Examples: Spain, Finland
3. Nationwide land consolidation procedure in difficulties or ceased. No large issues with land ownership or land registration. Examples: Sweden, Estonia
4. Nationwide land consolidation procedure merging or in action. Large issues with land ownership or land registration. Examples: Macedonia, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Lithuania
5. Nationwide land consolidation procedure in difficulties or ceased. Large issues with land ownership or land registration. Examples: Romania, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary

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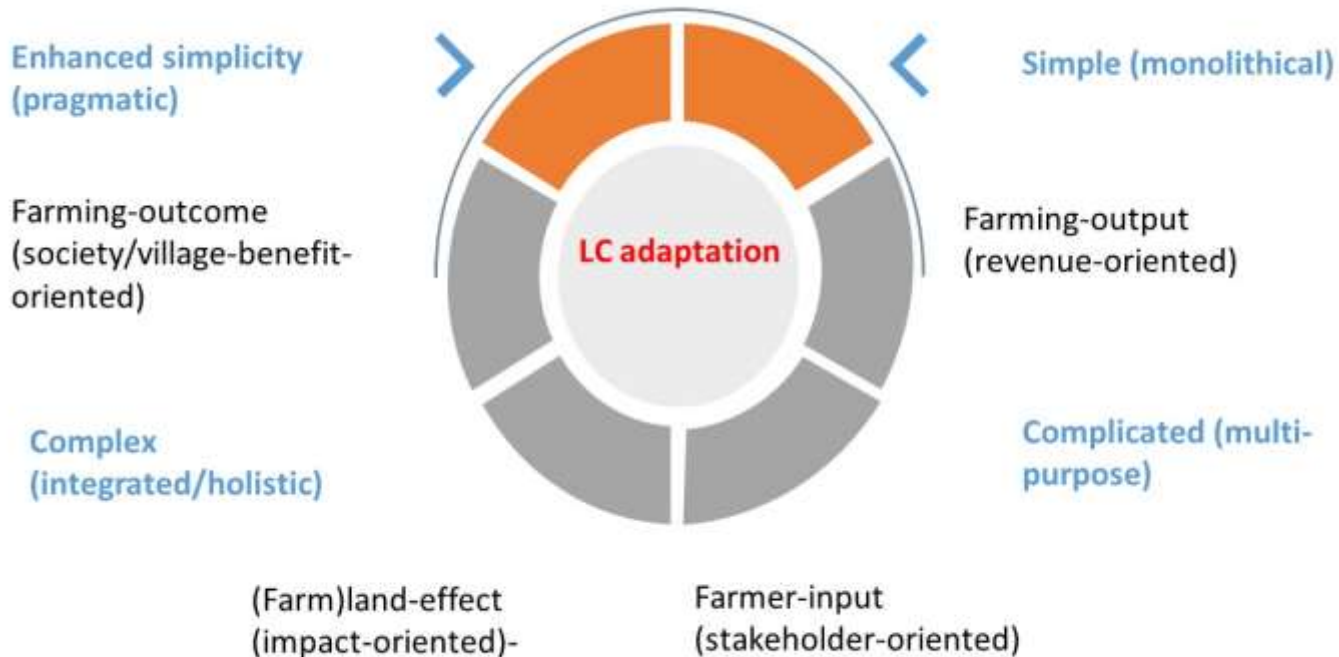
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New lessons / new insights through narratives



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New lessons / new insights through narratives

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Thank you for your attention.

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Additional -data- slides

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Problems associated with

- Persistent **fragmentation**
- Sustainability depends on **efficient** farming systems
- Inheritance **subdivision** (does not stop after LC process)
- Increase of **complexity** and adapting to new rules and adopting new procedures.
- Internal **resistance** (within organisational system; inertia to adapt to new rules; in western Europe there has been more time to adapt and adopt as compared to eastern Europe)
- External resistance (farmers refusing to accept new rules and conditions).

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Policy associated with

- Variation in degree of **stakes** of small and big farmers (smaller farmers thrive on fragmented parts; big farmers thrive with consolidating/merging plots)
- **Influence** of external stakeholders
- Necessity to have a good **start with pilot** and creation of support by stakeholders
- Necessity to be acquainted with **local sensitivities**
- Necessity to be acquainted with negative implications and **connotations of use of certain words**

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Approach

Request to writing a narrative to 30 European countries

20 responses received

- 20 narratives
- 2 countries do not have LC experiences (England, Scotland)
- 3 pending

Received narrative vignettes: Austria, Azerbaijan, Bavaria/Germany, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Hungary, Lithuania, FYR Macedonia, Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine

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