

Identifying Which Human Aspects Play a Crucial Role in Land Consolidation Processes

Walter Timo de Vries (Germany)

Key words: Access to land; Land management; Land readjustment; Spatial planning; land consolidation; integrated land use planning

SUMMARY

Land consolidation is a process which in most countries currently combines defragmentation strategies with social and economic development strategies. Hence, it is no longer a process of physical intervention and optimizing parcel sizes and shapes alone, but it also emphasizes the creation of sustainable opportunities and well-being of people, mostly in rural areas. This paper synthesizes three research endeavours in land consolidation at different levels and scales with the aim to identify the underlying philosophies and human values in the processes. The first research deals with how land consolidation is executed in different parts of Bavaria, Germany. The second research is a comparative study of land consolidation practices and preparations between Bavaria, Germany and the Republic of North Macedonia. The third research is a European-wide comparison on how land consolidation practitioners experienced land consolidation. In the world of praxis, land consolidation often relies on having inter-personal, social and communication skills. These skills can be derived and observed directly through interviews but also through obtaining stories in the form of narrative vignettes from land consolidators. Indirectly it is possible to find values and beliefs in the use of language, symbols and metaphors in written texts, such as strategy and planning reports. By combining the data derived from these data collecting strategies it is possible to interpret and synthesize the common elements in how human aspects are formulated and practiced across the different kind of land consolidation practices. The synthesis derives 8 fundamental human aspects which people consider important in the execution of land consolidation: human identity, human values, human sentiments, human recognition, human dignity, human variation, human relations, and human choices. All of these aspects carry specific characteristics and can also be traced in other human scientific literature. It is however in land consolidation that these aspects come together and are often consolidated. It is furthermore important to realise that many of these aspects are interrelated in the processes and outcomes, but not in their fundamental origin and conception. Hence, understanding, measuring and interpreting each of these aspects is

Identifying Which Human Aspects Play a Crucial Role in Land Consolidation Processes (10412)
Walter Timo de Vries (Germany)

FIG Working Week 2020
Smart surveyors for land and water management
Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 10–14 May 2020

relevant to understand how the specific steps in land consolidation and other division, allocation and re-distribution processes are carried out. Further research is therefore recommended in specifically studying each of the human aspects with different kinds of methodologies.

Identifying Which Human Aspects Play a Crucial Role in Land Consolidation Processes (10412)
Walter Timo de Vries (Germany)

FIG Working Week 2020
Smart surveyors for land and water management
Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 10–14 May 2020