





# New Land Management Law for Providing a Sustainable Land Management in the Republic of Latvia

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## Content of the presentation

- Brief historical background
- The scope of a sustainable land management system (SLMS)
- The framework of Land Management Law (LML)
- Land Policy provisions
- The Concept of the LML
- Expected positive effects
- Concluding remarks

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## Historical background

Restoration of independence of the Republic of Latvia

1990

1992

1993

1994

2003

2008

2010

2010

2012

Land reform practically started

First registration of property rights in Land Book

Regulations on spatial development planning came into force

Conception of Land Management Law accepted


Land Policy Guidelines adopted

Draft of Law on Land Management

All territory is covered by spatial development plans at municipal level

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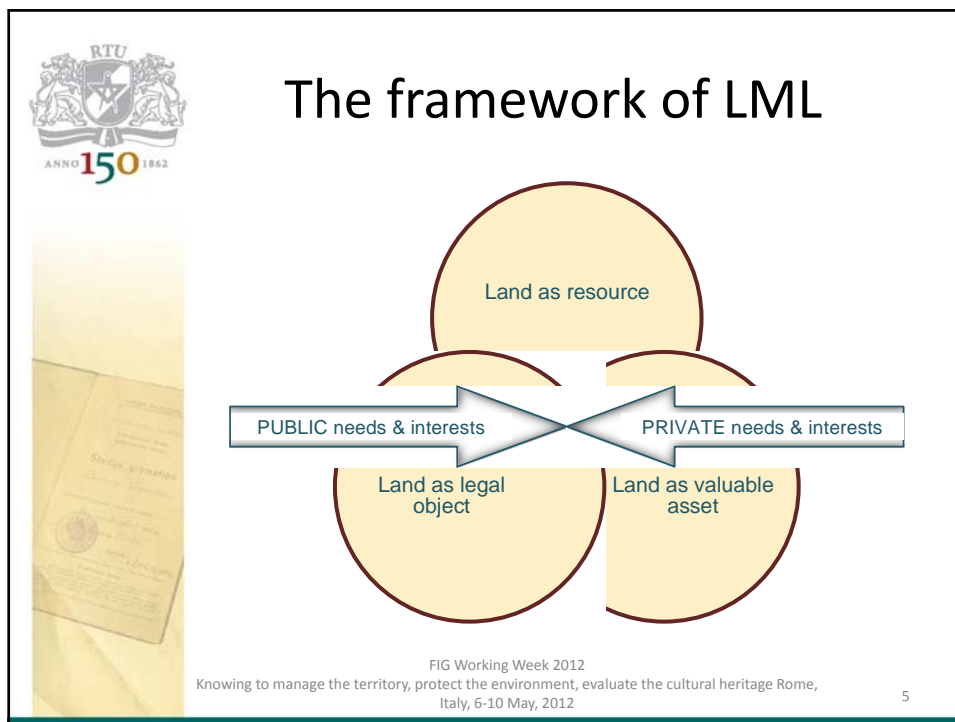


## Law in the light of SLMS

***Sustainable Land Management System – a set of functionally compatible elements, within the scope of which land use in the best and most efficient way is promoted, balancing the economic, social and ecological interests of legal possessors of land, local inhabitants and municipality, region and the whole State in land use issues***

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The slide is titled 'Land Policy provisions'. It features the RTU logo and 'ANNO 150 1862' on the left. The background on the left shows a surveying instrument. The main content is a list of bullet points.

## Land Policy provisions

- *'Land ownership-land value-land use'* (Dale, McLaughlin, 1999)
- **Goal:** *'providing sustainable usage of land as unique natural resource'*
- **Objectives:**
  - providing a rational and *efficient land use*, considering provisions of the land protection
  - developing an *efficient and stable legal, informative and economic environment* for promoting the sustainable land use

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## The Concept of the LML

- **Land use**
  - binding land-use principles
  - rights and obligations of the land users
  - land use for the public purposes
  - management of the public land (municipal and State lands)
  - creation of the land reserve fund
- **Land protection**
  - guidelines and regulations on development of the brownfield classification
  - potential levels and territories of risks regarding to soil degradation
  - necessary measures to restore identified degraded areas
  - land quality evaluation procedures, criteria and monitoring
- **Land administration and monitoring**
  - maintenance of Land Review
  - development of the land information infrastructure

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## Expected positive effects

- Preservation, rational use and renewability of natural resources
- Better management of unused agricultural lands
- Prevention of uncontrolled urban sprawl and illegal building
- Promotion of building in qualitative and properly arranged environment
- Improving spatial planning system and implementation of landscape policy
- Development of a motivation system for efficient land use
- Conclusion of the land reform and arrangement of the property rights
- Simplification of property registration procedures
- Improving efficiency of legal system and ensuring the proportionality between interests of landowners and local society – co-operation instead prohibition
- Improvement of a compensation system for ownership restriction and ownership expropriation
- Development of an efficient land information system for provision of complete and actual land related data
- Improvement of application of financial instruments for the purpose of land-use development

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## Conclusions (1)

- Ensuring sustainable land management through **clearly set and mutually known competences** among involved actors
- First legislative act addressing the issue of land protection that imposes certain obligations to the **all actors** involved in the land management process
- Formation of necessary preconditions to use the land in the best and most efficient way through **well thought implementation of spatial development plans**
- According to the regulatory framework of the LML, several **regulations will follow**

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## Conclusions (2)

- Land use-related regulations for **diminishing** the negative land use traditions **and promoting** a sustainable land management
- The key aspects in **implementation** of binding provisions:
  - land use administration and monitoring
  - well-coordinated collaboration among involved parties
  - multifunctional **analysis of land use results** based on selected criteria and indicator sets
- **Land-use efficiency** measures prescribed by the Land Policy objectives
- Development of the LML involve **Rights-Restrictions-Responsibilities concept** as base for **enforcement** of the new regulations

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# Thank you for your attention!

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