



MICRO-CREDENTIAL

LAND MANAGEMENT IN CENTRAL ASIA

1.- Introduction to Land Resources and Land Management

Objectives of Land Resource Management

LM-W01-V04



Co-funded by
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Why land management objectives matter

Why objectives are necessary

They turn land policy into clear institutional tasks.
They connect land allocation, protection, planning, and control.

They define what “good management” should produce over time.

They help evaluate whether outcomes are efficient, fair, and sustainable.

Direction

Guides management toward specific public results.

Coordination

Links agencies, plans, rules, and land users.

Evaluation

Creates criteria for judging success and failure.

Accountability

Makes it possible to ask whether public needs were met.

So, the subject is not only how land is used. It is also what outcomes land institutions should create: efficiency, protection, secure rights, reliable information, fair allocation, and resilience.

The long-term objective of land resource management

The textbook presents a broad objective: to ensure the most effective use of the national land reserve in the interests of the economy, its sectors, and individual land users.



The key idea is simple: effectiveness in land use cannot be judged only economically. Social, ecological, and governance dimensions are also part of the objective itself.

Objective 1: rational and efficient land use

What this objective means

Land should match capability, location, and infrastructure.

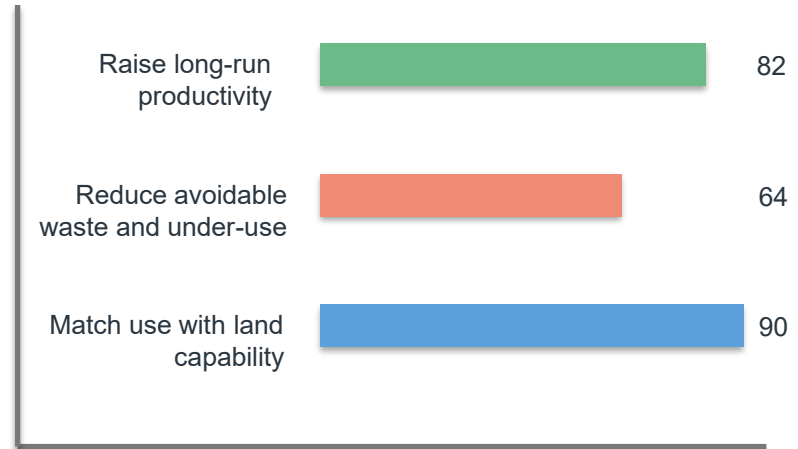
Misallocation, idle use, and avoidable degradation reduce public value.

Efficiency is long-term efficiency, not only short-term output.

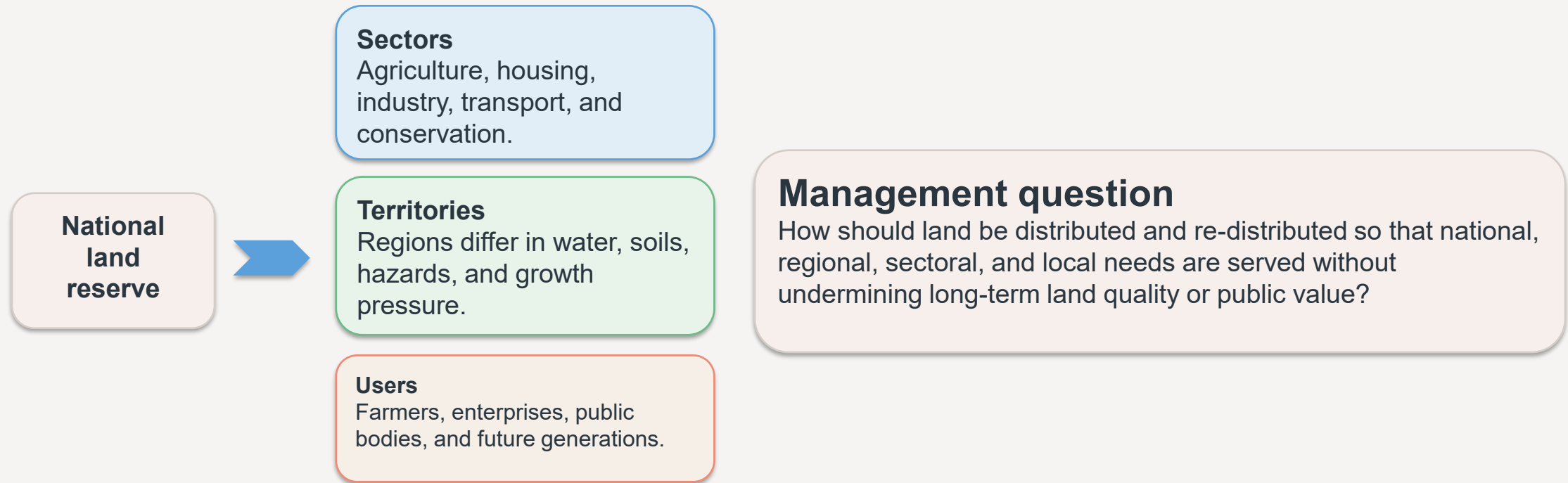
The right use, in the right place, with the right level of intensity.

Rational use means the right use, in the right place, with the right level of intensity.

Illustrative priorities within efficient land use



Objective 2: optimal allocation across sectors, territories, and users



The textbook explicitly links optimal distribution and re-distribution of land between sectors, users, and territories to the objectives of land management.

Objective 3: protect land quality, restore fertility, and conserve ecosystem services

Land management objectives under climate pressure

Why this objective is central

The textbook links land management with land protection, soil fertility recovery, and prevention of misuse. Productive use is not sustainable if it weakens the natural resource base on which future use depends.

Drought and water stress

Allocate land and water by capability; protect irrigation efficiency.

Salinity and soil decline

Restore soil quality, drainage, and long-term fertility.

Erosion and vegetation loss

Reduce degradation and conserve ecosystem functions.

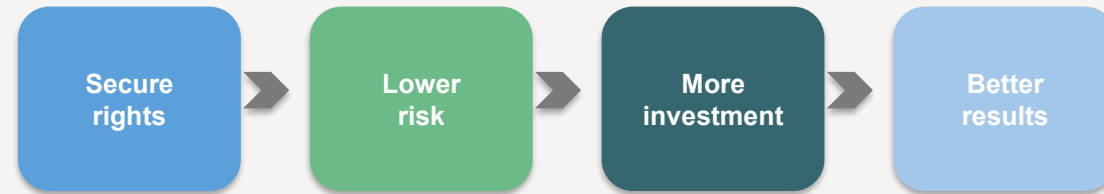
Urban expansion pressure

Guide cities, protect productive land, and lower service costs.

Protection is not separate from productivity. In the long run, protection and restoration are conditions for stable production.

Objective 4: secure tenure and protect legitimate rights

Rights-to-results pathway



Security

People invest and manage land more confidently when rights, boundaries, and rules are clear.

Legitimate rights

Good systems recognize and protect socially and legally legitimate interests, not only formal paper claims.

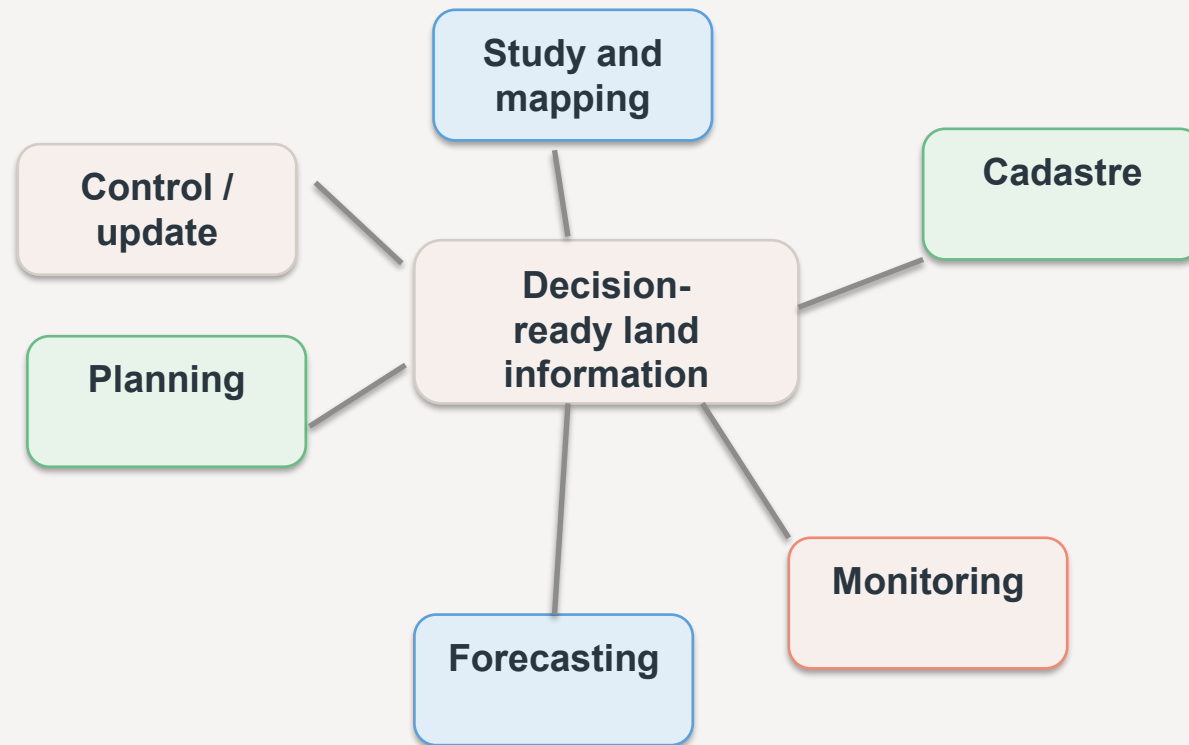
Inclusion

Women, small producers, and vulnerable groups are often affected first when tenure is weak.

Secure rights are not only a legal goal. They are also a development goal because they reduce uncertainty and support better land use.

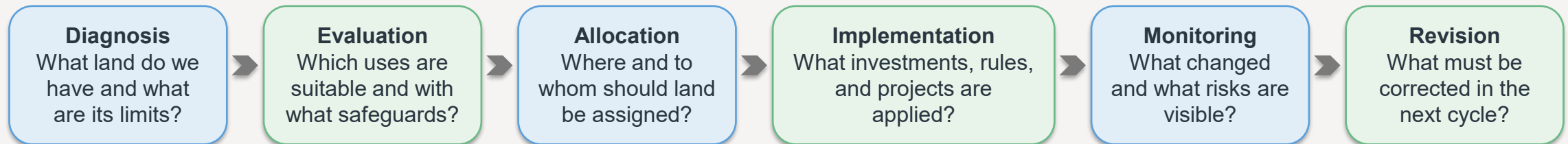
Why information matters

Without mapping, cadastre, accounting, planning data, and monitoring, land management becomes reactive and fragmented. Institutions need reliable information on boundaries, land categories, soil conditions, actual use, restrictions, and change over time.

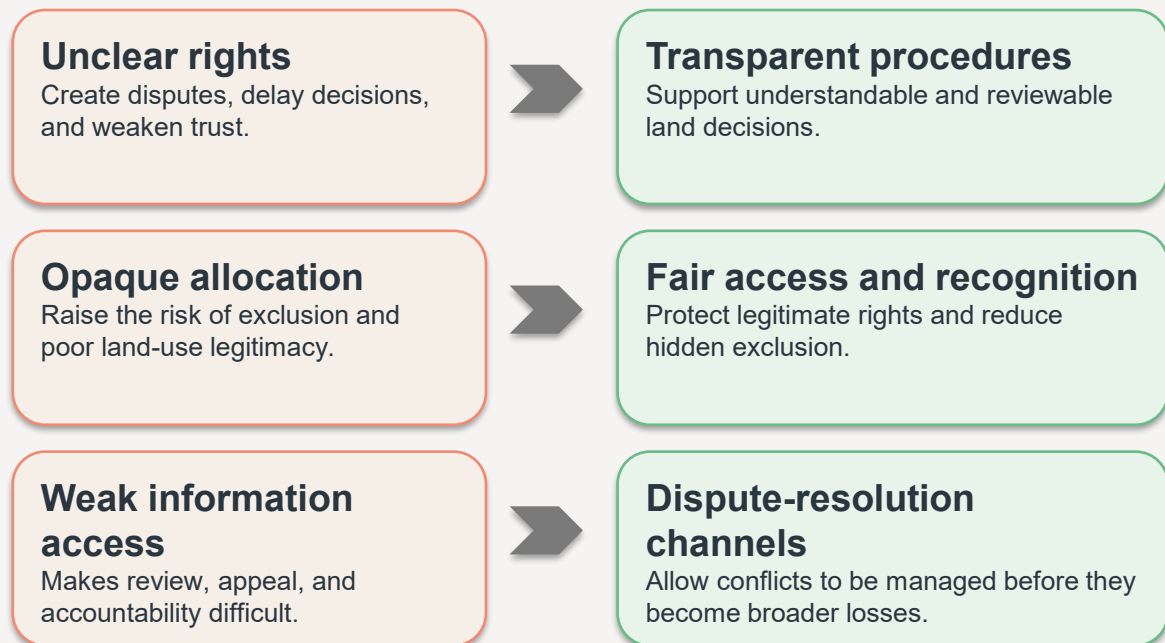


Objective 6: support planning, forecasting, and evidence-based decisions

Planning helps decision-makers and land users select and implement land uses that meet human needs while safeguarding the resource base.

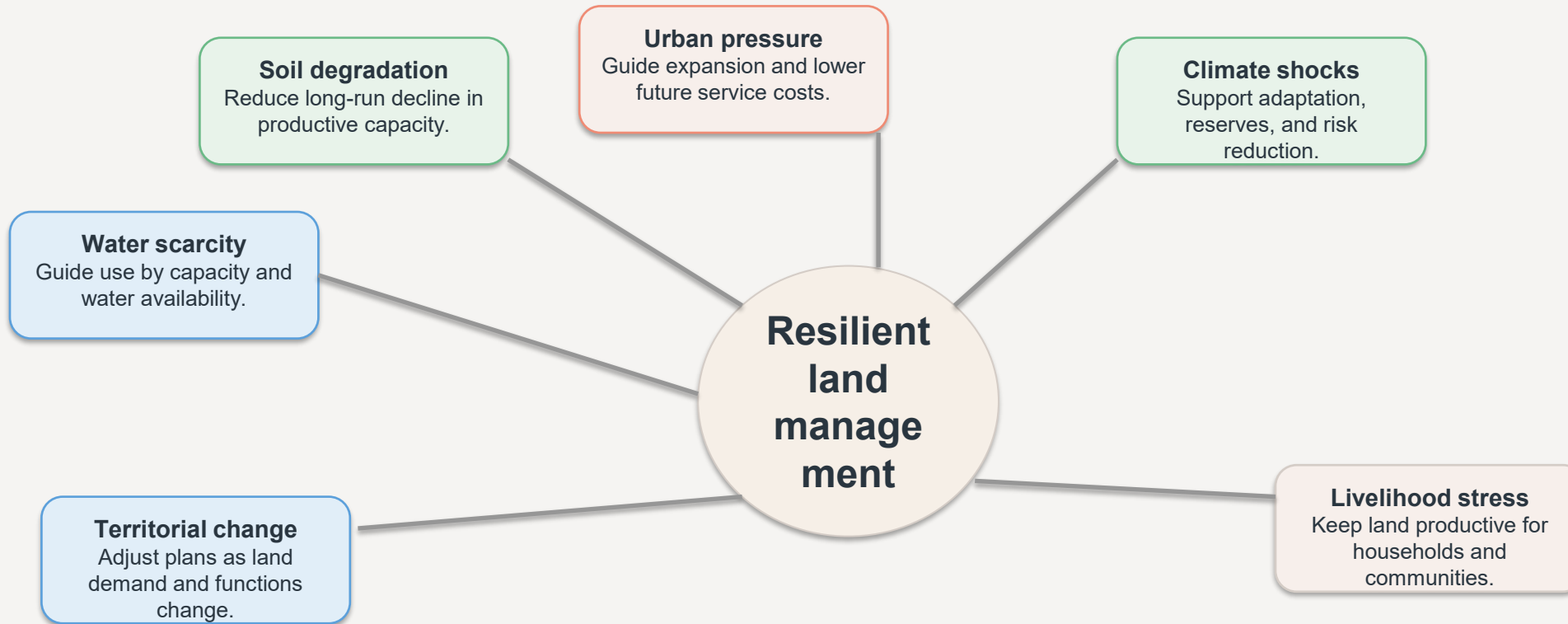


Objective 7: reduce disputes, improve fairness, and strengthen transparency



In land governance, transparency, access to information, and conflict prevention are central objectives because they protect both efficiency and legitimacy.

Objective 8: build resilience to climate, degradation, and territorial change



Climate-sensitive planning, secure rights, and control of degradation are essential for resilient land systems.

Management functions turn objectives into action

1. Study & map

Categorize land, inventory resources, and build evidence.

2. Maintain cadastre

Keep rights, parcels, and quality data current.

3. Forecast

Anticipate future demand, risk, and territorial change.

4. Plan protection & use

Set rules for use, conservation, and restoration.

5. Design projects

Prepare practical land-use and improvement solutions.

6. Use incentives

Support better behavior through fees, support, or conditions.

7. Monitor & control

Track compliance, condition, and actual use.

8. Resolve disputes

Address conflicts before they widen into losses.

Objectives answer “what should be achieved”; functions answer “through which instruments can this be achieved?”

Application to Uzbekistan and Central Asia: objective–response logic

Regional challenge	Management objective	Typical instrument	Expected gain
Salinity / irrigation stress	Protect and restore land quality	Drainage, reclamation, monitoring	Higher land productivity
Competition for peri-urban land	Allocate land territorially and transparently	Planning, zoning, and information	Lower conflict and service cost
Weak tenure confidence	Secure rights and improve legitimacy	Registration, certification, review	Stronger investment incentives
Fragmented decisions	Coordinate land policy with evidence	Cadastre, forecasting, and control	Better public decisions

The exact institutional design differs by country, but the objective structure remains broadly similar.

Key takeaways from LM-W01-V04

- 1 The core objective is effective use of the land reserve in economic, social, ecological, and institutional terms.
- 2 Major objectives include efficient use, protection, secure rights, information reliability, planning quality, fairness, and resilience.
- 3 Functions such as cadastre, mapping, forecasting, planning, incentives, control, and dispute resolution operationalize those objectives.
- 4 Good land management should be judged by outcomes, not only by administrative activity.

Summary based on the course textbook and selected reference frameworks listed in the notes.

Selected references and closing note

Course textbook

Rahmonov, Q., Narbayev, Sh.K., & Muqimov, Z.M. (2018). Yer resurslarini boshqarish. Main objective-and-function sections used in this lecture.

FAO

Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure; land resources planning and sustainable land management guidance.

World Bank

Land Governance Assessment Framework and related land governance resources.

Asian Development Bank

Uzbekistan Land Improvement Project materials and related evaluations on land improvement, productivity, and resilience.

Thank you for your attention. In the next discussion, we can test these objectives against real land-use cases.



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