



**LAND MANAGEMENT, ENVIRONMENT & SOLID-WASTE:
INSIDE EDUCATION AND BUSINESS IN CENTRAL ASIA
ERASMUS-EDU-2023-CBHE Project Number: 101129032**

MICRO-CREDENTIAL

LAND MANAGEMENT IN CENTRAL ASIA

9.- Organizational and Economic Aspects of Land Management

Activity

Design a land management structure



Co-funded by
the European Union

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.

Activity: Design a Land Management Structure

Workbook for Week 9 - Organizational and Economic Aspects of Land Management

Purpose of the activity

This activity helps students translate theory into institutional design. You will create a practical model of a land management structure for a district, province, or national setting. The task combines organizational logic with economic mechanisms, accountability, service delivery, and land information functions.

Learning outcomes

- identify the main institutional units that normally appear in a land management system;
- distinguish strategic, technical, regulatory, and service-delivery functions;
- show how land data, decisions, and reports should move through the system;
- connect organizational design with economic tools such as fees, valuation, incentives, and budget control;
- justify why a proposed structure is suitable for Central Asian administrative realities.

Recommended source base for the task

Use these materials when shaping your answer: ERB 2018 as the core course source; FAO materials on land governance and responsible tenure; World Bank materials on land governance assessment; and ADB publications that discuss public administration, land administration, and service delivery in Central Asia.

Suggested format: individual draft first, then pair review, then group presentation.

Task overview

Scenario. Assume that a new territorial unit is improving its land administration system. Local leaders want a structure that is legally clear, economically realistic, technically competent, and understandable for land users. Your role is to propose the structure.

- Select one scale for your design: national, regional/provincial, or district/local.
- Decide which institutions are essential and which can remain supporting actors.
- Show the direction of authority, reporting, and information exchange.
- Explain where cadastral work, planning, monitoring, valuation, registration support, and dispute response belong.
- Include at least three economic mechanisms that make the structure workable.

Minimum design components

Component	What to include in the design
Policy layer	Bodies that define general land policy, legal rules, standards, and system direction.
Management layer	Institutions that coordinate implementation, approve plans, supervise lower levels, and allocate resources.
Technical layer	Units responsible for cadastre, land records, mapping, monitoring, statistics, valuation, GIS, or surveying support.
Service layer	Offices that receive applications, communicate with land users, issue documents, and coordinate with local communities.
Control layer	Inspection, audit, compliance, complaint handling, and review functions.
Economic layer	Budget channels, land fees, taxes, valuation rules, incentive programs, and cost-recovery tools.

Step-by-step student instructions

1. Read the task and select the territorial scale of your design.
2. List all institutions that you think are necessary. Remove any bodies whose role duplicates another role.
3. Group the institutions into layers: policy, management, technical, service, and control.
4. Draw the main reporting lines. Show which unit gives orders, which unit implements, and which unit checks results.
5. Add a short explanation of how land information will flow through the system.
6. Add at least three economic mechanisms that support the structure. These may include land tax, service fees, valuation, grants, incentives, or penalties.
7. Explain how the proposed structure supports transparency, efficiency, and responsible land use.
8. Prepare a short oral justification of your design for class discussion.

Design rule for a strong answer

A strong structure is not the one with the largest number of offices. A strong structure is the one in which roles are clear, information moves reliably, economic tools reinforce policy goals, and land users understand where to go for service or redress.

Student worksheet templates

Template A. Institutional map

Institution or unit	Main function	Reports to	Key outputs or services

Template B. Stakeholder coordination map

Actor	Why involved	What information they need	What they provide to the system

Template C. Economic mechanisms checklist

Mechanism	Purpose	Who manages it	Expected effect on land management

--	--	--	--

Template D. Risk and control matrix

Risk or weakness	Where it appears	Possible consequence	Control response

Mini-case for applied design

Case. A fast-growing irrigated district faces fragmented records, unclear coordination between planning and cadastre, delayed service for farmers, and weak follow-up after land-use violations. Local authorities want a more integrated structure but have limited budget and uneven staff capacity.

- Which unit should lead day-to-day coordination?
- Which functions should remain centralized and which should be delegated?
- How should cadastral data, inspection results, and user complaints be linked?
- Which two economic mechanisms would help the district improve performance without creating unnecessary burden on land users?
- How would you prevent overlap between technical and administrative bodies?

Short writing task

Write a design brief of 300 to 500 words. Summarize your proposed structure, explain why it fits the case, and identify one likely implementation challenge plus one realistic solution.

Presentation checklist

- state the scale and context of your design;
- identify the most important units and reporting lines;
- show where economic mechanisms are located;
- explain how land users access services;
- mention one strength and one limitation of your proposal.

Assessment rubric

Criterion	Excellent	Satisfactory	Needs revision
Clarity of institutional design	Roles are distinct and logically arranged.	Most roles are clear but some overlap remains.	Roles are vague or contradictory.
Integration of economic mechanisms	Economic tools are relevant and well placed.	Economic tools are present but weakly explained.	Economic tools are missing or unrealistic.
Information and reporting logic	Data and reporting lines are coherent and practical.	Information logic is partly clear.	Reporting and information flows are unclear.
Fit to context	Design matches the territorial scenario and constraints.	General fit is acceptable.	Design is detached from the stated context.
Communication	Proposal is concise, well argued, and easy to follow.	Proposal is understandable with minor gaps.	Proposal is hard to follow or insufficiently justified.

Reflection prompts

- Which function was the hardest to place in the structure, and why?
- Did your design favor control, service delivery, or technical quality? Explain the balance.
- How would your structure change if digital land information systems became stronger?
- What lessons from Central Asian conditions should shape institutional design?

Glossary and reference guide

Cadastral: A structured record of land parcels, boundaries, categories, and related data used for management and control.

Institutional design: The arrangement of bodies, roles, and reporting lines inside a management system.

Economic mechanism: A financial or incentive tool used to influence land use, support services, or improve compliance.

Service delivery: The practical process by which public institutions provide a decision, record, certificate, or response to users.

Accountability: The requirement that institutions explain actions, follow rules, and accept review or correction.

Reference list for further study

- ERB. 2018. Course textbook on land management used in this module.
- FAO. Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure.
- World Bank. Land Governance Assessment Framework materials.
- Asian Development Bank. Publications on public sector management, land administration, and Central Asia development practice.