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The Land Management Manual of the EU

Nitra 2017

Title: The Land Management Manual of the EU

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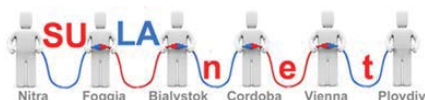
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Approved by the Rector of the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra on 28th June 2017 as a monograph.

This monograph was created with the support of the following international projects: Jean Monnet Networks project: Sustainable Land Management in Europe, no. 564651-EPP-1-2015-1-SK-EPPJMO-NETWORK.

“The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.”



ISBN 978-80-552-1684-3

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**“I think we’ve all heard that many times, but it is necessary to repeat it:
the greatest natural wealth of every country is not oil or gold, but water and soil.”**

Václav Cílek

Introduction

Land-use in the EU is not sustainable which is caused by low awareness of the land value and non-effective land management in EU member states. Difference between supply and availability is increased and land management authorities and professionals need to prepare decisions in accordance with requirements for multifunctional land-use. Because in the EU does not exist any harmonized political tool for land management and in several EU member states the land policy is not suitably adjusted, decisions of relevant state and self-government authorities related to land management could be constantly directed to soil deterioration. Even European member states have different natural and historical-political backgrounds, European and international environmental documents encouraged them to implement common actions to maintenance and protect land based on the sustainable principles.

Effective rules defining access and regulating use of land are essential means of ensuring long-term management of land and resources.

The Manual Land Management of the EU has been created with the EU financial support in the frame of the Jean Monnet project "Sustainable Land Management Network (SULANET)" No. 564651-EPP-1-2015-1-SK-EPPJMO-NETWORK.

The objective of the project is to create virtual research and educational network “Sustainable land management network” with specific objectives to promote research and teaching in the field of sustainable European land management and to strengthen the effectiveness of land-use governance in the EU. Network is created of higher educational institutions from different EU member states (Austria, Spain, Italy, Slovakia, Poland, and Bulgaria) based on their professional focus in order to ensure multidisciplinary synergy and excellence in teaching and research activities in the field of EU land management.

The aim of the collective of authors was to offer not only a one-time comprehensive material, but mainly to enhance the trust and confidence in the EU land management, to provide the PhD. students, post-doctoral students and young researchers under 35 who do not automatically come into contact with European integration studies the possibility to use the material later as well to be able to focus on and to solve some of the basic issues within the field of the Land Management in the EU.

Nitra 2017

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Anna Bandlerová et al.
The Land Management Manual of the EU

Published by: Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra

Edition: first

Number of copies: 100

AQ-PQ: 6,05-6,23

Not edited in Publishing centre of SUA in Nitra.

ISBN 978-80-552-1684-3