

# HUNGARY

## Land management

### (Government focal point(s):

Mr. Zoltán Kárpáti: tel: +36-1-301-3533, fax: +36-1-301-5949, e-mail: karpatiz@fvm.hu and Ms.Rita Francia: tel: +36-1-301-4091, fax: +36-1-301-5949, e-mail: franciar@fvm.hu

### Decision-Making: Coordinating Bodies

Responsibility for legislation and the coordination of land management programmes rests primarily with the MoARD and MoEW.

### Decision-Making: Legislation and Regulations

The legislative framework for the management of land use are Act I and Act II on Cooperatives (1992), the Act on Land (1994), the Act on Environmental Protection (1995), the Act on Nature Conservation (1996), and the Act on Forests (1996). These acts ensure up-to-date regulation of land ownership, land use, soil conservation, and special management criteria for protected areas.

### Planning and development of land resources involving all land stakeholders, including indigenous and landless population; strengthened role of land administration systems

There is no planning process like this because of the complicated land ownership situation caused by the structure of land in the country (subdivision).

### Policies and laws to guarantee land and water use rights and legal security of tenure

The Act on Land (55/1994) declares and ensures the rights of land users. Act on Water Management (57/1995) regulates the water use rights, the tasks and responsibilities of the stakeholders (state, municipality, owner of real estate etc.).

### Local community-based programmes to sustainably enhance the productivity of land and the efficient use of water resources.

### AE payments:

In a significant part of the country, there is a need for land use change and identification new directions for agricultural land use furthermore regional

priorities (changing the land use on areas threatened by flood and inland waters, restoration of semi-natural farm management systems). Arable land is still endangered by the processes that deteriorate the quality and productivity of soil (erosion, acidification, salinisation, compaction and the negative nutrient balance), the unreasonably low rate of grazing based environmentally sound livestock husbandry and the lack of environment-conscious nutrient management, which hinder sustainability.

The agri-environmental payments contribute to the development of rural areas and provide environmental services for the whole of the society. They encourage farmers to apply production methods that are compatible with the sustainable use of the environment, the landscape and the natural resources and the conservation of genetic sources on agricultural lands.

The measure contributes to the fulfilment of the commitments undertaken in Gothenburg regarding the reversal of the decrease of biodiversity until 2010 and to the fulfilment of the objectives under the Water Framework Directive.

#### Long-term land conservation and rehabilitation programmes to arrest land degradation

New Hungary Rural Development Programme (2007-2013) – Chapter 3.2.6 on strengthening soil protection contains targets on prevention of land degradation (erosion, acidification, salinisation, compaction, case-hardening).

#### Programmes for empowerment of people living in poverty and for their increased access to land and land tenure arrangements

National Social Land Programme (1992-2000, 2001-ongoing)

The general aim of the social land programme is to help families living in an environment that is suitable for agriculture production, but lacking the conditions for running a farm. In this way, the living standard of the families is rising and they can work by using local resources that is beneficial from sustainable land use point of view.

The applications for this programme are written and submitted by municipalities and they manage the programme on local level. The municipalities provide extension services and trainings for the families involved in order to help them being environmentally friendly and successful in farming.

The expected results of the programme:

1. The chances of the families involved in the programme are better to get back to the labour market and be independent again
2. The retention of rural areas increases, less people will migrate to urban areas
3. Those social resources are utilized that were not used by the market economy
4. Families do not depend on social benefits but can be independent agricultural entrepreneurs and can make their living themselves.

#### Strategic urban planning approaches aimed at managing urban growth and limiting urban sprawl

The National Spatial Plan of Hungary regulates the urban growth on municipality level.

#### National research on the local land resource system and on environmentally sound, site-specific, low-cost technologies, and provision of related extension services

There are research project going on in the country on these subjects mostly run by universities from different sources, but there is no national coordinated research on these topics.

#### Environmentally sound, effective and efficient use of soil fertility improvement practices and agricultural pest control

In the New Hungary Rural Development Programme there are several schemes aiming at environmentally sound farming practices and pest management, inter alia, the integrated (IFP) arable plant production, organic arable plant production and organic grassland management, arable land and grassland management zonal schemes for nature conservation purposes.