

EuroSDR FELA survey: results

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Implementing the Framework for Effective Land Administration

Sustainable development demands effective land administration

- EuroSDR, with the support of UN-GGIM Europe, UN-GGIM EG-LAM, and EuroGeographics, initiated a small project in summer 2021 to raise awareness of the merits and benefits of effective land administration.



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<https://www.eurosdrr.net/research/project/effective-land-administration-framework>



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The Effective Land Administration Framework

Start date: 01/05/2022

End date: 30/04/2026

- Objectives:
 - **Raise awareness** and **promote** the usefulness of the FELA;
 - Develop **guidance to implement the FELA** utilising the IGIF Implementation Guide;
 - Develop **an assessment mechanism** to support the implementation of the FELA;
 - **Share and exchange knowledge**, information, use cases, practices, experiences and examples; and
 - Engage and collaborate with **regional committees**;

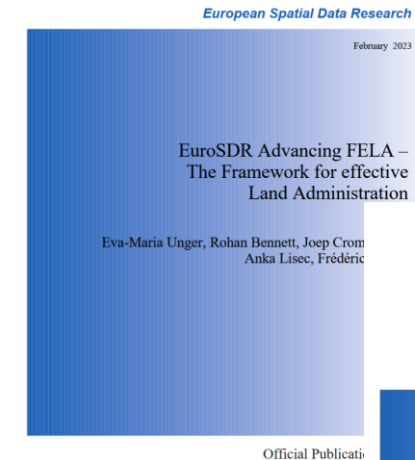




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- Online survey approach aimed to create an overview of the **different stages of awareness and uptake of the FELA** by the Members of EuroSDR and/or UN-GGIM Europe
- Done by **converting the FELA framework into a series of questions**
- Each FELA strategic pathway question set allows for a **mix of quantitative and qualitative data to be collected**
- Questions were created **based on insights** provided through the development of the FELA, as well as the specific context and discussions during the various EG-LAM meetings
- Survey included both **closed and open-ended questions**

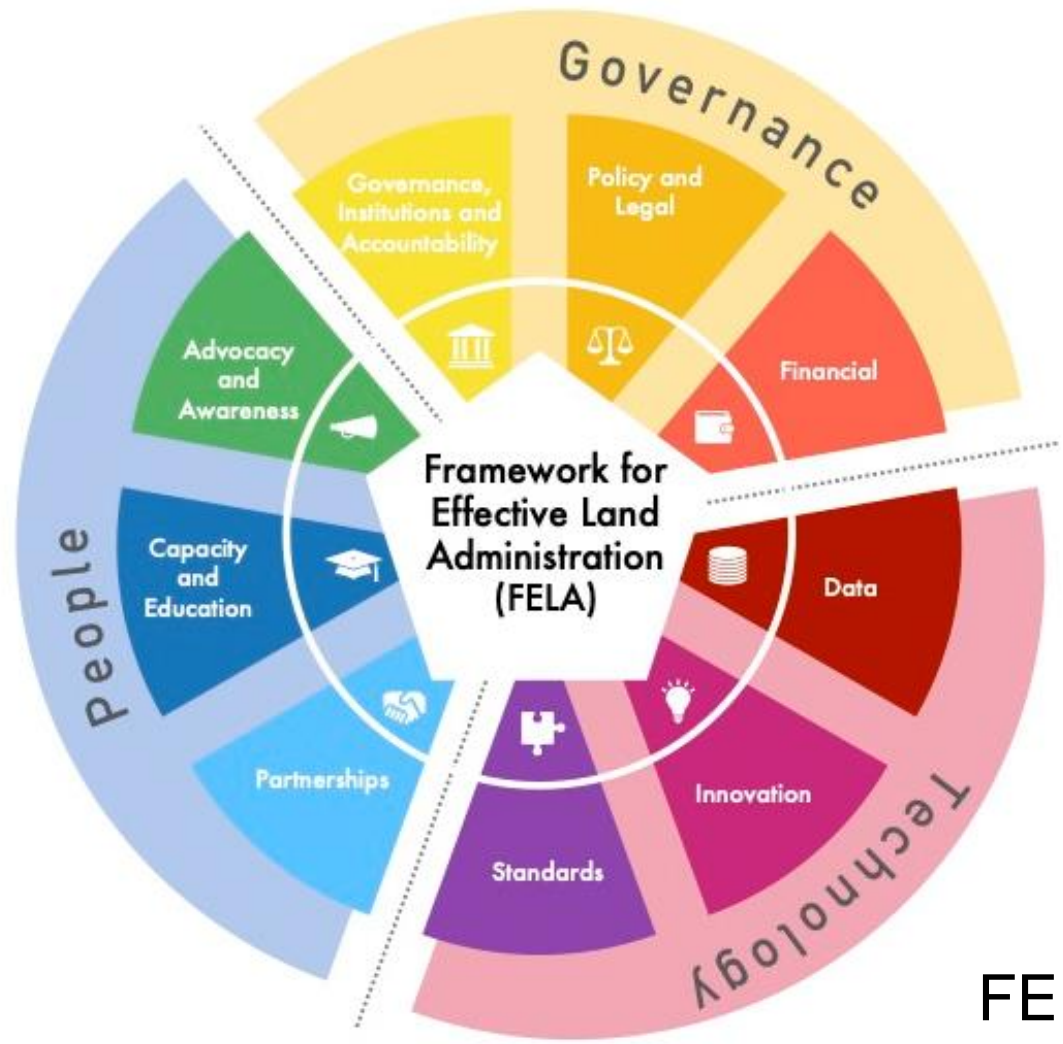


Official Publication N° 77



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FELA pathways

Part I: Governance

- 21 countries participated
- Pathways:
 - Governance, Institutions and Accountability
 - Policy and Legal
 - Financial

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION NO. 74

EuroSDR Advancing FELA - The Framework for Effective Land Administration

Keywords:

spatial data, FELA, survey

• EuroSDR Publication 74 (2023)

The aim of this publication is to present the preliminary findings of the project on FELA, undertaken by EuroSDR and UN-GGIM, focusing on the results of the online survey component, opened up to EuroSDR members and affiliates. FELA is the Framework for Effective Land Administration which was adopted by the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information management (UN-GGIM) at its 10th session in August 2020.

◀ All publications

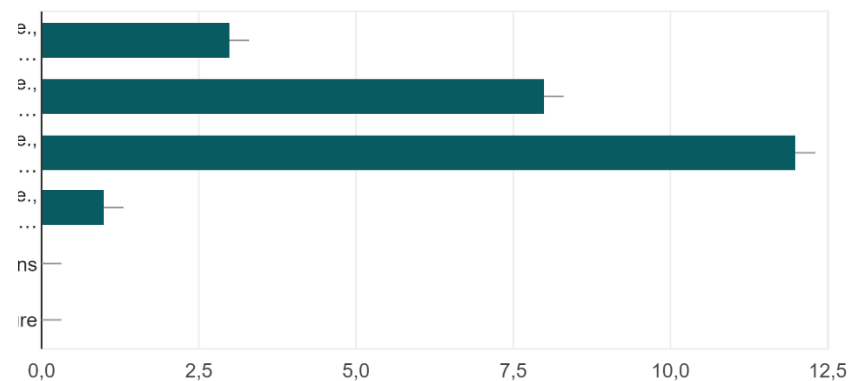
EuroSDR Advancing FELA –
The Framework for effective
Land Administration

Eva-Maria Ungar, Rohan Bennett, Joop Crombroeck,
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<http://www.eurosdrr.net/publications/official-publication-no-74>

GOVERNANCE: Which option best describes leadership in the land administration sector in your jurisdiction?

- Autocratic/commanding (i.e., centralized to a single body...)
- Bureaucratic/transactional (i.e., multiple agencies lead via rules...)
- Collaborative/cooperation (i.e., multiple agencies work together...)
- Laissez-faire/market driven (i.e., limited formal overarching leadership...)
- None of this options
- I am unsure

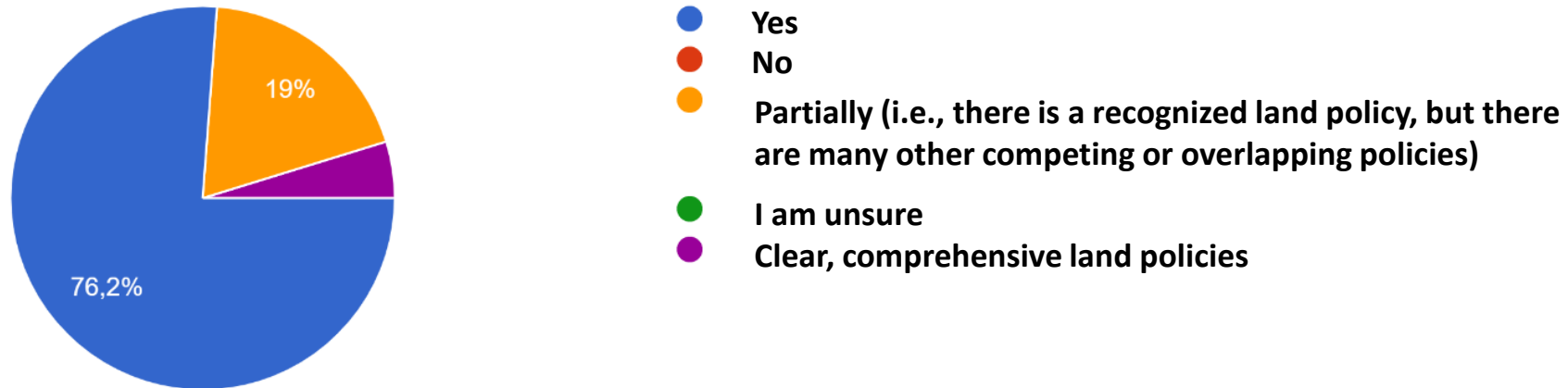


Both **bureaucratic and collaborative leadership** styles were the two most frequently mentioned (collaborative way being the main trend).

There is cases of **mixed leadership** with some tasks being **defined through laws** (most of the time the overall mandate).

Many institutions are involved in LAS. Cooperative and distributed roles are taken on when it comes to planning processes, building permitting, land management, spatial development etc.

POLICY: Does your jurisdiction have a clear, concise, comprehensive and integrated land policy(s)?



Most respondents suggest the jurisdiction in question **does have a clear, concise, and integrated land policy**. This was perhaps above what was expected, given the historical divergence in aspects of land management and governance in many jurisdictions.

The land policy seems to be very clear and concise but when overlapping issues such as spatial planning, environmental impact etc. mandates as well as political interest differ.

Most of the countries have **support sharing and management of land data**, the importance of data exchange protocols and standards were highlighted.

FINANCES: How does the land administration sector sustain itself financially in your jurisdiction?



There are different methods to sustain services and maintain data. Majority presents a combination of taxes and/or levies, user payment and market-based approaches; separate state budgets or allocated budgets are also still dominantly presented.

In some countries, the land administration sector offers financial opportunities and support for non-public entities. Here, responses varied widely from no support to partial support being predominant. Some respondents indicated that **private partnerships were established for certain processes** (IT infrastructure, Web Services, Cadastral services).

Part II: Technology

- 22 countries participated
- Pathways:
 - Data;
 - Innovation;
 - Standards;

EUROSDR OFFICIAL PUBLICATION NO 77 ADVANCING FELA II (2024)

This report presents the preliminary findings of the collaborative work on FELA, undertaken by EuroSDR and UN-GGIM, reflecting the results of the second online survey related to the technological branch of the FELA pathways.

Related research projects

[The Effective Land Administration Framework](#)

Keywords:

FELA, UNGGIM, Land Administration, Assessment

🔗 [EuroSDR Official Publication No 77 Advancing FELA II \(2024\)](#)

Land administration systems play a crucial role in managing land and have evolved over time to meet societal needs. Recent global initiatives, including the UN-GGIMs Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA), aim to modernise these systems to support sustainable development. FELA emphasises that land administration must be effective, interoperable, and inclusive, aligning with global standards and practices to accelerate efforts to document and manage land relationships effectively.






In response to these goals, the UN-GGIM and EuroSDR conducted a survey across 22 European countries to assess the adoption of FELA's pathways: Data, Standards, and Innovation. The survey revealed that many countries prioritise critical data themes like parcels and buildings, aligning with the goal of reliable data and secure service quality. However, gaps remain in ensuring dataset-specific security and reducing data duplication.

Innovation in land administration is mainly driven by government initiatives, supported by citizen and private sector engagement. While some regions have formal innovation processes and state-



<https://www.eurosdrr.net/publications/eurosdrr-official-publication-no-77-advancing-fela-ii-2024>

DATA: Which option best describes the collaboration in the production and distribution of land/ real property data in your country?







		Answers	Ratio
Collaboration in data supply between agencies is well-established and supported by government policy but involves substantial manual intervention.		10	30.3%
Collaboration agreements for data production and exchange exist between some agencies but interoperability issues arise frequently.		7	21.21%
The sequence of processes involved in the production and distribution of land data across all levels of government are enabled through automated data exchange processes.		12	36.36%
Collaboration is ad hoc and there are no government data procedures that formalise the sequence of processes involved in the production and exchange of land data.		3	9.09%
There is no collaboration.		1	3.03%

Besides the „core them“, e.g. parcels, buidlings, addresses, countries include various them into LAS.

We observed **varying degrees of maturity in data management practices** within the various organisations, with **significant room for improvement**, especially in adopting more automated systems and standardising data exchange to overcome interoperability issues.

Most organisations **manage data security** internally (49%), while 33% use centralised, A small number outsource security fully.






INNOVATION: Which option best describes how the main innovation process is defined within your organisation?







		<u>Answers</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
Innovations are initiated through ad hoc governmental/ministerial request/needs.		15	45.45%
Innovations are discussed/evaluated through an Innovation board.		12	36.36%
Innovations are initiated through citizens request/needs or consumer demand.		10	30.3%
Innovations are initiated/developed through cooperation with industry partners (Technology push) and are private sector driven.		6	18.18%
Innovations are happening in an ad-hoc manner.		6	18.18%
There is no defined innovation process.		2	6.06%

The survey results regarding how the main innovation process is defined within organisations illustrate a diverse array of approaches.

The survey results show **varying levels of government engagement with academic and private sectors in innovation processes**. Only a small group (18.18%) indicates robust engagement through structured **Innovation Programs** involving both sectors.

STANDARDS: What is the level of standards' adoption?

		Answers	Ratio
Comprehensive adoption and implementation of data standards and technical specifications has been achieved across the land administration domain.		11	33.33%
A national action plan has been agreed for rolling out data standards and technical specifications for land administration.		3	9.09%
National data standards and technical specifications have been defined for the land administration domain.		14	42.42%
A few technology and data standards have been informally agreed and adopted by some stakeholders in the land administration domain.		4	12.12%
None		1	3.03%

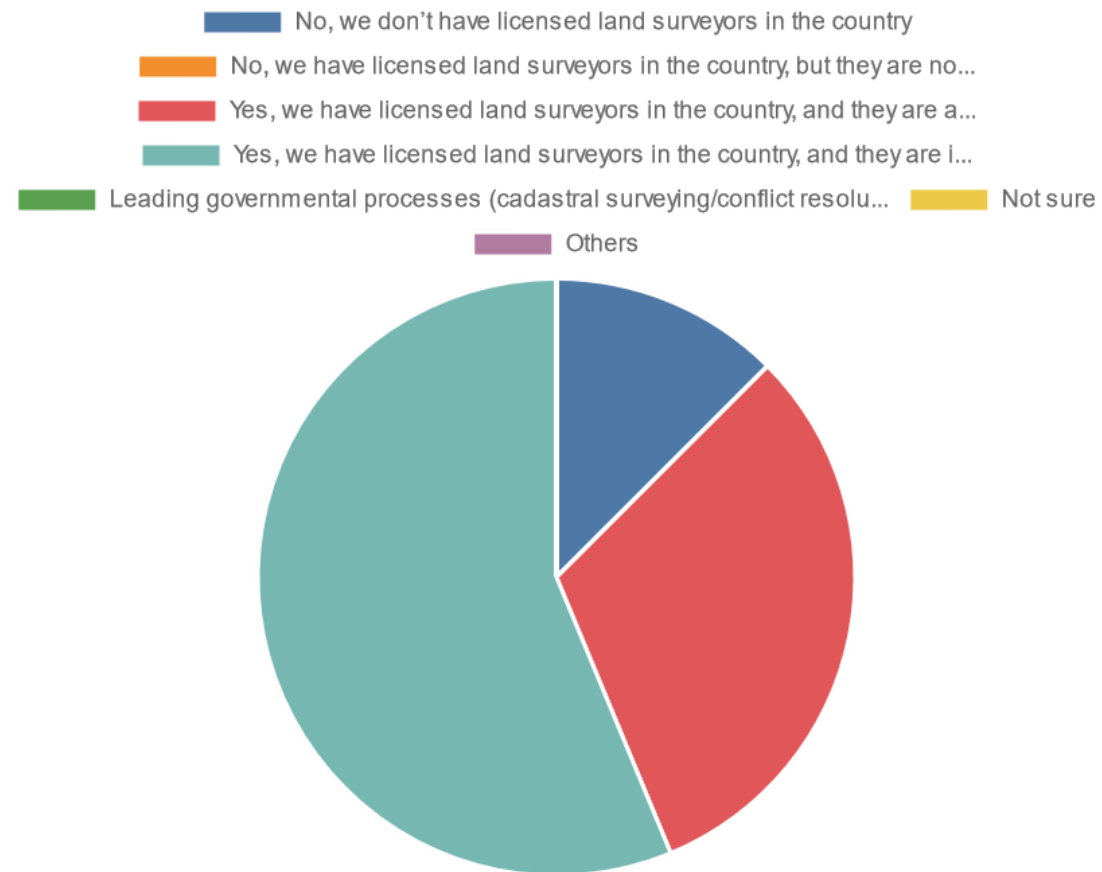
		Answers	Ratio
INSPIRE		22	66.67%
ISO		21	63.64%
OGC		20	60.61%
IHO		3	9.09%
Others		7	21.21%
None		1	3.03%

We observed from **well-established frameworks to initial planning phases** in standardisation.





All answers in the survey underscore the **relevance of standard coordination in government operations**, highlighting that there remains room for some to improve their coordination practices to enhance overall governmental functionality.

Part III: People

- 14 countries participated
- Pathways:
 - Partnerships
 - Capacity and Education
 - Communication and Awareness








PARTNERSHIP: How is the principle of subsidiarity applied in managing land administration data and processes in your country?

		<u>Answers</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
Not applied – Central authorities manage all aspects of land data, there is no local jurisdiction for land administration processes		6	37.5%
Partially applied – Central authorities manage all aspects of land data, but there is a local jurisdiction for land administration processes		3	18.75%
Partially applied – Local entities manage some aspects of land data and land administration processes under central oversight		6	37.5%
Fully applied – Local entities have full control and responsibility for land data management and land administration processes		1	6.25%

There are **different practices in land administration organisation** – while some countries have centralised LAS, in other countries, local authorities play an essential role

The majority of countries **have well-established professional and international networks** – there are still opportunities to extend this collaboration. The cross-sectoral collaboration is stronger at the national levels.

CAPACITY AND EDUCATION: Which accredited academic programs in land administration/cadastre are recognised by your national land authority/organisation?

		Answers	Ratio
Specific degree programs at national universities recognised by land administration authorities and professional licensing (e.g. geodesy, land surveying)		12	75%
Related degree programs at national universities (e.g. geography, civil engineering, law)		7	43.75%
Self-tailored program developed by the national land authority/organisation		3	18.75%
Dedicated courses available at Bachelor of Science (Bsc) level		4	25%
None		0	0%
Other		3	18.75%

The key focus areas in **capacity development programs** aimed at government land administration officials are related to legislation/standards and new technologies, partly also to soft skills.

A comprehensive career/cooperation development program, including ongoing education and performance evaluations, is not a common practice (yet).

COMMUNICATION: What types of targeted awareness campaigns has your organisation executed in the past year(s) to inform the public about land administration?

		Answers	Ratio
Interactive online campaign using social media		6	37.5%
Other media campaigns (nationwide radio/TV campaigns)		4	25%
Local workshops in communities/municipalities/cities		8	50%
Collaboration with educational institutions		10	62.5%
No targeted awareness campaigns executed		2	12.5%
Other		2	12.5%

The countries experience **various communication approaches** targeting various public.

To increase public understanding of land administration roles and responsibilities, the involved organisations organised workshops, PR campaigns etc.

Only some of the institutions periodically assess communication needs through surveys and feedback – there is still room for improvements.



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- There are some **homogeneity** among the European countries in terms of governance structures, leadership, and laws. Much more diversity is observed in the financing aspects.
- Most countries appear to have been moving **toward greater collaboration and diversification** in land administration decision-making and mandate
- There is **significant room for services/data management improvement**, especially in adopting more automated systems and standards to overcome interoperability issues.
- There **are opportunity to enhance the innovatoins** through more structured and formalised programs, potentially leading to more consistent innovation outcomes.
- There are opportunities related to **ongoing global efforts to enhance data and technology standards** that are critical for effective land management.
- There is a huge **demand for lifelong learning and capacity building** in most of the involved countries.