www.unece.org/index.php?id=33059

Sound land administration and sustainable land management are indispensable for economic, social and environmental development. They are also vital for good governance.

The Working Party on Land Administration (WPLA) is an intergovernmental group of experts and policy officials from UNECE member countries. It works to improve land administration and management in the UNECE region through activities based on cooperation and the exchange of experiences between all countries in the UNECE region. The WPLA promotes the establishment of secure tenure, the improvement and creation of more effective land registries and the use of sustainable land use policies.

It provides a venue for sharing knowledge and fostering discussion between Governments. Every two years, the WPLA meets to set policy and direct the work of the UNECE in land management; its eighth session was held in Bishkek in March 2013 and helped to bring attention to the rapidly developing land management systems in Kyrgyzstan. In between sessions, the WPLA Bureau works year-round to fulfil the mandates of the WPLA.

The WPLA focuses on strategies to develop better land management systems by improving cadastre and land registry systems and by:

Conducting **in-depth research** into land management issues. It creates land administration reviews, which are analyses of national land management systems which form part of the UNECE country profiles. It conducts thematic research across the UNECE region, including studies on fraud in land administration institutions and comparisons of cadastral and registration fees and charges. Forthcoming studies includea study on possible solutions to the challenge of informal housing and a study analysing the costs and benefits of a unified cadastre/land registry.

Facilitating **experience sharing and knowledge exchange**. Through a series of workshops hosted by UNECE member States, usually in cooperation with an international organization partner, the Working Party promotes international learning and cooperation.

Collecting and sharing data on land management systems throughout the UNECE region. The WPLA is undertaking a comprehensive cross-country analysis of land management systems based on an extensive national questionnaire.