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FIG Commission 7 & 2 Annual Meeting 2023

2-4 October 2023, Deventer

Market opacity of allotment gardens in Warsaw

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Agenda

- Background
- Aims
- Methodology
- Key observations
- Conclusion and further research







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Background



- Allotment garden (not) a socialistic relic
- Changing environment
- Market



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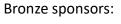










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Aims

Explore the nature of the secondary allotment garden market in Warsaw to highlight its peculiarities driven by the complexity of the current regulations.

- Legal
- **Political**
- Social
- **Environmental**
- Design
- Market









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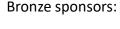








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Methodology

1. Legal

2. Political

3. Social

4. **Environmental** 5. Design

6. Market











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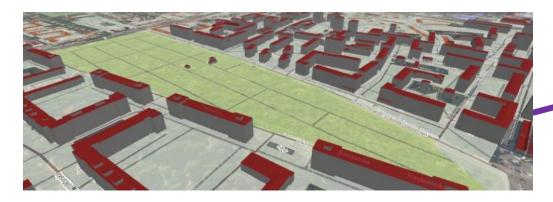


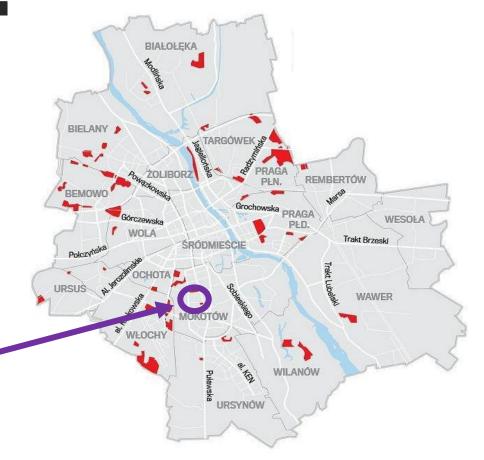
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Warsaw's allotment gardens

- 190 family gardens
- 30,000 allotment gardens
- 1,200ha (2.3% of Warsaw's area)





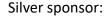
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Private spaces but public green infrastructure

- Act on family allotment gardens (AFAG, 2013)
- Green areas public infrastructure
- Allotment garden:
 - Max 500m²
 - Gardening, relaxation and recreation
- Family garden:
 - Allotment gardens
 - Common infrastructure









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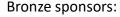










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Non-property property title



State Treasury (freehold)



Gardeners' association (long-term land lease)



- No rent
- No end date or cancelation period
- Transferable "free"
- Not inheritable
- Maintenance obligation
- No permanent residency and gainful activities



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Political land issues

- Polish Allotment Gardeners' Association
- Land claims
- Planning policies master plans, spatial study
- Warsaw Council funding (since 2020)









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Social changes – people and uses



90s to early 2000s: Retirees and elderly



Since around 2010: Young adults and young parents



Intensive gardening



Relaxing "gardening"



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Environmental issues

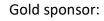






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Functionalism 1950-60s



Recreational functionalism since 1970s



Vernacular pseudo-classicism - 1980s



"Single-family" houses since 1990s

Design





"Single-family" houses since late 2013





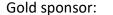
Seizing land for passive leisure current





Return to original design concepts current









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Market – transaction framework

Primary market

Contract for the usufruct of an allotment garden between the allotment garden association and individual gardener

Secondary market

- Transfer of rights and obligations to the allotment garden between the current and new allotment gardener
- Elements:
 - No compensation (price) for rights and obligations to the allotment garden
 - *Remuneration* for legally permitted plantations, installations, and objects (site improvements), that are owned by the allotment gardener
- Limited formal requirements and role of the notary
- Transfer tax (1% right, 2% remuneration), income tax on sale (remuneration only)

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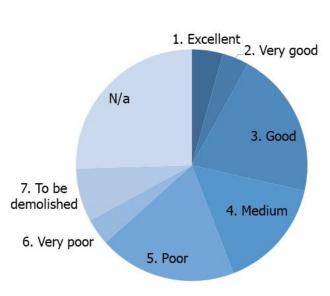


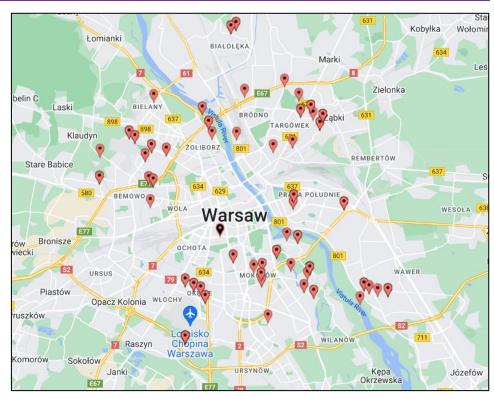
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Market - offers

- Price offers only (n=176)
- 48 family gardens and 6 family garden complexes
- Very poor data
- Mid-July to end of Sep 43% still on sale
- Average land size 353m², 14% over 500m²
- Buildings predominantly wooden (53%) and <20m²





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Market - offers

Pre-2010: GBP 3-5,000

Pre-pandemic: GBP 4-15,000

Range: GBP 3,700-49,000 Average: GBP 12,500 Median: GBP 10,800

| GBP | Parameters |
|-----------|--|
| 4-10,000 | poorly maintained green area, poor peripheral locations, limited or no utilities, old or no buildings |
| 10-20,000 | well-maintained green area, small, poor or medium quality building, most utilities |
| 20-30,000 | well-maintained green area, good quality building, most utilities |
| 30-50,000 | excellently maintained green area, new large building frequently for all-year use, all utilities, borderline illegal / excessive site improvements |

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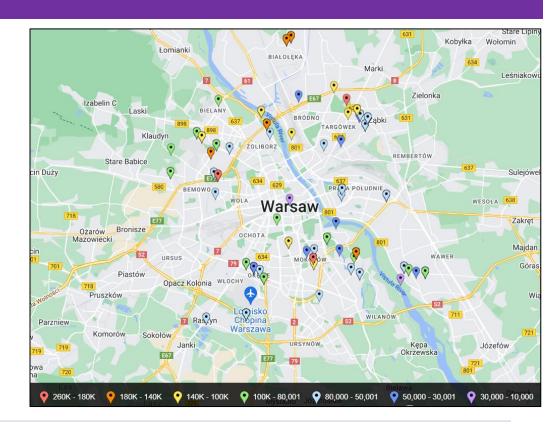


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Market - offers

- Intrinsic "land value" of some GBP 8,500
- Building size & quality positively impacting price offers
- Location likely of limited impact on prices



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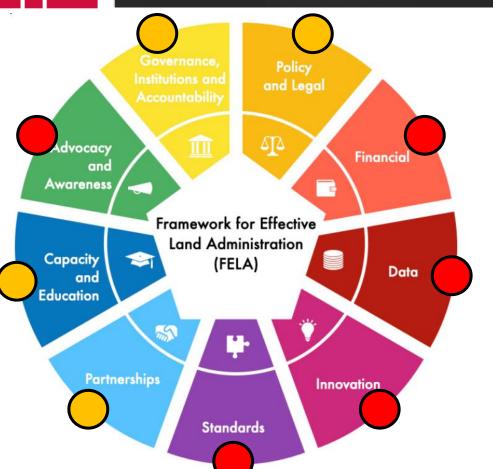






Digital Transformation for Responsible Land Administration FIG Commission 7 & 2 Annual Meeting 2023

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Conclusion and further research

- Further exploration of available data
- Digging for transaction evidence
- Potential for government intervention
- Wider learnings for other countries

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