



**The Tunisian Republic**  
Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries



# **The Tunisian land consolidation experience**



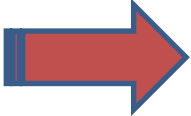
الوكالة العقارية الفلاحية

AGENCE FONCIÈRE AGRICOLE

## **Role of the Agricultural Land Agency**

Presented by: **Gharbi, Wissal**

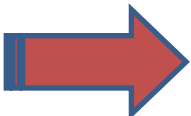
## **Legislative texts regulating land consolidation operation**



**Law N°63 of 1958 concerning the agrarian reform in the lands located in the lower valley of the Medjerdha, rectified by the Law N° 6 of 1960**



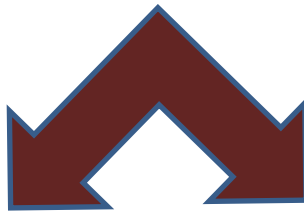
**Law N°18 of 1963 concerning the agrarian reform in the irrigated public perimeters, rectified and supplemented by the law N°30 of 6 Mars 2000**



**Law N°17 of 1977 bearing creation of the agency of the agrarian reform in the irrigated public perimeters, rectified and supplemented by the law N°29 of 6 Mars 2000**



# Role of the Agricultural Land Agency in :



**1/- in dealing with the phenomenon of fragmentation of agricultural lands and of their property**

**2/- and its contribution in the clearance of land situations in the perimeters of its intervention**

# **Main procedures of land consolidation operation**

**Define the zone  
of intervention  
and raising  
awareness  
farmers**

**Decree  
creating  
the  
perimeter**

**Decree to  
open land  
consolidation  
procedures**

**Preparation of the land  
consolidation project  
after verification of  
ownership rights on  
land**

**Publication of the project  
and study of farmers  
oppositions by a  
specialized commission**

**Decree on the approval of the land consolidation plan  
and registration of land rights on the new plots**

# Example of a session of raising awareness farmers (women included) about a land consolidation project



Equity and justice

Participatory approach

Gender equality



Awareness of farmers (men and women)  
about land management works

Agents from the Agricultural Land Agency (ALA)



Consultation and participation

Non-discrimination

Participation of agents from the Regional Commissioner for agricultural development



# Principles of land consolidation operation in irrigated public perimeters




**Reorganisation and clearance of the land situation,**



**Obligation to irrigate land in irrigated perimeters,**



**Owner's contribution to the hydraulic installation costs,**



**Establishing an area limit that the farmer should not go below** based on technical and social measures that take into account the benefits of irrigation water distribution technology and the possibility of technically direct agricultural circulation to ensure a decent income for the farmer

# **Objectives of land consolidation operation**

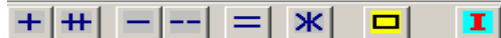
**To limit and control the fragmentation of agricultural plots**

**Upgrading farms by creating plots with regular form, accessible, viable and economically profitable**

**To secure land and land rights (for men and women) by registering them**

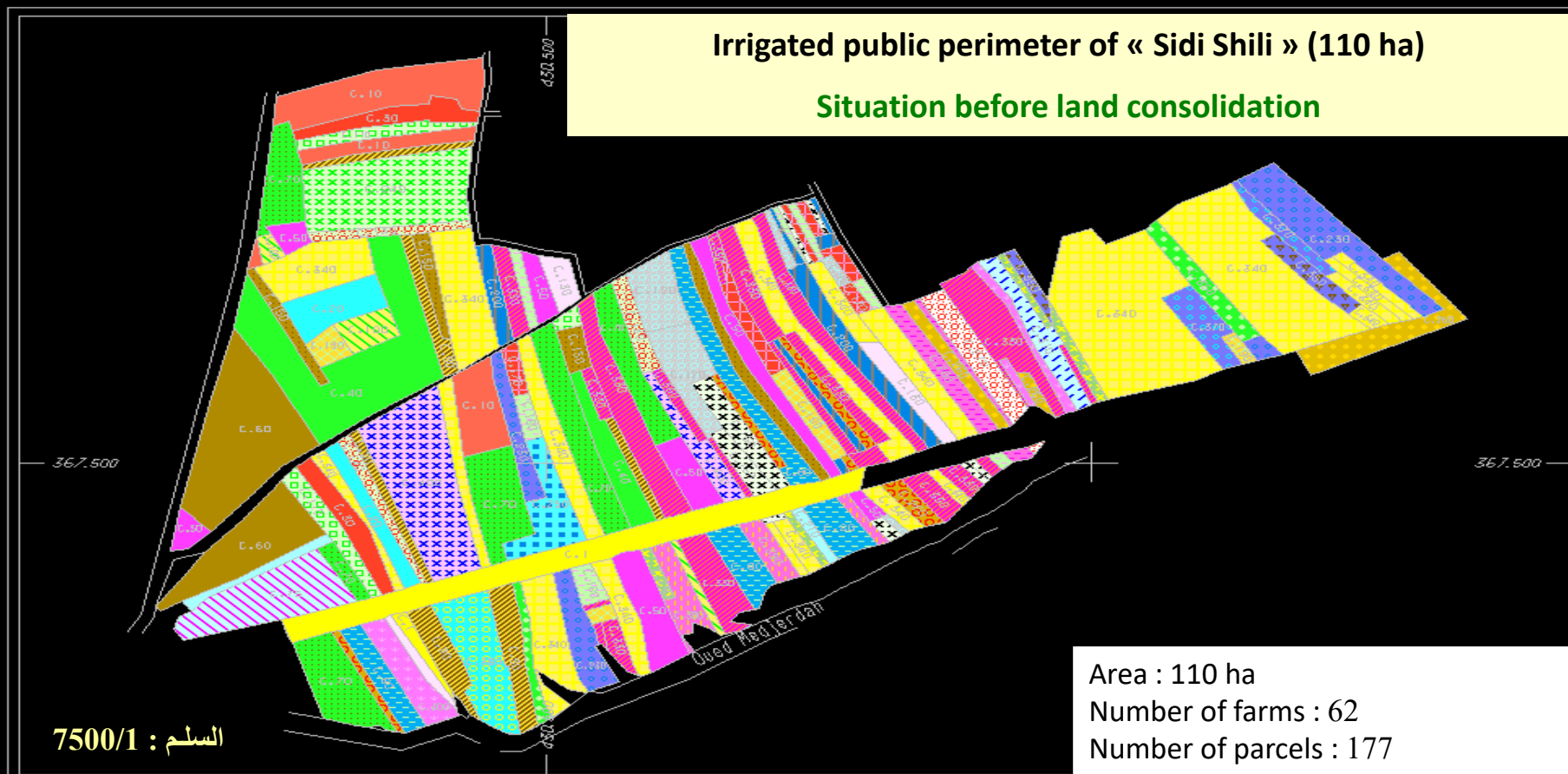
**To facilitate access to agricultural credit and subsidies**

**To promote crops in contour lines in order to combat erosion (when land consolidation operation is combined with water and soil conservation actions)**

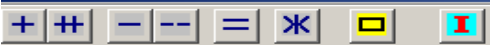


## Irrigated public perimeter of « Sidi Shili » (110 ha)

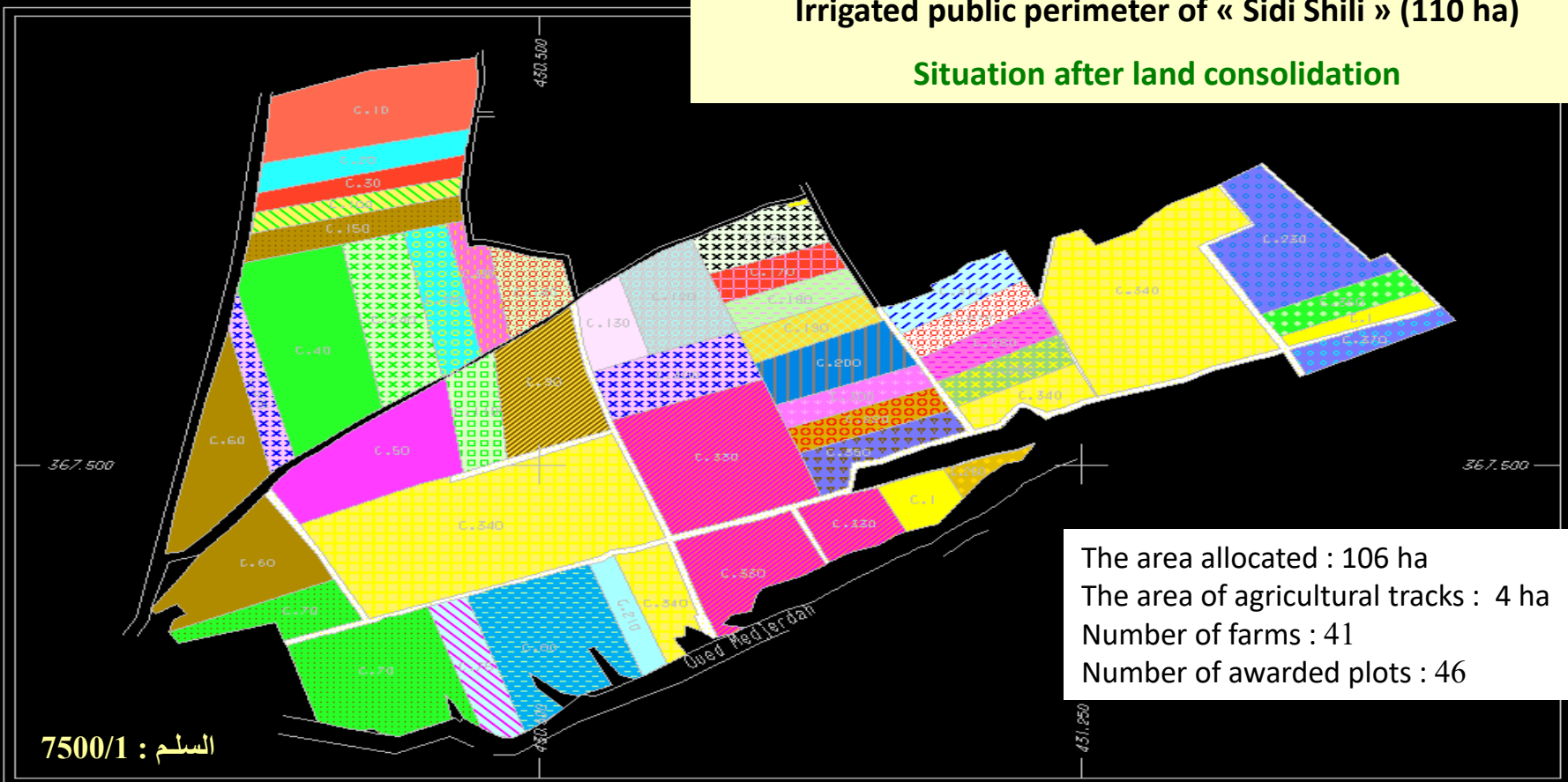
Situation before land consolidation





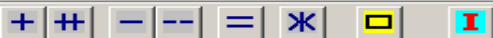


**Irrigated public perimeter of « Sidi Shili » (110 ha)**  
**Situation after land consolidation**

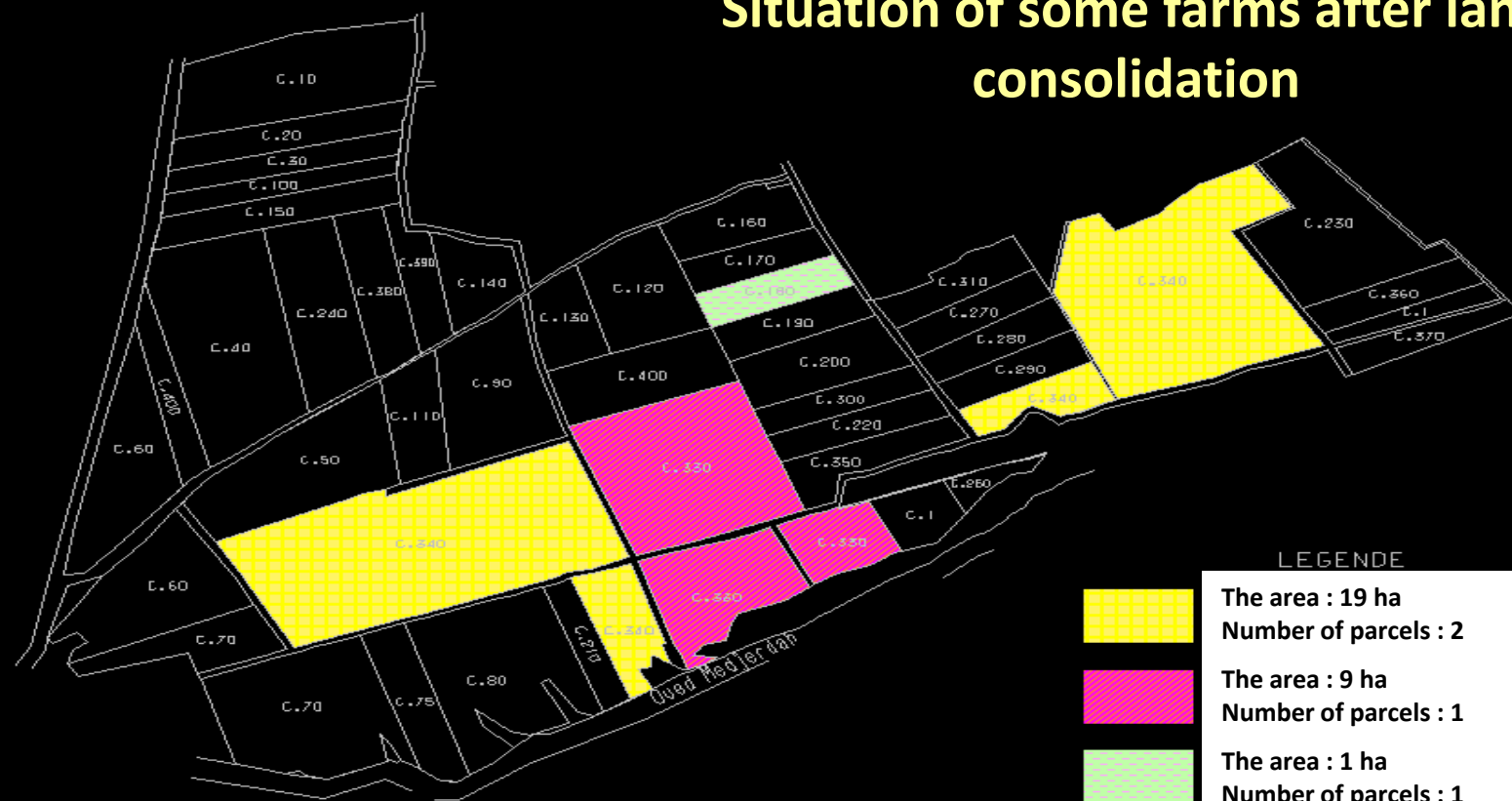


The area allocated : 106 ha  
The area of agricultural tracks : 4 ha  
Number of farms : 41  
Number of awarded plots : 46





## Situation of some farms after land consolidation



# Challenges

- Unexpected climatic changes (successive drought...)
- Weak Control of excessive agricultural land use by farmers
- Aggravation of the salinization phenomenon that degrades land because of the excessive use of groundwater (South Tunisia) and of surface water (North Tunisia) :
  - \* The salinity rate of 72% of surface water is less than 1.5 gram /liter (North).
  - \* Only 2% of groundwater has a salinity rate of less than 1.5 gram /liter (South).
- Urban expansion and the implementation of industrial projects on agricultural land even the most fertile.
- The exodus of young rural people in search of life in the cities since they consider that there is more work opportunity especially for those with diplomas and the old generation of farmer is aging

# Opportunities

To achieve responsible governance of land tenure and good stewardship of the land in Tunisia we need :

**1/-**Tools and means of monitoring including human resources to monitor and enforce compliance with legal texts relating to the protection and conservation of agricultural land.

**2/-**To impose more severe sanctions on those who do not respect these texts.

**3/-**To create a single public structure that collects all the precise and general data relating to each agricultural plot (area, ownership, kind of labor and crops, the use of water for irrigation ...).

**4/-** To create an information system which connects all stakeholders and which contains a detailed and precise database in order to help decision- makers during the development of national strategies in agricultural land management.



**Thank you very much  
for your attention**