



Trandisciplinary development of pathways towards sustainability in agriculture

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Why the Farm-Path project?

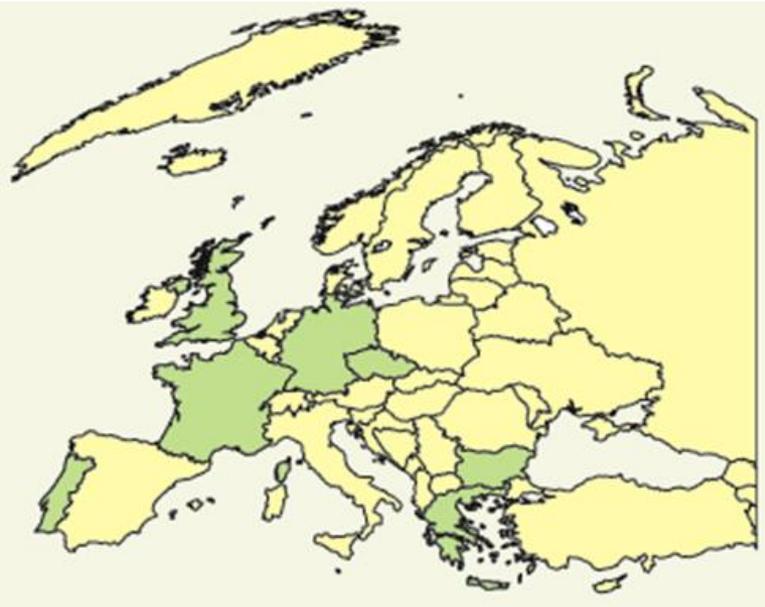
- *Identify mechanisms to promote favourable conditions for **transition processes** in the farming sector for increased sustainability,*
- *Support the adaptative and reflexive capacity of those involved.*



Its a radical transformations towards a sustainable society as a response to a number of persistent problems confronting contemporary modern societies .



Farm-Path in 7 EU regions



The same goal and the same approach in:

- 1. Aberdeenshire (North East Scotland)**
- 2. Plzensky region (Czech Republic)**
- 3. Baden-Württemberg (Germany)**
- 4. Montermor-o-Novo (Portugal)**
- 5. Pays de Rennes (France)**
- 6. Prazardjik and Plovid (Bulgaria)**
- 7. Imathia (Greece).**

Conditions for transition to occur

- *Reflexive governance approach at multi-level governance scales*
- *Social learning*
- *Co-design (a **transdisciplinary** approach)*

**Development of pathways towards sustainability
in agriculture**

Transdisciplinary approaches

standing point and reasons for its use

Context specific,
Real world problems,
Extra-scientific' problems.

Active Integration of all actors in the knowledge production process,



Participatory processes

Reflexivity,

Balanced consideration of different knowledge sources.

*create a **co-constructed knowledge between researchers and practitioners** on the possible locally-based transitions and the conditions required at the niche and the regime level for those to occur.*

A step-by-step approach: From consultation to trandisciplinarity

Two central and sequential questions :

What is wished for agriculture and other land-based activities for each region in 2030?

What needs to be done to achieve this desirable future in 2030?



Visions
compilation

Pathways
towards the
defined
visions

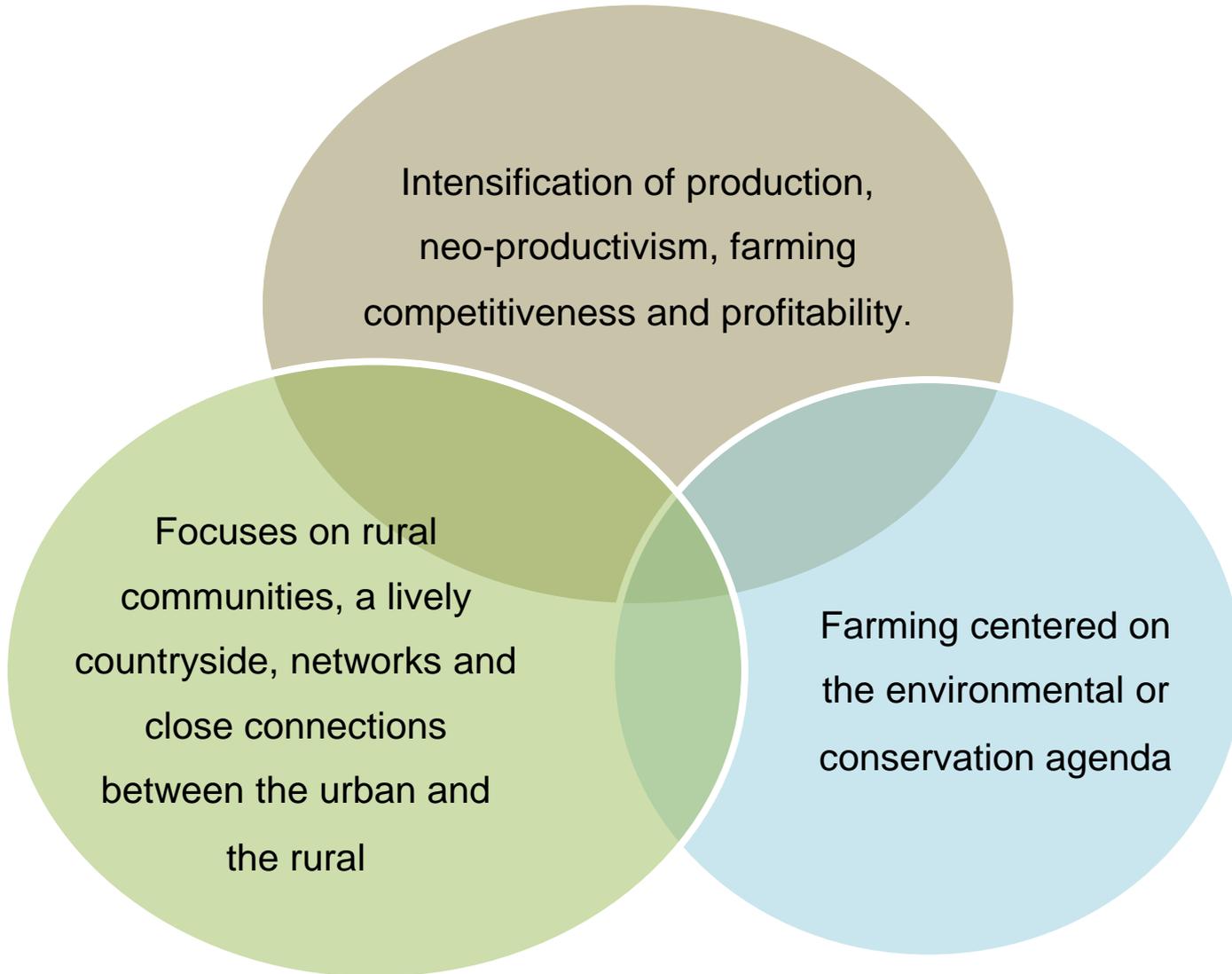
Desirable
visions for
2030

Getting in
touch



Stakeholders
identification

More than 50 vision created



The pathways

Maintenance or re-emergence of farming activities

Innovation in farming

New concepts of farming, farmers and rural areas

Overall policy and institutional change

Transdisciplinarity: Lessons learned

What participants expect?

Tangible vs Intangible outcomes

Depends on the:
Commitment, sharing of
responsibilities and empowerment
of all participants

How does motivation impact the process?

Those considered less motivated in the beginning did not participate until the end.

The intuition of researchers is important

Did previous relations impact the process?

Yes!

Social capital should be accumulated between projects

Is transdisciplinarity a Business As Usual scientific project?

No!

Science partners require a proper preparation, as well as, individual and group discourses.

Final remarks

- **Co-construction of visions >> Social learning**
it has occurred in each case study region,
involving multiple actors, from different spheres.
- **Social learning >> only possible due to the use of suitable and tailor-made tools = well-structured and facilitated process, where the leading role is clearly defined**
 - >> attitude and behavior of the research team open to the science-practice dialogue**
- **Decisive role of science and scientific actors**
 - >> hybrid actors, creating tensions and pressing for openings, while empowering the niche**



THANK YOU
FOR THE
ATTENTION