

CONSOLE

CONTRACT Solutions for Effective and lasting delivery of agri-environmental-climate public goods by EU agriculture and forestry

Research and Innovation action: H2020 - GA 817949

D5.4 Report on CoP activities and lessons learned

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1 Summary

The CONSOLE project has built a Community of Practice (CoP) whose aim was to interact, exchange of knowledge and provide feedback during project lifetime. The CONSOLE consortium has organised several CoP events and training activities.

For that a guideline for the CoP management was carried out at the beginning of the project. On the other hand, the guidelines for testing solutions catalogues providing suggestions in order to organise CoP events in the correct way to achieve the objectives expected.

The CONSOLE CoP is composed of a network of key actors actively involved in the project. The CoP enabled participation of people that do not speak English allowing us to better interact with local tacit knowledge.

A huge number of key actors provided their knowledge and test the solutions provided by the CONSOLE project. The aim of this report is to summarise the CoP and training events carried out along the project life time and the lessons learned by the implementation of the CoP approach in the CONSOLE project.

As well as, the distribution of key actors per country and the report of the CoP can be found (CoP report events as annexes).

2 Introduction

CONSOLE has built a Community of Practice (CoP) whose aim was co-creating an empirically validated contractual framework, to design and test effective and efficient contract models and to support their implementation by multiple actors. This document is intended to describe the whole CoP and training activities carried out in the framework of the CONSOLE project and to give a summary of the lessons learned from the interactions with key actors. The approach applied to run the CoP activities has been presented in the "Guidelines for CoP management" (D5.1) and in the "Guidelines for testing the solutions catalogue " (D5.2).

During the project, the continuous interaction with the CoP in all practice-oriented tasks, played a crucial role allowing the co-construction of the conceptual framework, identifying the main barriers and advantages from AECPGs contract solutions and their testing. It was decided to focus in a first round of CoP events on presenting and discussing selected cases studies (linked to WP2), while the second wave was dedicated to presenting and discussing the survey results (linked to WP3), and one explicitly targeted WP1 focussing on the decision trees and key aspects for implementation related to the four contract solutions. Furthermore, dedicated training events have been set up by the partners with a broad range of topics addressed, including the implementation of innovative contract solutions under the post 2022 CAP.

The CONSOLE CoP is composed of a network of key actors actively involved in the project. Their collaboration was to support the practical design and implementation of contracts. The CoP enabled participation of people that do not speak English allowing us to better interact with local tacit knowledge. These participants in the

CoP were practitioners and other actors from inside and outside of the CONSOLE consortium.

The CoP has interacted with the rest of the WPs in order to collect their knowledge and test the solutions provided by the CONSOLE project. Along the project lifetime, the CoP has interacted in WP1 by the development of the contractual framework itself and the catalogue of contract solutions. On the other hand, in WP2, the CoP has contributed to the existing experiences of AECPGs provision. The feasibility of the of new contract solutions has been addressed under WP3 by surveys distributed by the partners. Finally, the CoP members have been involved in the dissemination and communication activities.

The aim of this report is to summarise the CoP and training events carried out along the project life time and the lessons learned by the implementation of the CoP approach in the CONSOLE project. All the report of the training events can be found as annexes in the D5.3.

3 CONSOLE' Community of Practice

3.1 Number of actors involved

Along the CONSOLE project, each partner has participated in the development and interaction of the project' CoP.

The CONSOLE project has been designed to promote CoP interaction through several activities, workshops and seminars related to the rest of WPs. The CoP events and actors by country are summarised below:

Austrian Community of Practice (AT CoP)

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU). Partner number 4

During project's lifetime, BOKU has organised several events in order to communicate CONSOLE objectives and results. Three CoP events have been organised related to the CONSOLE WPs, as well as one training event: The first CoP event (28/05/2021) connected to the WP2 provided an overview of the CONSOLE case studies and showcased the variety of existing solutions. An additional time slot was dedicated to local case studies. The second CoP event (18/11/2021) connected to WP3, was organised in collaboration with the German partner (TI) and focused on the stakeholder and land manager survey results from WP3. With the CoP participants, the survey results were discussed. Mainly land managers' future willingness to enroll, the understandability, feasibility, and economical aspects of the four contract types were presented. The third event (26/04/2022) connected to WP1 was designed to discuss and test the draft solutions catalog. The decision tree developed for result-based contracts was tested and hypothetically applied to two Austrian RB examples. The first training took place after the 3rd CoP event (26/04/2022) with the main objective of providing in-depth insights into the Austrian land managers' perceptions regarding result-based contracts based on an in Austria conducted survey (N=235), training material containing well-illustrated and easily understandable results were distributed. In addition, a forty-page report with a concise summary of all project results relevant to Austria was distributed as training material on October 17, 2022, including lessons learned for the future design of these new solutions in Austria.

The AT CoP is composed mainly of farmers, but also participants coming from the private and public sectors. Highly involved in the AT-CoP were a consultancy organisation in charge of existing contract solutions in Austria, as well as an association running also an existing private scheme, as well as actors, from the public sector involved in the design of AECPGs. The CoP provides a near perception of farmers' needs and facilitates the design and implementation of contracts that promote AECPGs provision.

Taking into account the events along the project, the CoP is composed by:

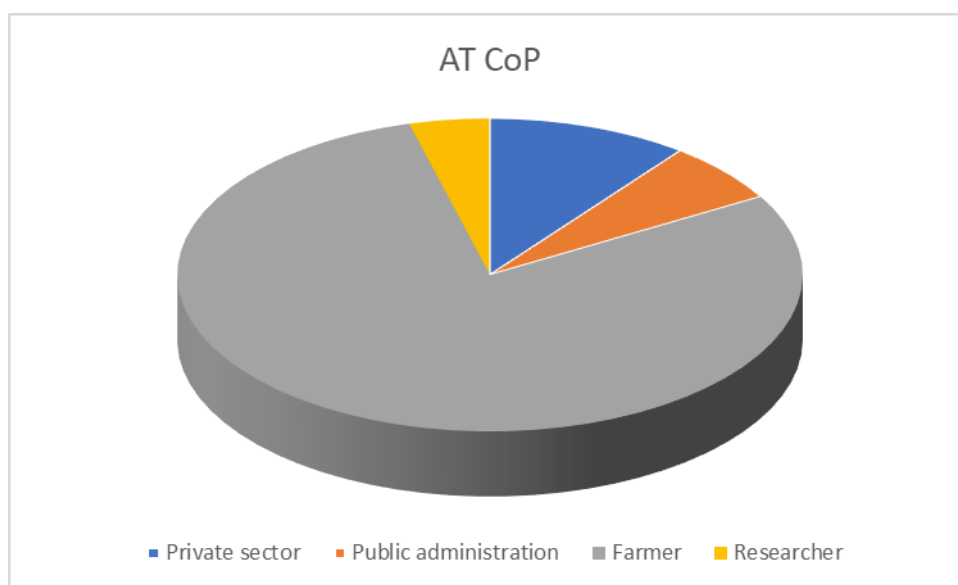


Figure 1 Austrian CoP (n=48)

Belgian Community of Practice European Landowners Organization (ELO) Partner number 6

The ELO team has participated in several meetings and face to face activities. In this case, no additional CoP events have been implemented along the project in Belgium but Belgian actors have participated in international events.

In Belgium, only dissemination and communication activities have been carried out in order to promote Belgian actors to participate in the international events.

In fact, the multiplier event and other activities addressed different types of members of BE CoP:

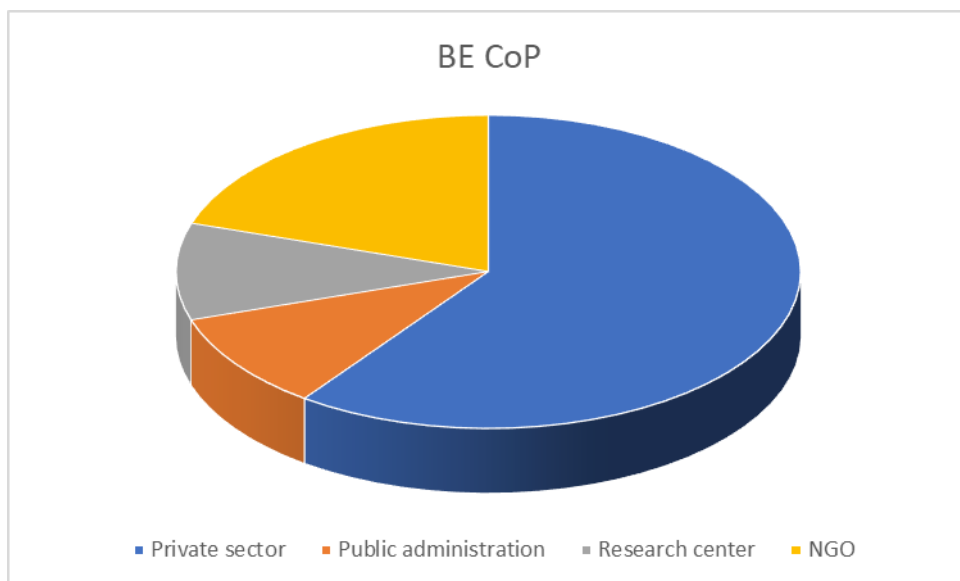


Figure 2 Belgian CoP (n= 10)

Bulgarian Community of Practice (BG CoP) Association of Agri-Environmental Farmers (AAEF) Partner number 7 and Institute of Agriculture Economics (IAE). Partner number 8

Both partners (AAEF and IAE) have organised, in a collaborative way, a set of events dedicated to disseminate and promote the participation and exchange of the key actors involved in the CoP. A total of three events dedicated to the CoP (in addition multiplier events and other events) related to the WP requirements (21/10/2021 related to WP3 results and 19/04/2022 for WP1). There were also the final CoP events (25/05/2022 and 26/05/2022) focused on training activities was designed in two days achieving a representative number of participants related to the objectives.

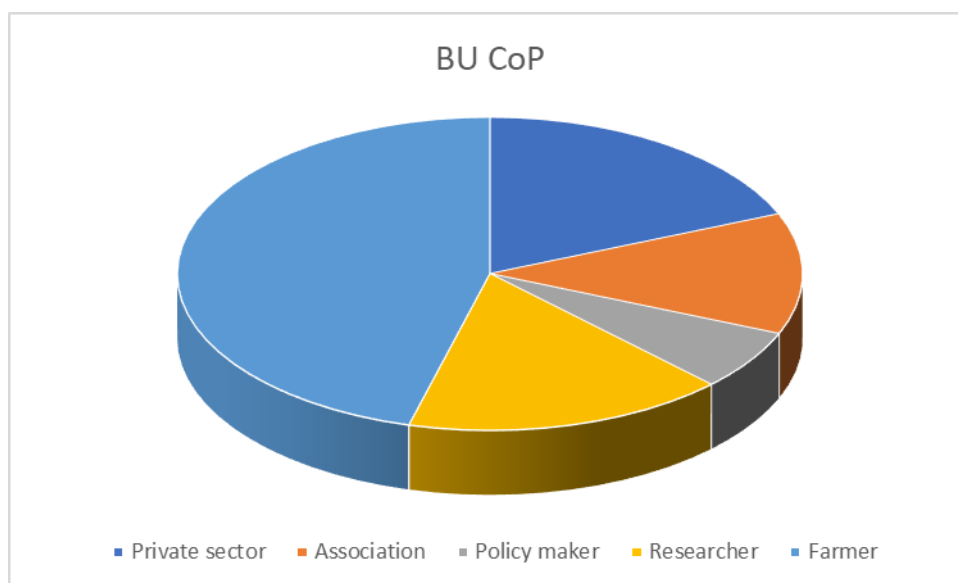


Figure 3 Bulgarian CoP (n=48)

The high percentage of farmers highlight the close interaction with the field in terms to analyse current trends and demands by farmers to improve profitability and AECPGs provision.

Finnish Community of Practice (FI CoP) Luonnonvarakeskus partner 13.

LUKE organised two meetings with public administration and forest owners at the beginning of the project. Three further CoP events has been implemented along the project focused on to obtain feedback required by WP2, WP3 and WP1 (15/05/2021, 15/11/2021 and 28/03/2022).

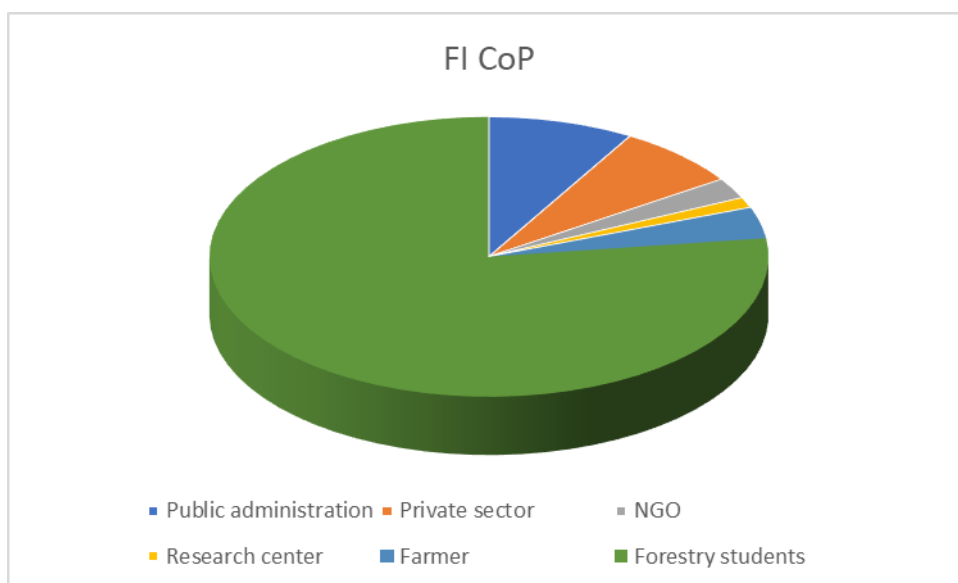


Figure 4 Finnish CoP (n=83)

The last event, dedicated to training activities, was focused on providing new knowledge to forestry students in order to facilitate the implementation of contract solutions and provision of AECPGs and to collect their feedback on the specific characteristics of CONSOLE results. This last event included 64 forestry students.

French Community of Practice. Assemblée de regions Europeennes fruitieres legumieres (AREFLH) partner 14, Association TRAME (partner 15) and National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and the Environment INRAE (partner 17)

Regarding the French CoP, only dissemination and communication activities were carried out by AREFLH to promote the participation of actors at the European level in ten countries that are represented our members to participate in the CoP events that were carried out by the project partners.

TRAME and INRAE organised national events, focused on compiling local knowledge. Both strategies nurtured the information requested by the WPs.

The first CoP event was carried out on 06/02/2020 connected to WP2 whose aim was to provide an overview of current case studies and AECPGs provided. The second event connected to WP3 provided an overview of results obtained from surveys. In this event, the audience provided their impression and opinions about results and feasibility to implement contract solutions. This event was organised on 14/10/2021. The third CoP event focused on testing the draft contract solutions catalogue was carried out at 12/05/2022.. Finally, a training activity focused on provide materials to

key actors according to their demands was carried out in 20/05/2022. A total of two training activity have been organised by AREFLH (02/12/2021 and 20/05/2022).

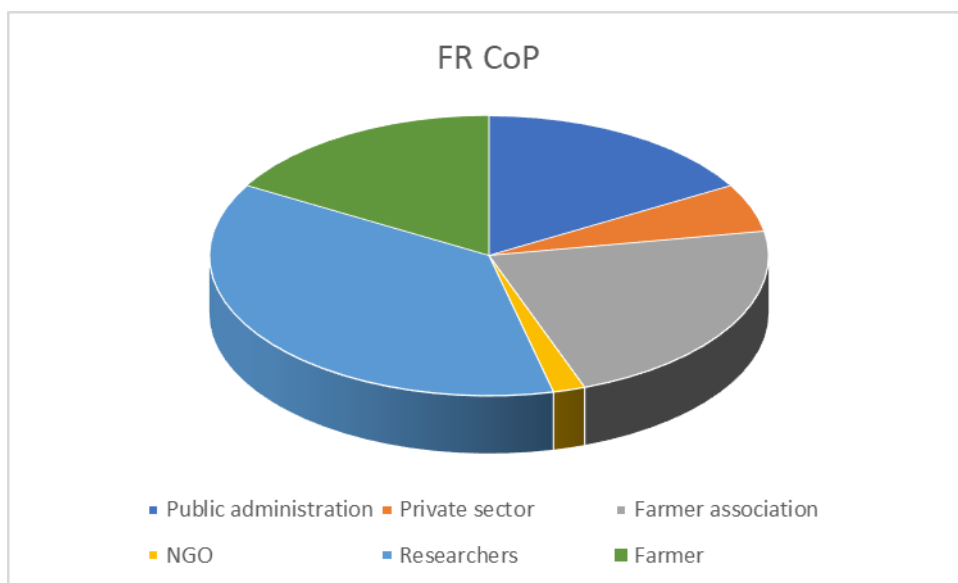


Figure 5 French CoP (N=54)

The interaction with French key actors and the international events organised in this context provided a balanced CoP. FR CoP events provided an excellent opportunity to exchange local experiences to the resto of the CoP in terms of AECPGs provided in real environment from the perspective of farmers. In addition, the public administration learnt about other experiences on contract solutions under current policues and researchers new insights on contract solutions.

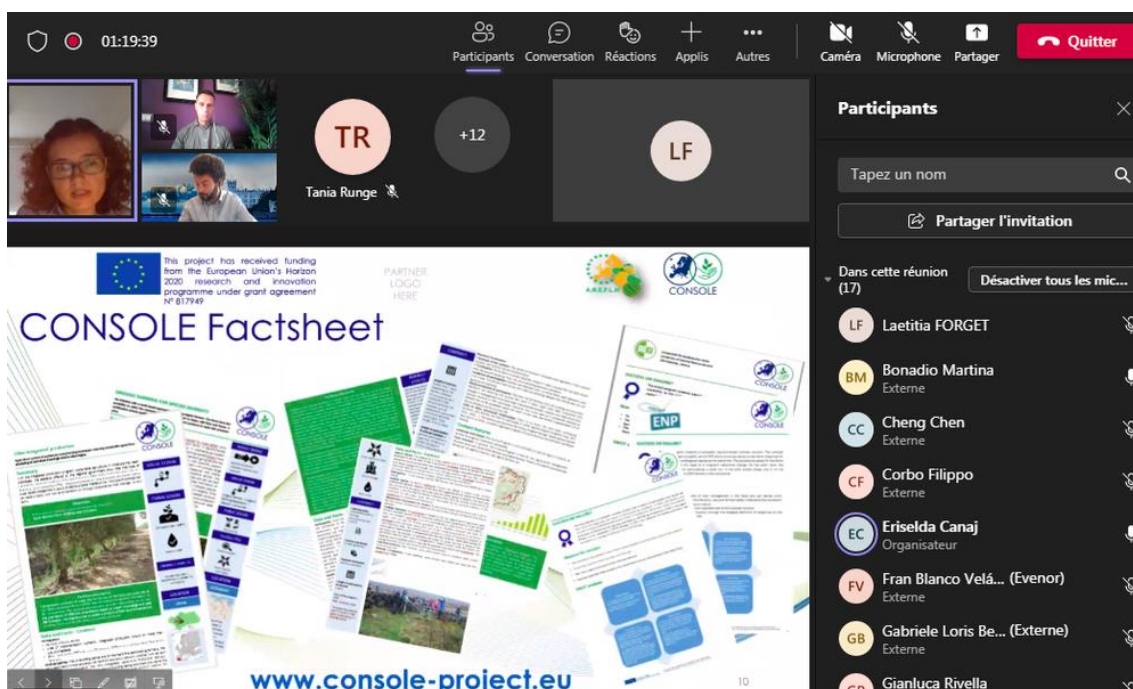


Figure 6 Second online training at international level organised by AREFLH

German Community of Practice. Thünen Institute Partner number 9

Thünen Institute has organised/participated in a total of 4 CoP events plus 2 training events with different objectives depending of the audience and WP information requested. The first event, connected to WP2, was organised on 15/06/2021 and focused on the description of CONSOLE case studies, their characteristics and AECPGs provided. The event was organised for farmers in order to provide an overview of the portfolio of case studies in CONSOLE project. The second event has been organised on 29/06/2021 and open to any type of actor and provided insights into contractual solutions as foreseen in the next programming period of the CAP. The third one has been organised in cooperation with the Austrian partners. The fourth event connected to WP3 provided insights regarding the survey results. The final CoP event focused on testing the draft contract solution catalogue and was carried out in 23/05/2022 with the aim to test the decision tree developped for tenure contracts and the specific characteristics of it. Finally, two training events were carried out (16/06/2022 with SHERPA project) and 23/06/2022 co-organised with TI colleagues in order to analyse functionalities of NatApp (online tool under development) and to highlight the benefits to invest in contract solutions to promote AECPGs.

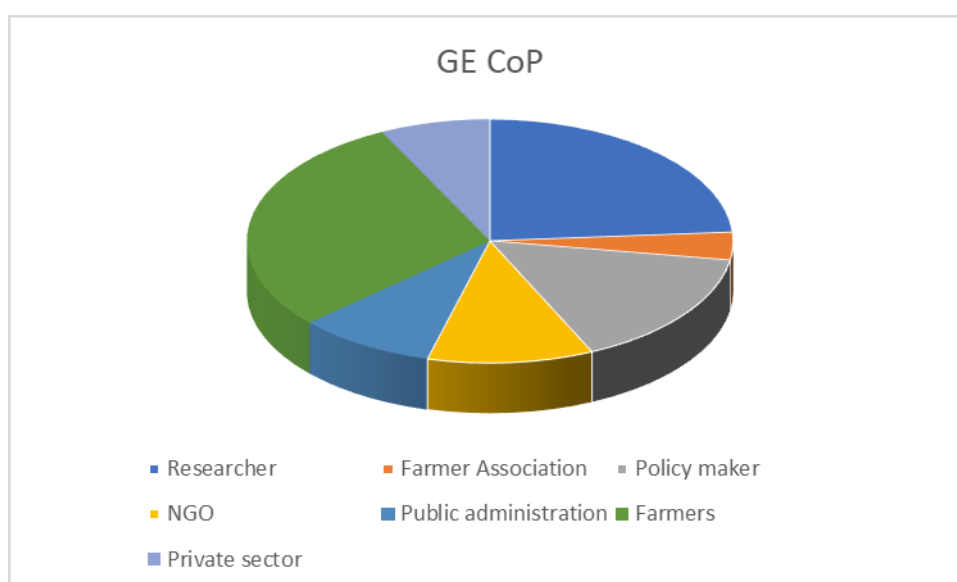


Figure 7 German CoP (n=109)

The German CoP reflects the exchange of knowledge among different concerned parties. The events provided an excellent opportunity to learn from each other and discuss the best way to implement contract solutions that promote AECPGs. The feedback from GeCoP nurtured the framework of contract solutions and provide useful information to understand the roadmap to implement them.



Figure 8 First Training event organised by TI

Irish Community of Practice. University of College Cork Partner 18.

UCC organised five events related to CoP actors (multiplier and dissemination event as well). The first workshop (November 2019) had a main objective of providing an overview of current case studies in the CONSOLE project. According to the results obtained from questionnaires and surveys, UCC organised an event (25/11/2021) focused on the discussion of the results at national level comparing these with the project results. The second event was focused on the testing the draft solutions catalogue obtained in CONSOLE project. Two training events were also held.

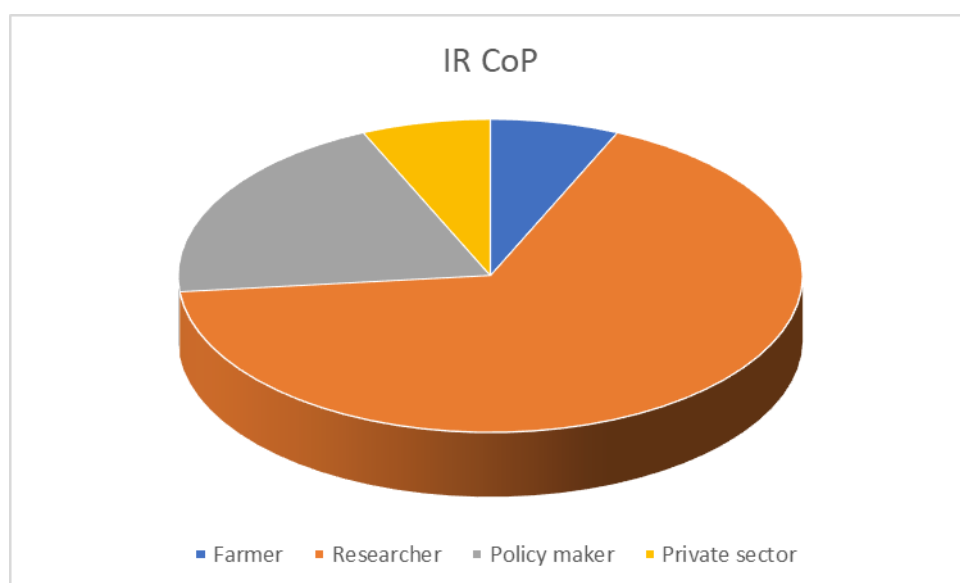


Figure 9 Irish CoP (n=45)

The Irish CoP allowed comparison of different scenarios (policies and farmer structure) with the rest of scenarios found in the project. The Irish CoP events also provided an opportunity to connect with current initiatives with similar objectives.

Italian Community of Practice. University of Bologna (UNIBO) Partner number 1. Regione Emilia Romagna (RER) Partner number 2. University of Pisa partner number 19 and University of Ferrara.

The Italian CoP included the interaction and efforts of four entities in order to develop and manage a huge number of participants across the country. For that, several meetings were carried out (some of them in collaboration among partners and others in collaboration with external entities). The three events that focused on CoP activities were carried out in collaboration of the partners involved. The first round of events related to WP2 were carried out between 30/01/2021 and 29/11/2021. A total of 5 events focused on case study details and AECPGs with special mention of local/national case studies. The second round of events was carried out in 29/11/2021 in a collaborative way and connected to WP3. This second round was organised to discuss about results from questionnaires in order to analyse the differences between Italian results and the rest of countries analysed. A training event was carried out on 29/04/2022 to analyse and discuss the factors determining the success of collective agreements in the field of rural development. The event allowed compilation of feedback from regional collaborators interested in planning and designing different competences in the area. Finally, the event connected to WP1 was carried out on 4/05/2022 with the main objective being to test the draft contract solutions catalogue.

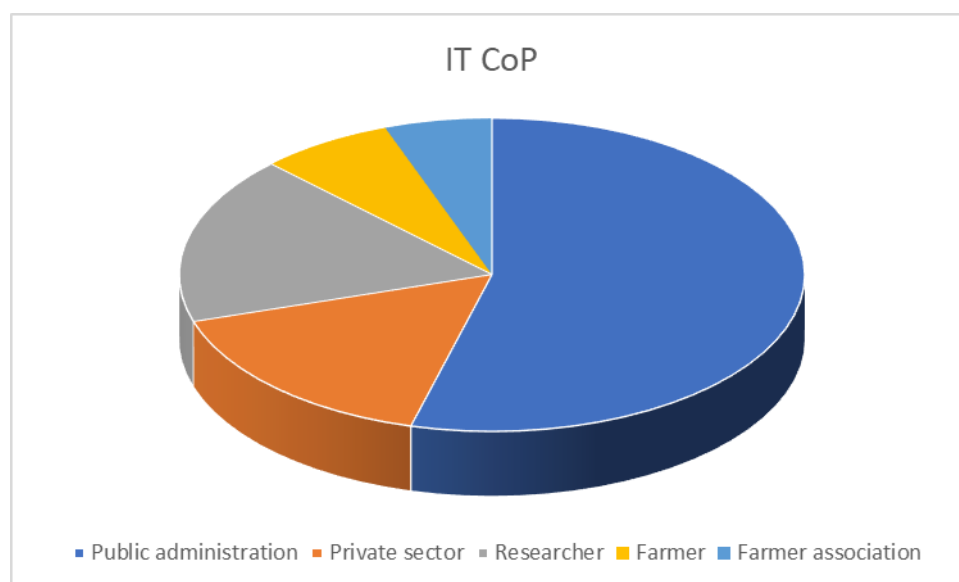


Figure 10 Italian CoP (n=144)

Italian CoP involved a huge number of actors from public administration and policy maker. These involvement allowed an initial interest to develop rural plan based on outputs from CONSOLE project in order to improve AECPGs provision and farmers' profitability.

Latvian Community of Practice. Zemnieku Saeima partner 20

Zemnieku Saeima has participated in several meetings involving farmers, project partners and others stakeholders in order to disseminate the objectives of the project and promote their participation in the CoP.

The first CoP event was carried out on 04/02/2021 focused on disseminating and collecting feedback about contract types in the case studies and AECPGs provided under the CONSOLE framework (WP2). The second CoP event was organised on 01/10/2021 related to results from WP3 (questionnaires and surveys) on contract

solution interests and demands. Finally, the third CoP event (02/05/2022) provided feedback on testing the draft contract solutions catalogue.

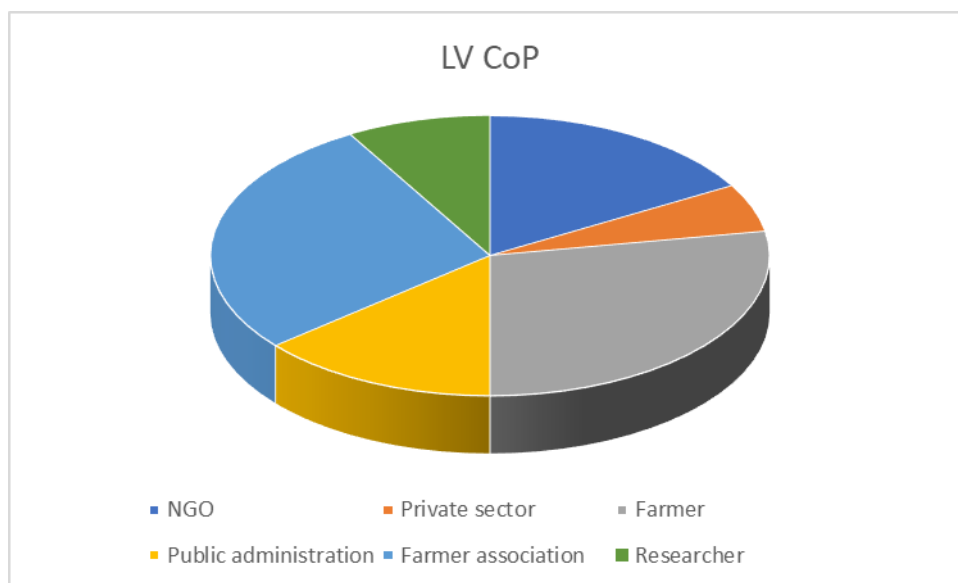


Figure 11 Latvian CoP (n=36)

LVCoP has a strong influence of farmers and farmers' associations. This is important in order to know their perception on CONSOLE results and solutions proposed. As well as, this allow us to obtain specific demands in order to design plan and policies in a bottom-up way.



Figure 12 Second CoP event organised by ZSA

Dutch Community of Practice Stichting VU (partner 21)

A total of two CoP events related to three WPs were carried out in The Netherlands (multiplier events as well). The events related to WP2 (12/02/2020) and WP3 (10/03/2022) were organised where specific details on contract solutions, case studies, AECPGs and results from questionnaires (related to contract solution characteristics and demands) were shown and discussed.

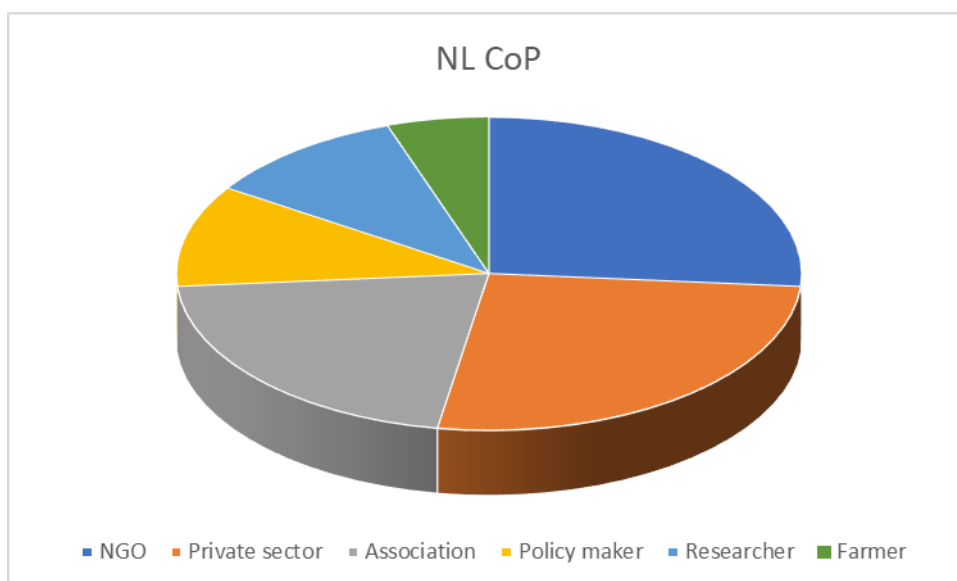


Figure 13 Dutch CoP (n= 19)

Polish Community of Practice. SGGW (partner 23)

SGGW organized three CoP events according to the WP information requested and to promote the exchange of knowledge. The first event connected to WP2 was organized on 12/03/2021 with the objective to provide an overview of case study characteristics in the CONSOLE project and the AECPGs provided. The second event organized on 04/02/2022 had as an objective to discuss the results obtained in the project questionnaire (WP3) related to needs, strengths and weakness about the contract solutions identified. Finally, the third CoP event was organized on 10/05/2022 related to WP1 and tested the draft contract solutions catalogue. On the other hand, SGGW has organized a training event at 26/10/2022.

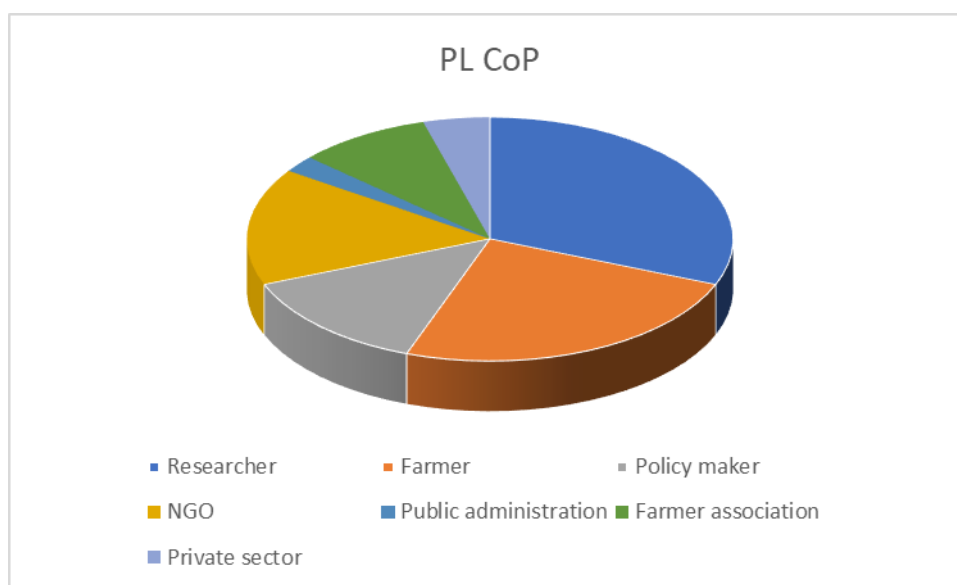


Figure 14 Polish CoP (n=45)

The Polish CoP is composed by farmers and researchers mainly in a close cooperation in order to exchange knowledge and experiences. Of course, other type of actors are represented in this CoP- NGOs and policy makers are key to implement the contract solutions that promote AECPGs.

Spanish Community of Practice. Evenor-Tech (partner number 10), ASAJA-Sevilla (partner 11) and Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (partner 12)

Together, the three entities have developed several CoP events during the project in order to develop, manage and interact with them and compile their feedback and knowledge. As well multiplier and dissemination events, the first CoP event was carried out on 06/04/2021 where an overview of case studies and their characteristics was provided including AECPGs. The second CoP event was organised on 19/04/2022 where results from WP3 and WP1 were discussed. Finally, a training event with the CoP was carried out in 18/04/2022 providing an overview of lessons learned from the collaboration with sister projects and the implementation of contract solutions.

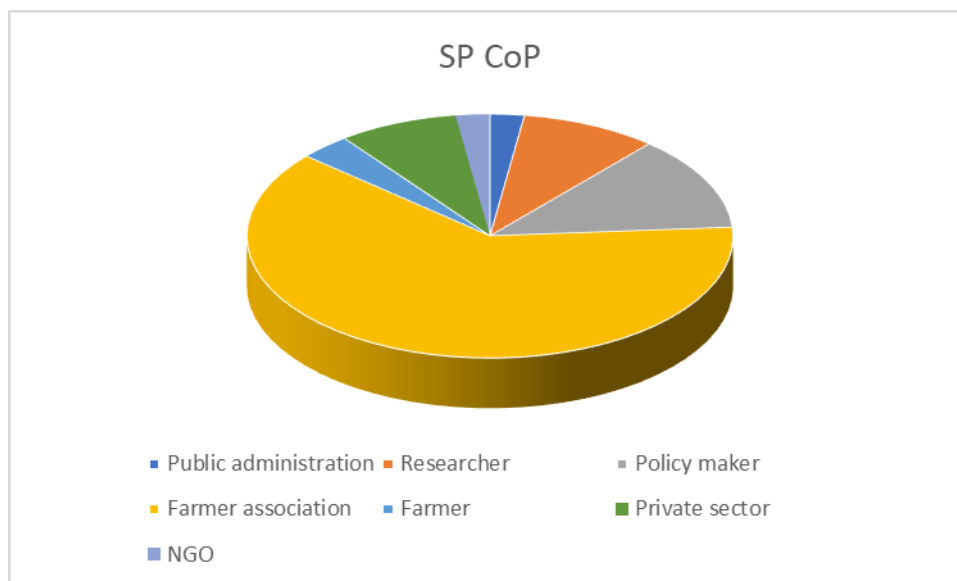


Figure 15 Spanish CoP (n=88)

The Spanish CoP is composed mainly of farmer associations that involve several agricultural agents (technicians, farmers, advisors, etc). The SPCoP provided high interest in the implementation of contract solutions in other countries and their experience of the design and involvement of key actors. They highlighted that the use of technology may facilitate the implementation of new contract solutions in the country but it will depend of the external services and their costs.

United Kingdom Community of Practice University of Leeds (partner number 24)

The University of Leeds organised three CoP events in order to develop, animate and interact with the CoP actors. For that, the first CoP event was organised on 25/02/2020 where the main characteristics of the CONSOLE case studies and the provision of AECPGs were discussed and compared with the national case studies. The second CoP event was organised on 07/03/2022 where the results of WP3 questionnaires were discussed and analysed. Finally, the third CoP event related to testing the draft solutions catalogue (WP1) and was carried out on 31/05/2022.

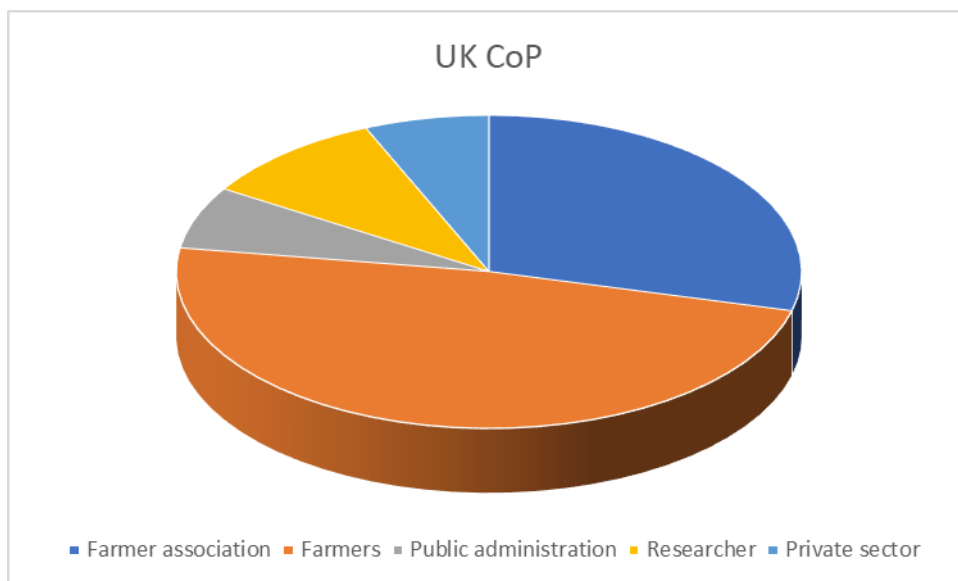


Figure 16 UK CoP (n=31)

In the UK CoP, several local farming groups participated in the CoP in order to expose their needs and demands and exchange their experiences and knowledge about contract types and AECPGs provided in the field. Their experience was very fruitful in order to categorize AECPGs related to contract types and the CoP highly appreciated the opportunities to meet with different actors and other farmers to discuss these contract types.

Total results

According to the national results, following global results obtained are summarised.

Table 1: Summary of CoP events

Country	CoP meetings related to WP2	CoP meetings related to WP3	CoP meetings related to WP1	Training events
Austria	28/05/2021	18/11/2021	26/04/2022	26/04/2022
Bulgaria	20/10/2021	21/10/2021	19/04/2022	25/05/2022-26/05/2022
Finland	15/02/2021	15/11/2021	28/03/2022	03/12/2021, 28/03/2022
France	06/02/2020	14/10/2021	12/05/2022	20/05/2022
Germany	15/06/2021	29/06/2021 18/11/2021	23/05/2022	16/06/2022, 23/06/2022
Ireland	25/11/2021	25/11/2021	20/04/2022	07/10/2022 19/10/2022
Italy	30/01/2021; 24/02/2021; 20/03/2021; 14/09/2021; 29/11/2021	29/11/2021	04/05/2022	29/04/2022

Latvia	04/02/2021	01/10/2021	02/05/2022	
Netherlands	12.02.2020	10/03/2022		
Poland	12/03/2021	04/02/2022	10/05/2022	26/10/2022
Spain	06/04/2021	19/04/2022	19/04/2022	18/04/2022
United Kingdom	25/02/2021	07/03/2022	31/05/2022	

If we collect the number of actors involved in each CONSOLE CoP.

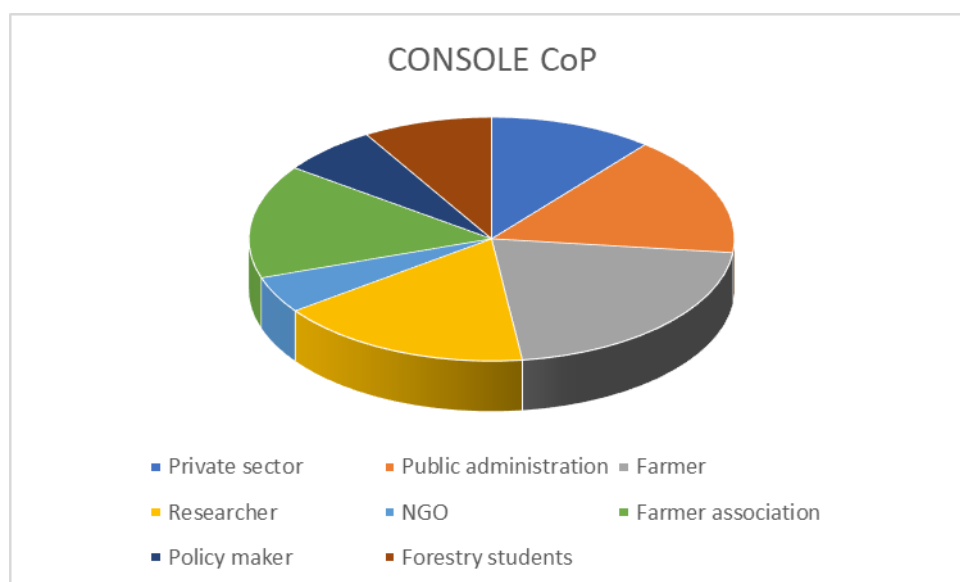


Figure 17 CONSOLE CoP (n=755)

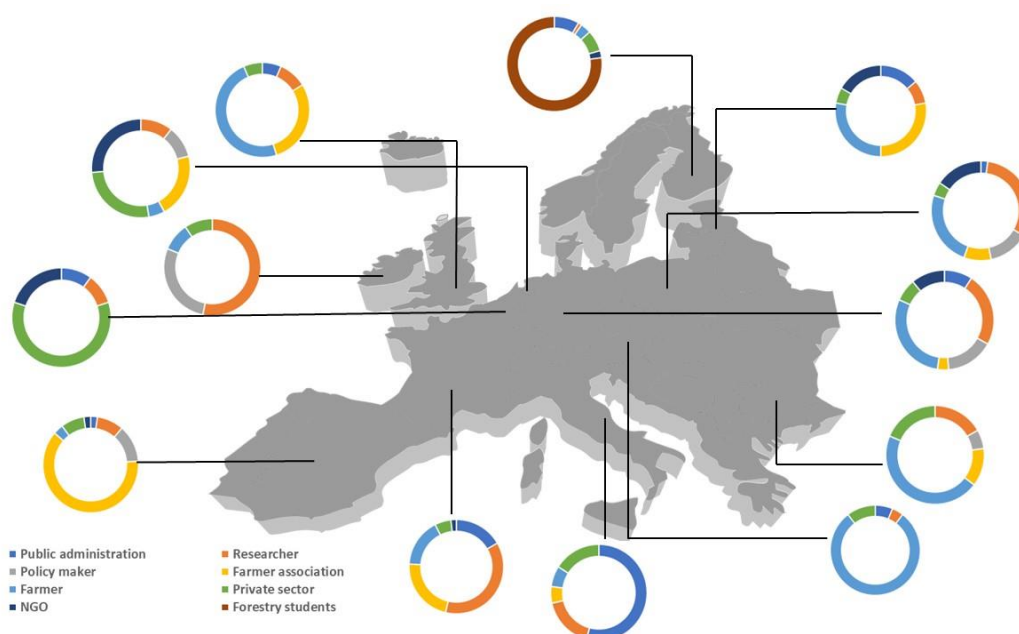


Figure 18 Distribution of CONSOLE CoP

During the CoP events, the participants provided their knowledge and contributions around contract types and case studies. Although all the case studies and contract types have been widely discussed, there are some contract solutions more discussed

than others. Concretely, the result based contract solution more discussed was AT4 "The Humus-Program of the Ökoregion Kaindorf" (Belgium, Finland, France, Deutschland, Poland and Spain). Regarding collective contract solutions implementation, FR5 "Hamster - Collective AECM to restore habitats of the European Hamster in Alsace" was discussed in Austria, Belgium, Italy and Spain. DE5 "Waterprotection bread" was the most discussed value chain contract solution (Austria, Germany, Italy, Poland and Italy). Finally, the land-tenure contract solution more discusses has been BG4 "Conservation and restoration of grasslands in Strandzhaand Sakar mountains for restoring local biodiversity and endangered bird species".

4 Lessons learned and impacts

Initially, the community was designed as a group of key actors who would share their knowledge throughout the project. As foreseen, in each country a national contact point has been the intermediary to avoid the language barrier. This national contact point or national manager is a CONSOLE partner and responsible for communicating the different actions of the project to the community members, compiling their feedback (from each event a structured report has been prepared) and thus ensuring feedback into the ongoing project activities. In addition, this person has been responsible not only for convening and organising CoP events throughout the project, but also the contact person for the training events. Once the pandemic started, the contact persons got guidance how to organise CoP events under the new situation and to adapt the methodology to the new health conditions without losing sight of the objectives included in the GA.

One of the first lessons learned in this project has been the versatility and flexibility of CoP development. The proposed methodology and the use of ICTs made it possible to maintain contact and interaction with stakeholders. It turned out that this situation allowed to focus more efforts on the digital world, reaching actors who, for reasons of time and distance, would not have participated in the events.

One of the initial concerns that those of us responsible for this work package and the consortium members had been the likelihood of less participation of key partners or the lack of information gathered. Today most stakeholders have access to smartphones or laptops that allow them to video conference or participate in a digital event.

Participation in the events was not affected by the pandemic. However, the reconfiguration of the format of the events as originally planned caused widespread delays.

All participants showed great interest in the project's objectives. From a social and political point of view, the objectives of the project are in line with the FAO's sustainable development goals and the needs of society at large. If we review the high participation in the events, we can conclude that the subject matter was of great interest and has generated an important impact regarding the opportunities that arise for the implementation of contractual solutions promoted by the AECPGs.

From the farmers' point of view, they stress that they were already interested in producing AECPGs and/or were already doing so. Throughout the project they have interacted by providing their point of view to facilitate the implementation or design

of a contractual solution that favours them economically but also provides AECPGs. The duration of the contract, as well as the type of financial compensation or the contract monitoring indicator are key variables for the success of a contractual solution. However, an overly complex or administratively burdensome design could have the opposite effect.

From the point of view of public administration and policy makers, the integration of the concepts worked on in the project relate to numerous national and international policies. Environmental care and sustainable production are two cross-cutting factors in several policies. New agricultural policies can be related to the provision of AECPGs through indirect measures or eco-schemes. The design of new contractual solutions in cooperation with the administration and farmers would allow for a more inclusive development of measures and clarity in their implementation.

Within the private sector we must distinguish the diversity of entities that can be found. From entities that advise farmers to those entities that process foodstuffs. It is the latter that showed the greatest interest in examples of contractual solutions based on the value chain. This type of solution proposes a sustainable production scenario according to the needs of the market and the provision of AECPGs of interest to the region. Sometimes, the examples provided in the CONSOLE project focus on the success of such contractual relationships between the farmer and the private sector without specific support from the public administration. Although there are examples of a relationship supported by the administration, these are usually based on the creation of a brand or label. Large industrial entities can implement this system in a more or less agile way. However, small farmers or small industry may require a boost or promotion by public entities.

The researchers showed their interest in the development of business and economic models that allow the feasibility of implementing the proposed solutions. The integration of variables from different areas (social, environmental and economic) is one of the challenges posed in the project. To this end, the CoP is made up of researchers from different areas of knowledge who can provide their knowledge on the subject and incorporate it into the co-design of the solutions. Another branch of the researchers also interested in the progress of the project was related to the technological feasibility of monitoring the contractual solutions, either from the point of view of crop management or from the point of view of a specific parameter.

The interests of NGOs and society at large were also present at this CoP. Their interests were more focused on the environmental and sustainable aspect of the solutions proposed. Also, in the supply of sustainable products that reached the market at an affordable price. Although the impact of the conflict could not be analysed in depth in this project, it may be a key factor in the short term for the implementation of a solution that does not provide a sustainable product to society at a competitive price.

The interaction with the actors that make up the CoP throughout the project has been quite fluid. Although, due to the pandemic, digital fatigue was beginning to be generated due to the number of virtual events that were generated, participation and interaction was excellent. On the other hand, the exchange of experiences between the countries through the interaction of the national points of contact and

in international events has made it possible to strengthen relations and increase communication or relations between members of the CoP.

5 Conclusion

The CoP is a useful tool if it is expected to encourage the exchange of knowledge/experience as well as the bottom-up co-design of models or contractual solutions.

Although in this case the pandemic has not reduced the number of CoP participants, the events must be properly designed and not fatigue the participants.

One of the keys to success is making them understand that their interaction is necessary for proper development (empowerment of creation).

Throughout the project, numerous events have been held with the CoP focused on different topics according to the work packages.

With a total of 742 participants, the project's CoP was organized by country and by different sectors to ensure the compilation of all points of view.

Although the project focuses more on interaction with actors from the agricultural/forestry sector and with actors related to politics, the CoP was also made up of NGOs, private sector and researchers.

6 Acknowledgment



CONSOLE CoP

Reporting sheet

for the 1st feedback round
on “Lessons learned from existing
contract solutions “

Introduction

In CONSOLE the overarching objective is to co-construct an end-user led contractual framework and a practical contract solutions catalogue covering the four contract types result-based/ result-oriented, collective implementation/ cooperation, value chain and land tenure based as well as combinations or hybrids of them. In order to gather insights from practitioners and other stakeholders it is foreseen to run feedback rounds as Community of Practice (CoP) activity in the second project phase. It has been decided to have at least three dedicated activities with involvement of CoP members, each of them being relevant for the project success. While the second and third feedback rounds are already scheduled as workshops in the project proposal, the format of the first one is left up to the decision of the responsible partner(s), furthermore it should be adapted to the Covid-19 situation (see also Deliverable D5.2). Still, it is crucial that in all 12 project countries (BE excluded) the agreed interaction with concerned persons from practice is taking place and a harmonized reporting takes place. For this purpose a reporting sheet has been prepared that you find at the end of this document.

The first feedback round addressed here has two objectives:

- to get (additional) actors interested to engage in the CoP by getting them familiar with CONSOLE
- to cross-check the lessons learned from the case studies and to discuss the recommendations derived out of them

This exchange with CoP members builds upon the knowledge gained from the collection of existing case studies. By undergoing a reality check of the insights derived from the assessment of CONSOLE case studies it contributes to provide input for the development of the operational framework in WP1 and the preparation of the draft contract solutions catalogue and design guide in particular, but also to the ongoing work in the other WPs.

For each partner country the respective national focal person(s) can decide how to organise the exchange with CoP members (virtual or face-to-face). When developing a suitable format attention needs to be given to Covid-19 pandemic restrictions. A good representation of practitioners and other actors involved in contract solutions for the provision of AECPGs amongst participants is more important than the number of participants itself. In particular under a virtual setting, the event should be organised in such a way that the active participation is facilitated and everybody gets a real chance to take the floor. Even though the event may include informative parts, e.g. the presentation of selected case studies and lessons learned from WP2, the focus should be put on benefiting from the expertise and knowledge of the participating CoP members (for more details about CoP members please consult D5.1).

Regarding the timing, if possible the feedback round should take place shortly before, or alternatively back-to-back with the launch of the WP3 surveys scheduled for winter to spring 2020/21. It could be organised in connection with ongoing local activities targeting AECPG provision or as a separate event.

A combination with the introduction of the surveys prepared in WP 3 would be an option. Also, a discussion of contract specific aspects and their suitability for the participants is possible. If it fits with the timing, a first round of collecting answers to the questionnaire, in particular the one addressed to stakeholders could take place too. In particular the PESTLE part (section 3 of the stakeholder survey) could benefit from a group discussion. Such a setting is a bit challenging if a physical meeting is not possible. On the other side, it would allow to provide support in filling-out the questionnaire.

As material for preparation of the feedback round you may use:

- selected case study examples (D2.1) and insights gained from the in-depth case studies (D2.3)
- lessons learned (D2.4), here you may also take advantage of the presentations prepared for the online-workshop “New instruments for the provisions of public goods by agriculture and forestry: insights from the CONSOLE project” that you can find under <https://console-project.eu/dissemination-material/>
- the draft conceptual framework (D1.1)
- the land manager (for farmers / foresters) and in particular the stakeholder questionnaire.

Please send the reporting sheet together with a copy of the agenda and the signature list to: tania.runge@thuenen.de no later than 2 weeks after the event took place.

In case you organise a virtual event, we would kindly ask you to send us a snapshot of the image files made during the event instead of the signatures.

Do not forget to list your event in the dropbox by indicating “CoP” as audience in your partner excel sheet under

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/rbrj9wtubn1x7nr/AACObd0TGfa6iFGzUExz8FWva?dl=0>

1 AUSTRIA - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 28.05.2021

Responsible partner(s): BOKU

Responsible person(s): Lena Schaller, Theresa Eichhorn, Jochen Kantelhardt

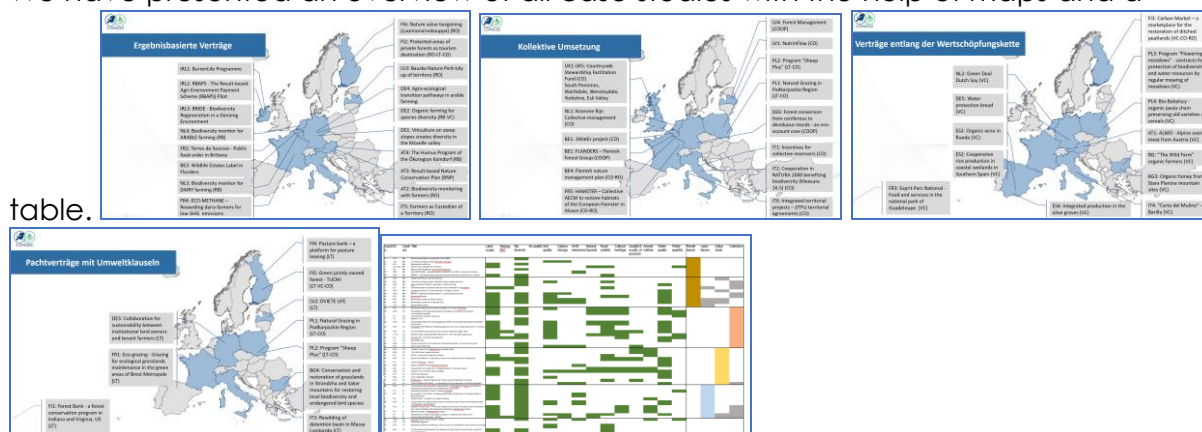
Number of participants: 13 (in total)

Questions to be answered briefly (1-2 pages):

When referring to the CONSOLE case studies, please use the short names given to each case study (country abbreviation and number). Please clearly indicate if you addressed the land managers (farmers/ foresters) survey or the stakeholder survey (or both).

1. Did you present case studies? If yes, which ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience.

We have presented an overview of all case studies with the help of maps and a



Furthermore, we presented four case studies, of one contracting mechanism each. These were:

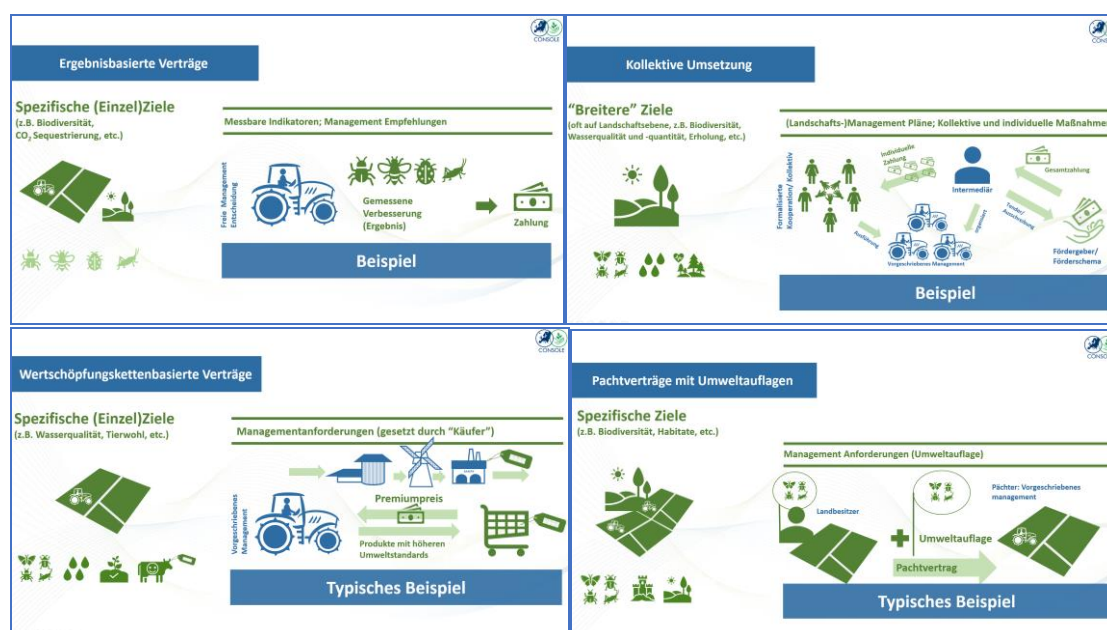
- NL3: Biodiversity monitor for DAIRY farming (RB)
- FR5: Hamster01 (CO)
- DE5: Water protection bread (VC)
- BG4: Conservation and restoration of grasslands in Strandzha and Sakar mountains for restoring local biodiversity and endangered bird species (LT)

Questions from the audience: FR5: HAMSTER01 – How does the contract solution work in terms of the surrounding area/ fields of the neighbours? Could you please specify? What happens if there is no hamster on the field? Answer: The farmers in the contract solution are part of the association AFSAL. In the collective scheme they agree to implement the crop rotation requirements and participate in group meetings to plan the area's cropping systems. Furthermore, the farming area must be located in a

Hamster expectation area. Each farmer dedicates a part of his agricultural land to hamster-friendly crops every year so that the area achieves its intended goal. Farmers are monitored based on the agreed management plan. If the plot contains at least one European hamster burrow then the farmers receive the result-based top-up payment, which is independent of the collective payment based on the management plan.

2. Did you discuss all four contract solutions or did you select specific ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience specifically related to the contract type(s).

We discussed all four contract types in our workshop. We firstly described them with the help of icons and animation. Then gave an example for each and finally presented some results and the lessons learned.



Questions from the audience: VC and LT: The different programs presented, especially the value chain and land tenure contracts, overlap or have synergies with existing agri-environmental programs (e.g. organic farming). Is market performance considered here when determining the payment modalities (e.g. organic)? Put differently: Is the market performance included in the payment of the agri-environmental measures (EU)? Answer: This is an issue of double funding, which is difficult. Double funding must be avoided in any case. Normally, additional requirements beyond organic management need to be fulfilled to obtain a premium price on top of the (normally higher) price for organic products.

3. Do participants have experience with one (or more) of the contract solutions? If yes, which one(s)?

This question was not explicitly discussed in the workshop.

4. Did you present (a selected number of) lessons learned? If yes, please briefly list those that were most intensively discussed / seen as being most relevant. Please

indicate if there was dissents amongst participants or if they did not agree with statements you presented.

Presented Lessons learned:

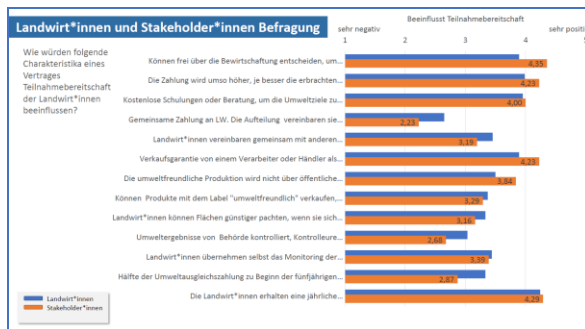
- Many solutions in place, for a multitude of PGs and for all types of farming/forestry systems
- Very specific and targeted solutions – with very specific and targeted design
- Strong engagement of the initiatives/regional actors – strong motivations
- Strong adaptation to regional criticalities and basic conditions – often intensive elements of teaching and advice
- "Targeting" contracts to specific regions address regional specificities and increases the interest and understanding of farmers and foresters for measures.
- Involving land managers in target setting and measure development leads to higher compatibility with farms and can create win-win situations. Involving monitoring agencies in the design of indicators in results-based programs can ensure integrability in RDPs.
- Promoting bottom-up approaches and involving key regional actors as coordinating entities (intermediaries) increases engagement and motivation in collective approaches.
- Ensuring a high level of equity and fairness increases acceptance, especially in value chain-based solutions.
- Result-based and collective solutions do not fit every contextual situation, as they often require a high level of knowledge and collaborative skills. Value chain approaches are often only suitable when consumer awareness is high.

The lesson learned highlighted in blue was discussed the most at the end of the workshop. The participant agreed with the statement and added that the specific design in combination with the cultural situation in each country influences the acceptance of the collective approach. The participant reported about a field trip to the Netherlands, where she visited farmers who participate in collective schemes. In the Netherlands, the common approach is established, it is a social element.

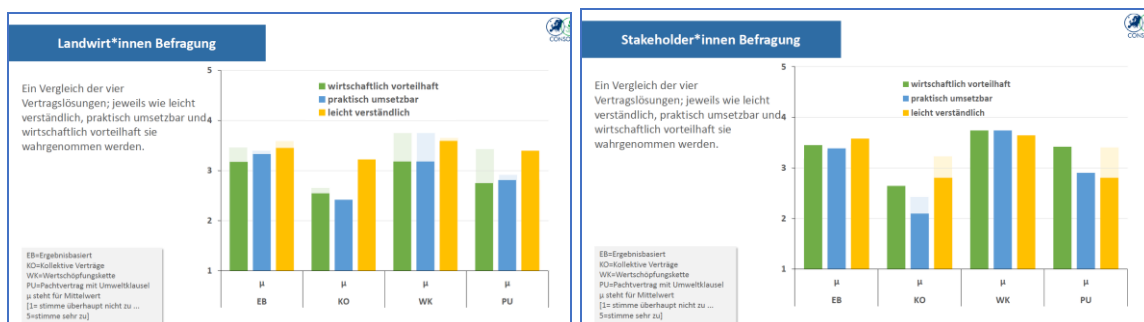
Question comment after lessons learned from the audience: Having this great knowledge of what you have through the analyses, are you involved in the national design of these contracts and if so, how? Yes, we are involved in a project designing a new pilot result-oriented scheme in the field of emission mitigation by agriculture which is funded under the programme of rural development. Here, the experience we got particularly from the CONSOLE case studies is directly integrated.

5. Did you discuss acceptability of novel contract solutions? If yes, which is seen as being the main barriers / drivers for participation? (only to be answered if not addressed in the context of the WP3 stakeholder survey)

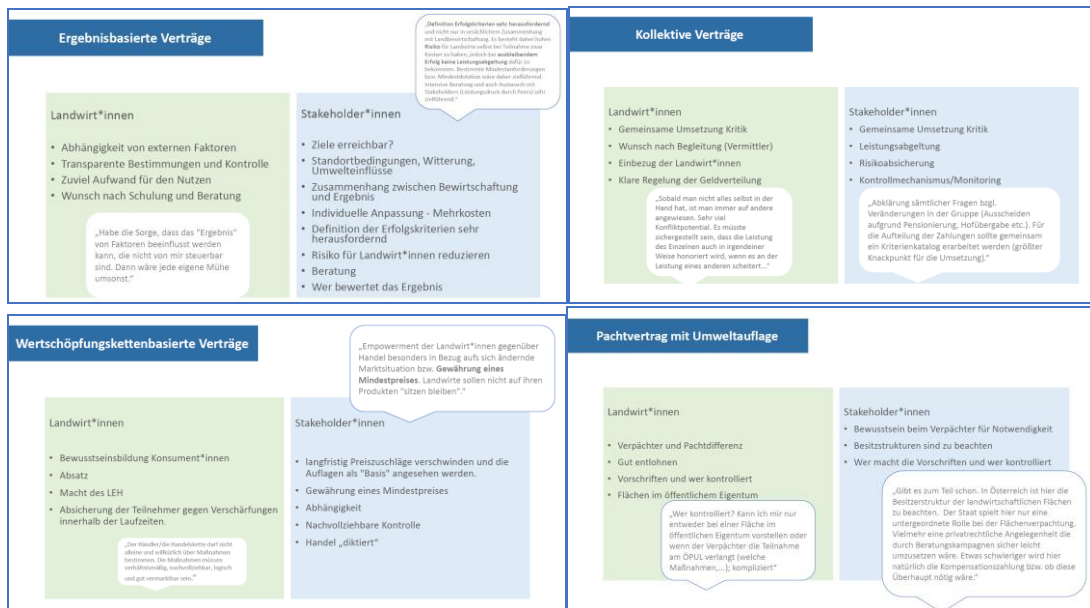
After the discussion of the lessons learned some selected results from the farmers and stakeholders survey were presented. In this presentation, first the 12 contract characteristics from the surveys were addressed, we compared the stakeholder survey results with the farmer survey results.



Second, we gave an overview of the results (land manager and stakeholder survey) about the assessment of the four contract types regarding the statement "For the land managers, a result-based/collective/value chain/land tenure contract is easy to understand/applicable for their farm/ potentially economically beneficial for their farm". We additionally compared the landowner survey results with the stakeholder survey results.



Third, in both of our surveys, we got a lot of comments. Four slides were prepared for summarizing these comments and showing them to the stakeholders.



Question/comment audience: Regarding the external factors in the results-based contract solutions, what is this about, can this please be explained in more detail?

Answer: The land managers, as well as stakeholders, highlighted in several comments, the effects of external factors on the environmental objectives as a potential risk:

- Land manager "Certain environmental factors (drought, diseases, ...) cannot be influenced by the farmer but may affect the result to the detriment of the farmer. Some soil protection measures (e.g. plowless plowing) require new expensive machines, which are rather out of question for our stone-rich area."
- Land manager "Contracts would have to take into account circumstances that are not controllable but can be proven by the farmer, such as climate damage, etc. if a certain result cannot be achieved as a result."
- Stakeholder "The question of a result measurement is always whether the targeted goal is achievable at all. Measuring success without taking into account, above all, changed framework conditions and environmental influences (such as floods, droughts, unfavorable dry periods) will lead to disagreements if the goals are not achieved."
- Stakeholder "Risk protection or ensuring that the results are influenced only by the manager and not by factors that the manager herself cannot control."

In general, this is an important topic in result-based contracts as it increases the risk of the farmers. There are several mechanisms for risk distribution in successful result-based contracts. In AT3 a dual system of control criteria and area objectives was developed to guarantee a better risk distribution. The control criteria have to be reached to get the payment, The connection between the control criteria and the management of the farmers is high and they are influenceable by the management of the farmers. Nonetheless the definition and measurement of "success criteria" in RB contracts is an important point and often discussed.

- 6. In case participants mentioned interest or needs regarding CONSOLE training activities, please let us know. It is foreseen to prepare communication and training material for practitioners (to be put on a hub). This could be e.g. short videos about particular contract types / initiatives or information about AEEM in the upcoming CAP programming period.**

Participants just wanted to know about the factsheets and if they are available online. They also asked how they can find specific solutions on our homepage/ in our deliverables (e.g. solution for birds in grassland?). The slides, the link to the CONSOLE homepage as well to the deliverable 2.1 were sent to the workshop participants after the workshop.

- 7. Finally, please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (keep it anonymous).**

2 BULGARIA - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 20.10. 2021

Responsible partner(s): IAE, AAEF

Responsible person(s): Dimitre Nikolov

Number of participants: 12

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you present case studies? If yes, which ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience.

Case studies from Bulgaria and from the catalogue of other countries were presented:

All the Bulgarian case studies were presented briefly.

- **Agri-environmental measures in pastures** with high conservation value - a project funded by the Global Environment Facility, organized by BSPB, in the Besaparski hills. Lands covered by NATURA 2000 and a total of 54 farmers are covered. The main goal is to protect the population of 86 species of nesting birds, 20 of which are in the Red Book of Bulgaria.
- The second case study was for **Organic beekeepers, organized in the Association of Organic Beekeepers** since 2013. So far, they have signed a contract with a processing company, as well as with a distributor - Harmonika. All requirements for organic beekeeping are met. This contract has the characteristics of both collective bargaining and value chain bargaining.
- The third case study "**Wild farm**" - **organic animal husbandry**, in compliance with animal welfare requirements, where the value chain includes built in 2018. processing workshop, as well as distribution of processed products in the store network (including own store)
- The fourth case study **Restoration of pastures in Strandzha and Sakar mountains** and protection of endangered birds - contractual relationship with land use requirements between BSPB and about 20 farmers in the area. About 600 ha have been leased to farmers free of charge on the condition that they apply agri-environmental practices to protect the Imperial Eagle.

Five of the case-studies from the Catalogue were discussed:

- **ALMO from Austria** – discussions: The "ALMO" brand for meat produced according to ecological standards is starting to spread more and more (including being sold on online platforms). In addition to animal welfare,

landscape protection is also achieved, which contributes to increasing tourism. The brand also contributes to raising public awareness of animal welfare

- **The Humus Program of the Ökoregion Kaindorf** from Austria – discussions: Farmers themselves choose what practices to apply for carbon storage. The program includes advisory services. The demand for such loans significantly exceeds their supply. At the same time, results are achieved related to the climate, but also to increasing soil fertility.
- **Barilla from Italy** – discussions: Farmers receive fixed premium prices and secure purchase of their produce. The initiative comes from a private company that wants to provide organic food
- **Collaboration for sustainability between institutional land owners and tenants**

farmers (Greifswalder Agrarinitiative) from Germany – discussions: Collectivity in the contract implies longer-term collaboration between the parties. Change in the way of land cultivation - from conventional to conservation. Creating a community gnawing on the environment

- **HAMSTER** Collective AECM to restore habitats of the European Hamster in Alsace from France – discussions: High economic compensations. Raising awareness of the role of the rodent in soil quality. The organization of a collective body reduces the transaction costs of public authorities - instead of negotiating with each individual farmer (140), this is done with only one representative.

2. Did you discuss all four contract solutions or did you select specific ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience specifically related to the contract type(s).

All four types of contracts were discussed. The participants agreed that the result-oriented contract is the most easily implemented contract, and that the collective one would be difficult to manage in Bulgaria (collective action is not seen as something easily achievable).

3. Do participants have experience with one (or more) of the contract solutions? If yes, which one(s)?

No

4. Did you present (a selected number of) lessons learned? If yes, please briefly list those that were most intensively discussed / seen as being most relevant. Please

indicate if there was dissents amongst participants or if they did not agree with statements you presented.

Lessons learned from the four different types of contracts were discussed based on the presented case-studies and the outcomes. It was underlined that more emphasis is needed on promoting collective contracts.

5. Putting a particular focus on acceptability, which is seen as being the main barriers / drivers for participation in novel contract solutions? Have suggestions been made for the upcoming CAP programming period?

5.1. Type of contract - Collective contracts

Driving forces:

- Biodiversity conservation objectives are pursued at the habitat level
- Sharing experience within the members of the collective association (knowledge, experience, good practices, technique)
 - Can be combined with the supply chain contract

Barriers:

- Difficult to manage (too high cost of management, time consuming decision-making and benefit-distribution process)
 - Distrust among farmers

5.2. Type of contract - Supply chain

Driving forces:

- Economic interest

Barriers:

- Shortage of raw materials may delay or terminate the contract
- Lack of demand
- Low purchase price
- Legislative changes
- Requirements for specialized equipment

5.3. Type of contract - Land tenure

Driving forces:

- **Early contracts for farmers,**
- Consolidated land (consolidated areas)

- Can be combined with the supply chain contract,
- Affordable rents if the landlord is the municipality
- Effective in terms of public interest to improve soil fertility

Barriers:

- Land use - the existence of agreements can be an obstacle due to the frequent change of owners
- The distance to the settlement
- High costs for meeting environmental requirements

5.4. Type of contract - Result-oriented

Driving forces:

- Access to advice and training
 - Technically easy to implement

Barriers:

- Risk of failure to achieve the set goals for environmental protection
- Lack of payment if results are not achieved

6. CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

- The training needs to exist on collective type of contracts

7. Finally, please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (keep it anonymous).

CoP worked synchronously. The presence of farmers, advisors, a farmers' association, a certification body, an academy and a local state administration allowed for an effective discussion. The availability of practical experience made it possible to reach a common opinion in most cases as a result of the discussions, which allowed consensus to be reached in a number of cases. CoP is suitable place for sheering good practices, knowledge and opinion.

Date of the event: February 15th 2021 from 12:00 to 14:00, meeting was organized via Teams

Topic of the meeting: Research projects related to voluntary biodiversity protection programme (METSO)

Responsible partner(s): LUKE, Finland

Responsible person(s): Esa-Jussi Viitala, Katri Hamunen, Mikko Kurttila

Number of participants: 98 forest professionals from the Finnish Forest Centre

1. Did you present case studies? If yes, which ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience.

Forest bank – a forest conservation program in Indiana and Virginia, US (FI1) and the potential application of the Forest banks to Finnish forest context (Luonnontuottometsä) was presented. In Finland, the idea of the forest bank is that the forest owner is the landlords who leases his/her forest land for 30 years. Leased forest area is treated in an environmentally friendly way. Austrian Humus programme (AT4) was presented and the idea of having a carbon sequestration contract for Finnish forest owners was brought up. In addition, Carbon Market (FI3) that aims for peatland restorations and land owners' eco-account application in Bavaria, Germany (DE6), were shortly presented.

Besides case studies, the results of Console task 3.1 were presented. These results considered evaluation of fixed term (10 years) biodiversity protection contracts, and the focus was on the reasons for terminating the contracts after 10 years period. These voluntary contracts are agreed between private forest owners and the Finnish Forest Centre.

2. Did you discuss all four contract solutions or did you select specific ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience specifically related to the contract type(s).

All four contract types were shortly presented. After presenting the contract types and selected case studies, three questions were asked from the participants via Mentimeter application. In the first question, forest professionals were asked wheather they think that in Finland there is a need for new kind of means to promote production of public goods in private forests. Most of the respondents agreed that there is a need for this (27/42) (Figure 1). In second and third questions, forest professionals were asked if they consider new contract types presented as interesting with scale 1-5 (1 = *I'm not interested ...* 5 = *I'm very interested*) (Figure 2). Land tenure with environmental clauses (forest owner as a landlord) got a score 3.2, and result-based carbon sequestration in forests got a score 3.4.

After the presentation we got a comment that it would be interesting to get experiences or information about the appropriate level of compensation that forest owners could get from the carbon sequestration in forestland or in peatland. This was considered as a demanding calculation.

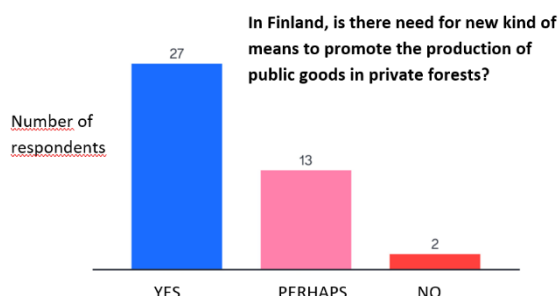


Figure 1. In Finland there is a need for new kind of means to promote production of public goods in private forests?

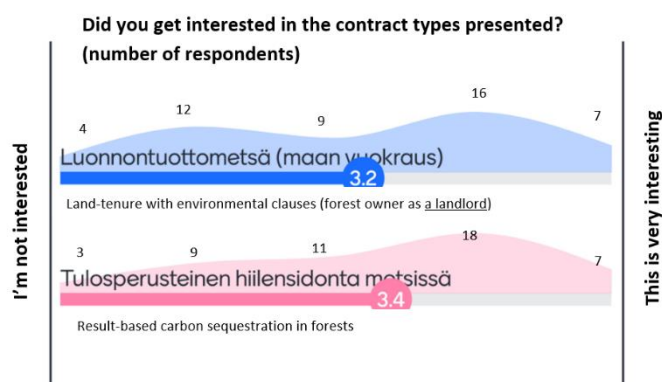


Figure 2. Do you consider the new contract types presented as interesting?

- Do participants have experience with one (or more) of the contract solutions? If yes, which one(s)?

Forest professionals from the Forest Centre are the ones who plan and agree voluntary biodiversity protection agreements (task 3.1) with the forest owners.

- Did you present (a selected number of) lessons learned? If yes, please briefly list those that were most intensively discussed / seen as being most relevant. Please indicate if there was dissents amongst participants or if they did not agree with statements you presented.

Lessons learned were not presented.

- Did you discuss acceptability of novel contract solutions? If yes, which is seen as being the main barriers / drivers for participation? (only to be answered if not addressed in the context of the WP3 stakeholder survey)

This will be asked in the stakeholder survey and discussed afterwards.

6. Finally, please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (keep it anonymous).

This meeting was organized in cooperation with other organization, for large group of participants. The aim of the meeting was not only to focus on results of the Console project, and therefore the nature of the meeting was more informative than dialogical. In the next CoP meeting, the group reached will be smaller and the nature of the meeting more dialogical.

4 FRANCE - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: February 6th 2020

Responsible partner(s): Trame/INRAE

Responsible person(s): Philippe Desnos / Alice Issanchou

Number of participants: 48

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you present case studies? If yes, which ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience.

4 case studies have been presented:

- AT4: The Humus Program of the Okoregion Kaindorf
- DE2: Organic farming for species diversity
- BG3: "The wild farm" organic farmers
- FR3: Esprit Parc National: Food and services in the national Park of Guadeloupe

2. Did you discuss all four contract solutions or did you select specific ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience specifically related to the contract type(s).

The four contract types were mentioned, but the 4 case studies that were presented are result based solution and value chain solution.

3. Do participants have experience with one (or more) of the contract solutions? If yes, which one(s)?

Most of the participants are involve in the LabPSE project wich aims to experiment new contract solutions based on results.

4. Did you present (a selected number of) lessons learned? If yes, please briefly list those that were most intensively discussed / seen as being most relevant. Please indicate if there was dissents amongst participants or if they did not agree with statements you presented.

5. Putting a particular focus on acceptability, which is seen as being the main barriers / drivers for participation in novel contract solutions? Have suggestions been made for the upcoming CAP programming period?
6. CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.
7. Finally, please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (keep it anonymous).

5 GERMANY - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 15.06.2021 from 18:30-20:00

Responsible partner(s): Thünen Institute

Responsible person(s): Tania Runge

Number of participants: 9 (7 farmers from 4 German Laender)

1. Did you present case studies? If yes, which ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience.

After a short introduction into the CONSOLE project one case study per contract type have been presented (AT4, NL1, DE5, FR1). There was no discussion about the case studies, but one farmer recognized the so called "Dutch model for cooperation".

2. Did you discuss all four contract solutions or did you select specific ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience specifically related to the contract type(s).

All four contract solutions were presented, clearly stating that they are idealised and that combinations do exist.

3. Do participants have experience with one (or more) of the contract solutions? If yes, which one(s)?

One farmer told that he is participating in a pilot on collective implementation with the regional Cultural Landscape Foundation, indicating that it works well and highlighting the important role of a coordinator. 10-14 farmers participate and it harmonises well. The implementation of measures is controlled by the foundation. He highlighted that not only measures on the field itself should be targeted, but also trees on field margins - "not everything has to be in the field". In addition, he is growing potatoes in a value chain scheme with the German retailer called "Pro Planet". The potatoes are sold with a particular label and when producing potatoes, the farmer has to respect sustainability criteria set by the retailer (and he is only allowed to use particular seed potatoes). Another value chain approach was also mentioned, the restaurant chain called "Blockhouse" buys heifers from a regional breed called Uckermärker. The farmers are paid 5 ct/ kg carcass weight, but only if they respect requirements regarding weight. This was seen critically as it increases the cost for sorting and weighing. The farmer who told about it sells breeds going into this programme, but he doesn't participate himself. Another farmer said that he is leasing grassland for a reduced rent while he has to respect rules regarding mowing time (extensive grazing being allowed earlier in the season). Furthermore, one farmer has contracts with a Foundation for Species Conservation and takes part in a flower

strip scheme, both being practice-based contracts. A further example mentioned is a nature protection foundation (Naturschutzstiftung Heidekreis GmbH) who is a land agency and owns a land pool with already implemented nature conservation measures that are suitable for use as compensation areas.

4. Did you present (a selected number of) lessons learned? If yes, please briefly list those that were most intensively discussed / seen as being most relevant. Please indicate if there was dissents amongst participants or if they did not agree with statements you presented.

Orally some lessons learned were addressed while presenting the four case studies, e.g. the importance of the association coordinating the humus certification in AT4 and the involvement of the whole value chain at equal footing in DE5.

5. Putting a particular focus on acceptability, which is seen as being the main barriers / drivers for participation in novel contract solutions? Have suggestions been made for the upcoming CAP programming period?

After the presentation of selected results from the German farmers' survey a lively exchange with the farmers took place. Independently from a specific contract type there was consent that sound advice is important. One farmer emphasised that advisors "should come up with money"; this was said in connection with an oversubscription in one German Land, that has led to the situation that farmers who were willing to participate in AECM could not benefit from funding. Another farmer clearly stated that instead of advisors specialised in environmental question, crop protection advisors should (be able to) also provide environmental advice. Regarding collective contract solutions it was said that cooperation in machinery rings or also cooperatives are seen as a possible starting point for group approaches. There was general agreement that coordination amongst farmers, in particular if money should be distributed amongst them is quite challenging. Here setting up of a suitable structure that ensures equity would be helpful. Another farmer mentioned that it must not be too complicated for the individual farmer and that results and time-efficiency are important. In respect to the land tenure contract type, one farmer said that many landlords no longer have a connection to the land and want to see the money. Another replied that he has shown one landlord his farming methods and got the land, even though he couldn't compete in the bidding. In this case, the work of persuasion has paid off. With institutional tenants he fears that too many want to have a say and that less reasonable clauses are included in the contract (e.g. no glyphosate).

The new German Insect Protection Law was seen as challenge, in particular in the large Special Protection Areas (SPA) as it is not yet clear which will be the financial consequences of possible requirements beyond bird protection. Additional constraints deriving from it are likely to impact the willingness to engage in (novel) AECM. There was also one statement targeted to the politicians to "make yourselves honest". Time was running out and regarding CAP one farmer highlighted that it should be made less bureaucratic for the farmer and he mentioned the example of the collective pilot where the foundation takes over control as being very good.

6. CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

Even though training was not directly addressed, it became obvious that a mutual understanding of the contract types is very important. The distinction between contract farming and engaging in a value chain approach was not so obvious and it seems that several farmers have land tenure contracts with environmental clauses, but recognized them as such only later.

7. Finally, please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (keep it anonymous).

The invitation has been send out to all farmers that indicated interest in the outcomes of the farmers' survey (74 farmers) and even though the event was organised in the evening, only 7 farmers joined. Nevertheless, those that were present were interested in sharing their point of views.

6 IRELAND - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 25th November 2021

Responsible partner(s): University College Cork (UCC), Ireland

Responsible person(s): Prof. Thia Hennessy, Tracy Bradfield

Number of participants: 35

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you present case studies? If yes, which ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience.

Yes. We discussed the BurrenLife Programme, The Results-Based Agri-Environmental Payment Scheme (RBAPS) Pilot and the Biodiversity Regeneration in a Dairying Environment (BRIDE) Project. No questions were asked. Many participants were familiar with these schemes.

2. Did you discuss all four contract solutions or did you select specific ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience specifically related to the contract type(s).

We discussed all four contract solutions. Participants were most familiar with results-based contracts as these are currently in place in Ireland. It was noted that Irish landowners may favour this type of contract in the future because it is the one they are most familiar with.

3. Do participants have experience with one (or more) of the contract solutions? If yes, which one(s)?

Many participants had experience with results-based contracts. They recommended that results should be weighted more carefully to reflect the various environmental objective that one action may achieve.

4. Did you present (a selected number of) lessons learned? If yes, please briefly list those that were most intensively discussed / seen as being most relevant. Please indicate if there was dissents amongst participants or if they did not agree with statements you presented.

Participants strongly recommended that results-based contracts consider actions that were carried out previously. For example, if farmers are to be encouraged to plant more native trees, they should be rewarded for the trees that were already on their land.

5. Putting a particular focus on acceptability, which is seen as being the main barriers / drivers for participation in novel contract solutions? Have suggestions been made for the upcoming CAP programming period?

There was a strong consensus that acceptability will only increase if landowners receive sufficient financial compensation for improving their environmental practices. It was considered equally important that remuneration schemes provide a constant, long-term income stream. Temporary schemes create uncertainty for farmers and are, therefore, not always attractive. This is especially the case for dairy farmers who may experience a considerable reduction in income when they are instead utilising resources for environmental benefits.

6. CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

The data supports the conclusion that understandability of contracts is low. Landowners in Ireland will need further education in value-chain, land tenure and collective contracts which will be new concepts for most landowners.

7. Finally, please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (keep it anonymous).

N/A

7 ITALY (UNIBO) - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: Monday November 29th, 2021

Responsible partner(s): UNIBO, RER

Responsible person(s):

Number of participants: 147

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you present case studies? If yes, which ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience.

Case studies were presented, in particular: collective solution (Alsazie – FR, Kromme Rijn – NL), incentives of production chain (Wasserschutzprot – “water protection bread” DE, Esprit de Parc – FR, Carbon Market – FI), result-based solutions and contracts with environmental restrictions (Landwirtschaft für Artenvielfalt, BRIDE - Biodiversity Regeneration in a Dairying Environment, Biodiversity monitor for dairy farming, Forestbank Virginia USA).

Q&A

- Did the BRIDE project include any economic valuation, like cost-benefit analysis, of implemented practices? Were the benefits of ecosystem services considered?" The answer was no because the project is more about the animation of the group of farmers. It was also highlighted that performing cost-benefit analysis is a difficult task in general, especially for what concerns the estimation of benefits.
 - Is it appropriate that contracts derive from pilot projects? Can we also learn from the experience of operational groups? The key role of operational groups for the next CAP was stressed. Regarding pilot projects, it was reported that the results of the stakeholder survey at regional level confirmed that pilot projects are considered a precondition to implement new contract solutions.
 - Was the influence of extension services/consultancy considered in the case studies? The key role of consultancy was highlighted. The consultancy should not only cover technical aspects but also, for instance, the capacity to deal with business.
2. Did you discuss all four contract solutions or did you select specific ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience specifically related to the contract type(s).

All four types of contract solutions were presented. Some comments were raised for RB, collective approach and also the possibility for hybrid solutions was discussed (please see answers below).

3. Do participants have experience with one (or more) of the contract solutions? If yes, which one(s)?

At the national level, a mention was made regarding the initiatives within CAP 2014-2020 programming focused on collective approaches; unfortunately, these initiatives have not been successful. Some critical issues were underlined: the importance of the motivation of the beneficiaries, and the importance to involve intermediate actors. Regarding this last point, CAP mechanisms should be designed in a way that encourage the involvement of intermediate actors (other land-managers, consortia/ water reclamation authority).

4. Did you present (a selected number of) lessons learned? If yes, please briefly list those that were most intensively discussed / seen as being most relevant. Please indicate if there was dissents amongst participants or if they did not agree with statements you presented.

This question was answered in question 1.

5. Putting a particular focus on acceptability, which is seen as being the main barriers / drivers for participation in novel contract solutions? Have suggestions been made for the upcoming CAP programming period?

A part of the workshop was dedicated to discussing the CAP reform, notably Eco schemes and AEEM. One representative from the Ministry of Agricultural Food and Forestry Policies (MIPAAF) and one from the Consiglio per la ricerca in agricoltura e l'analisi dell'economia agraria (CREA-PB) were invited to discuss the main novelties of the green architecture of the new CAP.

The invited speakers gave an overview of the main opportunities/challenges related to the new green architecture and delivery model and their implementation in Italy. They highlighted that eco-scheme represent an opportunity to enlarge the share of farmers that undertake sustainable practices. Eco-schemes are additional to the basic payments (for increased costs and lost incomes) and address those farmers who want to commit to specific actions identified at national level (at the time of the workshop 6 actions were selected in Italy). The challenge is how to implement these new instruments within the national governance and administrative structure. Other challenges derive from financial constraints, such as: ring-fencing on the EAGF, the minimum envelope that RDPs must dedicate to ACA, and also the need to avoid double funding between the two funds. The discussion on these topics is still open at national level.

Q&A:

- How eco-scheme payments on organic farming and integrated production fit the payments for the same practices of the second pillar? The discussion and definition of eco-schemes were still on-going so the speakers could not provide a definitive answer. Ideally, eco-schemes should provide a premium for the ecosystem services delivered by these types of production.
 - What are other countries doing about ecosystems? Why Italy selected only 6 eco-schemes? The opportunity to monitor the implementation of these practices was the element that drove the selection of the types of eco-schemes. The monitoring should be done at national level, so there is the need of homogeneous standards and indicators and the possibility to have data. The other countries are undertaking a similar approach, that is trying to implement eco-schemes within the structure that is already in place at national level with the aim of increasing the number of farmers adopting environmental practices.
 - What can encourage farmers to adhere to collective approaches and result-based payments? The last RDPs have shown how difficult is to implement collective approaches. To enlarge the scale at which these practices are implemented it is important to involve intermediary actors (e.g., irrigation boards, managers of protected areas, consortia, etc.). The CAP should provide mechanisms that promote such territorial approach.
 - Is it possible to compensate all the costs incurred by farmers? Payment caps per hectare are removed in the next CAP. So, ideally, there should be no limits to compensate for crops that need higher compensation; however, other economic constraints should be also considered.
 - Will hybrid payments be possible? Yes, should be possible. Hybrid payments are necessary when the collective approaches don't pursue the specific objective, but, at same time, the beneficial practices have been implemented correctly (lost income and higher costs). To encourage participation, in case the results (the specific objective) are not achieved, it is important to allow at least the only payments for lost income and higher costs. This guarantee mechanism (tools and rules) must be defined in CAP Strategic Plans. The payment based only on result is very critical and hazardous, especially where it does not depend on hectares. A lot of variables are not necessarily manageable by beneficiaries. The risk of influence of external factors is very high.
6. CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

The importance of pilot project was underlined, especially for result-based solutions, also as part of experimental national/Regional strategy.

Another aspect that was raised several times concerns the importance of extension services/consultancy for farmers. These should be intended in a broader sense, not

only including technical aspects, but also training on aspects related to business, finance (e.g. increase farmers' ability to interact with financial subjects such as banking institutions)

7. Finally, please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (keep it anonymous).

No comments regarding the CoP.

8 ITALY (UNIFI) - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 30/01/2021, 24/02/2021, 20/03/2021, 14/09/2021

Responsible partner(s): UNIFI

Responsible person(s): Daniele Vergamini

Number of participants: 3 to the first meeting, 3 to the second, 5 to the third and 3 to the last.

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you present case studies? If yes, which ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience.

Face to Face/Online Meeting (2021)	Element discussed	Summary
30/01	Presentation of the CONSOLE project and several case studies. Discussion focus on collective/digital platform approaches.	How to implement large-scale collective measures by reducing the administrative costs and increasing the level of interaction across farmers and networks. Result-based schemes are promising but there are perplexities about how responsibilities and risks will be allocated (i.e. how to avoid free-riding), measuring results and monitoring actions. Debate on how to standardize the process. Private companies can be interested in such approaches but there are major issues with regard to the governance of such schemes, and related learning/training costs.
24/02	We mainly discussed around our two case studies (IT5, IT6)	There is a strong interest at regional level to implement collective and result-based approaches. The two case studies substantially represent their main attempts in this direction. Key feedbacks regard the good success rate experienced among farmers, while several risks occur during their implementation. From the point of view of the region, a key problem is the limited human resources available to administer and manage these programs. A problem that emerged concerns the monitoring of actions

		and results which in the case of ITP takes place at the procedural and administrative level, with a confirmation of the percentage of investments made. In addition, the region confirmed the interest to investigate these issues also through field trials. A strong need was expressed with regard to the problem of the abandonment of olive groves, that they aim at contrasting through future programmes. However, there is a strong need to understand performance and impacts. Against this background experimentation was started on an electronic register which should facilitate the collection and control of some key parameters for monitoring the implemented measures.
20/03	Discussion covered the topic of cooperation and collective approaches.	In disadvantaged areas, the use of cooperation could increase impacts at the territorial level. However, cooperation and attention in such areas should not be directed only to farmers but should also include many hobbyists or part-time farmers, who in these areas do crucial work for the objectives of landscape conservation, soil protection and biodiversity in the face of little or no economic contributions.
14/09	Several case studies have been introduced.	Interest reached UK, DE, IRL, FIN and ES case studies. Discussion ended with a quick screening on existing experiences.

2. Did you discuss all four contract solutions or did you select specific ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience specifically related to the contract type(s).

As we discussed above, the main focus in each meeting was on result and collective-based approach. These two approaches are seen as promising because they offer - at least at a theoretical level - a potential solution to the inefficiencies related to the management and monitoring of individual measures and a clear way to relaunch policy interventions at territorial level. For the farmers and companies involved, collective approaches represent a possible development to cope with limited resources at the individual level, strengthening cooperation at the territorial level. The main questions concern how to overcome the current administrative barriers, starting from the design up to the implementation of the measures. There are problems of acceptability every time the measures are updated and compatibility with European dictates with respect to local needs in the design. There have been cases in which the measures after a long bargaining period between the Region

and the EU were launched with a top-down orientation but results in no interest and participation rate was scarce.

3. Do participants have experience with one (or more) of the contract solutions? If yes, which one(s)?

Past experience regards the incentive of collective participation through network contracts (Tuscany is one of the leading Region in network contracts), as a form of aggregation to meet common objectives, but no experience on the field of AECPGS.

4. Did you present (a selected number of) lessons learned? If yes, please briefly list those that were most intensively discussed / seen as being most relevant. Please indicate if there was dissents amongst participants or if they did not agree with statements you presented.

Not yet.

5. Putting a particular focus on acceptability, which is seen as being the main barriers / drivers for participation in novel contract solutions? Have suggestions been made for the upcoming CAP programming period?

At the time of the meetings there was still a great deal of uncertainty about the development of the CAP, especially on the role of the Regions versus the national level. From the point of view of the Regions, the experience gained should not be set aside but from this heritage we should start to improve future programs.

6. CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

Developing and implementing result-based measures, indicators and monitoring processes.

7. Finally, please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (keep it anonymous).

The CoP should have a greater link at national and European level among the several partners involved. Although there is greater contact at the regional level, the actors expected more common activities and dialogue open among several partners/countries involved in CONSOLE.

9 LATVIA - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 04th February, 2021

Responsible partner(s): Union Farmers Parliament

Responsible person(s): Inga Berzina

Number of participants: 79 (Forest owners: 66, Scientists: 4, Public admini.: 5, Associations: 3)

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you present case studies? If yes, which ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience.

Yes, we presented Forest Management case study. The rest of other 3 Case studies were shortly described. The forest management is the topic that having great interested from the participants, they were interested in the contract solutions with common to manage the properties according to good practices.

2. Did you discuss all four contract solutions or did you select specific ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience specifically related to the contract type(s).

The most favourable and greater interested caused result based contract solution as this is more relevant to the private forest owners.

3. Do participants have experience with one (or more) of the contract solutions? If yes, which one(s)?

The participants also mentioned the experience of collective contract solutions, as some of the farmers joined different societies/cooperatives and within these organisations are proposing collective events.

4. Did you present (a selected number of) lessons learned? If yes, please briefly list those that were most intensively discussed / seen as being most relevant. Please indicate if there was dissents amongst participants or if they did not agree with statements you presented.

5. Putting a particular focus on acceptability, which is seen as being the main barriers / drivers for participation in novel contract solutions? Have suggestions been made for the upcoming CAP programming period?

- Conservation of biological diversity – SPNAs; (specially protected nature areas)
 - micro-reserve and voluntary commitment
 - Social significance - backyard forest, park, landscape view
 - Other priority ecosystem services - noise reduction (railway), light enclosure (road), science (Forest Research Station), military significance (Ādaži landfill), extraction of non-timber products (bays, birch sap, chaga, Christmas trees, honey), recreation (orienteering, fly fishing - shading in a watercourse, hunting), etc.
6. CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

The participants interested in the future trainings.

7. Finally, please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (keep it anonymous).

10 NETHERLANDS - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 12 February 2020x

Responsible partner(s): WWF-NL

Responsible person(s): Jacomijn Pluimers

Number of participants: 8

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you present case studies? If yes, which ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience.

A case study at national level, focusing on biodiversity in arable land across the Netherlands, was discussed. The audience indicated that several local pilots are done that can inform the national-scale picture. When monitoring biodiversity, it should be important that the indicators used are integral and uniform.

2. Did you discuss all four contract solutions or did you select specific ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience specifically related to the contract type(s).

The emphasis was on result based contracts, where a novel key performance indicator for biodiversity was discussed as a tool to quantify results. However, in the pilots mentioned above, the role of value chain actors is important, which were further discussed as parties in result based contracts across the value chain.

3. Do participants have experience with one (or more) of the contract solutions? If yes, which one(s)?

Participants from pilot projects had experience with collective solutions as well as with value chain contracts.

4. Did you present (a selected number of) lessons learned? If yes, please briefly list those that were most intensively discussed / seen as being most relevant. Please indicate if there was dissents amongst participants or if they did not agree with statements you presented.

No selected lessons learned were presented.

5. Putting a particular focus on acceptability, which is seen as being the main barriers / drivers for participation in novel contract solutions? Have suggestions been made for the upcoming CAP programming period?

There was a positive attitude towards the biodiversity monitoring tool, but it was also indicated that monitoring methods and tools should align with the CAP. Compliance with existing regulations and not having extra bureaucracy is important.

6. CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

Primarily, interest was expressed in hearing from other case studies across Europe. Learning what contract solutions are used and what works or not.

7. Finally, please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (keep it anonymous).

11 POLAND - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 12/03/2021

Responsible partner(s): SGGW

Responsible person(s): AGATA MALAK-RAWLIKOWSKA

Number of participants: 18

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you present case studies? If yes, which ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience.
2. Did you discuss all four contract solutions or did you select specific ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience specifically related to the contract type(s).
3. Do participants have experience with one (or more) of the contract solutions? If yes, which one(s)?
4. Did you present (a selected number of) lessons learned? If yes, please briefly list those that were most intensively discussed / seen as being most relevant. Please indicate if there was dissents amongst participants or if they did not agree with statements you presented.
5. Putting a particular focus on acceptability, which is seen as being the main barriers / drivers for participation in novel contract solutions? Have suggestions been made for the upcoming CAP programming period?
6. CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.
7. Finally, please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (keep it anonymous).

The seminar started with introductory presentation concerning the new CAP framework and greening architecture (Common Agricultural Policy after 2020: New Green Architecture and Eco-schemes) , which was followed by the presentation on WP2 Case studies (Contracts for environmental services in agriculture - Horizon 2020 project CONSOLE). The second presentation covered general results of the WP2 (based on the presentation provided by Lena Schaller and Theresa Eichhorn). Selected case studies (1-2 per type of the contract), most relevant from the perspective of specific environmental needs in Poland and likely most interesting for the CoP members have been presented:

PL 1, PL 2, PL 3, PL 4, AT 4, DE 4, DE 5, FR 2, FR 4, IT 1, IT 4, NL 4.

Each type of contract was briefly explained and illustrated with fact sheets.

In general, the participants did not have direct experiences with the AECPG contracts, as defined by the project, however farmers had experiences with agri-environmental programs. The vast majority of the participants is aware of the developments within the CAP towards green architecture, however nobody was familiar with the different types of presented contracts applied in the practice. Participants admitted that they did not know about the presented case study initiatives/contracts, even those functioning in Poland (Flowering meadows, Program "Sheep Plus", Natural Grazing, Biobabalscy).

In general the COP participants were very much interested in the project results.

The level of acceptability for this type of contract solutions would no doubts be a novelty, especially with regard to the possibility of financing the creation of public goods in agriculture from private funds. This sphere of activities for environmental public goods in Poland has so far been financed exclusively from public funds. Member of the CoP largely share the view, that raising awareness and active search for organizations / businesses which may be interested in arranging this type of contracts is required.

Summary of comments:

The knowledge of farmers and agricultural sector representative on this type of contracts is still small. Dissemination of programs/contract possibilities is needed via Public Relation type communications, training activities for farmers, development of instructional videos and other promotional / information materials. It would be also advisable to define and communicate to the society the key environmental problems (state of resources, ongoing processes), as well as social and economic ones. More environmentally conscious society would put a pressure on agribusiness to implement contracts for AECPG protection.

Basically, two paths of activities orientated on the production of public goods by farmers might be advised: elimination of undesirable environmental effects in agricultural production and creation of public goods expected by society and food producers.

The AECPG contract should provide an appropriate reward for the farmer because the natural activity of a farmer is to strive to increase the efficiency (profitability) of work, which means increasing the scale and intensity of production, while AECPG measures and other pro-environmental mechanisms are to "slow down" him by offering specific funds in return.

When creating the contract/measure there is problem how to define the rules so that they do not coincide with the practices that are commonly used by farmers so far. Maybe it's worth paying for good practice introduced already by some farmers so that it becomes common in the future as a standard for all.

Contracts for provision AECPG must be administratively simple to implement and control (reducing the already spread bureaucracy) otherwise farmers will not be interested to participate.

The priority areas for implementation of AECPG measures in Poland should be improving soil quality, water retention and (subsequently) biodiversity. Taking into

account the specific needs of regions in the dimension of e.g. environmental / climatic problems, is also recommended.

General comments *regarding AECM of CAP as contracts*. AECM should be:

- more "focused" long-term commitments, being a set of ambitious practices giving a large and lasting environmental and climatic effect, eg mid-field trees.
- more ambitious, but much better paid than Eco-Schemes. More adapted to regional conditions (LFA, NATURA 2000, etc.), e.g. The focus should be on the protection of valuable natural habitats (permanent grasslands), where extensive agricultural production is carried out,
- They should take into account the importance of regional needs in terms of environmental problems
- All previously implemented under RDP 2007-13 2014-2020 should be kept.

The main barriers for participation of farmers in novel contract solutions identified in the discussion are no tradition of financing public goods from private sources and reliance entirely on public funding, practically non-existing awareness of contracts types analyzed in the project as well as ways of implementation. A limiting factor could be also a low level of willingness of farmers to engage in group initiatives due to the reluctance towards cooperation and a risk, especially regarding result based contracts.

12 SPAIN - Reporting sheet

Date of the event:06/04/2021

Responsible partner(s): EVENOR, UPM, ASAJA-SEVILLA

Responsible person(s): Blanco-Velázquez FJ, González Peñaloza F, Garrote L, Fernando Robles JF, Iglesias Picazo A, Anaya-Romero M.

Number of participants: 25

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you present case studies? If yes, which ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience.

A summary of the CONSOLE case studies was shown. Previously, the four types of contracts were explained and some examples per category: Humus in Kaindorf, HAMSTER 01, bread for water protection, case study from Stradanzha and Sakar, Integrated production, organic wine, etc. The audience highlighted the number of farmers involved in the different examples provided. They mentioned that, probably, it will not possible to implement here.

2. Did you discuss all four contract solutions or did you select specific ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience specifically related to the contract type(s).

The four types were showed and explained with examples. New results-based contracts may be the most feasible to implement. Regarding collective implementation, the audience have some doubts about real environmental benefits if the number of farmers involved is not enough.

3. Do participants have experience with one (or more) of the contract solutions? If yes, which one(s)?

The audience was composed by researchers, public administration, students and companies with experience in the sector. Mostly, results-based and value chain are the most known.

4. Did you present (a selected number of) lessons learned? If yes, please briefly list those that were most intensively discussed / seen as being most relevant. Please indicate if there was dissents amongst participants or if they did not agree with statements you presented.

No, the meeting was focused on contractual relationships and case studies.

5. Putting a particular focus on acceptability, which is seen as being the main barriers / drivers for participation in novel contract solutions? Have suggestions been made for the upcoming CAP programming period?

First, economical benefits for farmers should be shown clearly. Common indicators in results-based could be feasible to implement and monitor in a common approach. Value chain should guarantee a minimum price for the farmers. Regarding the upcoming CAP, the audience hopes for an easy way to implement it and avoid economic loss for farmers.

6. CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

Ways to implement new contractual relationships which promote AECPGS and also to guarantee economic benefits for farmers.

7. Finally, please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (keep it anonymous).

The Spanish CoP highlighted the huge farmer participation in the success case studies. Indeed, they suggested involving farmers in the final design of new contract types in order to facilitate their implementation. After the Spanish case studies presentation, they showed interest to know more successful Spanish cases and to know why, in some cases, some farmers participate in collective implementation contracts. The main barrier identified is economic. The prizes received for farmers is not enough, in most cases, to reduce their production, promote AECPGs and have profitability.

13 UK - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 25.2.2020

Responsible partner(s): UoL

Responsible person(s): Manolis Tyllianakis

Number of participants: 11

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you present case studies? If yes, which ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience.

Yes, the UK case studies were presented which focused on collective implementation schemes with a prospect of some hybrid collective implementation and result-based schemes.

The discussion on these case studies focused on aspects of collaboration between land managers, compensation levels and linking compensation with monitoring, monitoring (and types of monitoring of results).

Comments:

- a) Farmers appear poised to have their voice heard when it comes to future schemes as they believe current scheme design is not always relevant to their needs. They want to be heard and they haven't been particularly happy with past schemes.
 - b) Farmers appear to be convinced that scientific evidence is both required and needed to solidify their cases when applying to new schemes. They claimed that they need such evidence and are happy to contribute to surveys that supplant such evidence
 - c) Farmers claimed in the discussion things such as "didn't know I cared so much about the environment's status in my land", and "didn't know that monitoring was so important to me".
2. Did you discuss all four contract solutions or did you select specific ones? Please briefly summary questions / comments received from the audience specifically related to the contract type(s).

The focus was on collective implementation schemes with a prospect of some hybrid collective implementation and result-based schemes.

- a) Farmers appeared to want monitoring of results as part of payment schemes and desire a future where payment schemes exist to support farmers who have chosen farming practices that support the environment.
- b) Interestingly, farm profitability is not that important to several farmers who seem to see environmental quality as a more desirable goal.
- c) The ability for independent monitoring of results was a particular topic of "disagreement". Other see it as a good way of saving time from having to do it on your own, others the other way around. Monitoring was also contentious as a topic as opinions diverged based on : who does the monitoring and how often, (some considered higher frequency being a good thing and others didn't).
- d) Income and farm productivity was important for some but not all participants
- e) The ability to co-design schemes, also indicating elements of collective implementation, was brought up. Participants expressed a desire to see a future where payment schemes exist to support farmers who have already been applying farming practices that support the environment.

3. Do participants have experience with one (or more) of the contract solutions? If yes, which one(s)?

Yes, with results-based contracts and collective (voluntary) implementation.

4. Did you present (a selected number of) lessons learned? If yes, please briefly list those that were most intensively discussed / seen as being most relevant. Please indicate if there was dissents amongst participants or if they did not agree with statements you presented.

Yes and the focus of the discussion was to find solutions for the particular type of farmers and stakeholders that participated (upland, small scale farmers and stakeholders who have been facilitating the co-operation and scheme enrolment of such farmers). Another focus of the discussion was farmers' needs and how AES contracts can help (supplementing farm income by considering options such as value chain contracts and collective implementation contracts, building on existing collaborations and spatial co-operation).

As stated previously, co-operation with other neighbouring farmers generated a lot of discussion. Past experiences that participants had with neighbouring farmers shaped their preferences. When such experiences were bad, a participant would consider co-operation a major issue. Those with no prior experience in co-operation were generally open to the issue.

5. Putting a particular focus on acceptability, which is seen as being the main barriers / drivers for participation in novel contract solutions? Have suggestions been made for the upcoming CAP programming period?

Participation in the case study groups (half of the participants were members of the case studies) is enabling and facilitating the very business practices the farmers wish to engage with. Developing and "testing" new business ideas, finding support,

training and answers to questions to take part in new AES or write new proposals and bids for existing ones as a group.

This takes place through visits in farms of fellow case studies members or of neighbouring case study farms and through events with invited speakers. These speakers come from various backgrounds, from practitioners in the farming industry to academics and consultants who deliver talks and training for topics of interest to farmers (e.g. NFM practices talks, carbon capturing and sequestration in soils, woodland creation and management, etc.).

Small scale farmers such as the ones attending the event stated that the size of the land is an issue in enrolling in contracts therefore collective participation might be a solution. For such participation though, a co-ordinator is required, someone who can bring the group together and (potentially) deal with bureaucracy, applications for funding and bringing farmers together. Such a role is crucial and, at times, difficult to fill in from full-time farmers as they don't always have enough time or expertise/skills.

6. CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

Farmers claimed that practical ideas and summaries of business plans/ideas from other farmer groups from similar environments and involved in similar activities would help. The factsheets although they contain interesting and helpful information they didn't include such information

7. Finally, please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (keep it anonymous).

Discussions were generally positive regarding the CoP and the topics discussed in it (combining the financial survival of the farm with providing environmental benefits, etc.). To facilitate discussions, a Q-grid was used and participants had to choose and rank between statements referring to their farm, their land management practices, the environment and agri-environment schemes.

Their comments from the activity, reflecting on the general purpose of the CoP.

Farmers claimed in the discussion things such as "didn't know I cared so much about the environment's status in my land", and "didn't know that monitoring was so important to me".

CONSOLE CoP

Reporting sheet

for the 2nd feedback round
on "National survey outcomes - discussion with practitioners"

Introduction

In CONSOLE three CoP activities under the responsibility of the national CoP contact persons are scheduled, each of them being relevant for the project success (see also Deliverable D5.2).

The second feedback round addressed here has two core objectives:

- to get a better understanding of the reasoning behind the (non-)feasibility of the contract solutions based on national surveys' outcomes
- to identify needs from practitioners to foster uptake of novel contract solutions

This second feedback round was initially foreseen to be organised together with WL3.1, the stakeholder workshop scheduled to provide input to WP3. The WL3.1 will now follow a commonly agreed programme across all 12 partner countries that participated in the survey. It will include a presentation of comparative results from the 12 partner countries and will include some defined common tasks (linked to PESTLE). Therefore, and to take advantage of the interest in contract solutions for the new CAP, it is now recommended to organise a dedicated CoP event that focusses on the national results from the two surveys under the responsibility of WP3. Additional insights about practitioners' reasoning and experiences in innovative contract solutions are to be collected. Therefore, preference should be given to farmers or forest owners interested in the topic as well as other actors and stakeholders involved in contract design, as contractual partners or as intermediary. Persons who replied to the questionnaire, in particular those who indicated interest in the survey results, should be invited preferentially.

Partners are free to combine this CoP activity with feedback round number 1 if they haven't organised a first CoP meeting yet. In that case at least some selected case studies may be presented and lessons learned should be discussed (see Feedback Sheet 1).

For each partner country the respective national focal person(s) can decide how to organise the exchange with CoP members (virtual or face-to-face) taking into consideration the Covid-19 pandemic situation. A good representation of practitioners and other actors involved in contract solutions for the provision of AECPGs amongst participants is more important than the number of participants itself. The event should be organised in such a way that the active participation is facilitated and everybody gets a real chance to take the floor. The focus should be put on benefiting from the expertise and knowledge of the participants on how to foster acceptance and uptake of innovative contract solutions.

Regarding the timing, this feedback round should take place before, or latest back-to-back with the WL3.1 scheduled for October to November 2021. It could be organised in connection with ongoing local activities linked to pilots testing novel contract solutions, events focussing on the new CAP (addressing eco-schemes and AECM) or as a separate event.

As material for preparation of the feedback round you may use:

- invitations and presentations from partners that organised already CoP events (e.g. BOKU, LUKE, TI), available in the CONSOLE dropbox
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/rbrj9wtubn1x7nr/AACObd0TGfa6iFGzUExz8FWva?dl=0>
- preliminary survey results (own assessments or prepared with support from LUKE and UNIBO – to be agreed)

Please send the reporting sheet together with a copy of the agenda and the signature list (for virtual meetings a screenshot from the participants) to:
tania.runge@thuenen.de no later than 2 weeks after event took place. Do not forget to list your event in the dropbox by indicating "CoP" as audience in your partner excel sheet.

14 AUSTRIA - Reporting sheet (organized together with Germany)

Date of the event: 18.11.2021 from 17:00 till 19:00

Responsible partner(s): BOKU and Thünen Institute

Responsible person(s): Lena Schaller / Theresa Eichhorn (BOKU), Tania Runge (TI)

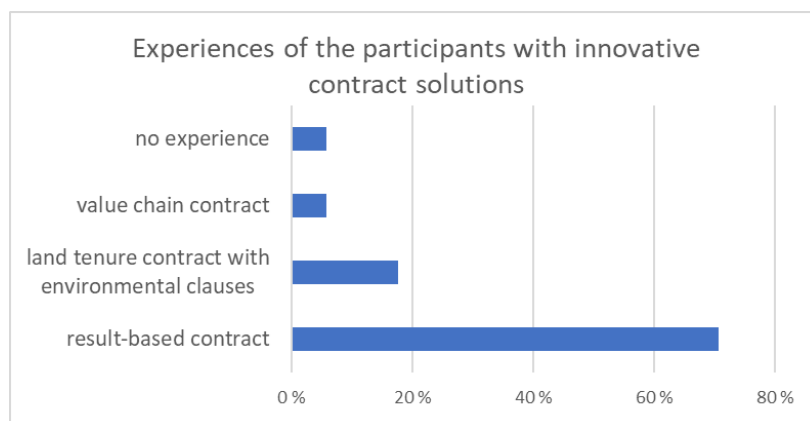
Number of participants: 26 (18 farmers from Austria and Germany, 7 scientists from CONSOLE and 1 representative from CONTRACTS2.0)

Agenda:

- welcome (Jochen Kantelhardt, BOKU)
- introduction into the four contract types of the CONSOLE project (Lena Schaller, BOKU)
- presentation of a selection of survey results from Austria, Germany and all countries (Theresa Eichhorn, BOKU and Tania Runge, TI)
- presentation of the "Result-based nature conservation plan (RNP)", Austria (farmer: Tanja Moser, advisor and responsible person for the RNP: Johanna Huber)
- presentation of the initiative "Cooperative nature protection in agriculture" (farmer: Andreas v. Graeve, coordinator of the initiative: Jens Birger)

ter the welcome, at the beginning of the event, the participants were asked from where they come. From Germany the participants were equally distributed between North, West and Eastern Germany. The majority of the Austrian participants came from Lower Austria (2/3). Others were from Upper Austria, Styria and Carinthia.

After a brief presentation of the four novel contract types addressed in CONSOLE, the participants were asked in a second poll about their experiences with innovative contract solutions. Only one participant indicated having no experience with innovative contracts. 12 have experiences with result-based contracts, several of the respondents are participating in the Austrian result-based nature plan, 3 have experiences in land tenure contracts with environmental clauses and one with a value chain contract.



Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

7. Did you address both surveys, the one for landowners and the one for stakeholders? If not, why?

Yes, results from both surveys have been presented with a focus on comparing Austrian and German farmers' survey outcomes complemented by the compiled results from all CONSOLE countries where it seemed appropriate.

8. Have there been unexpected national survey results that deserved special attention? If yes, which ones?

The fact that in Austria the farmers' survey was run by a market research institute while in Germany potential participants were contacted by email has led to the situation that in Germany the number of farmers with expertise in agri-environmental measures or organic farming was higher. This stands in opposition to the fact that in general a higher share of Austrian farmers participates in AECMs and organic farming than in Germany.

9. Did you address all four contract types? If not, which one did you select? What was the reason for the selection?

Yes, all four contract types were addressed when presenting the results. In addition, the result-based scheme "Result-based nature plan" financed as AECM in the current programming period in Austria has been presented by participating advisor and farmer. Furthermore, the initiative on collective nature protection with national financing from Saxony-Anhalt has been presented by the coordinator and a farmer. These two best-case examples have been selected as they demonstrate that these two contract types work in practice and to get insights how.

10. Which national survey results answered by farmers have been presented?

The following results were presented:

- Participation in voluntary agri-environmental measures or organic farming and current participation as well as former participation and no participation in the four contract types (result-based, collective, value chain, land tenure) for Austria and Germany
- The 13 characteristics and how they affect the willingness to engage in contracts for Austria, Germany and all countries (results from all CONSOLE surveys compiled)
- How likely an engagement in the four contract types is for the respondents from Austria, Germany and all countries. This has been complemented by qualitative statements from farmers that participated

- Results from Austria and Germany on the question how easy to understand, implementable and (potentially) economic beneficial the four contract types are (comparing farmers' and stakeholders' results)
- The current engagement in environmental improvements as well as the willingness to do so in future for the various environmental aspects in Austria and Germany
- Which contract type fits best for which environmental aspect in Austria and Germany
- For Austria only selected influential factors affecting the willingness to participate in a result-based measure

11. Which national survey results answered by stakeholders have been presented?

The following results were presented:

- Stakeholders view about how easy to understand, implementable and (potentially) economic beneficial the four contract types are for farmers (Austria and Germany)
- Which contract type fits best for which environmental aspect in Austria, Germany and the entirety of survey answers (all countries)
- PESTLE results: What is the most important external factor (political, economic, social, technological, legal and environmental) affecting result-based contracts as well as for collective contract solutions (Austria and Germany). In addition, some qualitative statements have been presented.

12. Did you carry out a choice experiment? If yes, did you present the results?

No choice experiment has been carried out in Germany nor in Austria. But for Austria a third survey assessing how selected influential factors affect the willingness to participate in a result-based measure has been carried out and some preliminary results have been presented.

13. Were aspects identified with dissents amongst participants? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience.

The collective approach was seen more positive by some participants (the presenters of the German initiative) than the survey results. For the presented initiative on the collective approach, the collaboration amongst various actors including administration, advisors and farmers as well as a fixed premia per hectare for each of the 3 measures were seen as important success factors as well as the fact

that farmers could foreseen a buffer by slightly going beyond the measure surface they get financing for, thus significantly reducing the sanction risk. The development of new business activities alongside with the result-based measure were presented as essential for its success – while at the same time goat herding for mohair wool production is certainly a niche.

14. Did you address the new CAP programming period and in particular the articulation of eco-schemes, AEEM and options for innovative contract solutions?

No. Only briefly reference has been made to the planned result-based eco-scheme with regional indicator plants on grassland in Germany.

15. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself.

The participating farmers showed general interest in the novel contract types, in particular in the two presented cases. They were informed that further activities will take place within CONSOLE and that they will be invited to participate (in particular for the development of the design guide).

16. Finally, CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

There was interest from the participants to get the presentations with contact details from the presenters.

Screenshot from the online meeting



15 BULGARIA - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 21.10.2021

Responsible partner(s): IAE

Responsible person(s): Dimitre Nikolov

Number of participants: 12

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you address both surveys, the one for landowners and the one for stakeholders? If not, why?

Yes

2. Have there been unexpected national survey results that deserved special attention? If yes, which ones?

No

3. Did you address all four contract types? If not, which one did you select? What was the reason for the selection?

Yes

4. Which national survey results answered by landowners have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics and agricultural/forest holding features, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

The following results were discussed:

4.1. Improvement of the environment – current measures implemented by landowners as well as future intentions.

- a. Which of the characteristics of contracts has an influence on participation? Here, the characteristics were discussed mainly regarding collective action ('achieving collective results at landscape level' and 'receiving collective payment'). The results of the answers regarding collective action were not surprising to the participants as they believe

that collective contracts will be difficult to implement. Another discussed aspect was labelling as a form of selling farmers products. The survey showed that respondents are predominantly neutral regarding this aspect. This result was surprising for some of the CoP participants, because they believe labelling is something that will increase farmers' participation in environmental contracts.

- b. Assessment of the four type of contracts and their features: easy to understand, applicability and economic benefits.

5. Which national survey results answered by stakeholders have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies, PESTLE). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

The following national survey results answered by stakeholders have been presented have been presented:

- 5.1. Stakeholders' opinion on which contract to the achievement of which environmental objective is most suitable.

The participants stated that their opinion is similar to the opinion of the stakeholders.

- a. Stakeholders' opinion on the popularity of the four contract types among the land managers

The collective contract type is least popular among the farm managers. They need more information on implementation and management issues of this contract type as well as its in-depth discussion. With regard to the statements of the participants, the types of contracts must be performed in their various combinations.

- b. Stakeholders' opinion on the characteristics (easy to understand, applicability for the farm, potentially economic benefits for the farm) of the four contract types.

The participants were not surprised with the stakeholders' opinions, because they sheer similar views.

6. Did you carry out a choice experiment? If yes, did you present the results? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience (if relevant as input for WP1 and/or WP3).

No

7. Were aspects identified with dissents amongst participants? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience.

Participants discussed the lack of information among farmers about different possibilities (contracts) for AEPGs. According to them collective contracts will be very difficult to implement in Bulgaria due to bad experience in the past, lack of trust and difficulties in management.

8. Did you address the new CAP programming period and in particular the articulation of eco-schemes, AECM and options for innovative contract solutions?

Yes

9. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

CoP worked synchronously. The presence of farmers, advisors, a farmers' association, a certification body, an academy and a local state administration allowed for an effective discussion. The availability of practical experience made it possible to reach a common opinion in most cases as a result of the discussions, which allowed consensus to be reached in a number of cases.

10. Finally, CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

Farmers/farm managers need training and more detailed information predominantly about the organization, functioning, and management of the cooperative contract type. Detailed information about the other three contract types should be distributed within different communication channels among them.

16 FINLAND - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 15th of November 2021

Responsible partner(s): Luke

Responsible person(s): Mikko Kurttila, Katri Hamunen, Emmi Haltia, Jussi Leppänen, Esa-Jussi Viitala

Number of participants: 8 participants [forest owners] and 5 project partners

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you address both surveys, the one for landowners and the one for stakeholders? If not, why?

We did present some results from both surveys:

- Willingness to enroll different types on contracts in a future (comparison between Finnish forest owners, Finnish farmers and farmers in Europe)
- Effect of different features for the willingness to enroll (comparison between Finnish forest owners, Finnish farmers and Finnish stakeholders)
- Most suitable contract types for different objective provision (comparison between Finnish stakeholders and European stakeholders)

2. Have there been unexpected national survey results that deserved special attention? If yes, which ones?

Based on survey results, Finnish forest owners are less willing to enter for new contract types more compared to farmers. In the workshop discussions, it was noted that in forestry and among forest owners, contract models are still unfamiliar and forest owners are less dependent on subsidies than farmers, and therefore the willingness to participate is lower. Also, public awareness of public goods has increased so recently that things have not yet materialized. However, it was also noted in the workshops that forest owners would be interested in alternative and additional sources of income beside timber trade.

According to workshop participants, the results were logical in terms of what benefits could be provided with what kind of agreements (collective = water, results-based = biodiversity / carbon sequestration). However, especially soil quality and soil health in forests is still unfamiliar idea. In the workshops it was pondered how soil health and quality could be measured.

3. Did you address all four contract types? If not, which one did you select? What was the reason for the selection?

All four contract types were shortly presented since they were all included also in the surveys.

4. Which national survey results answered by landowners have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics and agricultural/forest holding features, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.
5. Which national survey results answered by stakeholders have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies, PESTLE). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

See answer for the question number 1. Individual or holding characteristics were not presented.

Workshop participants noted that the design of contract models should take into account the holistic management of ecosystem services and avoid sub-optimization. Also, it was discussed that it needs to be considered which ecosystem services can be promoted on a market basis and where subsidies (support from society) are needed. At the moment, institutions are built on public funding, and implementing the same thing with private funding can bring surprising challenges.

There is a need for a better ecological understanding of what can be achieved with certain actions and timetable.

Finally, it was pondered that what would be the path from research to practice. Also, what is the role of science, especially what is measured and how.

6. Did you carry out a choice experiment? If yes, did you present the results? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience (if relevant as input for WP1 and/or WP3).

We did carry out choice experiment, but the results were not ready to be presented at yet.

7. Were aspects identified with dissents amongst participants? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience.

Dissents were not identified.

8. Did you address the new CAP programming period and in particular the articulation of eco-schemes, AECM and options for innovative contract solutions?

No, since the main focus was forestry.

9. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

-

10. Finally, CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

Practical, good examples of already existing solutions are needed when presenting contract types to practitioners and stakeholders. Wide catalogue of case studies has been collected but a tool to use catalogue is missing, pdf-format is not very handy. Perhaps ready power point slides from some case of the studies could be provided

Date of the event: 14/10/2021

Responsible person(s): H  l  ne Paillard (Trame), Pierre Dupraz (INRAE)

Number of participants: 13

1. Did you address both surveys, the one for landowners and the one for stakeholders? If not, why?

Both survey were addressed, but for the one for stakeholder only the European results were presented.

2. Have there been unexpected national survey results that deserved special attention? If yes, which ones?

1

3. Did you address all four contract types? If not, which one did you select? What was the reason for the selection?

All four contract types were addressed.

4. Which national survey results answered by landowners have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics and agricultural/forest holding features, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

- Individual and farm characteristics : non representative sample (important % of organic farming)

- How much would the following characteristics of agri-environmental contracts increase or decrease willingness to enroll?
- Contract type is applicable for the farm
- Contract type is potentially economically beneficial for the farm
- Current/future enrollment in a contract : participants are not surprised by the negative reaction of farmers to the collective and the land tenure contracts type. They were surprised by the important number of farmers who declare that they already are or have been enrolled in a result based contract.

5. Which national survey results answered by stakeholders have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies, PESTLE). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

Only EU results have been presented for the stakeholder survey (only 25 respondents in France)

- For which environmental objective provision would the different contract types be the most suitable
- Contract type is easy to understand
- Contract type is applicable for the farm
- How much would the following characteristics of agri-environmental contracts increase or decrease willingness to enroll?
- Contract type is potentially economically beneficial for the farm

6. Did you carry out a choice experiment? If yes, did you present the results? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience (if relevant as input for WP1 and/or WP3).

We carried out a choice experiment and some results of this CE were presented.

Participants are interested by the success of the sponsor bonus with farmers

Participants think that the length of hedges is overestimated by most farmers who do not know their exact data on this matter.

The participants note that the sample is not representative and includes a lot of farmers in organic farming and in a grassed system, which explains the high rate of soil cover.

- 7. Were aspects identified with dissents amongst participants? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience.**
- 8. Did you address the new CAP programming period and in particular the articulation of eco-schemes, AECM and options for innovative contract solutions?**

No

- 9. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).**
- 8. Finally, CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.**

18 GERMANY - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 29.06.2021 from 14:00 till 15:30

Responsible partner(s): Thünen Institute

Responsible person(s): Tania Runge (Norbert Röder)

Number of participants: 53 (49 stakeholders from politics, society, science and economy) + 4 contributors

Agenda:

- short introduction in CONSOLE project
- presentation of the quantitative survey results, comparing farmers and stakeholders' responses
- presentation and discussion of the suggestions for improvements based on open questions to each contract type
- presentation of the CAP as of 2023 and connections to (innovative) AEEM and eco-schemes
- final discussion

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you address both surveys, the one for landowners and the one for stakeholders? If not, why?

A dedicated presentation was given on selected quantitative results of both surveys. Whenever possible the answers received from the German farmers were compared with those collected via the German stakeholders' survey. Another presentation was on the suggestions received for improvements of the presented contract types collected through open answers. As there was a great degree of similarity between the numerous contributions from farmers and stakeholders, deliberately no distinction was made between the two groups when presenting the proposals that emerged.

2. Have there been unexpected national survey results that deserved special attention? If yes, which ones?

It was quite a surprise to see that the collective implementation attracted by far the least popular – and stakeholders as well as farmers were quite sceptical about applicability at farm level and economic advantageousness. This stands in contrast to initial positive project experiences reported by participants. One reason identified during the discussion might be the phrasing "The group members decide about [...]" the distribution of the payment." This was understood as if farmers would not only

have to agree together about measures and their location, but also about allocation of money between them which was seen as quite challenging without a person responsible for coordination of the collective. But also, the overall low level of awareness of collective implementation and the question of who pays for the accompanying advisory services were seen as obstacles to collective implementation. This resulted in a number of suggestions for improvement, especially regarding spatial and organisational coordination. It was also emphasised that collective implementation is possible even without a joint application. Another unexpected result concerns the length of contracts, while the majority of farmers (64%) stated that they prefer 5-years contracts, 47% of the stakeholders thought that farmers would prefer 1-year contracts.

3. Did you address all four contract types? If not, which one did you select? What was the reason for the selection?

Survey results from all four contract types were presented. There was on purpose no pre-selection made. When presenting the contract types, there was agreement amongst participants that the descriptions are not adapted to national specificities. It was explained that they had been idealised on purpose and framed in a way fitting for all 12 countries involved in CONSOLE. In the discussion the collective implementation received particular attention.

4. Which national survey results answered by landowners have been presented?

Give a brief overview (individual characteristics and agricultural/forest holding features, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

The presentation informed about the distribution of the 146 farmers who fully answered the questionnaire across Germany (Laender), the splitting in conventional and organic farming (with 25% organic it was overrepresented), the main specialisation (3/4 arable farms or arable with livestock), the surface farmed (mean: 443 ha, median: 175 ha), membership in organisations (nearly ¾ in farmers' association), sources of information, environmental improvement in the past and in the future (overall and depending on specialisation), characteristics of agri-environmental contracts with an introduction to each contract type (farmers compared to stakeholders), participation today and suitability of contract types and finally willingness to engage in future. There was a request for a more differentiated presentation of the survey results, e.g. according to company size.

5. Which national survey results answered by stakeholders have been presented?

Give a brief overview (individual characteristics, characteristics of agri-

environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies, PESTLE). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

The presentation informed about the distribution of the 51 stakeholders who fully answered the questionnaire across Germany (Laender) and their professional background (22% non-profit organisations, 20% governmental organization at regional level, 18% private companies), for 47 out of the 51 responding persons agriculture is their area of responsibility followed by environmental protection (20). Finally, the answers given by the stakeholders when they were asked to tell if the four types of contracts presented are practical and economical for farmers. The PESTLE results were not presented.

6. Did you carry out a choice experiment? If yes, did you present the results?

No choice experiment has been carried out.

7. Were aspects identified with dissents amongst participants? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience.

After the presentation of the proposals for improvements of the results-based contract type, the handling of extreme weather events preventing the achievement of results was intensively discussed. One option mentioned was the possibility of annual "opting out and back in", which would have a positive impact on both the willingness to participate and the cost of participation. This was seen critical by others. But some flexibility in result-based contracts was considered important ("the contract has to breathe"). It was also argued that the result-based contract type is more suitable for plant communities than for animals or animal groups, as otherwise monitoring would become too complex and expensive. An aspect that has led to some discussions is the possibility of participating farmer to get advice in innovative schemes. While there was overall agreement that farmers need (free) access to advice, there were different positions if this should take place with specialised advisors or through training of advisors on environmental aspects already collaborating with the farmers. In the case of the lease agreement with environmental clauses, the (non)compatibility with other subsidies was an issue. While some participants indicated that public funding is seen as double funding when combined with contracts on public land with clauses covering the same objective than the funding, others reported from possible combinations. Regarding the contract along the value chain, it was pointed out that the funding is just enough to cover the effort for the additional labelling, but not to actually pay for the measure itself. But this could not be further discussed due to time constraints.

8. Did you address the new CAP programming period and in particular the articulation of eco-schemes, AECM and options for innovative contract solutions?

A dedicated presentation was given to show the new green architecture with the enhanced conditionality, eco-schemes as new instrument and AEEM under the second pillar. The eco-schemes currently under discussion in Germany were presented, including one scheme with a result-based approach. While in the current programming period collective approaches were – if at all – tested in pilots in some Laender, there are ongoing reflections how to implement it in the upcoming programming period. The now 3 layers require a well-thought programming for the delivery of environmental and climate benefits, but many open questions remain due to the fact that there are no final legal acts yet.

9. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself.

The interest to join the meeting was quite huge, from around 100 invitations send out 50% wanted to attend the meeting. The group was too big for an intensive exchange, even though the participants were randomly divided into 2 groups for the discussion of possible improvements. The two contract types that are more likely to be (co-)financed with public money got most attention. The participants were informed that the establishment of the community of practice (practitioner network) is an important part of the CONSOLE project to enable regular exchange and feedback between science and practice. They were told that this event is part of this exchange and further events will follow.

10. Finally, CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

On request of the participants, the presentations as well as short minutes were sent out immediately after the event.

19 IRELAND - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 25th November 2021

Responsible partner(s): University College Cork (UCC), Ireland

Responsible person(s): Prof. Thia Hennessy, Tracy Bradfield

Number of participants: 35

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you address both surveys, the one for land managers and the one for stakeholders? If not, why?

Yes.

2. Have there been unexpected national survey results that deserved special attention? If yes, which ones?

Workshop participants expected a lower percentage of beef farmers (46%) to be encouraged or greatly encouraged to enrol in a contract by a higher price being paid by the customer. This is based on concerns about the added income revenue being passed to the farmer which will be very important in the negotiation of contracts.

3. Did you address all four contract types? If not, which one did you select? What was the reason for the selection?

All four contracts were addressed.

4. Which national survey results answered by land managers have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics and agricultural/forest holding features, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

Landowners' rating of the acceptability, understandability and economic benefits of the four contract types were discussed. We also broke down the results by farming system.

Workshop participants were very interested in how landowners' attitudes to contracts varied based on farming system. They were surprised by the fact 46% of beef farmers would be encouraged by customers paying a higher price, for the reason stated in 2.

The data shows that only 25% of dairy farmers would be encouraged if a common payment was offered. 70% would be encouraged by self-chosen measures. As dairy farms in Ireland have the highest average income of all farm systems by a considerable portion, this result stresses the importance of autonomy and financial remuneration when increasing the adoption of agri-environmental contracts.

5. Which national survey results answered by stakeholders have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies, PESTLE). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

Stakeholders' rating of the acceptability, understandability and economic benefits of the four contract types were discussed. The factors influencing the willingness of a contract to be adopted and the environmental provision for which different contracts would be most suitable were also analysed.

When compared to landowners, more stakeholders agreed with the various contract types being acceptable, understandable and economically beneficial. This highlighted the importance of knowledge transfer between landowners and stakeholders.

Similar to other countries, the data shows that annual compensation is likely to increase the willingness to adopt a contract, followed by sales guarantee.

6. Did you carry out a choice experiment? If yes, did you present the results? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience (if relevant as input for WP1 and/or WP3).

Yes, and we presented the results.

Participants stressed that appropriate financial remuneration for participation in the contracts is crucial. The remuneration needs to provide a constant, long-term income stream to remove uncertainty.

Participants note that understandability of contracts is generally low and education will be important to improving this.

Participants highlight that indicators of environmental performance should not measure improvements in biodiversity, water quality, carbon storage etc. in isolation as they are interlinked. This would ensure that landowners are appropriately rewarded for their actions.

7. Were aspects identified with dissents amongst participants? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience.

There was some scepticism over a value chain contract resulting in the fair distribution of additional income through the supply chain.

8. Did you address the new CAP programming period and in particular the articulation of eco-schemes, AECM and options for innovative contract solutions?

This was briefly touched on a few times and suggestions regarding new policy related to the points previously mentioned: education must be provided, measures should encompass all benefits and remuneration should be attractive.

9. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

Non-applicable.

10. Finally, CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

The understandability of value-chain, land tenure and collective contracts is low. Further education is required.

20 ITALY (UNIBO) - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: Monday November 29th, 2021

Responsible partner(s): UNIBO, RER

Responsible person(s):

Number of participants: 147

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you address both surveys, the one for land managers and the one for stakeholders? If not, why?

On November 29th two workshops were organized. The morning workshop addressed a larger audience (national and regional) and focused on the "land manager" survey, while the results of the "stakeholder" survey were presented with less details. The afternoon workshop, instead, was organized within the task 3.4. and focused on the "stakeholder" survey.

2. Have there been unexpected national survey results that deserved special attention? If yes, which ones?

No, none of the national results has raised particular attention from the stakeholders.

3. Did you address all four contract types? If not, which one did you select? What was the reason for the selection?

All four contract types were addressed.

4. Which national survey results answered by land managers have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics and agricultural/forest holding features, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

The following results were presented for the whole group of countries:

- socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents (education level, age, membership in farmers associations and/or nature conservation groups)

- farms' characteristics (specialization, % of income from agri-forestry activity, organic production)
- information on CAP payments, RDPs
- past and future attitudes and preferences towards the provision of AECPGs
- contracts' characteristics

5. Which national survey results answered by stakeholders have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies, PESTLE). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

The following results were presented for the whole group of countries:

- willingness of farmers and forests owners managing the land to join an environmental contract/programme by contract's characteristics
- opinions on the four types of contracts (easy understandable, applicable, economically beneficial)
- expectations with respect to the intentions/opinions of farmers and forests owners regarding the four types of contracts

6. Did you carry out a choice experiment? If yes, did you present the results? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience (if relevant as input for WP1 and/or WP3).

Yes, we did, but no results were presented during the workshop.

7. Were aspects identified with dissents amongst participants? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience.

No comments from the audience

8. Did you address the new CAP programming period and in particular the articulation of eco-schemes, AECP and options for innovative contract solutions?

Please check the CoP Feedback Sheet 1 for the discussion regarding new CAP programming.

9. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

No comments on the CoP.

10. Finally, CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

Please check the CoP Feedback Sheet 1

21 ITALY (UNIFI) - Reporting sheet

No reporting, but a meeting with CoP members took place on 25.03.2022 where survey results were shown and discussed.

22 LATVIA - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 01.10.2021

Responsible partner(s): Union Farmers Parliament

Responsible person(s): Sandis Liepa

Number of participants: 17

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you address both surveys, the one for landowners and the one for stakeholders? If not, why?

Yes, presented both surveys

2. Have there been unexpected national survey results that deserved special attention? If yes, which ones?

No.

3. Did you address all four contract types? If not, which one did you select? What was the reason for the selection?

Addressed the results from all four types of contracts.

4. Which national survey results answered by landowners have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics and agricultural/forest holding features, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

The main accent was dedicated for the future interest to conclude the contract type solutions. The main results indicated that the landowners are prepared to consider signing various contract types, but are not likely to cooperate. The results show that the farmers and foresters are motivated to take part in measures if the goals achieved affect the rewards and if they are given freedom to choose the ways to achieve the goals of the contract. The landowners are not motivated by possible cooperation with other farmers and reception of a special product label. 52% of respondents are interested and ready to enter into performance-based contracts in the future, 24% - neutral attitude. 44% of farmland owners are interested in land use agreement with environmental requirements. Regarding agreements with actors in the food chain within farmers and foresters dominate neutral opinions (33%). The respondents are least interested in collectively implemented agreements

(opinions are divided, less interest (25%)). The preferred timeframe for contracts – 5-10 years.

Main focus was on the unpreparedness to cooperate. This is not surprising in Latvia, because people often do not trust each other in achieving results, but this is an issue to address in order to overcome it.

5. Which national survey results answered by stakeholders have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies, PESTLE). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

Main results were presented in order to give context to discussion. The main results show that the stakeholders support the contracts/measures that include the following characteristics:

- The better the goals achieved, the higher the rewards*
- You are free to choose the ways to achieve the goals of the contract*
- Reception of a special product label*
- Reduced land rentals*

The stakeholders do not support:

- Cooperation with other farmers*
- "Customer pays"*

A performance-based contract seems appropriate and feasible (achieves environmental goals - receives payment) to the most stakeholders. Land use agreement with environmental requirements also seems enforceable. The stakeholders suspect that contracts with value chain actors would not work because buyers are not prepared to pay more. Regarding collectively implemented agreements - there is no faith in the possibility of cooperation between landowners.

6. Did you carry out a choice experiment? If yes, did you present the results? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience (if relevant as input for WP1 and/or WP3).

No.

7. Were aspects identified with dissents amongst participants? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience.

The discussions were not intense as the results were not surprising. The participants mostly agreed that:

- Cooperation between farmers should not be forced as people are not ready to cooperate yet.*

- *Cooperation can be provided as a possibility but no special measures are to be taken to motivate people to enrol.*
- *Cooperation tradition will develop over time.*
- *It is pleasing to see that the landowners are ready to accept result based contract types and support measures.*
- *There might not be a need to develop a land rental measures because there isn't a lot of relevant state or municipality land.*
- *Customers in Latvia are not prepared yet to pay higher price for organic food or local food so there is a disbelief that customers could cover the costs of the measures. There is not enough demand and there might not be for another 10 years.*
- *The contracts need to be very well thought-through.*

8. Did you address the new CAP programming period and in particular the articulation of eco-schemes, AECM and options for innovative contract solutions?

The eco-schemes were a part of discussion. The participants mainly were interested into long term contracts and pointed that needed additional detailed discussions in the future.

9. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

The CoP cases with the different examples helps in the political discussions for new CAP.

10. Finally, CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

Training that would regard actual adoption of the contract types would be needed (e.g. what details should be individualized, what should be addressed and what not). Also, dissemination and motivation should be addressed (how to motivate landowners to participate successfully).



23 NETHERLANDS - Reporting sheet

Date of the workshop: 10 March 2022

Responsible partner(s) and person(s): VU, Kina Harmanny and Nynke Schulp

Number of workshop participants: 6

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you address both surveys, the one for landowners and the one for stakeholders? If not, why?

Given time, we focused on the landowner survey but questions arose about the stakeholder survey as well. We have, consequently, showed some results of the stakeholder survey.

2. Have there been unexpected national survey results that deserved special attention? If yes, which ones?

A key issue that was highlighted was the difference between the Netherlands and other countries in terms of collective contracts. Even though the CONSOLE interpretation of collective contracts was clearly explained in the survey, the respondents will have answered with the Dutch collectives in mind. These are considerably larger (100s of participants) and organized in a less bottom-up, more institutionalized way.

The level of familiarity with specific types of contracts is another reason for differences. This familiarity can work out negatively and positively, dependent on how well the contract that the respondent knows actually works. In the Netherlands, almost every dairy farmer has a contract with the dairy cooperative that buys and processes their milk, and all cooperatives are already establishing contracts for public goods. Also, the collective approach is very well known.

3. Did you address all four contract types? If not, which one did you select? What was the reason for the selection?

While we emphasised result-based and collective contracts given the task 3.4 workshop and the local interest, we have discussed all four contract types at least in brief.

4. Which national survey results answered by landowners have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics and agricultural/forest holding

features, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

Overall characteristics of respondents, current contract uptake, acceptance / feasibility issues, linkage between contract types and public goods, factors that make contract types more attractive.

5. Which national survey results answered by stakeholders have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies, PESTLE). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

Similar to the above

6. Did you carry out a choice experiment? If yes, did you present the results? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience (if relevant as input for WP1 and/or WP3).

N/A

7. Were aspects identified with dissents amongst participants? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience.

The role of the different contract parties and the level of autonomy of farmers was an issue of some dissent where some favoured more autonomy and some favoured a stronger and more normative government.

8. Did you address the new CAP programming period and in particular the articulation of eco-schemes, AEEM and options for innovative contract solutions?

N/A

9. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

The term "Public good" is no common knowledge among landowners and stakeholders and requires careful explanation and discussion. Still, sometimes confusion arose about what we were talking about exactly. Also, the different "contract types" were considered not entirely clear as it mixes the relation between the contracting parties and the way in which outputs are to be achieved.

10. Finally, CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

24 POLAND - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 04/02/2022

Responsible partner(s): Warsaw University of Life Sciences - SGGW

Responsible person(s): Edward Majewski and Agata Malak-Rawlikowska

Number of workshop participants: 17

The event took place on 04/02/2022, 10-12, a week after the stakeholder workshop within Wp3. The meeting was in a hybrid form (some participants participated online and some in a room). The first part was devoted to presentation of the WP3 results (according to template provided by LUKE and UNIBO) and it was followed by discussion related to results and questions posted by organisers.

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you address both surveys, the one for landowners and the one for stakeholders? If not, why?

Yes. We based on the general presentation provided by WP3 Coordinator (LUKE+UNIBO) with farm and stakeholder survey results.

2. Have there been unexpected national survey results that deserved special attention? If yes, which ones?

Generally, results were similar to those of other countries. However, in Poland a stronger, than in other countries, reluctance of farmers to collective contract solutions was observed. On the other hand similarly to other countries, the results-based contracts and land tenure arrangements were those in which farmers were most likely to participate. About 70% and 62% of farmers respectively, were positive about participation in such type of contract. Participants commented that the reason may be the general reluctance to cooperate within groups as related to various sociological conditions, including a lack of trust and historical experiences. Such results are observed in many other studies conducted in Poland.

Participants said that It's hard to disagree with the survey results. However, the answers are declarative and the survey did not provide a sufficient insight to detailed factors on which the acceptability of the contracts depends. One of the concerns was, the level of payments for AECPGs was not presented to farmers. In reality, a high payment may attract more farmers, while a low premium would

result with much lower numbers of interested in contracting actions compared to those declaring interest in the survey.

3. Did you address all four contract types? If not, which one did you select? What was the reason for the selection?

We addressed all 4 contract types illustrated by examples:

- result based: AT4 (Humus program) and FR4 (Eco-methane BBC)
- collective: PL1 PL2 (cattle and sheep natural grazing)
- chain initiative: DE5 (water-protecting bread), IT4 (Barilla indicators), PL3 (Flowering meadows)
- land tenure: FI4 (Pasture bank), BG1 (Conservation of grasslands)

Selection of cases was based on the subjective evaluation of their applicability in Polish conditions, and a clear illustration of each contract type.

4. Which national survey results answered by landowners have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics and agricultural/forest holding features, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

All results of the survey were presented both from landowner and stakeholder surveys based on the template provided by LUKE and UNIBO.

5. Which national survey results answered by stakeholders have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies, PESTLE). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

All results of the survey were presented to COP both for landowner and stakeholder survey based on the template provided by LUKE and UNIBO.

Comments from participants:

What are the possibilities of introducing or increasing the implementation of contracts in Poland? How to make them more used and profitable?

The answer to this question depends in a way on determining what the expected effect of the contracts should be, especially in relation to contracts financed from private funds, assuming they will be available, which is a pre-condition. A concern was expressed, that some funding organization may be interested more in creating the PR image of the "founder" rather than in real AECPG services. This is debatable, especially in the case of profit oriented businesses, as long as their PR activities are related to real achievements in delivering public goods by benefiting farmers. There is a threat, however, that farmers can be more reluctant to sign contracts if they suspect being "manipulated" if the AECPG contract is to be perceived a subject to Public Relations policy.

Contract implementation depends on whether there is a market for AECPG (demand - supply) and who is going to pay for it? The possibilities and effectiveness of contracts largely depend on who will be the initiator and whether foreseen benefits will be satisfactory for farmers. The AECPG contract should provide an appropriate reward for the farmer.

The key issue in boosting acceptability of new contract types is raising awareness among farmers and active search for organizations / businesses which may be interested in arranging this type of contracts.

The main barriers for participation of farmers in novel contract solutions are no tradition of financing public goods from private sources and reliance entirely on public funding. It is also important that the awareness of such types of contracts as analysed in the project nor the ways of their implementation is practically non-existing in Poland. Therefore also some advisory service and assistance should be provided to farmers as well as to financing donors in the contracting process.

A limiting factor could be also a low level of willingness of farmers to engage in value chain and group initiatives due to the reluctance towards cooperation what was also observed in the questionnaire results. Thus some best practices (case studies) in this type of contracts should be disseminated and communicated to farmers.

Contracts for the provision of AECPG must be administratively simple to implement and control (reducing the already spread bureaucracy) otherwise farmers will not be interested in participating.

Contracts can be a valuable supplement to systemic activities for the natural environment implemented from CAP funds (like agri-environmental programs or eco-schemes). Their advantage is that they are usually bottom-up initiatives.

6. Did you carry out a choice experiment? If yes, did you present the results? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience (if relevant as input for WP1 and/or WP3).

Not for WP3, choice experiment is used for WP4 modelling. Results are not yet available.

7. Were aspects identified with dissents amongst participants? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience.

General comments and reflections from participants

- The fundamental question is whether such solutions are a good way to generate AECPG? The reasoning behind this question is, that scattered, small scale local actions may not be sufficiently effective in macro-economic sense, contributing very little to the macro-scale.
- Looking for an optimal design: does every activity on a micro scale (even one that provides a local optimum) provide significant social benefits on a macro scale?. For example, extensive grazing of animals is beneficial for local landscape and biodiversity, but contributes to increased GHG emissions.
- one should distinguish between different public good types - are they all really public, (pure – common) or private or club goods (some of them have character of private/club goods especially in the chain initiatives).

8. Did you address the new CAP programming period and in particular the articulation of eco-schemes, AECM and options for innovative contract solutions?

No, some aspects of eco-schemes were mentioned indirectly in the discussion

9. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

Discussion went smoothly, participants were very interested in the results.

10. Finally, CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

The awareness of such types of contracts as analysed in the project nor the ways of their implementation is practically non-existing in Poland. Therefore also every kind of training is useful, especially sharing good practices and solutions, guidance how to design the contracts. It is also important to disseminate the knowledge among potential donors (companies/NGO/groups).



25 SPAIN - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 19/04/2022

Responsible partner(s): EVENOR

Responsible person(s): Francisco José Blanco Velázquez, Félix González Peñaloza

Number of participants: 11

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you address both surveys, the one for landowners and the one for stakeholders? If not, why?

During the workshop, the results highlighted from WP3 results were discussed and compared with other countries (Italy and France)

2. Have there been unexpected national survey results that deserved special attention? If yes, which ones?

The participants cited the huge number of farmers involved in collective implementation in other countries. Their perception was that in Spain, due to cultural and administrative topics, collective implementation will not be easy to implement and other contract types are more common and feasible.

3. Did you address all four contract types? If not, which one did you select? What was the reason for the selection?

In the beginning, the four contract types were described but results-based and value chain were selected due to Spanish case studies and the potential use of technologies (satellites and drones). As well as, both contract types were selected as most suitable to be implemented.

4. Which national survey results answered by landowners have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics and agricultural/forest holding features, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

Spanish national surveys results were presented in order to compile their perception about the answers. Regarding our national results, value chain contract will provide more profitability than other contract types. The participant cited that a product under sustainable management is more demanded by the society than other but an important marketing strategy to highlight AECPGs provided need to be developed. Only a brand could be not enough.

5. Which national survey results answered by stakeholders have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies, PESTLE). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

Spanish results were presented in order to select the most interesting contract type. Value chain was the first option by stakeholders and the participants were agree.

6. Did you carry out a choice experiment? If yes, did you present the results? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience (if relevant as input for WP1 and/or WP3).

No proceed.

7. Were aspects identified with dissents amongst participants? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience.

Participants from public administration highlighted that current policies applied in our region no provide financial support for value chain contract. However, they cited that new PAC will promote results based contract which could be related with some new eco-schemes or eco-regions due to their similarity with environmental indicators (biodiveristy, soil quality, etc.). On the other hand, private sector' participants are more comfortable with value chain due to link with market.

8. Did you address the new CAP programming period and in particular the articulation of eco-schemes, AECM and options for innovative contract solutions?

As we cited in the previous question, new CAP programming period is related with results-based contract types. However, new advances on it is required.

9. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

The participants shown interest in the new contractual relationships discussed in CONSOLE project. However, the link with new agricultural policies is not clear from their point of view. The examples provided by the case studies could promote to public administration and/or private sector to implement new contractual relationships. Furthermore, a financial and policies support is required for that.

10. Finally, CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

This question was discussed in terms to design training materials interesting for the participants. Short videos, posts in blogs, social media, etc were the kind of materials more demanded. Regarding the topic, the easy way to implement this kind of contract solutions was the most important.

26 UK - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 07/03/2022

Responsible partner(s): University of Leeds

Responsible person(s): Emmanouil Tyllianakis

Number of participants: 16

Questions to be answered (1-2 pages):

1. Did you address both surveys, the one for landowners and the one for stakeholders? If not, why?

The focus was on the land manager's survey given the type of attendees (14 farmers and 2 farm advisors). Results from the land managers' survey were presented and reference to the stakeholder findings was done verbally.

2. Have there been unexpected national survey results that deserved special attention? If yes, which ones?

The national survey results that were the most unexpected referred to a clear preference of respondents for results-based schemes. This clear preference was discussed in this meeting and farmers indicated that this can be broadly explained by the nature of the schemes currently designed/anticipated to replace the Pillar II payments. In England, where most of the national survey results came from and where the farmers of the event came from (Esk valley, east Yorkshire), the ministry of the environment has announced that the Basic Payments Scheme will be abolished by 2024 and payments are currently phased out. This, according to farmers in the event, will cause a major disruption in profits as BPS was administered as a 'blanket' payment, constituting the majority of profits for most English farmers. In particular, farmers in this event mentioned that around 75% of their profits currently comes from BPS. The threat of losing such a large percentage of income therefore can explain why farmers in the national survey opted for results-based schemes as these might offer the best chance of getting payment for providing public goods from farming.

3. Did you address all four contract types? If not, which one did you select? What was the reason for the selection?

All four contracts were discussed. An emphasis was placed on presenting and discussing results-based schemes (given the results of the national survey) and collaborative schemes (given the current involvement of farmers in the event – they constitute members of the group of farmers described in UK5 case study in WP2). Surprisingly, event participants indicated an increased interest in value chain and land tenure schemes, a clear deviation from the results of the national land manager and stakeholder survey. Land tenure schemes, due to the prospects of the new

contracts designed by the ministry of the environment (Defra), were discussed at length as event farmers were clear that they would place tenant farmers at a disadvantage. Value chain was considered by many participants for the first time and was favourably viewed by them (given that many participants have to sell their sheep to finishing farms in the valleys as the grass quality is not good enough for timely rearing – this cuts into the profits of the Esk valley farmers – and value chain can mitigate such a problem)

4. Which national survey results answered by landowners have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics and agricultural/forest holding features, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

Further to what was presented above, the emphasis was placed on discussing how the CONSOLE-proposed typologies can inform the changing landscape of UK AES landscape. As such, issues around land tenure, tenants and landlords, length of contracts, collaboration and involvement of private organisations as partners in schemes was discussed. The focus was on sheep and beef farmers, as this was the profile of the event participants. As stated above, farmers participating expressed interest in liaising directly with a private/public company/organisation as a means to provide AEPCGs (explicit mention was made to Yorkshire Water, the water company for the entire region being approached as a partner with farmers providing improved water quality and filtration and Yorkshire Water in turn providing payments).

Regarding the results of PESTLE, the clear favourites of the participants were parts of the 'Political' topics. Topics around reduced bureaucracy, training and guidance and support were of the most importance. The least preferred topic revolved around 'Environment' statements (participants were asked to rank all statements) and (with the exception of the statement around improving adaptation to climate change) these statements were, surprisingly, the least preferred ones.

5. Which national survey results answered by stakeholders have been presented? Give a brief overview (individual characteristics, characteristics of agri-environmental contracts, reaction to new contract typologies, PESTLE). Please indicate if there were particular aspects that were of special interest / importance for the participants.

Stakeholder views were presented around the validity and appropriateness of collaborative and land-tenure contracts as these were the types of contracts Esk valley farmers are currently involved in. Topics around compensation (levels, frequency) and advice (type of advice, dynamics of relationships between land managers and advisers etc) were discussed.

6. Did you carry out a choice experiment? If yes, did you present the results? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience (if relevant as input for WP1 and/or WP3).

Yes, results were presented in a simplified manner, showing overall choices of schemes (results-based, collaborative and hybrid collaborative and result-based schemes) as well as comparing the payments estimated from there to the projected payments from ELMs (Environmental Land Management (ELM) scheme). Comments pointed that projected payments from the new contracts suggested by the government are considerably lower than the stated mean WTA/hectare in the CE, indicating an impasse in policy and farmers' preferences.



7. Were aspects identified with dissents amongst participants? Please briefly summarise questions / comments received from the audience.

As stated previously, the main concern of participants was about the length of contracts (proposed 10 and 20 year contracts were considered too restricting for land managers to engage and beyond the reach of tenant farmers). The most divergence, also expressed in the PESTLE framework, revolved around bringing about lasting environmental change (in the context of climate change adaptation through the provisioning of AECPGs) where some participants were strongly for and others indifferent or (as stated) beyond their capacity.

8. Did you address the new CAP programming period and in particular the articulation of eco-schemes, AECM and options for innovative contract solutions?

Not directly as the UK has left the EU. Nevertheless, information was provided on how Pillar II payments will look like, the future of BPS in the EU and discussions were held whether the UK is placed in a better or worse position with respects to compensation farmers can receive from AES in a post-brexite world.

9. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

Participation was higher than expected for a mid-week meeting at the end of lambing season which keeps most of the participants busy. A 80% attendance of the CoP members was estimated, which was high not just for a CoP meeting but for any farmer meeting of this farmer group. Participants stated their satisfaction with the event, the information provided and stated their intention to continue participating so that they can 'have their voices heard' in influencing policy-making. The 2-hour event lasted 3 hours given the conversations and group discussions held afterwards.

10. Finally, CONSOLE training activities are foreseen to be developed and communication and training material will be put on a hub. Please indicate what topics might be of interest, where training needs exist.

No training needs were expressed

CONSOLE CoP

Reporting sheets

from the 3rd feedback round
on "Testing of the draft contract solutions catalogue"

- 1 AUSTRIA - Reporting sheet **Errore. Il segnalibro non è definito.**
- 2 BULGARIA - Reporting sheet **Errore. Il segnalibro non è definito.**
- 3 FINLAND - Reporting sheet **Errore. Il segnalibro non è definito.**
- 4 FRANCE - Reporting sheet **Errore. Il segnalibro non è definito.**
- 5 GERMANY - Reporting sheet **Errore. Il segnalibro non è definito.**
- 6 IRELAND - Reporting sheet **Errore. Il segnalibro non è definito.**
- 7 ITALY (UNIBO) - Reporting sheet **Errore. Il segnalibro non è definito.**
- 8 ITALY (UNIFI) - Reporting sheet **Errore. Il segnalibro non è definito.**
- 9 LATVIA - Reporting sheet **Errore. Il segnalibro non è definito.**
- 10 NETHERLANDS - Reporting sheet **Errore. Il segnalibro non è definito.**
- 11 POLAND - Reporting sheet **Errore. Il segnalibro non è definito.**
- 12 SPAIN - Reporting sheet **Errore. Il segnalibro non è definito.**
- 13 UK - Reporting sheet **Errore. Il segnalibro non è definito.**

Introduction

In CONSOLE involvement of CoP members is foreseen in three dedicated activities, each of them being relevant for the project success (see also Deliverable D5.2).

The third feedback round addressed here is closely linked to WP1 and has two core objectives:

- to test applicability of the draft framework practical solutions catalogue under near-realistic conditions
- to benefit from practitioners' experience for the refinement and finalisation of the design guide

The input from partners collected via this reporting sheet will feed into D5.5 "Report on ground truth testing of the framework in real life and lessons learned from testing" to be finalised by month 36. The insights gained from practitioners will furthermore directly contribute to Task 1.4 "Development of final AECPG contractual framework and practical solutions catalogue".

CoP members to be invited are stakeholders experienced with voluntary provision of AECPGs through contractual solutions, as well as farmers or forest owners (and/or their representatives) interested in the topic. While selecting participants, attention should be given to involve actors with various roles (design, contracting, funding, control). In particular those actors responsible for the programming of eco-schemes and AECMs and/or those that are engaged in private contractual solutions fostering the delivery of environmental benefits should be the targeted audience. Where applicable actors engaged in local case studies could be invited. It might not be possible to address all four contract types (result-based, collective, along value chain, land tenure based) and the whole range of public goods with the same level of detail. Therefore, it is recommended to focus for the in-depth discussion on a selection that is likely to attract interest and/or for which first experiences exist. This will be particularly crucial when organising the CoP meeting together with actors from case studies dealing with specific contractual approaches for specific AECPGs.

This third feedback round with CoP members is scheduled as a workshop (WL5.1) to take place between early autumn 2021 and spring 2022 in all 13 partner countries (latest month 34). If possible, this workshop should be organised with physical presence of the participants, but if this is not possible because of Covid-19 pandemic restrictions it may alternatively be organised as virtual event. The CoP meetings should preferably take place before the workshop at EU level (WEU5.2), initially foreseen to be organised in Brussels in order to be able to benefit from the insights gained from testing at national (regional) level. In order to allow for good exchanges, it will be crucial to keep the number of CoP members quite small. Organising dedicated mini-workshops with up to 10 persons while considering a specific case study / pilot testing situation might be an option.

For this CoP activity a harmonised approach is very important. Therefore, the CoP contact persons will be supported in its preparation. All will receive the following material:

- the draft framework practical solutions catalogue (D1.4)
- a draft design guide with decision trees (to be translated in national languages)
- Guidelines how to run the testing

Please send the reporting sheet together with a copy of the agenda and the signature list (for virtual meetings a screenshot from the participants) to: tania.runge@thuenen.de no later than 2 weeks after event took place and by month 35 at the latest.

Do not forget to list your event in the dropbox by indicating "CoP" as audience in your partner excel sheet.

27 AUSTRIA - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 26.04.2022

Responsible partner(s): BOKU

Responsible person(s): Lena Schaller and Theresa Eichhorn

Number of participants: 4 external participants + 2 from BOKU

Questions to be answered:

17. What documents did you circulated ahead of the CoP event(s)? Did you collect written input besides the one you got during the workshop(s)?

One week before the event, a three-page document was sent to the participants. This document contained the results-based decision tree translated into German, two practical examples of the application of the decision tree based on our results-based case studies in Austria: one for the ENP and one for the Humus-Program. The third page of the document contained potential questions that we want to discuss in the CoP event and thus can already serve as preparatory questions.

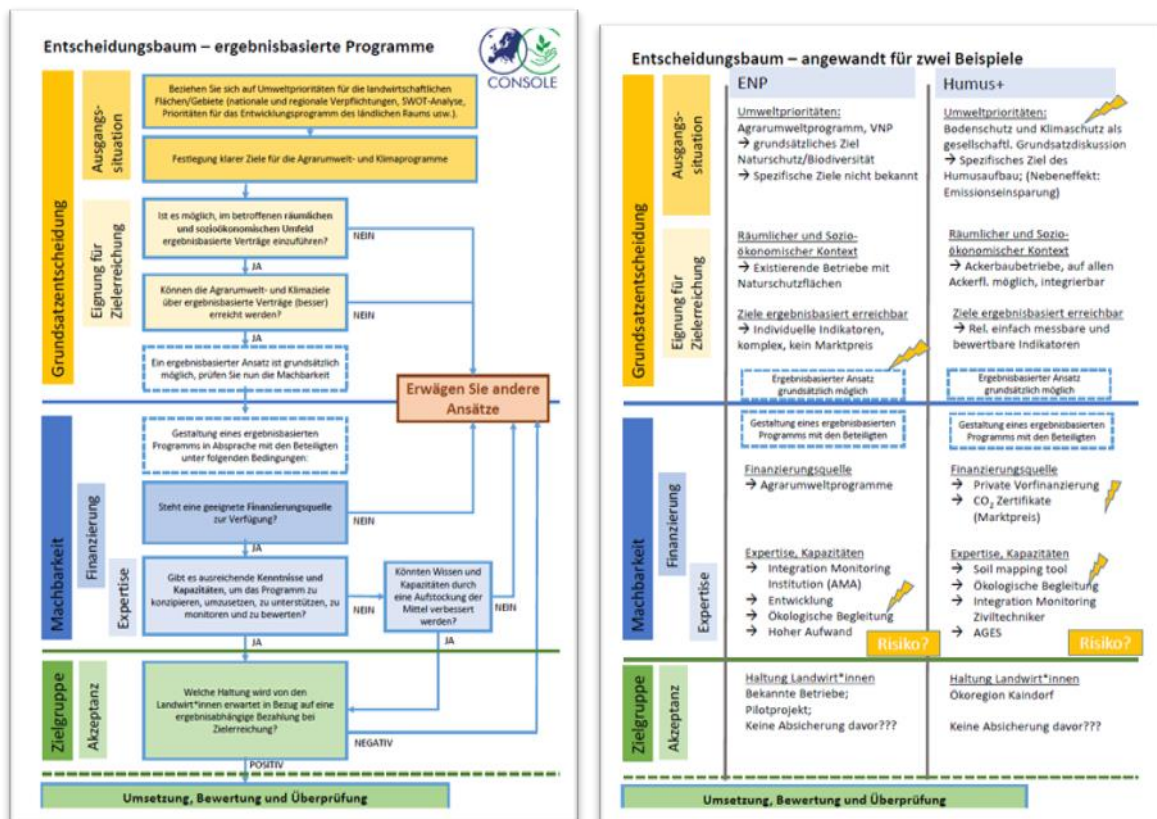


Figure 19 Page one and two of the document circulated before the CoP event

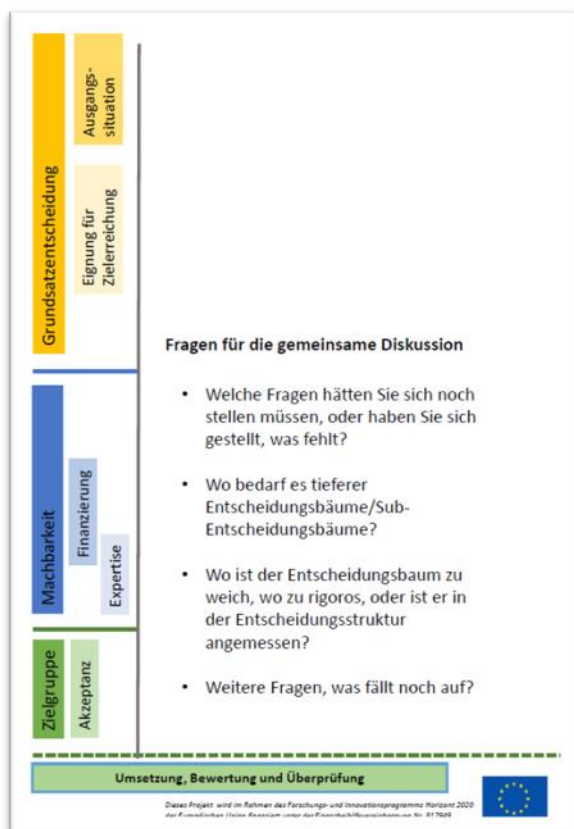


Figure 20 Page three of the document circulated before the CoP Event

18. What contract types or combinations did you address? Which one were addressed in-depth? Was the discussion connected to a case study / pilot testing?

We first introduced the design guide in general and mentioned that this decision tree exists for all four contract types. In our event, we then looked in more detail at the results-based contract type. In a second step, we presented the decision tree using two case studies from Austria, one for biodiversity (RNP- AT3) and one for soil quality and carbon sequestration (Humus Programme- AT4). The idea behind linking to two existing case studies was to facilitate the assessment in a second step. In the general discussion and in the mural task (explained later), participants assessed and reviewed the decision tree on a general level without doing so specifically for one example. Although participants mostly had the case study in mind from which they were coming. The selection of the results-based decision tree with the presentation of the two specific case studies was based on the selection of the invited group. At this event, the project coordinator of AT3 was present, as well as the project manager of AT4, a person from the ministry responsible for the introduction of a

results-based programme in the next CAP period, and a farmer who has already participated in the AT3 programme from the beginning.

19. What AECGs did you address? What was the reason for the selection?

In the overall discussion, we have not specifically considered any AECPG. In the examples presented for the use of the decision tree, we have shown one for biodiversity and one for carbon sequestration based on the existing case studies in Austria.

20. What aspects / elements of the draft framework were discussed? Did you address legal or technological aspects? If yes, which ones? Are there aspects / elements to be added or amended?

Not addressed in the CoP Workshop

21. Was the draft design guide and in particular the decision trees seen as helpful? Are there parts that need to be changed or where refinement would be required?

→ Basic introduction to the decision tree for results-based programmes: The decision tree was explained to the participants step by step and the individual decision parameters were explained. In order to be able to present the decision tree in a structured way and to explain it better, it was divided into three thematic contents: The first part comprises the (1) basic decision to consider a results-based approach and includes the respective initial situation (existing environmental priorities, existing goals), as well as the question of the suitability of the approach to achieve the goals (spatial and socio-economic context, suitability of the approach to (better) achieve the set goals. The second part covers the (2) feasibility of the approach and addresses the questions of funding (source of funding) and expertise (concept, implementation, support, monitoring, evaluation). The third part covers the (3) target group and deals primarily with the question of the expected acceptance of the farmers.

→ Presentation of the application of the decision tree using two examples from practice (ENP and Humus+): The decision parameters of the decision tree were tested in advance for the two programmes, formulated and presented to the participants. In the process, possible difficulties in the decision tree were pointed out on the basis of the examples from practice.

→ Participants were asked to assess/evaluate the results-based decision tree based on four guiding questions:

- What questions still need to be asked, what is missing?
- Where are more in-depth decision trees/sub-decision trees needed?
- Where is the decision tree too soft, where too rigorous, or is it appropriate in the decision structure?
- Other questions, what else stands out?

To facilitate and document the evaluation, a "mural" was prepared in advance:

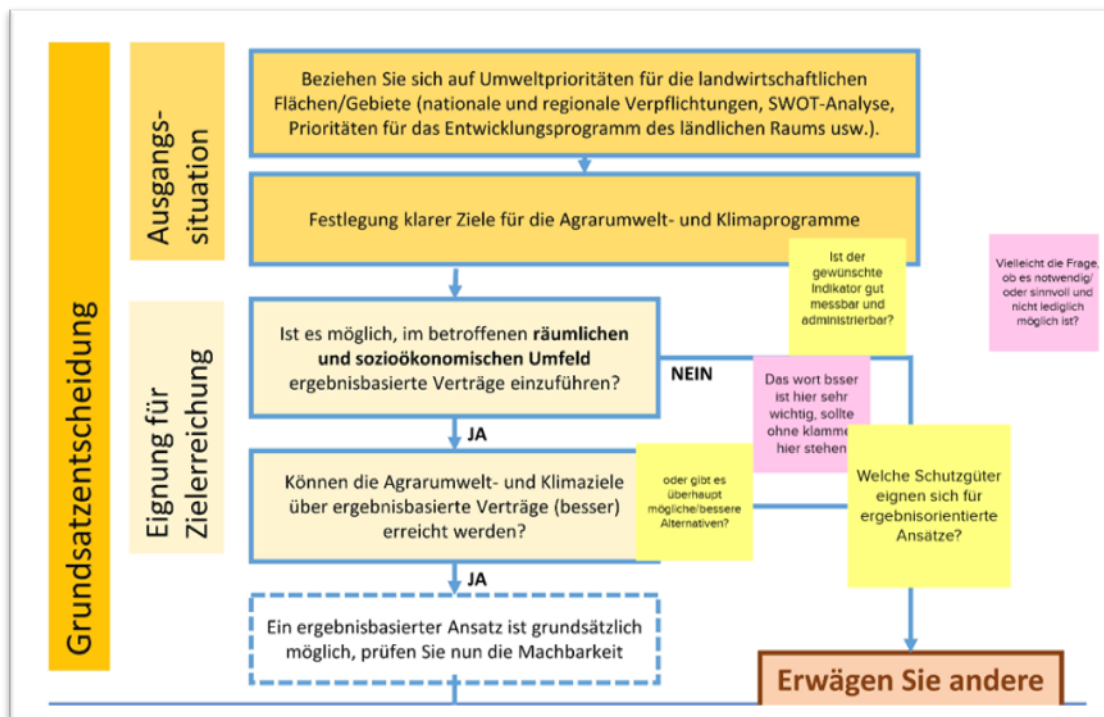
<https://app.mural.co/t/console4364/m/console4364/1650016679650/6808691d0b4fa5d1a9a69c5a0cca7f31a237f354?sender=ucb5a1c31cd1c5d7133527575>

Participants had 10-15 minutes to reflect on the decision tree and make comments directly on the mural.

For each of the four guiding questions, Post-Its were provided in different colours. The colour of the post-it thus indicates which questions of the 4 guiding questions are answered. The participants placed their comments at the points in the structure of the decision tree where a supplement/question or additional level was desired.

The results of the evaluation will be presented below along the 3 thematic contents of the decision tree [(1) fundamental decisions (2) Feasibility (3) Target group/acceptance].

(1) fundamental decisions



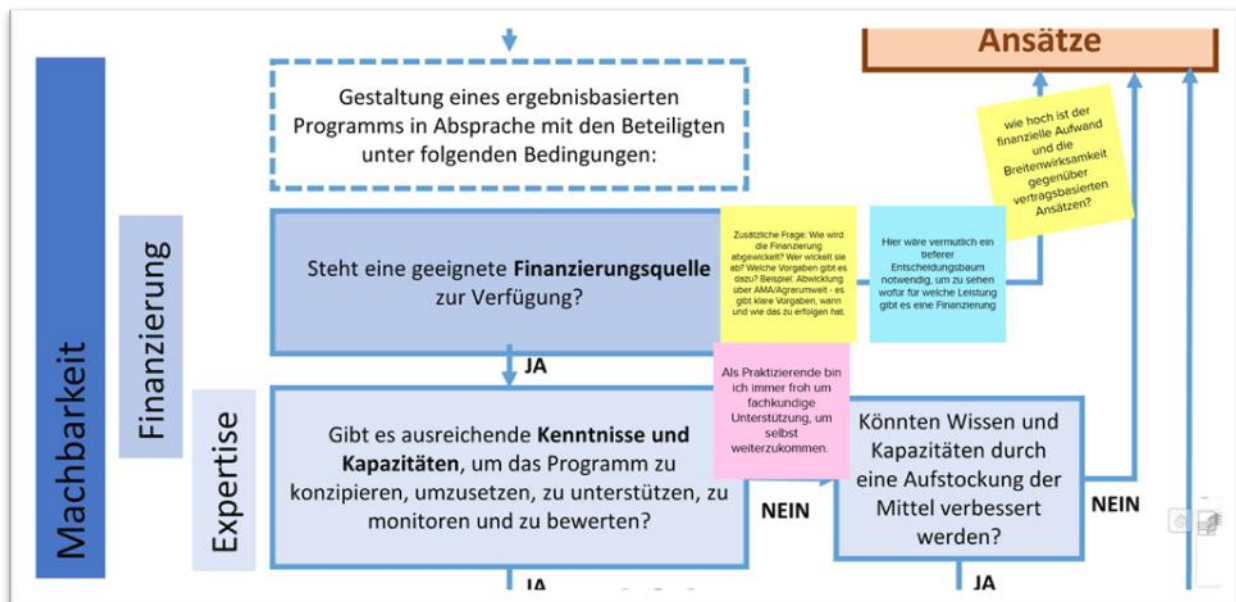
In the part of "fundamental decision", the following questions were raised and comments made by participants:

- Currently, the central question in the EB decision tree is whether a result-based measure is possible. However, an important question would also be whether a result-based measure **is useful or necessary**.
- Regarding the question "Can the agri-environmental and climate objectives be (better) achieved through results-based contracts?", it was similarly noted that the word "better" should not be in parentheses, as this question in particular is

considered very important. Results-based contracts should bring an improvement in the achievement of agri-environmental and climate goals compared to existing measure-based programmes. In this step, it should generally also be considered whether there are fundamentally possible/better alternatives?

- The decision for or against a results-based contract always depends on the protected good that one wants to improve. Thus, the decision variable should also include which protected goods are suitable for the results-based approach in principle.
- The question of indicators should also be considered in the decision tree already in the decision in principle. Here, care should be taken to add a decision variable that deals with the question of whether the goals to be achieved can be mapped using a measurable and administrable indicator.

(2) Feasibility



In the thematic content point of feasibility, the following questions were raised and comments made by the participants:

- The decision variable on financing does not appear to be sufficient; a deeper insight is needed that also includes the administration of financing: Important questions are: "How is the financing handled? Who handles it? What are the requirements? (Example: for the financial handling of the state agri-environmental programmes via the AMA there are clear guidelines on when and how payments have to be made [annual payments, etc.]. On the topic of financing, a deeper decision tree is probably needed to see which financing is available for which service, how the processing modalities are set, etc.
- An important decision variable in the area of financing should check the cost/benefit ratio of the approach. Here, the advantages of the approach

compared to measure-based approaches should be evaluated, whereby the financial expenditure and the broad impact should be considered in particular.

- On the topic of expertise, it was noted that this question is very important in the decision for or against the approach, because especially in the later implementation, expert support for the farmers implementing the approaches is very important for success and is perceived as good support.

(3) Target group/acceptance



In the thematic area of acceptance, the following questions were raised and comments made by the participants:

- Question on the extent/threshold of acceptance would be helpful. The question about a minimum number of farms that should participate in order for implementation to be meaningful could also be asked.
- The acceptance question should also focus more on the characteristics of programmes, as these strongly influence farmers' attitudes. Examples of such characteristics are: are participants willing to measure or monitor indicators and fulfil reporting obligations?

Final round and general remarks:

In the final round, the participants were asked to name the most important point from their point of view that should be considered in the improvement of the decision tree. The following points were mentioned:

→ In general, the basic decision should consider for which protected goods it makes sense to implement a results-based approach and where it would be more beneficial to introduce a different/measure-oriented approach. A cost/benefit analysis would be needed for this.

→ The question should not only be whether it is possible to implement a results-based contract, but also whether it makes sense. In general, there are many questions that need to be asked beyond that: For example, risks and side effects can arise. It does not always make sense to enter into a scheme with all the land on a farm. The

boundaries and limits of a system should also be more strongly integrated into the decision tree.

→ A good possibility would be to create so-called model regions. To introduce more measures in a municipality or a limited area and to create a better exchange, a more targeted problem orientation and thus to be able to progress more quickly in the region. Regarding the question of expertise and the learning effect, it was noted that the latter is greatest when one exchanges ideas with others who are also faced with similar problems due to the regional connection and discusses problems directly "on the ground". (Moderator's note: This could also be included in the policy decision in the question on socio-economic context: "What is the socio-economic and spatial context in which it makes sense?", as each area is different and faces specific problems).

→ The decision tree is heavily based on "yes" or "no" decisions on results-based programmes. However, results-based programmes can be designed in many different ways, so the focus should rather be on what kind of results-based programme should be implemented in each context.

→ On the question of funding, it should not only be assessed whether a suitable source of funding is available, but also in which framework it takes place: Public, private, rural development, etc. Depending on the funding source, there are also other specifications in the design and more or less strict requirements.

→ The decision variables on acceptance do not cover the issue, here the decision tree is too "flat". On the one hand, acceptance should be asked as a kind of threshold value: At what level of acceptance/willingness to participate on the part of the farmers is it worthwhile to implement this. On the other hand, the peculiarities/characteristics of the programmes should also be addressed, as they play an important role in acceptance. It would therefore be good to consider further details of a programme. Examples are: would the participants be willing to do self-monitoring, do they want to observe indicators, etc?

22. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

- The participants were very interested in the exchange, not only between us and them, but also among themselves, as we had a mix of people from the private and the public sector. We also offered them an opportunity to have a general discussion about the results-based system and they started to ask each other questions about how to deal with risks, etc.

Discussing this topic in a small and specific group was definitely the right decision, as each of the participants gave their opinion and a more in-depth discussion was possible than in a large

28 BULGARIA - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 19-20/04/2022

Responsible partner(s): *Institute of Agrarian Economics (IAE), Association of Agri-Environmental Farmers (AAEF)*

Responsible person(s): Dimitre Nikolov

Number of participants: 7

Questions to be answered:

1. What documents did you circulated ahead of the CoP event(s)? Did you collect written input besides the one you got during the workshop(s)?

We send the invitation letter to inform the participants for the CoP meeting agenda. We organised in two days meeting because of the participants' request. We prepared a preliminary document on PPP with the following contain:

- Description of the types of contracts for the provision of agri-environmental and climate goods. -- "Choice of solution" scheme by type of contract.
- General framework for contract design and achievement of the final result (impact) of the contract implementation.
- Exemplary models of four types of contracts with basic characteristics.
- Scheme of different combinations between contracts.
- Case studies of four types of contracts

The contributions from the participants were got during the workshop. During the workshop results from the discussions between the participants were summarised on the flipchart.

2. What contract types or combinations did you address? Which one were addressed in-depth? Was the discussion connected to a case study / pilot testing?

2.1 case study AUSTRIA: "Program for increasing the humus content in the soil" – result base contract.

2.2 case study FRANCE: HAMSTER – collective agreements for the conversation of habitat of the ordinary hamster - collective agreement.

2.3 case study BULGARIA - "The Wild Farm" organic farmers – value chain contract.

2.4 case study BULGARIA – “Conservation of grasslands and meadows of high natural value through support for local livelihoods” – land tenure contract.

The discussion was in all four types in-depth connected to relative case studies. The case studies were presented into details.

3. What AECPs did you address? What was the reason for the selection?

We address to the following AECPs:

- 2.1 case study – climate regulation-carbon storage, soil quality improvement;
- 2.2 case study – farmland – biodiversity;
- 2.3 case study (Farmland) biodiversity of rare breeds and ornithology species, quality and security of products;
- 2.4 case study Farmland biodiversity, landscape and scenery and rural viability and vitality.

The reason for the selection of the AECPs were the specific situation in the country in combination with the different types of agri-environmental contract types for the national case studies and other from other EU member states.

4. What aspects / elements of the draft framework were discussed? Did you address legal or technological aspects? If yes, which ones? Are there aspects/elements to be added or amended?

The main elements of the discussions were addressed to legal aspects.

1. In the collective type of the contract was discussed the lack of trust between the Bulgarian farmers
2. During the discussions were mentioned that in the practice is more suitable to implement the hybrid types of agri environmental contracts.

5. Was the draft design guide and in particular the decision trees seen as helpful? Are there parts that need to be changed or where refinement would be required?

The draft design guide and decision trees are very helpful for understanding the process. We found some connections and offers for improvement of all the decision tree schemes, as followings:

1. Into decision threes schemes in all contact types was arise one suggestion concerning the step “Design collective scheme in collaboration with farmers and stakeholders” and “Include flexibility in scheme design” in option “Possible” to connect with the next step “Is a suitable funding source

available?”. This suggestion is that not necessary to connect with last step “Implement, Evaluate and Review” .

2. The last step “Implement, Evaluate and Review” to be connected with step “Design collective scheme in collaboration with farmers and stakeholders”.

6. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

The core members of the CoP were very ambitious and considered in-depth each of the contract types. They were carried out the discussion and did comments in each contract type decision tree schemes. Each of the discussion was ended with common understanding of the relative contract type.

29 FINLAND - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 19th of May (15:30-18:00)

Responsible partner(s): Luke

Responsible person(s): Mikko Kurttila, Katri Hamunen

Number of participants: 6

1. What documents did you circulated ahead of the CoP event(s)? Did you collect written input besides the one you got during the workshop(s)?

In landowner survey (WP3), we had a choice experiment (CE) part. In CE, forest owners were asked about the willingness for result-based carbon sequestration in their forests, compensation requirement, and term of contract that they preferred (duration, need for carbon forest plan). Similar kind of composition/settings was presented for farmers in their survey. This part of the questionnaire (both farms and forests) was presented as a case example at the beginning of the meeting. Two of the participants acted as pilot respondents in the landowner survey, and this topic was familiar to them.

The notes of from the discussion were circulated afterwards with the participant and they were able to comment or add something if needed.

2. What contract types or combinations did you address? Which one were addressed in-depth? Was the discussion connected to a case study / pilot testing?

We addressed for result-based contract type and carbon sequestration. Carbon sequestration, measures to increase sequestration and ways to compensate it for private forest owners, are very topical in Finnish forest sector. New service providers that offer compensation services for private actors (individual, companies) have emerged during the last years, and some of these service providers are co-operating with forest owners (e.g., greencarbon.fi). Result based contract type and features of it are becoming more relevant e.g., due to requirement of additionality that is needed at least when the funding for carbon sequestration is coming from private sources.

3. What AECPs did you address? What was the reason for the selection?

see previous answer

4. What aspects / elements of the draft framework were discussed? Did you address legal or technological aspects? If yes, which ones? Are there aspects/elements to be added or amended?

- In forestry, the draft of new state aid rules by the European Commission seems to offer new possibilities to implement result-based and collective schemes in forestry (see Del 3.3.). In farming sector, it is still examined/unclear if the result-based model would be possible to implement in Finland with public funding (step 3), although results-based payments can be compatible with WTO and CAP rules.
- It makes a big difference whether the funding comes from public or private source. With private money there are no restrictions, but ability to prove increase in environmental quality (additionality) is important. If the contract is publicly funded, self-monitoring was not seen as a possible solution.
- Decision tree does not include cost-benefit analysis (or consideration) from landowners' /-managers' or government's viewpoint. What would be the final costs and benefits for farmer, forest owner or taxpayers? Is the compensation enough from the land manager's viewpoint? Could this be included somehow?
- It is important to consider costs of measuring the result (e.g., the increase in carbon storage in agricultural and forest soils may be expensive to measure) in relation to benefits. Also administrative costs must be taken into account.
- It is important to consider external effects before using the contract developed (e.g., neighbouring community)

5. Was the draft design guide and in particular the decision trees seen as helpful? Are there parts that need to be changed or where refinement would be required?

- According to discussion, the decision tree does present things that need to be considered when planning result-based contract type. First part of the tree (policy decision) is clearer than the second part.

- The distinction between the first part (policy decisions) and the second part (feasibility) of the tree are not clear enough (Lena's German version was better).
- The major comment regarding the decision tree was that many steps were not seen successive but parallel (e.g., funding, knowledge & capacity, attitude of farming community), and they need to be pondered simultaneously. Funding is one of the key issues that could be one of the first steps to discuss.
- There was a lot of discussion that to whom this decision tree is meant, who are the users of it? For landowners/-managers this would be too difficult. Consultants don't need this kind of aid since they use their own methods. For the experts, this might be even too simple.
- It was also discussed that for different purposes different kind of decision trees would be needed, e.g., decision to use a result-based model in one pilot case or developing a system for larger area (the whole province, country).

→ Would it be possible to describe at beginning of the tree that for what type of planning level and for what type of users the decision tree is meant for?

- At the end of the decision tree, there could be piloting/testing phase and in a case that the piloting phase provides negative outcome for a larger scale implementation, the arrow could be returned to "Consider other approaches".
- The decision tree gives only yes/no answers. In practise, contracts that are partly based on result-based models e.g., result-based bonus, are likely.

6. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous). -

30 FRANCE - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 12/05/2022

Responsible partner(s): TRAME and INRAE

Responsible person(s): H       Paillard and Alice Issanchou

Number of participants: 10

Questions to be answered:

1. What documents did you circulated ahead of the CoP event(s)? Did you collect written input besides the one you got during the workshop(s)?

We provided the participants with a document containing some of the diagrams and decision trees proposed in the short design guide, in particular those related to the result-based and collective contracts (see attached). We have translated the diagrams in French.

We did not collect other written input besides the output of the workshop.

2. What contract types or combinations did you address? Which one were addressed in-depth? Was the discussion connected to a case study / pilot testing?

Collective and result-based contract types, with a bundle of AECPGs. It is connected with the contracts that are experimented within the local COPs.

3. What AECPs did you address? What was the reason for the selection?

We did not address specific AECPGs, since in our local COPs, farmers aim at addressing a bundle of AECPGs. Indeed, most of them are interconnected. Hence the combination of collective and result-based contract types: for numerous AECPGs (water quality, quantity, biodiversity, landscape...), an efficient provision requires a critical mass of farmers, and a collective contract can favour participation and coordination among participants.

4. What aspects / elements of the draft framework were discussed? Did you address legal or technological aspects? If yes, which ones? Are there aspects/elements to be added or amended?

We discussed the diagrams presenting the main features of the model contracts.

We propose to explain in the diagram the importance of the results in the characteristics of the result-based contract and specify what is non-compliance in this case. We also suggest to indicate that for this contract it is the obligation of result to achieve the environmental objective in terms of ecosystem services which is addressed. The characteristic of results should rather be included in the objectives.

The duration of the contract is decisive for a performance-based contract.

Possible to put water in the RB contract.

Others participants are not comfortable with the fact that we are talking about public goods: how can an individual solve the problem or have an impact?

There is something missing to have a common language on what the type of services can represent concretely – biodiversity or climate regulation, it is very broad. When we present this, what indication for environmental ambition?

Non-compliance can lead to the termination of the contract, but obviously this is not always the case. Maybe this is written because we don't want to break a dynamic, for example collective, but doesn't that diminish the environmental value of the PES? Not everyone understood the same thing with noncompliance: noncompliance in relation to what? to the PES objective? to the obligation of the contract? which ? Collective contract: the device could also include private funding. Important to specify what flexibility means : flexibility in the implementation ? Sanctions should come last in the diagrams.

The category "conditions of participation" should be indicated upstream, after the category "actors involved".

Comment about the results-based contract: it is a modality and not a type of contract; in any case, an individual contract can be either results-based or means-based.

Add two lines Interests/limits for each contract type to include in the short guide, also maybe a short example (in 3 lines).

For one participant, RB and CO contracts are inseparable: if someone locally does something and all the neighbors do the opposite, there will be no environmental results. What is local/individual is necessarily a contract based on means (practices), while the quantification of results is necessarily collective (ie to obtain measurable environmental results you have to be on a larger scale, with a collective effort). The combination is essential. The PES risks losing its meaning in terms of environmental effectiveness.

In RB why are farmers not allowed to have other contracts? Is it observable? Is this even possible? As long as it is not contradictory ? This does not seem generalizable.

**5. Was the draft design guide and in particular the decision trees seen as helpful?
Are there parts that need to be changed or where refinement would be required?**

General “decision tree”:

Very public political prism: not suitable for companies for example. Is it voluntary? Who is the guide aimed at? Practice? Reading through the “innovative” prism of private financing, and for these actors, these documents are not necessarily easy to read. The characteristics of the contract should come much further (after the feasibility): there is a mix between what induces the choice of the contract and what results from it.

Regarding the arrows in the diagram : arrows in both ways? or no arrows? Otherwise, it suggests a chronology within the different items. Is it the case ?

Public goods rather than environmental goods?

Decision tree for the collective and result-based contracts :

Is the box “include flexibility in the device” missing something? the arrow goes straight down, maybe schematize it differently?

Regarding the box “What is the expected attitude of the farming community to the risks of collective working? “ Maybe it should go after “a collective approach is possible” ? Unless it is the acceptability of the risk? payment risk? are we really talking about the agricultural community at large? Not just the collective involved? Maybe clarify that.

Steps 2 and 3, it is good to propose to re-examine the environmental objectives to be achieved.

For the box “Other approaches”: is it other types of PES?

For this kind of diagram, there is normally an entry point, it should be made explicit, the same for the exit point. And there is a difference between the activities and the questions we ask ourselves. Either it's just a question, or there's an extra activity. Activity = rectangle, and question = kind of diamond-square, which makes it possible to distinguish what will take time and what will make it possible to switch/ to make a decision to stop or go.

The box “is there any knowledge.... »: is it explained elsewhere? Otherwise a lot of things are mentioned. Besides if time is necessary to have more knowledge, will the actors remain mobilized over time? Maybe it should also be considered or mentioned somewhere ?

Maybe there should be a diagnosis on the actors of the territory in parallel with the environmental diagnosis, so that the environmental priorities are also accepted by the other stakeholders: moment of appropriation by all the actors.

6. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

Feedbacks regarding the decisions trees, considering the COP itself.

In the approach taken in our COPs, the attitude of the agricultural community was at the top, and it could be almost in parallel of some stages that require that there is a collective decision.

Who defines the clear objectives? It is a recurrent questions in our COPs. If they are also the buyers, should they be involved earlier? It is not easy to involve them at the right time: in our COPs it seems that they were involved too late, but were they mature before? It takes a minimum of inputs on the objectives and things to do before presenting them. On the other hand, the premise in our COPs was to have contractual solutions designed at the initiative of farmers. For us, the definition of clear objectives was done through meetings with different actors. Today in our COPs, there is a level of detail that we can provide to potential buyers.

Nevertheless, you also need to have fairly clear objectives before going to see the funders. If local actors validate the offer, this adds credibility to the process and facilitates the search for funders. In the diagram it is a little too disembodied, we do not insist enough on the fact that it must be a unifying project that allows us to move forward together and to take the steps.

In our COPs, we have seen the distinction between the demand in environmental goods and the potential buyers of such services. These may not be the same actors.

31 GERMANY - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 23.05.2022 from 13:00 till 14:00

Responsible partner(s): Thünen Institute

Responsible person(s): Tania Runge

Number of participants: 3

1. What documents did you circulated ahead of the CoP event(s)? Did you collect written input besides the one you got during the workshop(s)?

One week before the online-meeting a ppt presentation with some explanations and selected figures from the draft short design guide translated to German has been send to the participants. The figures included as slides were: the general framework for contract design, potential combinations of selected contract features, model contracts for the four types based on an individual contract feature, the decision tree for contract types and finally the decision tree for designing land tenure schemes (split into 3 phases: decision in principle, feasibility, target group). No written input has been collected.

2. What contract types or combinations did you address? Which one were addressed in-depth? Was the discussion connected to a case study / pilot testing?

All four contract types were briefly presented using the figure with the potential combinations of the four CONSOLE contract types. The in-depth discussion was about the land tenure contract with environmental clauses with the two interview partners being engaged in the Greifswalder Agrarinitiative (GAI) that targets tenants of publicly owned agriculture land.

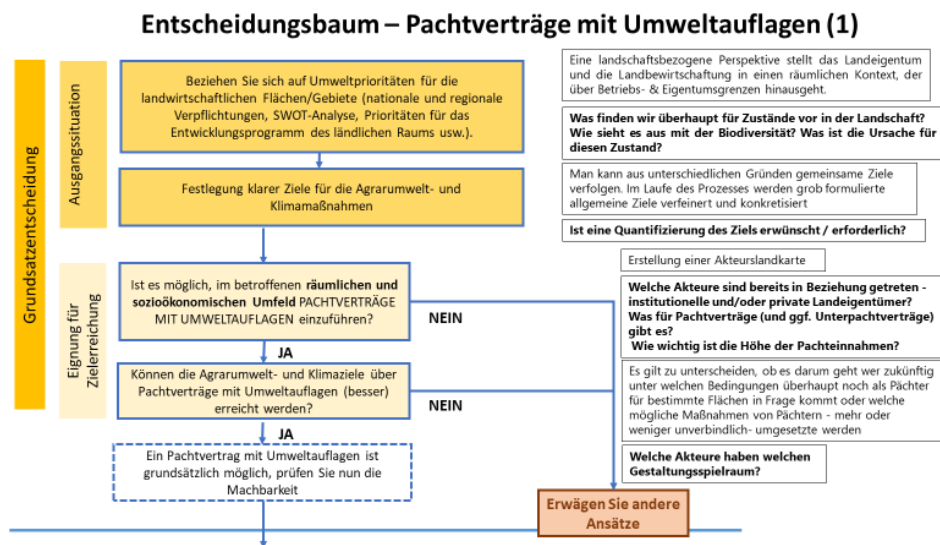
3. What AECPs did you address? What was the reason for the selection?

The focus was put on biodiversity and nature protection as this is the core topic for the initiative while overall sustainable land use has been addressed as well.

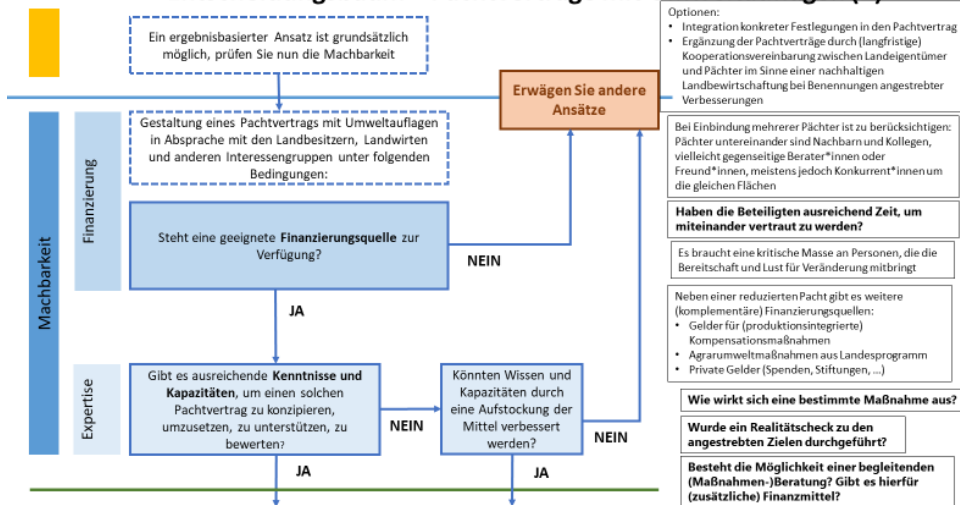
4. What aspects / elements of the draft framework were discussed? Did you address legal or technological aspects? If yes, which ones? Are there aspects / elements to be added or amended?

The discussion started with the figure that displays model contracts for the four types based on an individual contract feature, but only the box for land tenure was looked at in more detail. Here it has been said by the participants that the empty cell for sanctions should be filled by "Non compliance leads to non-renewal of the contract". It has been discussed that an early termination is legally difficult, but that there should be somehow a sanction mechanism. Regarding monitoring it has been mentioned that support from science (and students) is used to carry out at least a minimum monitoring of rented land with some management prescriptions. When it comes to the GAI initiative it has to be noticed that the engagement of the farmers goes beyond the rented land parcels themselves. They sign a self-commitment where it is stated that they undertake efforts towards sustainable farming.

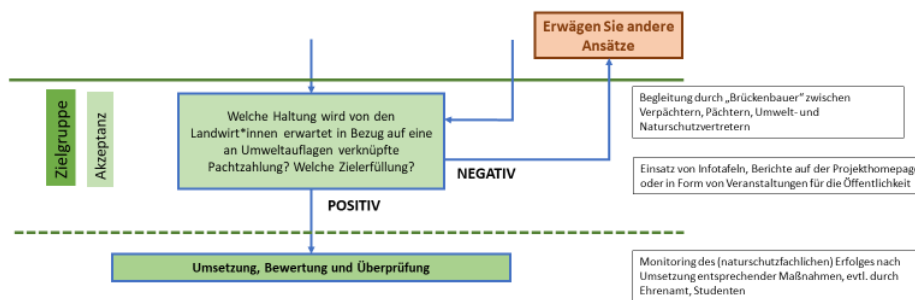
As next step, the decision tree for land tenure contracts with environmental clauses has been discussed. This was done taking advantage of the fact that for the GAI initiative a guidelines document has been established. In order to prepare the discussions from that document some leading questions and statements have been put alongside to the boxes of the decision tree and discussed in view of their position, content and relevance. It quickly became obvious that the general structure of the decision tree has been appreciated with its three parts: decision in principle, feasibility, target group, but that farmers as key actors are addressed too late.



Entscheidungsbaum – Pachtverträge mit Umweltauflagen (2)



Entscheidungsbaum – Pachtverträge mit Umweltauflagen (3)



Technical aspects were not addressed while legal aspects have been discussed as they heavily influenced the shaping of the GAI initiative itself as well as the content of the land tenure contracts. The creation of an association supporting the implementation of land tenure contracts with a focus on environmental sustainability at regional is seen as crucial to ensure duration beyond the project funding period. Another legal aspect that has been addressed by the representative of the city of Greifswald was to what extent management practices are to be prescribed in the tenure contract itself. This is legally relevant in two respects: the rule of no double funding (of relevance as the land owners in the GAI are public authorities) and the revenue foregone for the public purse itself. Therefore, a balance has to be found between farming restrictions and lease cost for the land. It has been highlighted that it is necessary for public entities under municipal law to achieve a certain lease price. Besides the responsibility to valorise the property that is in the hands of the public sector in order to generate public revenues there is also the state aid law to be respected. A reduction of the renting price might be perceived as government grants given to farms as private entrepreneurs. Regarding the double funding it was mentioned that farmers should remain eligible to engage in agri-environmental commitments to be financed inter alia with EU funds. Therefore, the obligations fixed in the land tenure contracts have to be different from the voluntary engagements of

the farmers. Here, it became obvious that the self-declaration is a crucial element as farmers engage to undertake efforts for a (more) biodiversity friendly management on the land they farm by signing them independently from the lease contract itself. It was even emphasised that the objective is to not reduce the lease price, but to facilitate access to dedicated funds for sustainable farming, besides the EU co-financed AECMs also private initiatives like AgoraNatura which is a private (online) biodiversity certificate market (<https://agora-natura.de/produkt/moorfroschinsel-bei-alt-negentin/>). Also, the contracts contain a clause regarding subleasing to make sure that the land is managed in line with GAI principles. Another more legal-technical aspect is that the GAI is aiming at testing an alternative to reduced rents. There is the will to set up a special purpose budget at level of the city of Greifswald for sustainability measures, so that instead of a reduced rent, farmers get directly paid for dedicated environmentally friendly practices – this is seen as legally easier to handle. By both participants it was highlighted that it is “learning-by-doing” and that all GAI partners still accommodate their common approach where the GAI association with tenants and land owners as members and its advisory board plays a crucial role for taking basic decisions.

5. Was the draft design guide and in particular the decision trees seen as helpful? Are there parts that need to be changed or where refinement would be required?

The decision tree was seen as helpful to structure the approach, while the late mentioning of farmers in the decision tree – being the core actor for its successful implementation - was seen critically. Yet it needs to be made clearer, is to whom the decision tree is addressed. It was seen as positive that in the decision tree key aspects for a successful implementation were highlighted and that in case of a “No” alternatives need to be looked at. This “no” does not automatically mean that land tenure is not an option at all, but that adjustments for its functioning are required (see example of legal and financial decisions in view of a successful GAI initiative).

Regarding the decision in principle for the GAI initiative, initially it was foreseen to carry out a SWOT-analysis, but as this is quite challenging, in particular if all 4 areas have to be filled out, it has been decided to focus on the strengths. In order to gather this information at individual farm level, it has been decided that farmers engage in a nature protection assessment at farm level as a prerequisite for further negotiation of land lease agreements from the public entities engaged in GAI. In order to enable them to do so, farmers were supported to apply for dedicated public EAFRD funds, so that an assessment could be carried out by a nature expert without implying cost for the farmers. This concept contains concrete farm-specific proposals already taking into account farmers social and economic constraints (“what is possible”). It is explicitly not a pure nature conservation concept. The concept agreed by the farmer is then handed out to the land owner (e.g. the city of Greifswald) and is then used as starting point when looking into options for biodiversity and overall sustainability improvements on land to be rented out (again).

Somewhat the willingness to engage in nature protection is still limited – for both sides public entities owning farmland and the farmers – and therefore already in the early phase a stronger engagement of the farming community, but also the lessors is seen as being important. In the decision tree the question about acceptance from farmers' side comes too late and possibilities to increase their willingness to engage like accompaniment by "bridge builders" between landlords, tenants, environmental and nature conservation representatives, as well as the use of information boards, reports on the project homepage or in the form of events for the public are seen as helpful.

In addition, it was recommended to develop a check list with some key questions to be addressed when deciding about implementation of tenure contracts and their design. This was seen as being helpful and giving more flexibility regarding the order of aspects to look at. Such additional questions might be: decision in principle: What is the state of the landscape? What is the situation with biodiversity (or other AECPGs)? What is the cause of this state? Is quantification of the target desired / required? Which actors have already entered into a relationship - institutional and/or private landowners? What kind of leases (and sub-leases, if any) are in place? Feasibility: How important is the amount of lease income? Which actors have what room for manoeuvre? Do those involved have enough time to become familiar with each other? What is the impact of a particular measure? Has a reality check been carried out on the intended goals? Is there the possibility of accompanying (measure) advice? Is there (additional) funding for this? Target group /acceptance: Is there the will to talk together? Is the owner of the land willing to make a long-term and continuous commitment? (Land leases are usually negotiated once every 12 (6) years).

While at the start of GAI it was particularly burdensome to persuade farmers to engage, now pride grows in participating.

6. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself
(please keep it anonymous).

The small number of participants allowed an intensive and very much focussed exchange on land tenure contracts. The fact that no tenant was present could be seen as a weakness.

32 IRELAND - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 20th April 2022

Responsible partner(s): University College Cork, Ireland

Responsible person(s): Prof. Thia Hennessy and Dr Tracy Bradfield

Number of participants: 1

Questions to be answered:

1. What documents did you circulated ahead of the CoP event(s)? Did you collect written input besides the one you got during the workshop(s)?

A copy of the decision tree for results-based contracts was circulated at the time of inviting members of the BRIDE project to the event. The BRIDE project is one of the case studies listed on the CONSOLE website (<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1skp1bQfUr72swV6ZMb7xv579xOHONrc7/view>). While 3 – 5 members were expected, there was only one participant at the event who is both the project leader and an active farmer. He provided great insight into the design, workings and challenges of AES contracts with discussion focusing on the practical workings of the BRIDE project in particular. Although the decision tree was circulated in advance of the workshop, the participant's input was only recorded during the event.

2. What contract types or combinations did you address? Which one were addressed in-depth? Was the discussion connected to a case study / pilot testing?

Results based contracts were discussed in-depth and it was mainly in relation to the BRIDE project. Collective contracts were briefly discussed as an alternative to results-based contracts for the BRIDE project. However, results-based contracts were the dominant topic of the workshop.

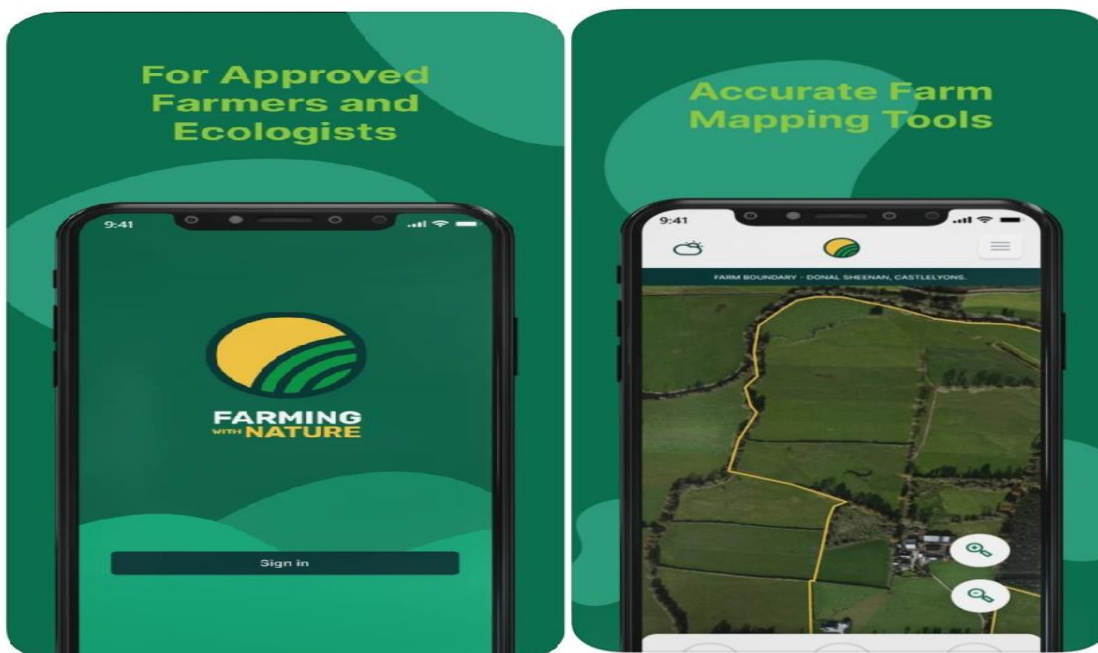
3. What AECs did you address? What was the reason for the selection?

The workshop focused on improving biodiversity as this is the main goal of the BRIDE project. However, other AECs can be improved through such schemes, which was noted.

4. What aspects / elements of the draft framework were discussed? Did you address legal or technological aspects? If yes, which ones? Are there aspects/elements to be added or amended?

The decision framework for results-based contracts was discussed in entirety. In terms of legal or administrative aspects, the project leader advised that he's grateful that the project staff and farmers have considerable independence. Aside from reporting financial details to the funder, the farmers and project staff feel that they have control over how the project's objectives are achieved. The success of the project can be attributed to this.

In terms of technology, the project staff have developed an app called Farming With Nature which provides detailed maps of farms and their structure e.g. land for grazing, hedges, margins, space allocated for nature etc. The app is an efficient way for farmers to record biodiversity on their farms which reduces monitoring costs. The app is available on both Google Play and the App Store.





**5. Was the draft design guide and in particular the decision trees seen as helpful?
Are there parts that need to be changed or where refinement would be required?**

Yes. The participant reviewed the decision tree for results-based contracts and noted that the initial step for the BRIDE project was to get collective agreements from all farmers in the area. This is because, although farmers are measured on the results of actions on their own farms, collective action is required to improve biodiversity in the area. With this in mind, the decision was made to design results-based contracts under the principle that, for example, if a particular bird is found on a farm, there must be a reason why it is there. Following the step of 'Define clear objective for the AECS,' the participant stated that getting the message of the project across to the whole group is important. This also involves making sure that contracts are tailor made to farms as the scheme's participants are operating different farm systems. This means that a target for one farmer may not be applicable to all.

When targets are being negotiated, they have to be very clear. For example, bird boxes must be in specific location and target certain species. This is an aspect the workshop participant felt that previous action-based contracts failed to achieve.

In relation to the two steps in the decision tree that ask 'Is there sufficient knowledge...?' and 'Could knowledge and capacity be increased...?', the participant highlighted that farmers' knowledge of biodiversity and ecology is

generally poor. One example of this was the surprise some farmers experienced when they received their score card after one year of biodiversity measures. It became apparent that many didn't fully understand the biodiversity measures. The participant noted that improving knowledge is an ongoing process, rather than fixed at one point of the decision tree, and farm advisors and processors would be best placed to increase knowledge. It was also noted that, in many cases, ecologists have a better knowledge of how nature can be managed to improve productivity rather than to protect biodiversity. A reason for this is that productivity has traditionally been the focus of farmers and ecologists have focused on meeting the demand for this type of knowledge. This, however, is expected (and hoped) to change as farmers become more conscious of the environmental impact of their farming practices.

6. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

The participant feels that the Irish government should commit to paying farmers to maintain 10 percent of their land as designated space for nature which is in-line with EU objectives. From this, other farmers could gain similar benefits to those of the BRIDE project, and it would ensure that all regions are contributing to protecting biodiversity.

33 ITALY (UNIBO) - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 4/05/2022

Responsible partner(s): UNIBO

Responsible person(s): Davide Viaggi, Stefano Targetti, Emilia Pellegrini

Number of participants: 10

Premise:

The workshop hosted two representatives of the Life agriCOLture project (<https://www.lifeagricolture.eu/en/>) who presented their activities which are briefly summarized below. Moreover, they were asked to explain how they used the framework and decision trees developed by CONSOLE to support the elaboration of their collaborative agreement.

Life agriCOLture project:

The project tested and evaluated a set of good practices on 15 pilot farms located in areas that are particularly representative of the geographical and pedoclimatic context of the Emilian Apennines. The good practices are indicated by scientific research as effective for protecting soil organic carbon and for reducing GHG emissions.

The results collected with the pilot farms are used to create the "Pact for Soil". The latter is an innovative territorial contract for the production of agro-climatic-environmental services, notably increasing carbon stock and reducing soil erosion. The contract is a collaborative agreement between institutions (e.g., Land and Reclamation board, national park) and livestock farms. On one hand, farmers commit to selecting and implementing some good practices for soil management within a kit of about 63 practices identified by the project Life agriCOLture. On the other, institutions provide farmers with technical and financial support. Moreover, by engaging a wide range of public and private actors, the Pact for Soil aims at creating a new territorial governance able to promote sustainable soil management.

Hence, the CONSOLE framework and decision trees were used to reflect on the development of the Pact for Soil.

1. What documents did you circulated ahead of the CoP event(s)? Did you collect written input besides the one you got during the workshop(s)?

Deliverable D1.4 short version was circulated before the meeting.

2. What contract types or combinations did you address? Which one were addressed in-depth? Was the discussion connected to a case study / pilot testing?

Decision trees related to Result-based and Collective schemes were addressed during the workshop. The type of contracts developed by the Life agriCOLture, in fact, can be considered a combination of these two types of contracts.

- Result-based: a pure result-based was considered not feasible in the case studies conducted by the Life agriCOLture. Stakeholders highlighted that, even when good practices are implemented, this cannot guarantee that results are achieved (e.g., an increase in carbon stock). The Pact for Soil, instead, could be considered a result-oriented scheme because payments are not linked to the results but to the adoption of good practices selected from the set of 63 practices. Notably, payments should be based on a fixed component linked to the commitment of farmers to implementing good practices, and on a variable component related to the number of implemented practices.
- Collective schemes: cooperative dairies and social cheese factories characterize the livestock system of the Emilian Apennines (i.e., the target of the Life agriCOLture project). For this reason, there might be the possibility to develop the Pact for Soil also as a collective scheme. They also made a concrete example of how collective approach could work in the Emilian Apennines. Some farmers, in fact, flagged to the local Land and Reclamation Board that they were suffering from severe soil erosion. Consequently, on one hand, the Land and Reclamation Board committed to investing financial resources for reducing soil erosion, on the other, the board asked farmers to adopt a kit of good practices to improve the delivery of AECs. In this territory, subsidiarity and reciprocity could be key principles to create collective agreements with farmers.

3. What AECs did you address? What was the reason for the selection?

Increasing carbon stock and reducing soil erosion.

4. What aspects / elements of the draft framework were discussed? Did you address legal or technological aspects? If yes, which ones? Are there aspects/elements to be added or amended?

5. Was the draft design guide and in particular the decision trees seen as helpful? Are there parts that need to be changed or where refinement would be required?

Questions 4 and 5 were answered together.

As said, the Pact for Soil is still under development and the decision trees were used by the Life agriCOLture to reflect which aspects should be considered while developing new territorial contracts. They made a step-by-step compilation of the

decision trees, trying to fill each box with the characteristics of the Pact for Soil. Thanks to this exercise they could understand that the Pact for Soil can be considered neither a value chain nor a land tenure contract, while it shows characteristics of both result-based and collective schemes. Moreover, it was useful to reflect on key aspects, such as funds' availability.

During the step-by-step exercise, however, they realized that some characteristics of the Pact for Soil are not consistent with result-based schemes: even if monitoring is foreseen by the project, payments cannot be linked to the results. One refinement could be to include in the decision tree some options that explicitly consider result-oriented approaches when payments are based on variables other than the results.

Another aspect raised by many stakeholders was the presence of a public entity that has the capacity to control and monitor the results. In the case of collective schemes, the public entity should ensure that the activities conducted by each farm contribute to the achievement of the overall objective. The clarity of the objective is, indeed, very important.

The pilot case studies of the Life agriCOLture project also show the importance of considering the existing social structure of the territory. Exploiting the opportunities of the existing cooperative farming system through pilot studies is a key aspect for designing contract solutions.

6. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

The stakeholders found the workshop very useful. They appreciated the hybrid format (in presence and online) and that the workshop was organized with a small group of experts. In this way, everyone could talk, and the interaction was open and fruitful. Project partners of both CONSOLE and the Life agriCOLture considered the link between the two projects as a satisfying and useful outcome.

34 ITALY (UNIFI) - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 02/05/2022

Responsible partner(s): UNIFI, UNIFE

Responsible person(s): Daniele Vergamini, Fabio Bartolini, Matteo Olivieri, Maria Andreoli

Number of participants: 9

Questions:

1. What documents did you circulated ahead of the CoP event(s)? Did you collect written input besides the one you got during the workshop(s)?

We circulated a synthesis of CONSOLE results and activities carried out so far, the main goal for the third CoP event and the methodology applied. We didn't collect any written input outside the workshop. Some of the participants to the CoP event participated also as experts during the stakeholder survey.

2. What contract types or combinations did you address? Which one were addressed in-depth? Was the discussion connected to a case study / pilot testing?

We started from the discussion of the CAP reform, with a focus on how this policy will tackle the issue of provisioning public goods by agriculture. By looking at the greater inefficiencies of past programming we introduced the topic of new contracts. Then the CONSOLE objectives and main activities were explored, and results were introduced. We then decided on which contractual categories to focus the discussion. Based on different experiences, we tried to discuss all the aspects related to the design and implementation of the contracts. We then analysed the decision trees for these contractual categories, and we discussed in search for open issues that were not included in the current designed process. We mainly focussed on Collective agreements and Result-based approaches. The discussion about collective agreements was related to the ITP project of the Elba Island. Unfortunately, COVID, Russian Invasion and other problems make the "experimental" experience not closed (pilot level). The ITP helped us to start the discussion that then moved away from the specific case study and focussed on the analysis of the contract type. The participant also underlined the importance of case-study areas as laboratories for innovative contracts. This may be added to the design guide of the CoP. Furthermore, they underlined the importance of the two less used contracts for future scenarios (land tenure and value chain solutions). For example, in Emilia Romagna there is an example of land tenure and value chain contract (Consorzio Uomini di Massenzatica) based on the public-private interface is managing salty soils. This Value chain solution can be useful to guarantee supply chain control and public-

private participation. A participant underlined the possibility to use Land tenure to put cultivation obligations on land through ownership contracts. This for the need to guide the cultivation of the fields to avoid the use of valuable agricultural land for photovoltaics, for example. It is necessary also for landscape protection. In the end, all the participants stated that the contracts and their intersections can broadly satisfy all the necessary environmental interventions at landscape level.

3. What AECPGs did you address? What was the reason for the selection?

As a first step, we drove the discussion to find a common environmental objective and about the way this objective is usually defined at the design level within RDP programmes. When we asked what the key objectives for the next programming can be, the participants replied underlining the problems of the current programming period. The first objective is to reconcile time, simplicity, and integrated territorial planning. This is important for example for multi-objective measures like the ITP of the islands (a kind of collective approach), a measure that started around 2016 and in the middle of 2022 is still going on. Safeguarding and protecting the landscape is one of the objectives that can best be taken up for the new program. The participants underlined these AECPGs as the best to address in the future and in the CoP event. This was not surprising, because in Italy we have a particular awareness of the farmers' custodians' activities on the landscape. One of the best examples regarding our sample area is the Liguria region with the dry-stone terraces' maintenance. Environmental agro-climatic interventions promoting the recovery of abandoned land (olive trees) are included in the national strategic program for the future.

4. What aspects / elements of the draft framework were discussed? Did you address legal or technological aspects? If yes, which ones? Are there aspects / elements to be added or amended?

We addressed both technological and legal aspects. The CoP talked about every type of contract analysed in the draft framework. The discussion was more focussed on the result based and collective implementation contracts. The participants showed also good ideas about land tenure and value chain solutions. They said that a contract integrating elements of result based, and collective implementation can be of great importance to improve the actual situation. They underlined the need to find more satisfactory instruments to quantify the results of a measure rather than to find new objectives to pursue. It is easy to find new objectives, but the toughest part in the process is the quantification of the results without strong indicators. The participants underlined the need of adequate preparation and knowledge for the farmers to be autonomous in the quantification and optimization of the results. The experts highlighted the problem related to the transfer of knowledge between the institutions and the farmers. They said that in the past there were activities such as meeting and lessons able to guarantee the transfer of knowledge. Today farmers associations help the farmers in their economic and agricultural activities, but they do not care to improve the farmers knowledge.

Passing to the legal aspects, CoP participants underlined the need of a reform to simplify the bureaucracy and to slim the procedures with the same controlling activities. They used as an example the problem of the integrated territorial project as regards administrative tasks and procedures. In fact, although several ITPs started in Tuscany, no one has concluded its activities, yet. A Participant from the Tuscany region stated that an area-based difference in the regulation is crucial, although differentiation must not complicate too much the measure progresses. The participant also underlined the importance of case studies areas regarding innovative contracts. This may be added to the design guide of the Cop.

**5. Was the draft design guide and in particular the decision trees seen as helpful?
Are there parts that need to be changed or where refinement would be required?**

The decision tree was helpful to organize the discussion and drive the meeting without losing time. However, in our meeting we tended to stimulate the participants as much as possible leaving to them the possibility to talk about different contract-related problems. It is always useful to have a roadmap to utilise without getting lost in these types of meeting. In the CoP starting ppt there were a lot of interesting points of view; however, we limited a bit the total number of slides and simplified the table to focus on the most interesting aspects. We modified the table to improve clarity and try to understand and make it easy to think about the problems and solutions.

6. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

The community of practice is crucial for projects like CONSOLE. The discussion between academic related people (PhD, professors, researchers) and the practice-oriented world (farmers, municipalities, and counselling associations, practitioners) can strongly improve the outcomes of the projects. The CoP is useful to gather and define all the problems of the process in various phases. Only with a contamination that covers the entire process we can gather such an amount of information trying to make our best to improve efficiency and effectiveness of the project. It is important to include the right professional figures in the community of practice. Participants were proud to participate in a project that aims to improve the CAP ineffectiveness situation.

35 LATVIA - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 2.05.2022.

Responsible partner(s): Union "Farmers' Parliament", Latvia

Responsible person(s): Inga Berzina

Number of participants: 6 participants + 5 participants from organisation

1. What documents did you circulated ahead of the CoP event(s)? Did you collect written input besides the one you got during the workshop(s)?

Before the event, the document "D1.4 Short design guide" was circulated along with information about our goals regarding feedback. During the event, the full version of the Draft Framework was explained and oral feedback collected. After the event, the presentation as well as both written documents were circulated to collect additional written feedback.

2. What contract types or combinations did you address? Which one were addressed in-depth? Was the discussion connected to a case study / pilot testing?

All the main contract types were addressed during the event, shortly explaining them as well as the fact that these can be mixed and matched. Keeping in mind the survey results that show strong preference for result-based contract solutions among the landowners in Latvia, the result-based contract solution was discussed in more detail. While discussing this solution, examples from case studies were mentioned.

3. What AECPs did you address? What was the reason for the selection?

Various AECPs were addressed, including humus, biodiversity and water-related. These were the better-known examples, picked to illustrate different solutions.

4. What aspects / elements of the draft framework were discussed? Did you address legal or technological aspects? If yes, which ones? Are there aspects/elements to be added or amended?

We talked through all of the draft framework, with focus on main chapters – chapter 4: Model Contracts, Chapter 5: Design guide: list of potential parameters and options and Chapter 6: 6 Design guide - decision trees for innovative contract types. The focus was on ways to use these chapters.

Regarding additions, participants mentioned more focus on risks. References and links to case studies were appreciated. In fact, participants mentioned that they would appreciate more references to case studies, for example, by focusing one chapter on risks connected to different solutions with references to case studies (there are references to various risks in the document, but the stakeholders would like to see a chapter that focuses specifically on the risks; this could include categorising risks, risk analysis, risk mitigation measures etc.).

Participants also pointed out elements that could be useful. A new scheme designer usually looks at two things: (a) examples from other countries of which the scheme is composed (this is already well illustrated in the document) and (b) the potential risks that could interfere with the design of the scheme. If there was an opportunity to expand, the participants would prefer that we develop sections on the risks, the problems identified, the challenges in implementing these schemes. For example, pointing out expectations versus reality, reasons why contracts have been terminated, problems in evaluating results, standard situations for combining different financial sources, restrictions on state aid, etc.

The stakeholders would really like to see some standard forms for contracts concluded in different countries (even if they would be in the local languages). On a practical level, this would allow for a better understanding of the relationships between landowners and other parties. It is possible that some projects reveal the actual contracts.

Given that the document is intended for planners, it would be worthwhile to include additional information on the coordination of plans, state aid, de minimis, funding issues.

Regarding amendments, formatting and perceptibility of the document was addressed. While people found the extensive and detailed tables extremely useful, in order to make them more user-friendly, design aspect needs to be revalued. The tables are a great tool for finding information quickly. In the current state, though, they are not well formatted. At least these aspects should be considered:

- The header rows should be repeated in each page;
- The column width should be altered to reduce empty cells;
- Colour coding could be used to make them more perceptible;
- Various ways to emphasize bits of text could be used, etc.
- The contract solutions in references could be linked to their descriptions;
- Other links also could be used (linking directly to study case, etc.).

The illustrations were found to be not clear resolution wise, and could be designed better.

**5. Was the draft design guide and in particular the decision trees seen as helpful?
Are there parts that need to be changed or where refinement would be required?**

Chapters 4 and 5 seemed more interesting and useful to attendees than Chapter 6, as they provide opportunities to look up specific elements of contract solutions and evaluate them, as well as link them to real experiences, given the references to case studies. The links to the case studies were found useful to most participants, because it provides proof to practicing the solutions or their elements. This is also a way to generate ideas.

Regarding the Chapter 6 and decision trees, the participants pointed out that the information in the decision trees is correct and important, although the use requires deeper investigation. They mentioned that expected that planners or decision makers would look on the decision trees to make or evaluate the decisions. However, it was mentioned that the decision trees depict the actual planning process and may be used to learn about planning and decision making in this area. They mentioned that the decision trees potentially could help some planners, especially keeping in mind the great diversity of situations and the many other considerations that need to be considered by the parties involved in making up the scheme. This section seemed to be of least interest to readers, we were advised not to invest too much further time and expertise in it.

In general, people are ready to use the document to look up elements that are important to them, but not keen on designing a contract solution by following chapters one by one or any decision tree.

**6. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself
(please keep it anonymous).**

The Participants could be divided in two parts – listeners and active talkers. The listeners participated in order to gather more information and form an opinion later, the talkers had already made up some opinions beforehand and were ready to share it. In general, people seem interested to take action in this field, but more often than not, they are waiting for someone else to take action.

36 NETHERLANDS - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 3 separate interviews, 8 April 2022

Responsible partner(s): VU

Responsible person(s): Nynke Schulp, Kina Harmanny

Number of participants: 1

Questions to be answered (2-4 pages) – will be further developed:

1. What documents did you circulated ahead of the CoP event(s)? Did you collect written input besides the one you got during the workshop(s)?

The set of design guide images and a short summary of the design guide. We diagonally read through the design guide together.

2. What contract types or combinations did you address? Which one were addressed in-depth? Was the discussion connected to a case study / pilot testing?

Interview 1: all. It was a loose interview where primarily result-based and collective contracts and all kinds of hybrid contracts were discussed, related to the region and the collective contract in the region of the interviewee. The region of the interviewee has a set of collective contracts in place and is (not related to console) regularly piloting measures for AECP delivery.

3. What AECPs did you address? What was the reason for the selection?

Interview 1 primarily circled around biodiversity and recreation, as these are key AECPs in the Netherlands in general as well as in the work region of the respondent specifically.

4. What aspects / elements of the draft framework were discussed? Did you address legal or technological aspects? If yes, which ones? Are there aspects/elements to be added or amended?

Interview 1: A lot of the discussion was about the level of simplification that the framework makes, where the respondent wasn't 100% convinced about the usefulness. The contract setting in the Netherlands is often more complicated and non-hybrid contracts seem to be more rare than hybrids between three different types of contracts. Legal aspects and the level of complexity of that were discussed.

5. Was the draft design guide and in particular the decision trees seen as helpful? Are there parts that need to be changed or where refinement would be required?

Reasonably, but see question 4. Particularly the decision tree helps structuring thoughts and helps identifying which components are included in these complex Dutch situations.

- 6. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).**

37 POLAND - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 10/05/2022

Responsible partner(s): SGGW - WULS

Responsible person(s): Agata Malak-Rawlikowska

Number of participants: 31

1. What documents did you circulated ahead of the CoP event(s)? Did you collect written input besides the one you got during the workshop(s)?

We had ppt. presentation during the workshop as well we distributed D.1,4 Short Decision Guide for Practitioners (to limited number of CoP members for comments). We received comments, which we attach to the report.

2. What contract types or combinations did you address? Which one were addressed in-depth? Was the discussion connected to a case study / pilot testing?

The general example during the presentation was based on the result base case and result base + value chain examples. The D.1,4 Short Decision Guide for Practitioners covered all types of contracts.

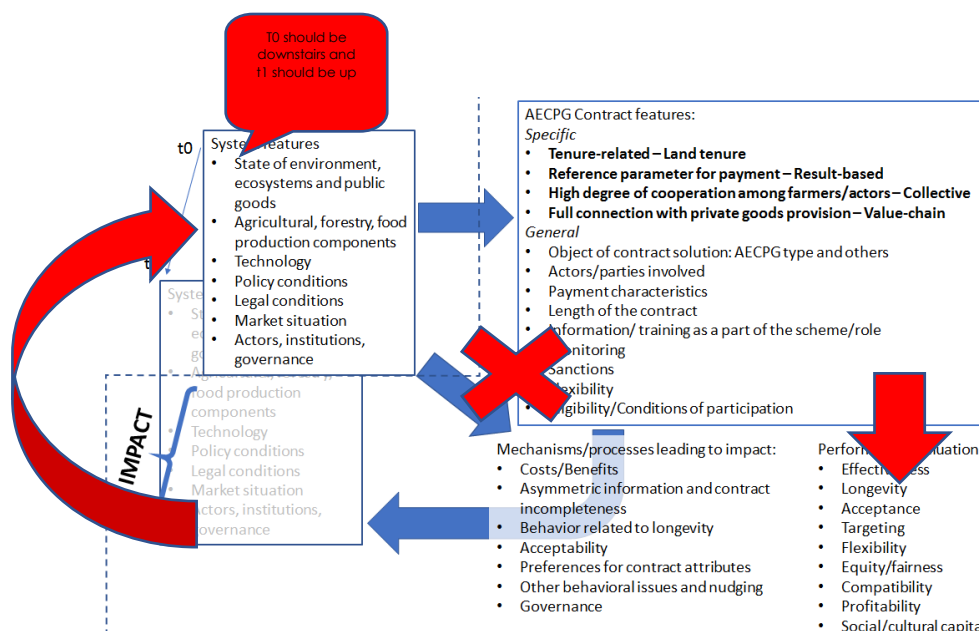
3. What AECPs did you address? What was the reason for the selection?

All, we did not focus on the AECPG but on the contract types and models.

4. What aspects / elements of the draft framework were discussed? Did you address legal or technological aspects? If yes, which ones? Are there aspects/elements to be added or amended?

We discussed all the draft framework, illustrating it part by part. The comment was that there is one arrow missing from "AECPG contract features" to "Mechanisms" and "Performance" frame (see graph). Additionally the loop should be closed to System features because it is a continuous process.





5. Was the draft design guide and in particular the decision trees seen as helpful? Are there parts that need to be changed or where refinement would be required?

The draft guide received a lot of comments. There is a general need for clarifications, since people less familiar with the topic get lost a bit.

- 1) General comment was that the Figure 1 with the general framework should be explained in the document. The description provided in point 2 is too small.
- 2) Section 3.1 was a bit unclear for CoP. They understood well the contract types, but it was difficult to link them to the “qualifying features”. Generally the term “qualifying features” was not clear to them. Contract types should be introduced first – then contract features and at the end model contracts. So section 3.2 first and then 3.1. Starting with 3.1 brings confusion. It is difficult to follow by CoP.
- 3) The point 3.1 1) was not well understood. Each of the contract type has environmental dimension. Why this is so special?
- 4) Point 3.2. Contract types. In general there was a suggestion to start with description of 4 basic and clear contract types. Presenting combinations without clarifying basic contracts as we did in other deliverables – made it not clear to the CoP. Even there was a suggestion to skip the “3.1 features” or give them later after 3.2.

- 5) Point 3.3 – first paragraph – was not understood by CoP it is really very complicated when we do not see the description of 4 pure types of contracts before.
- 6) Figure 3 – there was a suggestion to write full names of the contracts instead of RB, CO, VC, LT – there is a place for it. Some detailed comments we attach in the file.
- 7) Figure 4. It was the most difficult – CoP did not understand it. It was too detailed and there was no clear KEY of the combinations. It was not corresponding well to figure 3. For example In result based contract in figure 3 there is “biodiversity...” and in Value chain “environmental benefits...” so there was a question why in RB+VC there is no biodiversity + “environmental benefits”? ...there were many such questions to this figure.
- 8) Section 4. Point D – CoP did not understand the word Actor. Maybe Participant? Stakeholder is not an Actor?
- 9) “Decision tree for designing” – who is designing? If the intention was to create an universal approach – it is not. If I was an individual founder, some of the elements are not relevant – e.g. “is a suitable funding source available”. ..
- 10) Jargon (scientific, official) should be avoided – e.g. “institutional capacities”, page 10. To whom this text is addressed?
- 11) Page 10, 5.1. ... “to check if the scheme can comply with funding requirements”. Isn't funding part of the scheme? Who, why is supposed to do this?
- 12) Figure 6.

Row 1 – can be, but considering private funding it is not the issue of the key importance, I guess.

Row 2 – Instead of “scheme” I would use ACTIVITY, subject of contracting – it was not clear to CoP what is scheme?

Row 3. Doesn't make sense! “Contract features” (all – specific?) is a set of characteristics – in what way they can be “included”? CoP didn't understand. May rather “do contract features” comply with

Row 3 – “consider different approaches” – what “approaches” stand for?

Row 4 – logic: “contract features” cannot meet any objectives, with one exception - type of the public good.

Also – “results for objectives” - hardly acceptable phrase. Results of actions may meet objectives.

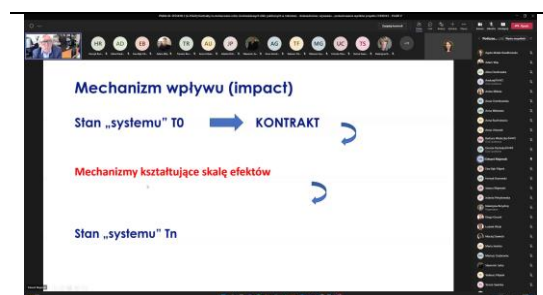
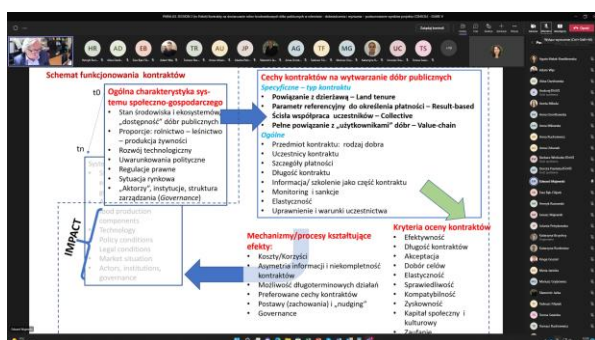
Also – Link after NO goes up, we understand – it should be indicated with an arrow;


Row 5 – may be prior to this also stakeholders were consulted on the matter of justifying the action?

6. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

The CoP was quite interested in the presentations. The discussion was similar to this during the Workshop2, (discussion related to WP3 results). The large concern was expressed for the funding of such schemes and lack of the knowledge of farmers about the need of delivery of AECPG.

The question was posed: Is there common knowledge and awareness of the goals and necessity of producing AECPG, and thus taking appropriate actions? Answer: Definitely not. Why? Theory of Perspective - people weight the probability of the consequences of events according to the size of the perceived outcome, rather than objective evidence of the probability of such events occurring. Resistance to change (e.g. fear of the unknown, lack of information, lack of perceived or demonstrable benefits). This is all strengthened by "confirmation bias" - preferring information that confirms previous expectations and hypotheses, regardless of whether or not this information is true. This leads to a selective choice and misinterpretation of information so that it confirms one's opinion. There is also a lack of elementary knowledge. So the Dunning-Kruger effect arises - a kind of loop: lack of knowledge (unconscious ignorance) leads to a lack of awareness (unconscious unawareness) and this, in turn, to a lack of knowledge. Breaking the loop is possible through: education - knowledge transfer, conditionality (compulsion to implement), nudging - Incentives, other means of shaping awareness about necessity of AECPG provision/delivery.





Cechy kontraktów na wytworzenie dóbr publicznych

- Redukcja deficytu
- Uczestnicy kontraktów
- Cechy kontraktów
 - Eligibility i zakres przedmiotu
 - Kwalifikacja
 - Informacja, dokumentacja, ocena
- Etapy finansowania
- Monitoring
- Kontrola
- Ekspertyza
- Warianty (rozstrzygnięcia)

Umowy - oparte na wynikach

Środowisko (bezpieczeństwo, oddziaływanie na klimat, ...)

Rynek wytw. NPO, tradycyjny rynek (w tym fin. rynki, konsumenci), administracja państwa i samorządów, banki, itp.

Planistyczny w ujęciu

Klasyfik. - dług terminu, subwencjonalizacja

W zasadzie jednokrotna - określone przez organizację publiczną, w zewnętrznych dokumentach, NPOs, itp.

Prywatne, prywatno-publiczne

Monitorowanie przez instytucję publiczną lub organizację prywatną

Nieograniczona kontrola wystraszona lub redukująca płatności

Wynosi dopłat efektywnie przez (zawieszka) w wyborze sponsorów (dotyczy)

Ekspertyza ograniczenia (np. udział w tempie, podległość dotacji)

Oparte na wynikach w łańcuchu dostaw

... .., cechy produktów

Uczestnicy łańcucha

działanie + cena produktu

Dostępne na rynkach łańcucha

Prywatne

Uspokojenie standardy

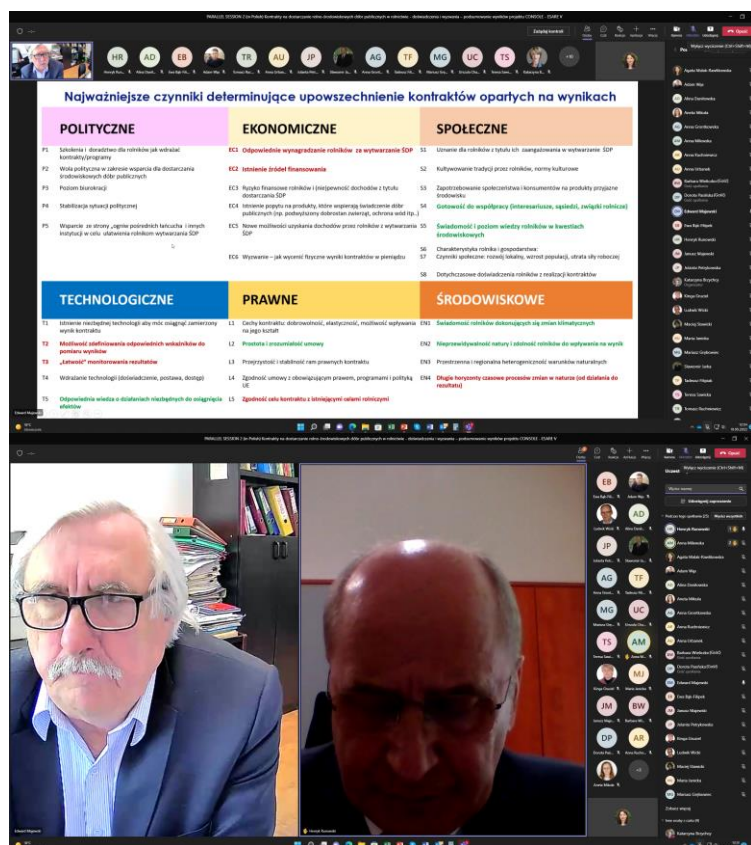
Uczestnicy łańcucha

przebieganie prądu cenowej

Ograniczona swoboda

konsumpcji na do- ugodynowych standardów

The diagram illustrates the evaluation criteria for a project or organization. At the center is a box labeled "Performance criteria". Surrounding this central box are eight sub-criteria, each in an oval: Effectiveness, Flexibility, Compatibility, Longevity, Profitability, Social/cultural capital, Feasibility, and Equity/fairness. These sub-criteria are interconnected with a larger set of criteria on the left and right sides of the diagram, which are further linked to external factors like Trust, Reputation, and Stakeholder interests. The diagram is titled "Kryteria oceny" (Evaluation criteria) in a red box at the top left.



38 SPAIN - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 19/04/2022

Responsible partner(s): EVENOR

Responsible person(s): Francisco José Blanco Velázquez, Félix González Peñaoloza

Number of participants: 11

1. What documents did you circulated ahead of the CoP event(s)? Did you collect written input besides the one you got during the workshop(s)?

A brief description of the contract types, summary of case studies and some remarks from WP3 were circulated for this event. The audience highlighted that results based are more easy to be monitored and estimated the economic revenue for farmers. However, value chain contracts was cited as more interesting for private sector taking into account the needs and demands from the consumers.

2. What contract types or combinations did you address? Which one were addressed in-depth? Was the discussion connected to a case study / pilot testing?

Mainly results-based and value chain due to the Spanish case studies (value chain) and the potential use of technologies for monitoring in results-based.

3. What AECGs did you address? What was the reason for the selection?

Carbon sequestration, soil quality, and water quantity. This three AECGs were selected due to the potential climate change impacts on them in our region.

4. What aspects / elements of the draft framework were discussed? Did you address legal or technological aspects? If yes, which ones? Are there aspects/elements to be added or amended?

A brief definition of the four contract types were provided. Regarding technological aspects, some remarks from D1.6 were discussed. Mainly, the types of technologies available for monitoring AECGs and their suitability for each contract type.

5. Was the draft design guide and in particular the decision trees seen as helpful? Are there parts that need to be changed or where refinement would be required?

The audience considered that the decision trees could be a first step to facilitate the implementation of new contract relationships that promote AECGs provision. However, further information and policy support for the implementation are key to have a real implementation. Financial support was remarkable.

6. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

The Spanish CoP shown interest on the implementation of new ways to obtain new products under sustainable and environmental friendly way. The use of new technologies and the provision of AECGs interested by the final consumers could be a marketing strategy to increase profitability for farmers and private sector.

39 UK - Reporting sheet

Date of the event: 31/05/2022

Responsible partner(s): University of Leeds

Responsible person(s): Emmanouil Tyllianakis

Number of participants: 6

1. What documents did you circulated ahead of the CoP event(s)? Did you collect written input besides the one you got during the workshop(s)?

Items utilised in the 3rd CoP meeting included the D1.4 Framework deliverable of the CONSOLE project, the 1st and 2nd CoP Reporting sheets for WP5 in CONSOLE and the layout of the foreseen changes in UK's farming from the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (available at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1003924/farming-changing.pdf)

2. What contract types or combinations did you address? Which one were addressed in-depth? Was the discussion connected to a case study / pilot testing?

Result-based and value chain contracts were addressed in depth, with a slightly less focus on collective implementation. The focus of previous CoPs was on collective implementation schemes with a prospect of some hybrid collective implementation and result-based schemes but the changes in the proposed AES proposed by the UK government indicated a desire from the government's part for value chain contracts and therefore a higher emphasis was placed on this as it had been previously under-studied in the CONSOLE's UK case studies. All discussions were driven by the five UK case studies and previous CoP meetings and Roadshows. The discussions were focused primarily on UK1 and UK5 case studies that have been exploring the involvement of private organisations as guarantors and buyers of biodiversity credits provided by farmers (UK1) and of water quality (UK5, with the local water company as the "buyer").

3. What AECPs did you address? What was the reason for the selection?

As stated above, the focus of the discussion was on biodiversity provisioning, water quality improvements and carbon sequestration. Reasons for selecting these public goods were the following: i) carbon sequestration has been in the forefront of the new AES introduced in the UK and was also thoroughly investigated in the land managers' survey in WP3, ii) biodiversity increase and improvements in water quality

have been the targeted PGs of the aforementioned case studies for at least 5 years now and it is expected that these groups have increased knowledge in the delivering-side of these PGs.

4. What aspects / elements of the draft framework were discussed? Did you address legal or technological aspects? If yes, which ones? Are there aspects/elements to be added or amended?

The hybrid contract types appear to be an interesting addition to the existing four previously defined contract solutions. Providing information and examples using the CONSOLE case studies was also considered to be a helpful element. In particular, for the UK the RB/CO action is also being proposed as part of the new Environment Land Management schemes, the new AES being rolled out. One of the offered options for UK farmers/land managers is that of collaborative implementation over a large enough geographical extent and receive individual payments after completing the agreed upon environmental improvements (such as biodiversity conservation, carbon sequestration and improvements in water quality).

Suggestions were made regarding potential clarifications on payments and the source of said payments. In cases where payments are provided by both public and private sources, clarity is required for land managers to ensure timely and agreed-upon compensation being paid. Additionally, suggestions were made that payments need to be also reflective of the production process. For example, one-off bonus or vouchers might be unsuitable to cover start-up costs and therefore be considered as a disincentive. Finally, in terms of legal requirements, tenants need to be able to consider (and be protected against) legal actions against the owner of the land if contractual agreements are not met without worrying about their future work prospects in the field.

5. Was the draft design guide and in particular the decision trees seen as helpful? Are there parts that need to be changed or where refinement would be required?

The decision trees regarding the result-based and value chains were examined during the meeting. A general suggestion is to extend the investigation of the market conditions to include examining legal and environmental conditions as well in the decision tree when the suitability of proposed contracts.

The proposed additions/clarifications were made:

- a. In value chain contracts, the legal aspects of the agreement need to be spelled out- a focus should be placed on the length of the contract and assurances need to be given by businesses that their long-term commitment is guaranteed.

- b. From a contractual point of view of value chain contracts, businesses as well as farmers' attitudes towards providing (lasting) AEPGs should be defined. This is suggested as businesses are more likely to move out from an area or have their long/sort-term plans change faster than those of local farmers. Also, provided the high average age of farmers, long term commitments would be least preferred by both farmers and businesses (which might wish to re-evaluate their practices more frequently than farmers).
- c. For both value chain and results-based contracts a distinction should be made on whether monitoring is included in the set of objectives (second decision in the proposed decision trees in D1.4). If monitoring is not included then other sets of objectives need to be agreed (e.g., land set aside, type of fertilisers used, tillage/no tillage periods, amount of riparian areas fenced, etc.).
- d. Regarding result-based contracts, a decision needs to be inserted after the "Are results potentially measurable" decision. This should refer to whether measuring results is cost-efficient/possible and with a "YES/NO" decision tree this should lead to "examine other approaches" if NO is selected.

6. Please provide some feedback about observations made regarding the CoP itself (please keep it anonymous).

Not enough time was available to properly discuss potential options provided by CONSOLE case studies and UK's future agri environment contract.

