

CONSOLE

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

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D7.3 - Report on clustering with other projects - final

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Authors	Davide Viaggi
Contributors	Tania Runge, Dimitre Nikolov, Inga Berzina, Theresa Eichhorn, Lena Schaller, Ludwiczak Zuzanna De Geronimo Gianfranco, H��l��ne PAILLARD, Alice Issanchou; Emmanouil Tyllianakis, Francisco Jose Blanco Velazquez, Emilia Pellegrini, Nidhi Raina.

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Project Consortium

Nº	Participant organisation name	Country
1	ALMA MATER STUDIORUM - UNIVERSITA DI BOLOGNA	IT
2	REGIONE EMILIA ROMAGNA	IT
3	CONSORZIO DELLA BONIFICA DELLA ROMAGNA OCCIDENTALE	IT
4	UNIVERSITAET FUER BODENKULTUR WIEN	AT
5	Ecorys Brussels N.V.	BE
6	EUROPEAN LANDOWNERS ORGANIZATION	BE
7	ASSOCIATION OF AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL FARMERS	BG
8	INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS	BG
9	JOHANN HEINRICH VON THUENEN-INSTITUT, BUNDESFORSCHUNGS-INSTITUT FUER LAENDLICHE RAEUME, WALD UND FISCHEREI	DE
10	EVENOR TECH SL	ES
11	ASOCIACIÓN AGRARIA JÓVENES AGRICULTORES DE SEVILLA	ES
12	UNIVERSIDAD POLITECNICA DE MADRID	ES
13	LUONNONVARAKESKUS	FI
14	ASSEMBLEE DES REGIONS EUROPEENNES FRUITIERES LEGUMIERES ET HORTICOLES	FR
15	ASSOCIATION TRAME	FR
16	CENTRE NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE CNRS	FR
17	INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE AGRONOMIQUE	FR
18	UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK - NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, CORK	IE
19	UNIVERSITA DI PISA	IT
20	ZEMNIEKU SAEIMA	LV
21	STICHTING VU	NL
22	STICHTING HET WERELD NATUUR FONDS-NEDERLAND	NL
23	SZKOLA GLOWNA GOSPODARSTWA WIEJSKIEGO	PL
24	UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS	UK
25	UNIVERSITA DI FERRARA	IT

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1 Summary

This deliverable provides information about coordination with other projects, in particular, coordination with the two sister projects funded under the topic RUR03 (EFFECT and CONTRACTS2.0). It starts by listing actions taken during the first 6 months to encourage coordination and the main points agreed with these other projects. It continues by highlighting the follow up coordination activities along the whole project life. In addition the deliverable reports the main activities for which collaboration was actually implemented among the sister projects.

Furthermore, this deliverable presents collaborations developed with other EU-funded and national projects in the course of the project. The collaboration has involved a number of different activities including case studies, research, publications as well as dissemination and communication.

2 Introduction and objective

This report illustrates activities for the coordination with other projects as expected in task 7.1. In particular it focuses on the coordination with the other projects funded under topic RUR03, Contracts2.0 and EFFECT.

This report updates and integrates the contents of report D7.2 - Report on clustering with other projects already delivered in month 18. Hence it includes the activities carried out during the whole project life, with more focus on the recent period (months 19-42).

This report has been developed as an internal living document to keep track of activities by the coordinator and has been circulated to collect insights about decentralised activities at country level by the partners.

The content of task 7.1 from the latest version of the Grant Agreement is as follows:

Task 7.1 Management of collaboration with other projects funded under the same topic (M1-M42)

Leader: UNIBO

Clustering with other projects funded under the same topic (Contracts2.0 and EFFECT) will involve the following activities: a) early contacts among project coordinators and facilitation of connections among partners working in the same country; b) update about deliverables and planned activities; c) reciprocal participation of coordinators in ABs of the other projects; d) joint dissemination activities, including 1 lunch seminar at the EU Commission, at least 1 organised sessions at a major academic event, consideration of one joint special issue for a journal; e) connection and diffusion of information through website and social networks; f) Promote coordination about case studies in the same country in order to avoid overlapping and promote synergies where partner can do

complementary researches on the same case; g) promote joint dissemination activities at country level.

Coordination with other projects was strongly and actively promoted during the project's life, with regular updates as an agenda point at meetings, under the responsibility of the coordinator and the involvement of all partners.

Coordination activities worked at two coordinated levels:

- Project level: mainly involving project coordinators and units in charge of communication and policy implications.
- Country level: Partners in the same country are encouraged to coordinate their activities, in particular in order to limit redundancy in stakeholder involvement and communication, as well as with respect to policy dialogue.

Many contacts were also managed informally, so this report covers only a part of the actual activities.

3 Main coordination activities and strategies with sister projects

3.1 Activities carried out in period M1-M6 to support coordination among projects

In order to boost coordination among the three projects, the following activities were carried out in the initial part of the projects life:

- Physical meeting at the Coordinators' day organised on 6 June 2019 in Brussels, among the 3 project coordinators and with the policy officer;
- A skype meeting on 23 September 2019 to fine tune reciprocal initiatives and prepare the following meeting in Brussels;
- Physical meeting in the morning of 16 October 2019 in Brussels, among the 3 project coordinators;
- Physical meeting in the afternoon of 16 October 2019 in Brussels, in the occasion of presentation of the 3 projects to DG Agri staff; the participants included the coordinators, the two project officers and the policy officer, three staff members from DG Agri.

In addition, the coordination strategy was discussed at the two subsequent CONSOLE project meetings in Seville and Amsterdam, with a dedicated session.

3.2 General coordination follow-up

In order to promote general coordination, regular meetings (at least twice per year) were held among the coordinators of the sister projects.

In addition, the list of CONSOLE partners with main scientific contacts were shared with other projects. The WP leader for dissemination in CONSOLE was put

in contact with others and with those responsible for dissemination in the sister projects. They were invited to the meeting on 16/10/2019 morning (hosted by ELO). A log register of common activities and initiatives has been set up.

Choices and initiatives with other projects have been regularly discussed at project meetings, with a different organisation and space depending on the issues at stake at each stage of the project.

3.3 Research activities

The three projects have initially planned independently their research activities. At the initial meetings each project informed the others about their planning. There were indeed some activities for which similar approaches were planned. For example, Contracts2 and EFFECT had planning experiments, that were also considered in CONSOLE. Reciprocal information was delivered from time to time about these advances. However, the timing of CONSOLE (expected to end 1 year in advance of the others) made it basically impossible to design common research activities, except for a few exceptions mentioned below in the report. On the contrary, collaboration in stakeholder engagement, communication and dissemination was not only possible, but also key for the success of the project strategy.

3.4 Fine tune of case studies

3.4.1 At the project level

All three projects work with the case studies. In order to minimise overlapping and ensure a coverage of the EU as wide as possible, the list of case studies has been exchanged and fine tuning of case choice has been planned. Altogether the 3 projects cover 15 cases in Contracts2.0, 9 in EFFECT and 61 in CONSOLE. This list has served as a coordinator tool; in addition, the activities to be carried out at the case study level have been clarified, in such a way as to avoid duplications and/or exploit synergies/complementarities.

This also clarified that the approach to case studies was rather different in the three different projects. In particular, the notion of case study in CONSOLE relates to a light diagnostics of cases of contracts implementation; this does not overlap with the more in-depth approach taken by the other projects.

3.4.2 At the country level

In countries where potential overlapping was identified, local coordination was carried out among country partners.

The main potential overlapping has been detected for the UK case, where however different case studies were finally developed from different schemes in the same area.

For one case study in Germany, it has been decided not to carry out an in-depth study as initially foreseen to avoid overlaps as the organisation of the lead partner from Contracts2.0 is carrying out the accompanying scientific research.

Some potential overlapping was detected in Italy where the same institution (UNIPI), but different research groups, were partner in CONSOLE and CONTRACTS2.0 project.

There were meetings with UNIPI colleagues involved in Contracts2.0 (Department of Veterinary Science). In the end, the Italian case study in Contracts2.0 focused on contracts to preserve the genetic diversity in the livestock sector, so completely different from the ones in CONSOLE.

3.5 Common dissemination events

3.5.1 At the project level

Common dissemination events have been an important part of the strategy. Two levels have been envisaged: project and country/local.

The first concerns common dissemination events at the project level. At this level the following activities have been initially considered:

1. A common lunch seminar at the European Commission;
2. A policy workshop at the time of the first review meeting;
3. Common dissemination conferences during or at the end of the project;
4. A jointly organised pre-conference event in the occasion of EAEE Congress in August 2020 in Prague.

Additional initiatives were expected to be discussed during the course of the project and it is likely that there will be further in the final months of EFFECT and Contracts2.0, both running 6 months longer than CONSOLE.

Implementation of a common lunch seminar (point 1) was discussed with the policy officer, but was not possible to be implemented by the time CONSOLE is ending. It might be still a relevant option when also EFFECT and Contracts2.0 yield their final results.

Point 2 was in the end not implemented.

Points 3 and 4 were actually implemented through the events listed below.

Conferences:

22/July/.07.2021: CONSOLE SESSION at the XVI EAEE Congress, entitled New Contract Solutions for the Improved Provision of Agri-Environmental-Climatic Public Goods: Framing Collective, Result-based, Value Chain-based and Land Tenure-based Incentive Approaches; at the session the coordinators of Contracts2.0 and EFFECT were invited as speakers and the session was advertised to encourage participation by members of the sister projects

20.07.2021: OS406 of the XVI EAAE Congress, organised panel session entitled Designing effective new solutions for the provision of Agri-Environmental-Climatic Public Goods from agriculture and forestry organised by CONSOLE, Contracts2.0 and EFFECT.

11.10.2022: Presentation of the CONSOLE results from the UK case study at the 4th ESP Europe conference, in thematic session "S1b - Motivating contract design for the provision of ecosystem services and biodiversity in agriculture", organised by the two "sister" EU H2020 research projects, Contracts2.0 and Effect on 11/10/2022.

More info at <https://www.esconference.org/europe22/wiki/754946/session-overview>

Workshops:

09.09.2021: Tania Runge: Provision of environmental goods and services in post-2022 CAP - eco-schemes (presentation given at online EFFECT workshop)

31.05.2022: Tania, Runge, Uwe Latacz-Lohmann: The eco-schemes and their implementation are the central tool for a greener CAP. EurAgri Webinar; <https://www.euragri.org/workshops/the-new-cap-and-sustainability-issues-challenges-and-progress/>; (presentation given together with partner from EFFECT)

3.5.2 At the country level

Common dissemination events at country level or bilateral initiatives have been encouraged, to be promoted and implemented by partners working in the same country.

In Italy, for example, a joint organised conference took place, on 14 June 2019, in occasion of the 8th AIEAA conference, with contributions by the projects CONSOLE, EFFECT and a further Horizon 2020 project UNISECO.

3.6 Invitation to CoP, workshops and project events

The projects agreed to invite representatives of the other projects to the planned CoP activities, stakeholder events and other open activities. It has been initially envisaged that each one will participate at their own cost, but in the end most of the events were virtual due to COVID-19 so the cost issue was no longer relevant.

3.6.1 At the project level

CONSOLE Workshop WEU1.4: In the CONSOLE Workshop WEU1.4, several Contracts 2.0 researchers participated. An exchange and discussion took place

among the results from CONSOLE and the experiences and results from Contracts 2.0.

3.6.2 At the country level

In Germany, in addition, to all CoP events, at least one German representative from Contracts2.0 (DBV and/or ZALF) has been invited and one representative from EFFECT (Technical University Munich and/or University Kiel). Representatives from DBV also participated in the multiplier events and the online training event (DBV as co-organiser of the 2nd multiplier event, here connected to the national FRANZ project).

3.7 Info about deliverables

It was agreed that each project informs the sister project when one or more deliverables were released. Considering also the different timing, it was expected that this would be the most suitable way to avoid overlapping on preliminary activities (literature, etc.) and to make sure activities in the different projects would feed each other's.

3.8 Interlinked social media strategy

Social media communication is a key feature of current science communication. CONSOLE established an internal protocol for social media post related to own initiatives. In addition, it included sharing posts from sister projects and other relevant initiatives with a focus on dissemination of news and events.

3.9 Publications

Publications were considered as a ground for collaboration. Attention included the consideration of a joint special issue for a scientific journal. It was initially agreed that there is potentially scope and synergies for such kind of initiative, but a more detailed discussion has been postponed to a later stage, when it would be clearer what kind of results will arise by the projects. An internal discussion followed within the project CONSOLE about the potential project's special issues, but finally it has been decided not to proceed in that direction. As both EFFECT and Contracts2.0 will end after CONSOLE, the CONSOLE partnership remains open to consider joint initiatives in this direction. Meanwhile some common publications have been developed based on partial results.

3.9.1 At the project level

Runge T, Latacz-Lohmann U, Schaller L, Todorova K, Daugbjerg C, Termansen M, Liira J, Le Gloux F, Dupraz P, Leppanen J, Fogarasi J, Vigh EZ, Bradfield T, Hennessy T, Targetti S, Viaggi D, Berzina I, Schulp CJE, Majewski E, Bouriaud L, Bacui G, Pecurul M, Prokofieva I, Velazquez FJB et al (2022) Implementation of Eco-

schemes in Fifteen European Union Member States. EuroChoices: Volume 21, Issue 2, pages 19-27, DOI:10.1111/1746-692X.12352 (in collaboration with partners from EFFECT project)

3.9.2 At the country level

Runge T (ed) (2020) Innovative Vertragslösungen für die Bereitstellung von Umweltleistungen durch Land- und Forstwirte: Steckbriefe ausgewählter deutscher Fallbeispiele. Braunschweig: Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institut, 39 p; https://literatur.thuenen.de/digbib_extern/dn062270.pdf
(Brochure with 10 German case studies prepared in collaboration with German partners from EFFECT and Contracts2.0)

3.10 Training and connection with education

Training had a prominent role in CONSOLE. Specific training activities were expected in task 5.3 and are reported in D5.3. Some of them were carried out in collaboration with sister projects. In particular the second training event organized by **AREFLH involved** researchers from Contracts 2.0 as participants.

In addition, activities were carried out in relation to training of young researchers. Participation of CONSOLE PhD students was encouraged to the initiatives for young researchers by the sister projects, in particular the **Postgraduate forum** promoted by CONTRACTS2.0.

At country level an interesting experience was developed by BOKU in Austria, in the form of a Postgrad Forum: A few postgraduates from the CONSOLE and Contracts2.0 projects have met several times to reflect on current issues, such as initial results of their own work, for a mock defence of a master's thesis, or to discuss an interesting paper. The following meetings took place:

- 15.10.2020 First meeting: initiated by Contracts 2.0
- 25.01.2021 a PhD student from Contracts 2.0 presented a research idea
- 15.02.2021 discussion about "what's next for the forum"
- 29.03.2021 discussion about the results of a relevant research paper decided by the group
- 27.05.2021 one person presented her thesis to the forum
- 08.09.2021 a PhD student from CONSOLE presented his first published paper.

From CONSOLE, three PhD students regularly participated in the meetings and helped in their organization.

4 Synergies with other projects and initiatives

In addition to the activities described in the previous paragraphs, CONSOLE worked actively to create synergies with the following projects, throughout the project life:

- LIFE Land Is for Ever: <http://landisforever.eu>
- UNISECO: <https://uniseco-project.eu>

A collaboration linked with the final CONSOLE conference was developed with Johanna Huber from the Result based payment network, Johanna was invited as a speaker to the CONSOLE final conference and a Story about CONSOLE was developed for their homepage <https://www.rbpnetwork.eu/>.

In **Italy**, Regione Emilia Romagna steered the collaboration among ongoing projects. The main event carried out in this framework was:

"Towards a new governance on agri-environmental-climate services" (Verso una nuova governance dei servizi agro-ambientali-climatici. L'esperienza di quattro progetti europei), organised by the project Life AgriCOLture (with the support of Emilia-Romagna Region and involving three other projects: H2020 Console, Life Greenchange, Life Gestire 2000), held on 11/03/2021, as an online workshop/webinar

Regione Emilia Romagna, UNIBO and UNIPi participated to the H2020 project LIFT Final Conference 23/03/2022, to the Workshop LIFT 11/02/2022 and Stakeholder Conference 10/01/2022) on invitation by UNIBO.

UNIBO promoted also the coordinadation and cross feeding of information among CONSOLE and the H2020 projects LEGVALUE, LIFT, SHERPA, SHOWCASE. Regarding coordination with SHERPA, some of the CoP's members participated in the meetings of the Emilia-Romagna Multi-actor platform and some case studies studied by Console were cited as good practices and initiatives in the Emilia-Romagna MAP Position paper on "Climate change and environmental services". Moreover, the Console's approaches and activities were presented at the SHERPA's annual conferences.

Finally, synergies and exchange of information (reciprocal presentation, exchange of deliverables, common dissertations) were developed with the Interreg project GECO2, on the issue of developing carbon markets.

In **Germany** the following collaborations were activated:

- H2020 UNISECO for the case study DE4; MAP Nienburg
- H2020 Sherpa for the training activity, connected to MAP Rendsburg
- NatAPP, F.R.A.N.Z. (German projects with participation of the Thünen Institute)

A presentation was given on 10.04.2021 by Tania Runge, Nicole Nefzger, Katharina Meyer: Fostering agro-ecological transition through environmental engagement along the value chain – insights from the CONSOLE project, at the Annual meeting of the American Association of Geographers (virtual, AAG conference), in collaboration with FiBL Germany (national project "Wasserschutzbrot", case study DE5)

In **France**, the COP nurtured by Trame and INRAE as part of the CONSOLE project emerged in November 2018 at the initiative of the LabPSE project (Laboratoire des Paiements pour Services Environnementaux - payments for environmental services laboratory). This experimental project, carried by Trame, INRAE and other partners, until June 2022, aimed at testing new contract solutions for lasting delivery of agri-environmental-climate public good by local agriculture. The main objective of this project was to discuss and to co-construct those contract solutions with different local actors on the initiative of a group of farmers. This experiment has been carried out in 4 areas of Western France. The LabPSE and the CONSOLE projects are carried out jointly on a similar topic although at a different scope. The lessons learned from the CONSOLE project have been used to nurture the discussion within the local COPs and reciprocally. Participants of the LabPSE project were all members of the French COP, so most of the CONSOLE related events (COP, training, roadshow, ...) were organized by this project.

In **Bulgaria**, the PRADO project ("Providing agro-ecological public goods in agriculture by improving contractual relations" (PRADO), IAE, Agricultural Academy with order RD-05-103/ 30.05.2022 (2022-2023)) was developed from the CONSOLE idea and started at the beginning of 2022 for two years period. The project is situated at the IAE and financed by the Agricultural Academy which is below the Ministry of Agriculture in Bulgaria. The PRADO project focuses on promoting in Bulgaria the delivery of agri-ecological public goods (AEBG) from agriculture through the development of improved contractual solutions.

In **Latvia**, collaborations were developed mainly with two projects:

- Life GoodWater IP project: in this case it is planned the development and implementation of a small-scale grant scheme for supporting local initiatives is planned; at least 8 local initiatives for reducing pollution impacts will be implemented, with at least 8 catchment areas of water bodies at risk positively affected. For this grant scheme it is needed to sign the contracts and it is planned to use CONSOLE contract solutions (to use the appropriate one, according to the particular case).
- WATERDRIVE: as the project covered agro-environmental measures in relation to the water protection, then exchanges among the two projects were promoted in order to feed discussion on the respective project topics.

5 Future projects

Interaction with other ongoing projects was also relevant in terms of future projects.

Most of these initiatives were not mapped as they were carried out under some confidentiality approach. The most relevant one was promoted by Evenor that promoted the interaction among partners of CONSOLE – EFFECT – Contract Contracts2.0 in view of the presentation of a new proposal, mainly around two workshops:

03/03/22, Participants: UPM, Univ. Rennes, UNIPI, NBU, AREFLH, UNIFE, EVENOR, Leeds, ZSA, TUM, ETKI, ASAJA, WU, ZALF, UCPH; Topics discussed: Current gaps on business models and soil health. Analysis of potential outputs from CONSOLE, EFFECT and Contract Contracts2.0 projects as baseline of a new proposal. Potential approaches and topics to apply.

14/03/22, Participants: UPM, Univ. Rennes, UNIPI, NBU, AREFLH, UNIFE, EVENOR, Leeds, ZSA, TUM, ETKI, ASAJA, WU, ZALF, UCPH; Topics discussed: Identifying potential roles and responsibilities in a new topic. Potential distribution. Innovations from sister projects outcomes.

6 Discussion and follow up

The implementation of the above actions has been monitored during the life of the project and modification/adaptation have been considered depending on opportunities and delivery of scientific results.

Further activities may be envisaged beyond the project life, in particular as EFFECT and CONTRACT Contracts2.0 will last 6 month more than CONSOLE. So, participation to common dissemination activities is still envisaged.

Activities will be discussed and closely coordinated with the support of the project officer and of the policy officer.

7 Acknowledgment

