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Social Innovation in Marginalised Rural Areas

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Report D3.3

Selection of SI Case Studies and Policy Processes

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Acronyms

CS	Case study
MRA	Marginalised Rural Area
NUTS	Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics
SI	Social Innovation
SITT	Social Innovation Think Tank



Executive Summary

Deliverable 3.3 aims to describe the process used to select case studies from the catalogue of SI examples contained in the SIMRA social innovation database (Bryce *et al.*, 2017; D3.2).

The aims of this deliverable are to:

1. Select case studies for in-depth analysis that will provide a rich understanding of the role of social innovation in marginalized rural areas.
2. Select case studies using processes that: i) provide an objective assessment of case studies with the greatest potential to yield interesting results across the SIMRA project area; and ii) include consultative approaches that allow case study teams and the members of the SITT to indicate the feasibility of CS and the level of interest they hold in both national and international contexts.

Several criteria were applied to the SI examples in the SIMRA database to reach the provisional list of case studies provided in this deliverable. Only SI examples that had been validated according to the definition of SI developed by SIMRA were considered for short-listing.

The objective, criteria-driven processes were used sequentially to generate a short list of 31 candidate case studies. Candidate SI examples were categorized according to type of MRA, topic of SI and activity sector (agriculture, forestry or rural development). SIs not linked to an MRA were not included in the shortlist. However, certain examples with particular features (e.g. policy process of high interest) but not directly linked to MRAs were added to the list at a later stage to ensure that issues relating to the scale of an SI (e.g. national-level SI or multi-location SI) could be investigated between case studies. Candidate SIs were given a score based on the presence of variables of SI divergence developed by Kluvánková *et al.* (2017; D2.2). These scores, which are based on both the number of variables present and the importance assigned to them during a SITT consultation, indicate which SIs offer the greatest potential for exploring hypotheses of SI path divergence. The short list was derived by selecting the SI examples with the upper 50% of variable scores and then ensuring that diversity criteria across SI region, type and sector were fulfilled. With the exception of SIs located in non-EU Mediterranean countries where SIMRA has a special focus, SIs in countries without case study teams were removed from the short list. A list of policy processes identified in selected case studies was developed and will be used to inform the analysis of policies related to SI in WP6.

The provisional case study list was further developed through a consultation process with case study teams. The teams completed a survey to indicate whether short-listed case studies in their countries (and those from non-EU Mediterranean countries with no case study team) were a) feasible and b) interesting from the perspective of the team. Case study teams also had the opportunity to explain why SI examples that had not been shortlisted should be included as potential case studies. This stage added qualitative rationale to the preceding objective process as well as important contextual knowledge as to how case studies should be clustered within countries, to address locally and internationally relevant questions of SI path divergence.

The provisional case study list contains 18 candidate case studies, some of which are clusters of related SIs that are suited to a comparative approach and others that stand alone. SITT input to date includes the submission of SI examples to the database and the ranking of the variables used in the case study selection process. Further input will be sought from members of the SITT to gather views on the scope of selected case studies to understand the role of SI in MRAs.



1. Introduction

The aim of SIMRA Task 3.4 was to select the case studies (CSs), reflecting a diverse set of examples of social innovation (SI), for the evaluation of social innovation (WP5), and the analysis of policy and practice (WP6). An aim of the use of the SIMRA CSs is to gather and analyse empirical evidence of a variety of SIs in agriculture, forestry and rural development in MRAs within European, and non-EU countries, particularly focusing on the Mediterranean region. The evaluation of CSs will be by the SIMRA CS research teams, who are distributed across the geographical area of interest to the project.

A selection process was designed to identify examples of SI in different types of Marginalised Rural Areas (MRAs) that can be used to investigate diverging paths of SI according to the theoretically defined variables of divergence reported in D2.2. All candidate SI examples considered for CS selection were included in the SIMRA database of SI in MRAs (Bryce *et al.*, 2017; D3.2); the first stage of CS selection was based on the data available for each example in this database.

The process of CS selection will produce a list of SIs that fulfill a range of criteria based on data from the SIMRA database, such as the contextual conditions and types of SI. The process will be guided by input from the project's SI Think Tank (SITT), and local knowledge of the CS teams.

From the list of CSs, a sub-list of three cases is to be selected for use as pilot CSs. These will enable testing of the methodology to assess SI impacts in agriculture, forestry and rural development (WP4). The objective of carrying out these pilot CSs will be to obtain feedback from the practical implementation of SI assessment methods, so that they can be optimized for use across the full set of case studies. Accompanying this full set will be a list of the policy processes covered by the CS for analysis in WP 6.

2. Criteria for case study selection

2.1. Basis of CS selection

The CSs will be selected from the set of SI examples gathered in the SIMRA database as part of Task 3.2 (Bryce *et al.*, 2017; D3.2), and validated according to the SIMRA definition of SI as defined by Polman *et al.* (2017; D2.1). The selection criteria were based on the following requirements:

- i) Coverage of the diversity of SI;
- ii) Examples from a range of contextual conditions across diverse regions, with special attention to the Mediterranean region;
- iii) Evidence of the presence of variables that influence diverging paths of SI as developed in T3.3 (Kluvánková *et al.*, 2017; D2.2);
- iv) Inclusion of stakeholder feedback on the importance of variables leading to divergent paths and the scientific merit of using examples as case studies;
- v) Opinions of the case study research teams on the feasibility and suitability of specific case studies.

Figure 1 illustrates the process followed in the selection of CSs.

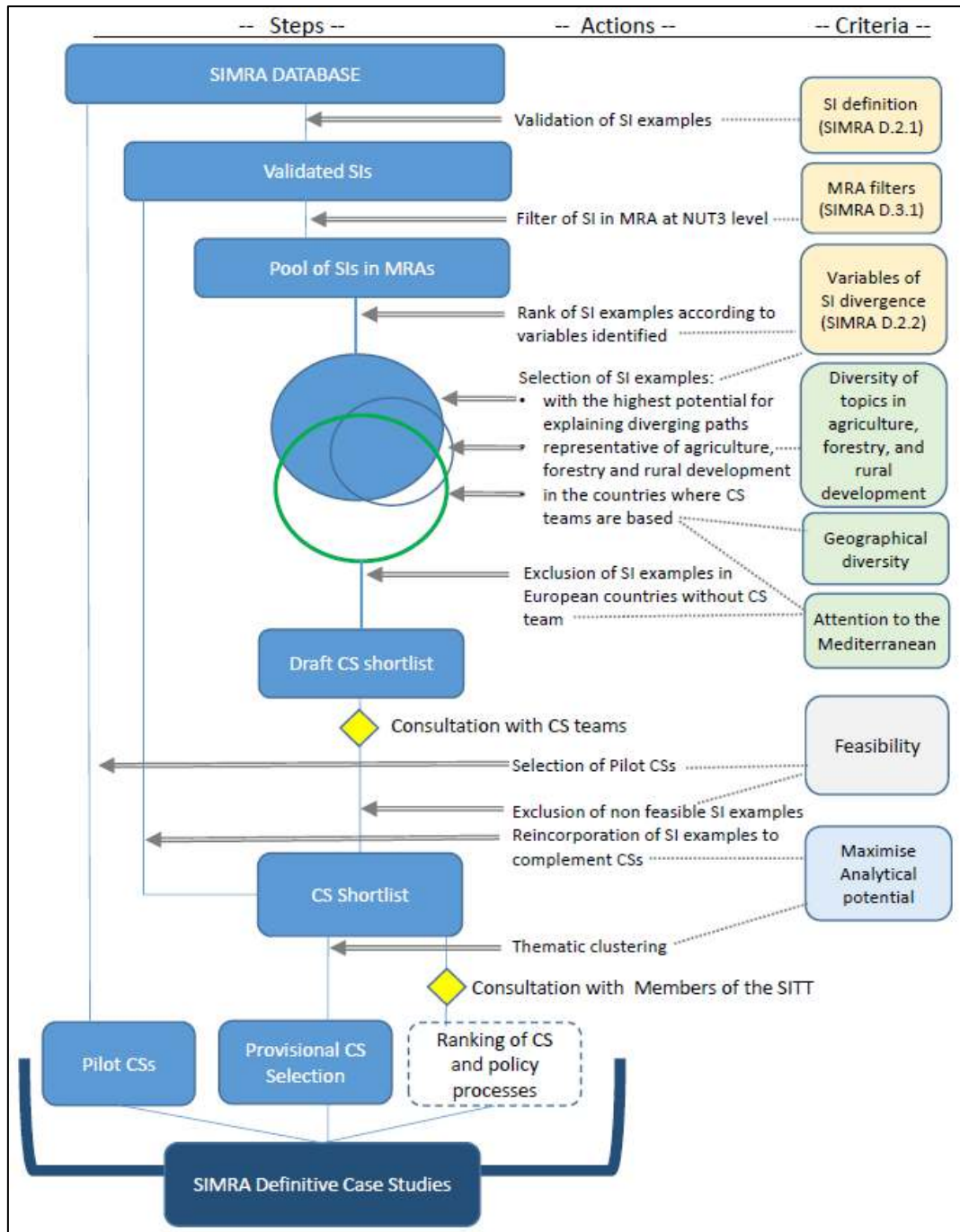


Figure 1. Analytical stages of the CS selection procedure.

2.2. Validation of SI examples

The first step in the selection of CSs was to ensure that all SI examples were validated according to the definition of SI developed by SIMRA. As explained by Bryce *et al.* (2017; D3.2), each SI example included in the SIMRA database was assessed using a checklist of four criteria, developed from the definition of SI described by Polman *et al.* (2017; D2.1), summarized below:

- i) There is a reconfiguration of social practices (relationships / collaborations / networks / institutions / governance structures) in response to societal challenges;



- ii) The act of novel reconfiguration involves civil society members as active participants;
- iii) The novelty / reconfiguration takes place in new geographical settings or in relation to previously disengaged social group(s);
- iv) It better meets social, environmental or economic aims / goals looking to improve societal wellbeing.

2.3. Examples of SI in Marginalised Rural Areas

An early stage in CS selection was to define the MRA characteristics associated with each SI example. Each SI example in the SIMRA database was linked to MRA characteristics developed by Price *et al.* (2017; D3.1) for the corresponding NUTS 3 region. The categorisation of MRAs defines the characteristics of MRAs as including rurality, physical geography (mountainous areas, islands, and arid areas), access to infrastructure, and marginalised population with low incomes, and provides data to assess them at the NUTS 3 regional level (Price *et al.*, 2017; D3.1).

As MRA data were generally defined at the level of NUTS3, only those SI examples that could be linked to a particular NUTS 3 region were included in the CS shortlist. However, SI examples that were considered to be at the national level or linked to multiple NUTS 3 levels (rather than place-based) were considered later in the selection process, if they were deemed to be complementary to the place-based CS in the region or country. In these latter cases, qualitative evidence of their relevance for MRAs or marginalised populations was used to justify their inclusion.

2.4. Diversity of topics of SI

To ensure the CS shortlist included a diversity of SI topics, descriptions of validated SI examples in the SIMRA database were analysed to develop a list of SI topics. Each SI example was assigned to at least one topic representing the field or focus of activity. Some SI examples were assigned to more than one topic.

The list of topics was initially developed in SIMRA Task 3.2, as an open category to be used in the SIMRA database to describe the main focus of activity of each example. Based upon the open list of topics generated during the creation of the database, a list of topic categories that encompassed all validated SI examples was defined. The list of SI topics (Table 1) comprises 30 types, covering a wide range of activities, fields, and approaches.

Table 1. List of topic categories representing the main focus of activity within the examples of SI in the SIMRA database.

Access to land	Livestock and/or Pastoralism
Artistic Creation and Craftworks	Local Development
Broadband and/ or ICT	Local Food
Childhood and/or Youth	Integration of migrants
Commons and/or Cooperatives	Mycology
Community Agriculture	Networking
Crowdfunding	Services provision
Education	Social Farming
Employment	Sustainable / Organic Agriculture
Energy	Tourism
Entrepreneurship	Vulnerable Population
Environment Conservation	Waste & Recycling
Fire Prevention	Water Management
Fishery / Aquaculture	Wellbeing
Forest Management	Empowerment of women



SIMRA focuses on three activity sectors which are important in rural areas: agriculture, forestry, and rural development. Analysis of the SIMRA SI database shows that, within each of these sectors, there are examples of SI that cover a wide range of the SI topics shown in Table 1. Some are directly and clearly linked to a specific sector, e.g. forest management to forestry; community agriculture and sustainable/organic agriculture to agriculture; and local development to rural development. Table 2 summarises the topics that are most closely related to the focal sectors, and which could be expected to provide a good representation of the SIs developed in each of the sectors.

Table 2. Topics directly related to the SIMRA focal sectors.

Sector	Topics
Agriculture	Community Agriculture, Sustainable / Organic Agriculture
Forestry	Forest Management, Fire prevention
Rural development	Local Development, Social farming, Services provision

2.5. Variables for explaining diverging paths of SI

A further criterion for the selection of CSs was the presence of variables that may explain diverging paths of SI. The presence of these variables will allow hypotheses of SI divergence to be explored using empirical approaches in the CSs. A list of variables of SI divergence was developed from theoretical approaches and tested against information from validated examples in the SIMRA database in Task 3.3 and described in Kluvánková *et al.* (2017; D2.2).

The analysis of variables, as explained by Kluvánková *et al.* (2017; D2.2), was abductive, a coordinated effort of work across WPs 2 and 3, focusing on Task 3.3. The set of variables was derived from theoretical approaches and then ground-truthed using information about SI examples in the database. All validated examples were reviewed to evaluate the presence of variables (see examples in Table 3). Variables were recorded as either present or absent. Note that the extent and depth of information available for each SI example in the database was highly variable, so it is likely that the variables influencing the SI pathways were underestimated in some cases.

Table 3. Examples of the identification of variables.

SI Example No. 266 – Herenboeren (The Netherlands)	
<i>On the initiative of a local entrepreneur 200 families became owners of one farm. The Herenboeren works as a co-operative of the 200 households each of which paid a membership fee of 2,000 Euros and a contribution of 10 Euros per consumer. The area of land is 20 ha, used for livestock (cows, chickens and pigs), and growing vegetables and fruit. There is only one employed farmer, who manages the land and everything on it. Each year the members of the co-operative receive food products (vegetables and meat). A number of owners also work on the farm on a voluntary basis. The farm hosts visitors, sometimes groups of disabled people. The co-operative is also part of a network with an applied agricultural university.</i>	
Variable	Evidence
Leadership	Initiative of a local entrepreneur
Novel property rights and regimes	Ownership of the farm shared by 200 families
SI Example No. 97 –Libera Terra (Italy)	
<i>An association coordinating regionally based associations, groups and schools committed to spreading a culture of legality and providing a social use for goods confiscated from the mafia, particularly through organic production on confiscated land. Amongst other brand labels, in 2008 it created Libera Terra Mediterraneo, which is a non-profit consortium including the social co-operatives of Libera Terra and others sharing the same principles.</i>	



Variable	Evidence
Leadership	Association coordinating a larger movement
Motivation	To spread a culture of legality giving social use to goods confiscated to the mafia
Coordination	Coordination of different types of actors (regionally based associations, groups, schools, etc.)

A score was assigned to each SI example to indicate its potential for explaining the diverging paths of SI. The calculation of the score was based on: i) the total number of variables identified in SI examples, and ii) the ranks given to the variables during the SITT consultation process, to indicate their importance for explaining diverging paths (Kluvánková *et al.*, 2017; D2.2). Therefore, high-scoring SI examples offer greater potential for exploring hypotheses of SI path divergence.

The calculation used is as follows:

Equation 1. SI total score = \sum (Identified dpVariable x Variable SITT score)

Where, dpVariable = variable included in any diverging path (from D2.2)

Variable SITT score = score given to the variable by the SITT (from D2.2)

The score given to each SI example corresponds to the sum of the number of variables identified in the example, weighted by the score given to their importance by the SITT in consultations conducted in July 2017. Each member of the SITT ranked the importance of variables in the 4 criteria noted in Section 2.2, from 9 (highest importance) to 1 (lowest importance). These are reported by Kluvánková *et al.* (2017; D2.2).

The variable scores used in the calculation were the means of the scores from all SITT members. The table included in Appendix 1 shows the results for all validated examples, indicating the variables for diverging paths and the calculated score for each example.

It should be noted that there is a risk that the calculation described may lead to the exclusion of some potentially interesting examples of SI, due to less frequently recorded variables having low scores and the over-representation of common variables. To account for this, the scoring process was repeated to calculate an adjusted score (included in Appendix 1). This uses the same calculation but removes those variables that are common to all the diverging paths (motivation, resources and participation), and are the most frequent in this set of examples.

Equation 2.

$$\text{SI adjusted score} = [\sum (\text{Identified dpVariable} \times \text{Variable SITT score})] - [(\text{Motivation} \times \text{Motivation SITT score}) + (\text{Resources} \times \text{Resources SITT score}) + (\text{Participation} \times \text{Participation SITT score})]$$

2.6. Geographical diversity

To achieve the objectives of SIMRA it is necessary to include case studies that are geographically diverse. For this reason, CS teams are distributed across the geographic area of interest to SIMRA. These teams are located in northern Europe (Finland), western and central Europe (Austria, The Netherlands, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom), eastern Europe (a network operating in Slovenia, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic), southern Europe (Greece, Italy and Spain), and North Africa (Tunisia and Egypt).

To ensure that evaluation of SI in selected case studies will be feasible, and can be studied efficiently and economically, it was necessary to focus the selection of CSs primarily on the SI examples in the



countries where a CS team is based. However, two adjustments have been made to this approach, as follows:

- i) The examples in Spain have been removed from the list as the Spanish CS team will develop only one pilot CS, the selection of which differs from the process set out above (see Section 2.8);
- ii) CS selection has included SI examples located in other non-EU Mediterranean countries where SIMRA has a particular focus but where there is not a local CS team.

2.7. Feasibility

For a CS to be viable, the features of the CS and the features and capabilities of the respective CS team must be congruent. For example, the feasibility of a CS may depend on the physical proximity of the CS team to the SI example or their technical expertise in the field of the SI.

As the capabilities of the different CS teams vary depending on their size, resources and local expertise, each CS team was consulted to evaluate the feasibility of the CS in their country.

2.8. Analytical potential of the selection of case studies

The final shortlist of CSs had to provide a sample of the diversity of SIs that contribute to the development of the analytical stages of the SIMRA project. To do this, the final shortlist was designed to provide a set of SI examples which, apart from each being a unique CS, also provide opportunities to explore hypotheses through comparison between them. To ensure this, three mechanisms were considered:

- i) Including national-scale SI examples in the list, to complement some of the shortlisted SI;
- ii) Clustering the shortlisted SI examples according to topics, to identify sets of CSs that may have the highest potential for comparison;
- iii) Maintaining an open approach to the incorporation into the CSs of other SIs that might appear during the fieldwork process which, if they fulfil the SI definition requirements and are feasible, may provide a valuable comparative element.

2.9. Selection of pilot case studies

The aim of the pilot CSs is to enable the testing of methodologies for evaluating SI, developed in WP4. Only validated examples of SI were considered for use in the pilot CS, and the other selection criteria applied to the main case studies were considered where possible.

- i) Pioneer CS teams (Table 4) were assigned to CS teams involved in the testing of methods to assess SI and its impacts (WP 4, Task 4.2) and direct contact with leading partners in WP5. This selection was made by the partner leading WP5.
- ii) To ensure the availability of information needed to for the pilot tests, the pilot CSs were selected to be close to the pioneer CS teams. This enables the teams to engage with SI examples already known to them, reducing the uncertainty associated with stakeholder motivation and cooperation. The pioneer CS teams indicated which SI examples they considered most suitable, taking into account the factors identified above. All these cases were checked and validated against the SI definition checklist, and their alignment with the other criteria considered in the selection process for CSs.



Table 4. CS teams responsible for pilot tests and proposed pilot case studies.

Partner	Country	Region	Pilot CS (SI Number and topic)
EURAC	Italy	South Tyrol	116 – Social farming
CTFC	Spain	Catalonia	210 – Forest management
HUT	United Kingdom	Scotland	167 – Forest management

3. Case Study Shortlist

3.1. Exclusion of non-validated SI examples

The total number of examples in the SI database gathered in Task 3.2, by 15 August 2017, was 298. Of these, 164 were positively validated as true examples of social innovation as defined by SIMRA.

As a rule, CS selection considered only validated SI examples. Exceptionally, one additional example has been included in the selection (example 260, Egypt) after studying the specificities of the situation. This example is pending validation due to a lack of available information. It has been included in the short list because it is in the Mediterranean area of interest to SIMRA, and in which examples of SI are limited, and because information from the local SIMRA partner suggests that it is a true example of SI that aligns with the SIMRA criteria.

At this stage, the number of SI examples to be considered in the CS selection process was reduced from 298 to 165.

3.2. Selection of examples developed in MRAs

SI examples at national or international scales were excluded from the shortlisting process because they could not be linked to the data used to describe MRAs (Price *et al.*, 2017; D3.1). However, flexibility was maintained to reintroduce relevant examples later in the process to complement place-based examples in order to explore questions of scale in SI pathways, i.e. SIs at national level and in multiple locations.

Examples that were not from a rural or intermediate rural area, according to the MRA database, were not included in the shortlist. Then, the remaining examples were classified according to the type of geographical MRA in which they are located. The four categories are:

- i) mountainous areas,
- ii) arid areas,
- iii) islands,
- iv) other rural / intermediate areas.

Table 5 shows the distribution of the types of SI example across different types of MRA. Some types of SI (e.g. access to land, broadband and/or ICT, education, and mobility) were excluded from this table as they could not be linked to a MRA.



Table 5. Types of SI examples in MRAs. The numbers given in the table cells indicate the identity of each SI example. Examples may appear in more than one MRA category.

Topics	Islands	Mountainous	Arid areas	Other Rural / Intermediate areas
Access to land				
Artistic Creation and Craftworks	101	272, 102, 214	102	
Broadband and/or ICT				
Childhood and/or Youth	77, 135			164
Commons and/or Cooperatives		118, 143, 155, 179, 293		10
Community Agriculture		145, 160		128, 129, 266
Crowdfunding		110, 5		
Education				
Employment		73		231
Energy	149, 151			1, 162
Entrepreneurship		75, 95, 29, 238	29	
Environment Conservation		114, 144, 172, 195, 269, 284		32
Fire Prevention		281		
Fishery / Aquaculture	280, 88			
Forest Management		118, 143, 179, 187		206
Livestock and/or Pastoralism		303		138
Local Development	141, 186	48, 126, 127, 144	90	4, 10, 165
Local Food	12	110, 181, 291		175
Migrant Integration	193	72, 73, 160, 185, 193, 229		71, 225, 245, 300
Mobility				
Mycology		181	286	
Networking	183, 186	126, 181, 222, 223	259, 260	147
Services provision	11, 132, 77, 135	233, 236, 238, 240, 214, 116		163
Social Farming	21, 33, 12	38, 99, 116, 154, 173, 282		264, 273
Sustainable/Organic Agriculture	87	5, 92, 117, 123, 145, 156, 157		4, 175
Tourism	119	119, 167, 292, 293	292	
Vulnerable population	87, 88	158		
Waste and Recycling		298		
Water Management	186			
Wellbeing		158		
Women's empowerment		102, 29, 291	102, 29	

3.3. Selection of examples with highest potential for explaining diverging paths of SI

The next step of the selection process was to apply the results of the SI scoring explained in Section 2.5 to the selection of examples with the highest potential for explaining to studying the diverging paths of SI. To reduce the number of examples, those with scores in the upper 50% were selected (Table 6).



Table 6. SI examples with scores in the upper 50% of the range of values. (Numbers in the table are the entries in the database of examples of SI, Valero *et al.*, 2017; D3.2. The total score includes examples analysed using all variables in the diverging paths; the adjusted score includes those with the most common variables removed).

Total Score	Adjusted Score
1, 4, 5, 12, 21, 29, 77, 88, 92, 95, 118, 119, 143, 144, 151, 155, 162, 175, 185, 195, 259, 273, 291, 293, 298	4, 5, 21, 29, 88, 95, 102, 117, 118, 127, 143, 144, 151, 157, 162, 175, 185, 193, 259, 273, 286, 291, 293, 298, 303
10, 11, 38, 71, 72, 75, 90, 102, 117, 126, 127, 129, 132, 149, 157, 193, 225, 269, 272, 280, 284, 286, 292, 300	1, 12, 32, 73, 77, 92, 119, 123, 126, 138, 149, 155, 156, 160, 172, 195, 206, 225, 229, 266, 269, 280, 281, 284

The level of similarity between the two types of calculation (using all variables and using a reduced number of variables) is high, with 75.5% of examples common to both sets. The 37 SI examples that were common to both sets constitute the core set of examples for the shortlist of CS.

3.4. Selection of SI examples

The next step in the CS selection was to ensure that examples were included that provided a good representation of the main sectors of interest in SIMRA: agriculture, forestry, and rural development. As there was insufficient sectoral representation following the shortlisting of the top 50% of scored examples, a further analysis was carried out on those examples directly linked to the sectors of interest. This was done in the same way as for the full set of examples: selecting those sectoral examples with the top 50% scores. Calculate the total and adjusted scores, then selecting those examples that occurred in both sets of total and adjusted scores (Table 7). This increased the number of short-listed examples to 44. Many of the examples in this selection were already on the shortlist.

Table 7. Examples representative of agriculture, forestry, and rural development with variable scores in the upper 50%.

Topic	SI examples in the upper half in both total score and adjusted score
Community Agriculture	129, 266
Sustainable / Organic Agriculture	4, 5, 175
Forest Management	118, 143, 206
Fire prevention	281
Local development	4, 126, 127, 144
Services provision	11, 77, 214
Social farming	12, 21, 38, 273

3.5. Selection of examples in countries with case study teams

In parallel to the process described in Sections 3.3 and 3.4, SI examples were analysed according to the countries in which they are located to ensure that the CS selection included sufficient choices in those countries where CS teams are based. This analysis of the SI examples found that in some countries there was a large pool of examples and a more limited range in others.

In the countries with a large pool of examples (Austria, Italy, CETIP area, and the United Kingdom), the process set out above was followed, identifying examples with the highest scores. In those



countries with a more limited range of examples (Egypt, Finland, Greece, The Netherlands, Switzerland, and Tunisia), examples were considered on a case-by-case basis and tended to be retained regardless of the variable score.

Table 8 shows the results of the merging of this process with the results of the previous steps (Sections 3.3 and 3.4) classifying the CSs considered in the selection according to country and topic. At this stage in the process, the number of short-listed examples is 51.

Table 8. Shortlisted examples of SI classified according to country and topic (the number is that of the entry in the database of examples of SI, Valero *et al.*, 2017; D3.2).

	Austria	Egypt	Finland	Greece	Italy	Netherlands	CETIP area	Spain	Switzerland	Tunisia	United Kingdom	Other countries
Artistic creation & Craftworks		102										
Childhood &/or Youth											77	
Commons &/or Cooperatives					155		143, 118					293 (Turkey)
Community Agriculture	129					266						
Crowdfunding								5				
Energy											1, 149, 151, 162	
Entrepreneurship								29				95 (Bulgaria)
Environment Conservation	172				32		144, 269	195				284 (Portugal)
Fire Prevention												281 (Portugal)
Fishery / Aquaculture				280								88 (Croatia)
Forest Management							143, 118					
Local Development							144, 4		126, 127			
Local Food					175						12	291 (Lebanon)
Migrant Integration	72, 225		245		185							193 (Croatia)
Mycology												286 (Portugal)
Networking		260							126	259		
Services provision											11, 77, 214	
Social Farming	173					264	273	38			12, 21	
Sustainable / Organic Agriculture					157, 175		4, 117	5, 92				
Tourism												119 (Croatia) 293 (Turkey)
Vulnerable population												88 (Croatia)
Waste & Recycling												298 (Lebanon)
Women's empowerment		102						29				291 (Lebanon)

3.6. Exclusion of examples located in Europe without CS teams

To reduce the length of the shortlist from 51 SI examples, those in countries without a CS team were excluded (including Spanish examples, as the CS team based there is a pilot CS team pursuing only the pilot CS indicated in Section 2.9), with the exception of those located in non-EU Mediterranean countries in the geographic area of interest to SIMRA. This approach provided a practical way to reduce the shortlist to one that reflects feasibility as well as the overall criteria set. This process reduced the shortlist to 38.



4. The Draft CS Shortlist

Table 9 provides the draft CS shortlist resulting from the process set out above, providing opportunities for the CS teams; other than pioneer teams, as the process to select their CSs was different (section 2.9).

Table 9. Draft shortlist of case studies (the number is that of the entry in the database of examples of SI, Bryce *et al.*, 2017; D3.2).

Country	SI Examples – Types
Austria	Community agriculture (129) Environment conservation (172) Migrants integration (72, 225) Social farming (173)
Egypt	Networking (260) Women empowerment + Artistic creation and craftworks (102)
Finland	Migrants integration (245)
Greece	Fishery (280)
Italy	Commons and/or cooperatives (155) Environment conservation (32) Migrants integration (185) Sustainable / Organic agriculture (157, 175)
The Netherlands	Community agriculture (266) Social farming (264)
CETIP area (Slovakia – Slovenia – Czech Republic)	Commons &/or cooperatives + Forest management (143, 118) Environment conservation (269) Environment conservation + Local development (144) Social farming (273) Sustainable / Organic agriculture (4, 117)
Switzerland	Local development (127) Local development + Networking (126)
Tunisia	Networking (259)
United Kingdom	Energy (1, 149, 151, 162) Services provision (11, 77, 214) Social farming (12, 21)
Turkey	Commons and /or cooperatives + Tourism (293)
Lebanon	Local food + Women empowerment (291) Waste and recycling (298)

5. Consultations on the Shortlist of Case Studies

Two different consultations were undertaken consecutively. First, a consultation with CS teams aimed to identify their capacity to conduct the analysis of the SIs examples in their area. Second, members of the SIMRA SITT were asked about the suitability of the shortlisted examples for achieving the objectives of SIMRA. The results of both consultations were taken into account to cluster SI examples, and identify the potential CSs that best meet the criteria of feasibility for CS teams and stakeholder opinions.



5.1. Consultation with the CS Teams

CS teams were consulted on their feasibility regarding location, information availability and team skills (Table 9). The consultation was done using an online questionnaire using Bristol Online Surveys (University of Bristol, 2017) in which they were asked: i) about the shortlisted SI examples in their country and the shortlisted SI examples in countries where no CS team was based; ii) the maximum number of examples of SI they were prepared to study; iii) general comments on shortlisted SI examples.

CS teams were asked to indicate if it was feasible for them to work on each example as a case study, and to rate their interest in carrying it out (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Screenshot of the questionnaire for consultation with CS research teams.

CS research teams were asked to comment about the CSs that they would like to pursue. Through email engagement, the CS teams were invited to submit other examples which were not included in the shortlist but which they considered merited studying. They were asked to explain the features of the CS and why it was appropriate for study (e.g. access to stakeholders, commitment to the project, project interests, etc.). The responses to this question became another source of qualitative information to identify examples that could complement the CS shortlist in order to represent the diversity and richness of SI in MRAs.

The quantitative shortlisting processes do not account for the local knowledge and understanding of context of the CS research teams which may not be in the documentation captured during the submission of examples for the SIMRA SI database. The inclusion of qualitative evidence, from consultation with CS teams, helps to ensure the inclusion of examples where CS teams believe them to be important to understand diverging paths. Feedback from the consultation of CS teams is summarized below:

The Austrian CS team (AWI) considered 4 of the SI examples to be infeasible due to a lack of accessibility (172, 173), or the topics being outwith their field of expertise (SI examples 72, 225). They suggested including SI example 128 for which there is access to relevant information and which could provide interesting evidence to compare with example 129 on the basis of similarity of SIs developed in different locations.



The Egyptian team (CU) considered that it was infeasible to pursue SI example 102 due to a lack of accessibility to the area.

The Finnish team (UO) considered the shortlisted example as infeasible for their team. This was an exceptional situation, as the pool of examples did not include any other examples in the country. Consequently, a new SI example was identified (304), which was not previously in the SIMRA SI database. A preliminary check of the example indicated that it meets the SI definition requirements.

The CETIP team, covering Slovakia, Slovenia, and the Czech Republic, considered example 269 as infeasible due to lack of data and access to the region.

The HUT team, based in Scotland, constitutes a pilot CS team developing a CS on forest management (Section 2.9). A second CS linked to their pilot CS was identified, thus enriching the SIMRA sample. This will be SI example 115, which is unique due to its geographical setting (Guadeloupe), stage of SI (emerging SI), and study of policy processes (LEADER Programme).

The other CS team based in Scotland (RDC) did not consider as feasible three of the SI examples listed in the United Kingdom (SI examples 11, 21, 77), for different reasons including the topics being out of their field of expertise.

The Italian CS team (UFIFG) considered SI examples shortlisted in Italy as infeasible for their team due to lack of access to the areas or stakeholders (SI examples 155, 32, 185, 175). They proposed the inclusion of SI example 183 on the topic of networking. This SI example was originally in the pool of validated SI examples in MRAs and offers the possibility of studying the spread of SI in different locations within the MRA. The discussion highlighted benefits of reincorporating Italian SI example 153, as it offers a different scale of SIs in social farming, which it is the topic of EURAC's pilot CS.

The other CS teams all considered the examples included in the shortlist to be feasible: UNIBE and SAB (Switzerland), 126 and 127; DLO (The Netherlands), 264 and 266; FAOSNE (Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, and Tunisia), 259; and ICRE8 (Greece) 280.

Of the examples shortlisted in countries where there no CS team is based, all are feasible for at least one CS team to study: 293 by ICRE8; 291 and 298 by both ICRE8 and CU.

As a result of this consultation process, the shortlist of CS was refined to exclude those examples identified as infeasible by the CS teams, and to include the SI examples suggested (Table 10).

Table 10. Shortlist of CS after the CS team consultation (the number is that of the entry in the database of examples of SI, Bryce *et al.*, 2017; D3.2).

Country	SI Examples – Types
Austria	Community agriculture (SI database number 129, 128*)
Egypt	Networking (260)
Finland	Local development (304*)
Greece	Fishery (280)
Italy	Social farming (153*) Networking (183*)
The Netherlands	Community agriculture (266) Social farming (264)
CETIP area (Slovakia – Slovenia – Czech Republic)	Commons and/or cooperatives + Forest management (143, 118) Environment conservation + Local development (144) Social farming (273) Sustainable / Organic agriculture (4, 117)
Switzerland	Local development (127) Local development + Networking (126)
Tunisia	Networking (259)



United Kingdom	Energy (1, 149, 151, 162) Services provision (214) Social farming (12) Forest management (115*)
Turkey	Commons and/or cooperatives + Tourism (293)
Lebanon	Local food + Empowerment of women (291) Waste and Recycling (298)

(*) SI examples incorporated in the consultation

5.2. SITT consultation on case study shortlist

Members of the SIMRA SITT are being consulted on the shortlist of examples of candidate CS with respect to their suitability for achieving the objectives of SIMRA. The outcome of that consultation is scheduled for the end of October 2017.

The consultation is being undertaken by an online questionnaire using Bristol Online Surveys (University of Bristol, 2017). Members of the SITT are asked to score, from 1 (not interesting) to 5 (very interesting), the extent that they think the SI examples in Table 10 will make suitable as case studies that contribute to achieving the objectives of SIMRA (see Figure 3).

Please indicate to what extent you think the following SI examples will make interesting case studies that contribute to achieving SIMRA objectives (from 1: not interesting to 5: very interesting)

280 - A box of sea

The project "A Box of Sea" brings together low impact fishermen and citizens who want to take action against overfishing. The aims of this coalition are to create a fairer market which protects the marine environment, rewards those who fish in more moderate ways, supports small fishing communities and provides better information to consumers regarding the seafood that ends up on their plates. Supporters receive fish caught daily by low impact fishermen to their doorstep. Those who receive the boxes help to test out different tools and logistic details in order to establish a distribution system that will be operated exclusively by the fishermen in the future.

- 1 (Not interesting)
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 (Very interesting)
- Don't know

Figure 3. Screenshot of the questionnaire for consultation with members of the SITT.

The results of this consultation will be taken into account to ensure that the selected CSs are relevant for the study of social innovation in marginalised rural areas, from the perspective of the stakeholders. The selection of CS which has been proposed will be reviewed in light of feedback from the SITT consultation. That review will be according to the following criteria: i) comments from members of the SITT; ii) the understanding of context and consistency of argument with the strategy



for CS selection, from the perspective of the CS team; iii) the availability of other possible examples which could be chosen in the area. The decision on the final list of CSs will be made in consultation between the Work Package Leaders, taking full account of the results of the SITT consultation.

6. The Selected Case Studies and Policy Processes

6.1. Clustering of examples

Simultaneously to the launch of the SITT consultation, a further analysis of the shortlist of CSs included in Table 9 was developed to assess the possible connections and comparisons between SI examples and CSs in order to reach the maximum analytical potential.

The distribution of possible CSs according to topics highlights the formation of thematic clusters in the CS selection in the fields of forest management, local development, social farming, community agriculture, energy, and networking (see Table 11).

Table 11. Potential thematic clusters in the CS selection.

Thematic Clusters	Case Studies
Forest Management	Pilot CS in Spain (210) Pilot CS in Scotland (167) CS in Slovakia and Slovenia (comparison of SI examples 118 and 143) CS in Guadeloupe (115)
Local Development	CS in Finland (304) CS in Slovakia (144) CS in Switzerland (comparison of SI examples 126 and 127)
Community Agriculture	CS in The Netherlands (266) CS in Austria (comparison of SI examples 128 and 129)
Social Farming	Pilot CS in Italy (116) CS in The Netherlands (264) CS in Italy (153)
Energy	Cluster of examples in Scotland (comparison of SI examples 1, 149, 151, and 162)
Networking	CS in Tunisia (259) CS in Egypt (260) CS in Switzerland (126) CS in Italy (183)

According to this clustering, a provisional selection of CS which would maximize the comparative analytical potential of the project would include all the SI examples in those clusters. As stated in the previous section, this CS selection is only indicative, as it must take into consideration the results of the consultation with the SITT members. In any case, CS teams would be able to enrich their CS to include other local SIs on the same topic, identified during the fieldwork, that may introduce a significant element of comparison to the CS.



6.2. List of policy processes and provisional case study selection

The analysis of policy processes in Work Package 6 should be informed, amongst other inputs, by the SIMRA case studies. According to the information recorded in the SIMRA database of examples of SI (Bryce *et al.*, 2017; D3.2), the examples included in the provisional CS selection show the potential to study a range of policy processes that may, on one hand, help the development of SIs through the development of specific policy frameworks or legislation (e.g. SI examples 264, 118, 153), or funding programmes (SI examples 115, 151); and, on the other hand, hinder SI, such as the lack of supporting policies (SI example 129) or even facing fines (SI example 266) in the development of the activity. See in Table 12 the complete list of policy processes identified in the examples of SI included in the provisional CS selection.

Table 12. Policy processes identified in the provisional selection of CS.

Policy Processes	SI Examples
Lack of supporting policies	129
Approval of specific legislation	264, 118, 153
Fines	266
Ineffectiveness of existing policies	143, 149
Merge of municipalities	126, 127
Involvement of local authorities	127, 116, 210, 183
Government interest	259
Development of specific policy framework	259, 116, 167, 210
National or regional funding	151
Lack of institutional support	115
LEADER Programme	115

Ultimately, and waiting for the results of the consultation with the members of the SITT, the provisional CS selection (see Table 13) comprises 18 CS on a diverse range of topics in the fields of agriculture, forestry and rural development (community agriculture, social farming, forest management, fishery, local development, networking, and energy). They cover 24 different examples of SI in marginalised rural areas of Europe and the Mediterranean area.

Table 13. Provisional CS selection (the number is that of the entry in the database of examples of SI, Bryce *et al.*, 2017; D3.2).

Country and SIMRA Team	Topic and Type of the CS	Name and Number of the SI Examples
Austria – AWI	Comparative CS on community agriculture	Ochsenherz (128) HAWARU (129)
Egypt – CU	Single CS on networking	Environment Friendly Villages Network (260)
Finland – UO	Single CS on local development	Noidanlukko (304)
Greece – ICRE8	Single CS on fishery	A box of sea (280)
Italy – EURAC	Pilot CS on social farming	Learning-growing-living with women farmers (116)
	Single CS on social farming	Forum Nazionale Agricoltura Sociale (153)



Italy – FOGGIA	Single CS on networking	Vazapp (183)
The Netherlands –DLO	Single CS on social farming	Friends of green carefarm (264)
	Single CS on community agriculture	Herenboeren (266)
Slovakia and Slovenia – CETIP	Comparative CS on forest management	Carbon smart forestry (118) Carbon smart forestry in self-organized forest commons regime (143)
	Single CS on local development	Revitalisation plans for Vlkolínec (144)
Spain – CTFC and FORECO	Pilot CS on forest management	ENERBOSC (210)
Switzerland – UNIBE and SAB	Comparative CS on local development	Network Réseau des Fleurons (126) Pro Val Lumnezia (127)
Tunisia –FAOSNE	Single CS on networking	Supporting dairy producers organizations through a public-private partnership programme (259)
United Kingdom – HUT	Pilot CS on forest management	Laggan Forest Trust (167)
	Single CS on forest management	Agroforestry in Guadeloupe (115)
United Kingdom – RDC	Comparative CS on energy	Udny Community Trust Community Wind Turbine (1) Heat Smart Orkney (149) ACCESS (151) Braemar Community Hydro (162)
CU and ICRE8	Single CS on empowerment of women or waste and recycling	Economic empowerment of women in rural areas (191) Call of the Earth (298)

7. Data Access and Re-Use

All data obtained and used comply with the EC INSPIRE Directive (European Commission, 2007). The project outputs are coded with key words and metadata informed by guidelines from the EU Joint Research Centre (2013), and which comply with the guidance in the Data Management Plan (Miller and Nijnik, 2017; D1.3). This is to increase the locatability of the data and its reuse where relevant to other beneficiaries.

Ethical approval was obtained prior to contacting stakeholders and their engagement in an online survey. No personal data are used in its creation, and no individual or groups of individuals can be identified from its contents.



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Appendix 1: Scores of the SIs according to variable analysis

Variable	Capacity building	Cooperation	Education / skills	Environmental quality	Knowledge transfer / social learning	Leadership	Motivation	Novel property rights and regimes	Participation	Resources	Self organization	Self organizing activities	Social inclusion	Traditions	Total score	Adjusted score
SITT Weighting (*)	5.46	6.58	6.08	4.08	5.69	6.31	6.15	5.67	5.92	6.38	6	5.62	6	(**)		
No SI Example																
1						X	X		X	X		X			30.38	11.93
4					X		X		X				X	X	24.76	12.69
5				X		X			X	X		X			28.31	16.01
10							X		X	X					18.45	0
11							X			X			X		18.53	6
12			X		X		X			X					24.3	11.77
21	X				X		X						X		23.3	17.15
29		X				X	X		X	X		X	X		42.96	24.51
32		X		X					X					X	17.58	11.66
33							X								6.15	0
38							X			X			X		18.53	6
46		X							X						12.5	6.58
48					X		X								11.84	5.69
71									X	X			X		18.3	6
72							X		X				X		18.07	6
73					X								X		11.69	11.69
75		X					X		X						18.65	6.58
77							X		X		X	X			23.69	11.62
87										X			X		12.38	6
88		X			X		X						X		24.42	18.27
90					X		X		X						17.76	5.69
92	X	X					X		X						24.11	12.04
95			X		X		X		X					X	24.84	12.77
99													X		6	6



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Variable	Capacity building	Cooperation	Education / skills	Environmental quality	Knowledge transfer / social learning	Leadership	Motivation	Novel property rights and regimes	Participation	Resources	Self organization	Self organizing activities	Social inclusion	Traditions	Total score	Adjusted score
SITT Weighting (*)	5.46	6.58	6.08	4.08	5.69	6.31	6.15	5.67	5.92	6.38	6	5.62	6	(**)		
101										X				X	7.38	1
102					X		X						X	X	18.84	12.69
110								X							5.67	5.67
114				X					X						10	4.08
116							X								6.15	0
117										X	X	X		X	19	12.62
118		X					X	X			X				24.4	18.25
119		X					X			X		X			24.73	12.2
123				X	X										9.77	9.77
126		X							X		X				18.5	12.58
127		X				X			X						18.81	12.89
128							X		X						12.07	0
129					X		X		X						17.76	5.69
132									X	X		X			17.92	5.62
135							X								6.15	0
138				X									X		10.08	10.08
141						X	X								12.46	6.31
143				X	X		X	X		X	X			X	34.97	22.44
144					X	X	X		X	X		X		X	37.07	18.62
145								X	X						11.59	5.67
147	X								X						11.38	5.46
149							X				X	X			17.77	11.62
151	X						X				X	X			23.23	17.08
154													X		6	6
155							X		X	X	X	X			30.07	11.62
156				X					X			X			15.62	9.7
157				X	X		X					X			21.54	15.39
158					X										5.69	5.69
160				X									X		10.08	10.08



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Variable	Capacity building	Cooperation	Education / skills	Environmental quality	Knowledge transfer / social learning	Leadership	Motivation	Novel property rights and regimes	Participation	Resources	Self organization	Self organizing activities	Social inclusion	Traditions	Total score	Adjusted score
SITT Weighting (*)	5.46	6.58	6.08	4.08	5.69	6.31	6.15	5.67	5.92	6.38	6	5.62	6	(**)	Total score	Adjusted score
162	X					X	X	X			X				29.59	23.44
163							X								6.15	0
164							X								6.15	0
165											X				6	6
167									X	X					12.3	0
172				X	X				X						15.69	9.77
173							X						X		12.15	6
175		X				X	X		X						24.96	12.89
179								X		X					12.05	5.67
181									X	X					12.3	0
183												X			5.62	5.62
185			X		X		X						X	X	24.92	18.77
186									X	X					12.3	0
187									X	X					12.3	0
193						X	X					X		X	19.08	12.93
195			X		X		X			X					24.3	11.77
206	X			X											9.54	9.54
214								X		X					12.05	5.67
222					X										5.69	5.69
223															0	0
225					X		X						X		17.84	11.69
229					X								X		11.69	11.69
231					X										5.69	5.69
233									X						5.92	0
236					X										5.69	5.69
238							X			X					12.53	0
240					X		X								11.84	5.69
245													X		6	6
259	X	X	X		X		X		X						35.88	23.81



Variable	Capacity building	Cooperation	Education / skills	Environmental quality	Knowledge transfer / social learning	Leadership	Motivation	Novel property rights and regimes	Participation	Resources	Self organization	Self organizing activities	Social inclusion	Traditions	Total score	Adjusted score
SITT Weighting (*)	5.46	6.58	6.08	4.08	5.69	6.31	6.15	5.67	5.92	6.38	6	5.62	6	(**)		
264										X					6.38	0
266						X		X							11.98	11.98
269									X	X	X			X	19.3	7
272		X					X		X						18.65	6.58
273		X			X		X						X		24.42	18.27
280		X		X			X		X						22.73	10.66
281		X		X											10.66	10.66
282							X						X		12.15	6
284				X				X	X	X					22.05	9.75
286			X		X					X				X	19.15	12.77
291					X		X		X	X			X	X	31.14	12.69
292						X	X			X					18.84	6.31
293							X				X	X	X		23.77	17.62
298	X			X		X	X		X	X		X	X		45.92	27.47
300							X		X				X		18.07	6
303			X		X									X	12.77	12.77

(*) The weighting according to the mean value of SITT replies available at the time of the analysis. Members of the SITT ranked variables in 4 categories listed in Klavánková *et al.* (2017; D2.2), scoring '9' the highest grade and '1' the lowest grade.

(**) No score was given to the variable traditions. For the calculation of the total and adjusted scores it was valued as "1".