



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 677622



Social Innovation in Marginalised Rural Areas

Call: H2020-ISIB-2015-2

Innovative, Sustainable and Inclusive Bioeconomy

Work Programme: Topic ISIB-03-2015. Unlocking the growth potential of rural areas through enhanced governance and social innovation

R3.1: Final Selection of Case Studies

Authors: Diana Valero, Rosalind Bryce and Elena Gorriz

Approved by Work Package Leader (WP3): Martin Price, Perth College

Date: 22nd December 2017

Approved by Project Coordinator: Maria Nijnik, James Hutton Institute

Date:

This document was produced under the terms and conditions of Grant Agreement No. 677622 for the European Commission. It does not necessarily reflect the view of the European Union and in no way anticipates the Commission's future policy in this area.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 677622



This page is left intentionally blank



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 677622



Table of Contents

1.	Introduction	1
2.	Final Selection of Case Studies	1
3.	Acknowledgements.....	4
4.	References.....	4



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 677622



Acronyms

CS	Case study
MRA	Marginalised Rural Area
SI	Social Innovation
SITT	Social Innovation Think Tank



1. Introduction

The aim of this report is to present the social innovation case studies (CSs) that have been selected for analysis in Work Package 5. A selection process was designed to identify a shortlist of examples of social innovation in different types of marginalised rural areas (MRAs) as reported in Deliverable D3.3 (Valero *et al.*, 2017). The members of the SIMRA Social Innovation Think Tank (SITT) were consulted on the examples of social innovation shortlisted for study in SIMRA.

The SIMRA Executive Board discussed the shortlist of case studies and the results of the consultation during its meeting held on 12th December 2017. At this it made the final selection of the case studies of social innovation in marginalized rural areas to be assessed in the project.

2. Final Selection of Case Studies

The Case Studies of social innovation are in marginalised rural areas across Europe and the Mediterranean in a range of topics in agriculture, forestry and rural development. There are three sets of such studies (Figure 1):

- i) Twelve case studies form the principal objective of the Case Study teams. For these, the full methodology developed in Work Package 4 will be implemented for the assessment of social innovation (Case Studies A – Analytical Case Studies, Table 1).
- ii) Case studies which will be carried out using the complete methodology or a simplified version for the assessment of social innovation, details of which will depend upon the data, capabilities and capacity of the relevant case Study teams (Case Studies B – Analytical-Informative Case Studies, Table 2).
- iii) Case Study teams will have the opportunity to identify further examples of social innovation that enrich the analysis of the selected case studies, or address new topics of social innovation of relevance that emerges through the project period. These case studies (Case studies C –Informative Case Studies) will provide added value to the requirements of the Programme of Work. They may involve people outside the Case Study teams (e.g. Innovation Action teams, PhD projects, inputs from members of the Social Innovation Think Tank). The use of the SIMRA methodology will be suggested, but a simplified version of the methodology can be also employed for the assessment of social innovation. The social innovations will need to fulfil the SIMRA definition of Social Innovation and must be located in a rural area.



In practice: How does this affect current expectations of Case Study teams?

Social Innovation Case Studies

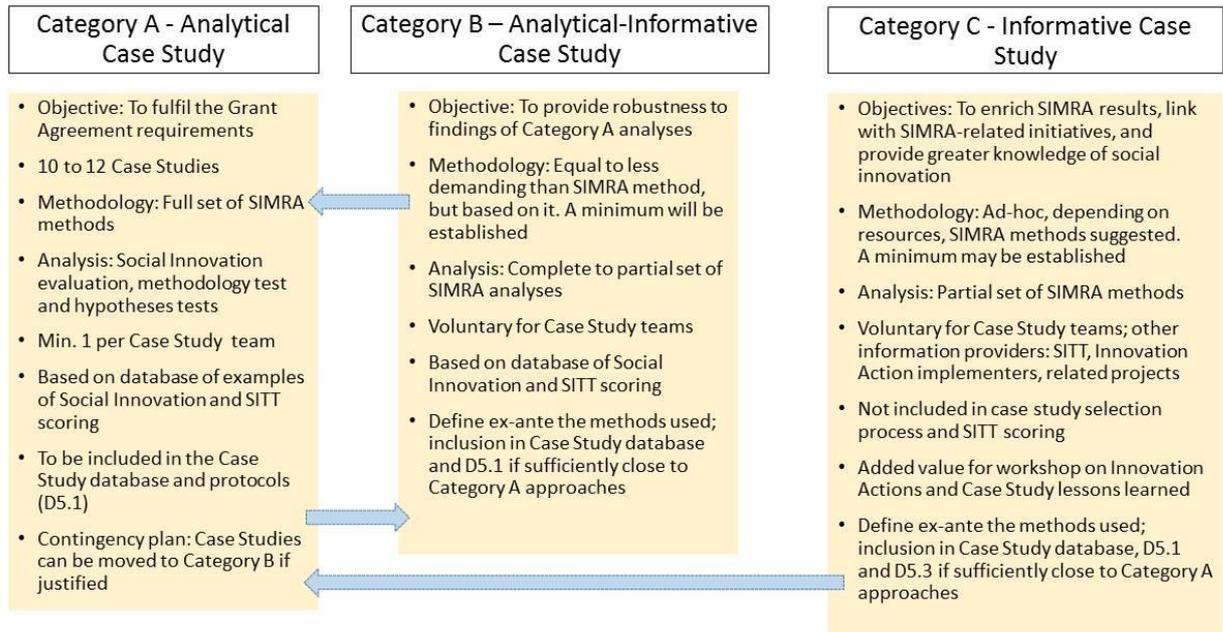


Figure 1. Categories of Social Innovation Case Studies in SIMRA (Note: arrows denote flow of information between categories of case study).

The examples of social innovation in Categories A and B have been through the selection process developed by Work Package 3, Task 3.3. This included a consultation with members of the Social Innovation Think Tank on the extent to which the examples would provide interesting case studies of social innovation in marginalised rural areas.

Cases of Category A may be shifted to Category B if the requirements turn out to be impracticable for the Case Study team. This will require justification based upon the difficulties encountered, the measures taken to overcome them, and the outcome.

The criteria to assign the Case Study to Category A were: i) to maintain the thematic clusters and the geographical balance (whilst focusing on the Mediterranean area); ii) to ensure one Case Study of social innovation being subjected to the full set of project methods (an Analytical Case Study) per Case Study team; iii) to guarantee the minimum of 10 to 12 Case Studies for testing the SIMRA methods and hypotheses.

Instructions on the implications of the set of Case Studies on the implementation will be specified in Deliverable 5.1. The two Lebanese cases in Category B are pending assignment to a specific Case Study team. Their implementation will depend upon the budgets and availability of the relevant Case Study teams.



Table 1. Case Studies A – “Analytical Case Studies”.

Topic	Case Study: Title (country - partners involved)
Community agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HAWARU Hof (Austria – AWI) Bio-dynamic farm organized as a partnership between farmers and consumers
Social farming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning-growing-living with Women Farmers (Italy – EURAC) (Pilot Case Study) Cooperative offering day care for children on farms encouraging the interaction with nature. • Forum Nazionale Agricoltura Sociale (Italy – EURAC and UNIPD) Voluntary structure established to bring together the different initiatives in social farming and find better ways to conduct dialogue among different worlds (farming, social services and health providers). • Friends of green carefarm (The Netherlands – DLO) Friends help the farmer in maintaining the farm where no other funding is available.
Forest management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovations in Community forestry (Slovakia and Slovenia – CETIP and IFE SAS) Re-establishment of the forest commons in the process of transition, whilst changing traditional forest management practices to carbon smart forestry. • Forest Fire Volunteers and their spin-offs - ENERBOSC (Spain – CTFC) (Pilot Case Study) Federation of not-for-profit associations involved in forest management for reducing the impact of wildfires. • Lochcarron Community Development Company (UK – HUT) Community run organisation managing local woodlands and environmental and heritage projects and aiming to revitalise the community and to ensure its long term sustainability.
Local development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noidanlukko (Finland – UO) Self-organized development by civil society actors to establish a cooperative which will assess impacts of large-scale industrial projects by means of interdisciplinary science, art, and by engaging the public in discussions. • Network Réseau des Fleurons (Switzerland – UNIBE and SAB) Regional agreement among a constellation of actors for an integral development strategy to strengthen the work place, the production of local products and relaunching tourism. • Pro Val Lumnezia (Switzerland – UNIBE and SAB) Association for developing visions and strategies for the valley, supporting projects and ideas, and helping to finalise or realise them
Networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vazapp (Italy – FOGGIA) Rural hub designed to accommodate young people sharing knowledge, ideas, projects, and passions about agriculture and tourism. • Supporting dairy producers organizations through a public-private partnership programme (Tunisia – FAOSNE) Pilot project to promote the small scale dairy sector and to improve the livelihoods of small farmers. • Environment Friendly Villages Network (Egypt - CU) Network initiated to apply standards relating to environment friendly communities.
Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Braemar Community Hydro (UK – RDC and HUT) Different local initiatives to develop renewable energy in small communities in Scotland.
Fishery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A box of sea (Greece – ICRE8) A coalition to create a fairer fish market, protecting the marine environment, rewarding those who fish in more moderate ways, supporting small fishing communities and providing better information to consumers regarding seafood.



Table 2. Case Studies B – “Analytical-Informative Case Studies”.

Topic	Case Study: Title (country and partners involved)
Community agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Herenboeren (The Netherlands - DLO) A farm producing on the instructions of a residents cooperative of 200 households.
Forest management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Ecosystemic value-enhancement of the Guadeloupe Forest Agrodiversity (Guadeloupe, France – HUT) Development of sustainable diversified agricultural production in the forest undergrowth as the first stage of a more global vision that seeks to optimize forest multifunctionality, future new entrants to vanilla production, and the local population.
Local development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revitalising plans for Vlkolínec (Slovakia – CETIP and IFE SAS) Project involving reconstruction of the characteristic landscape features and historic landscape structures in the buffer zone of a UNESCO site by reviving traditional farming methods and landscape features.
Empowerment of women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic empowerment of women in rural areas (Lebanon) Engagement of women, in Lebanon, in the establishment of a cooperative for the transformation of excess agricultural produce harvested in the region for products with longer shelf lives and added value.
Waste and recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call of the Earth (Lebanon) Community recycling scheme carried out by an all-woman rubbish collection team set up in the mid-1990s when waste collection was neglected by authorities.

Table 3. Preliminary Case Studies C – “Informative Case Studies”.

Topic	Case Study: Title (country - partners involved)
Forest management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serbian Social Innovations (PhD student - UNIPD) • Ukrainian Forest Social Innovations (PhD student – HUT) • Non-wood forest products (Tunisia – FAOSNE)
Local development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argan cooperative (Morocco – FAOSNE)
Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huntly District Development Trust (UK – RDC and HUT)

3. Acknowledgements

The final selection of Case Studies has taken into consideration the views of the members of the SIMRA Social Innovation Think Thank (SITT) for whose time and quality of comment the project team is grateful. This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 677622.

4. References

Valero, D., Bryce, R. and Price, M. 2017. Selection of SI Case Studies and Policy Processes, Deliverable 3.3, Social Innovation in Marginalised Rural Areas (SIMRA). pp.27.