Self-subsistence farming, informal and non-profit economy in Eastern European Countries: causes and consequences - A Social Sciences Perspective

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Abstract

Informal and non-profit economy in Eastern European countries rural areas contribute for a large part to Resilience, understood as an ability to both distort and adapt under external pressures, and to come back to an economical and social equilibrium when the pressure lowers. In the perspective proposed for this session, Resilience will be analyzed in a systemic perspective including economic, social and technical dimensions of agro-systems. Informal and non profit economy also re-appeared in Southern Europe, such as in Spain, Portugal and more over in Greece, as an effect of economical crisis and because of drastic program of structural adjustment imposed by FMI, BCE and the EU.

Such resilience processes can be analyzed through the notion of farming agro-systems characteristics and trajectories: how does the system function? How does it evolve or maintain under the pressure of low variables or shocks?

In which measure does the implementation of European public policies induce perturbations for the system or inversely, how do they reinforce its resilience? Which political innovations could reinforce this resilience ability?

Participants will share exchanges and paper as a base of discussion during the session:

- presentation of socio-economical data both quantitatively and qualitatively, to describe nature and place of phenomenon
- details of the process in place and the different socio-economical dimensions where this process occurs.

d. Format of the session. Session type (traditional, dialog, speed talk, off-site session, or other types) and how it should be facilitated
We offer to organize two sessions of different types:

- The first one would rely on speed talks covering different topic (see below)

- The second one would be an off-site session in collaboration with a local partner (Terres de Liens) planned on 5th of May. We will investigate 2 places: one is 1h30 from Montpellier by bus, near St Affrique at a " Terre de liens "'s farm named Vispens. We are looking for another farm in the same kind but closer to Montpellier. Vincent Jannot (from Terre de Liens and Relier) would help to coordinate this session and offer to present the on-going work and methodology USE (Utilité Sociale and Environnementale) elaborated by the association in 2012.

e. If the speakers for the session are known: their names and the titles of their contributions.

Provisional speakers/ animators of speed talks :

- Marjorie Jouen and Patricia Andriot : Informal and non-profit economy, the regulatory framework and the new supportive instruments in the EU (European Structural and Investment Funds ESIF - 2014-2020)

- Catherine Darrot + Marek Wigier (to be confirmed): Food informal economy in Poland

- Marie-Luce Ghib + Krystyna Larkham : self subsistence in Romania

- Resilience of Family farm François Purseigle (to be confirmed)

- Consuelo Del Canto : the resurgence of local food systems in Spain (to be confirmed)
- Pavlos Karanikolas of Athens University : Food relilience and socio-economical innovation in a crisis context : the case of Athens (to be confirmed)

**Keywords:** agriculture, innovation, economics