A Multilevel Evaluation Approach of Agroecological Living Labs: The Occitanum Case

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The Digital Agroecology Living Lab

in Occitanie

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HOW a Living Lab (and its embeded processes) **IS TRANSFORMING**

the stakeholders, their practices, the processes, the society,

the environment, the public policies etc ... ?



A territorial open innovation ecosystem

Putting digital technologies at the service of the agroecological (AE) transition of agriculture & food systems in the Occitanie Region, SW of France



Build LOCAL SUPPLY CHAINS based on sustainable logistics



Help APICULTURE while promoting biodiversity and agroecology

Improve ARBORICULTURE production with greater moderation (in input terms) and diversify sources of income



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Enhance animal welfare and enhance the value of grass-fed LIVESTOCK systems



Support FIELD CROP cconversion to agroecology and diversify sources of income

Deploy « Low tech High tech » solutions production systems in. HORTICULTURE

Prepare VITICULTURE to address climate and environmental challenges

An archipelago of pilot territories



OPEN-LABS

OccitaNum

OBJECTIVES

- Identifying or co-creating digital techs (to unlock bottlenecks to AE transition)
- **Evaluating** the cost & benefits of digital techs in real use in agriculture
- Raising awareness of farmers & advisors with regard to digital techs and open innovation
- Promoting on-farm experimentation (OFE) using digital techs
- Understanding the processes in this ALL and evaluating its impacts

GT EVALUATION

CORE

Evaluation at different levels of the LL

Project level

Transformation of the farmer's practices towards Agro-ecology \rightarrow In situ evaluation of the C&B of digitalization

Open Lab level

Transformation towards Open innovation \rightarrow Comprehensive analysis of LL practices

Living Lab level

Transformation towards agro-ecological Agriculture in Occitanie \rightarrow LL impact analysis for the funders \rightarrow Asirpa^{RT} to pilot the LL







Agroecology



Digital technologies



Multiple stakeholders



Link with the territory



Open Innovation





Project Level: Evaluation of the Costs and Benefits of digitalisation





Iterations, ways to improve

Appropriation, dissemination

Social / Human-centered C&B Social Sciences, **Design Science** Ergonomy, Marketing



Living Lab Level **ASIRPA RT: a real Time formative assessment** method

ASIRPA_RT is a real-time and formative assessment methodology

- to help piloting a project
- to amplify the impacts and to maximise its success



Giulia Volpini, phD student Adaptation of the methology ASIRPA RT to the context of Living Labs

Joly P.B., Matt M., Robinson DKR. 2019. "Research Impact Assessment: from ex post to realtime assessment", fteval Journal, 47, 35-40,











Living Lab Level **ASIRPA RT: a real Time formative assessment** method

ASIRPA provides tools and methods for :

- Piloting the projects toward the expected impacts and targeted transformations
- Determining the path the project should take to reach the goal
- Determine and analyse control points on this pathway and check where you are
- Revise the objectives and the impact







Target identification

Assessment of progress

Anticipatory impact pathway

Stepwise decision and implementation

Identification of critical points on a chronology

The ASIRPA_TR tools

- Impact pathways, to help identify the components of the theory of change
- Pilot indicators
 determined from the
 analysis of the
 impact pathways



Some Take-home messages

- A multi-level approach to evaluation is needed to adapt processes to objectives
- Scientifically solid methodologies need to be developed
- The proposed framework for assessing the C&B of digitization can be adapted to any transformative farm process (agroecological practices, conservative agriculture, ...)
- It's the LL approach that takes us forward in the methodological research of evaluation



Thank you!

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