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RESEARCH IN RURAL SOCIOLOGY AND DEVELOPMENT,
VOLUME 25

**INNOVATION FOR
SUSTAINABILITY: SMALL
FARMERS FACING NEW
CHALLENGES IN THE
EVOLVING FOOD SYSTEMS**

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Howard House, Wagon Lane, Bingley BD16 1WA, UK

First edition 2020

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British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN: 978-1-83982-157-8 (Print)

ISBN: 978-1-83982-156-1 (Online)

ISBN: 978-1-83982-158-5 (Epub)

ISSN: 1057-1922 (Series)



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LIST OF ACRONYMS

| | |
|-------|--|
| AHM | Agricultural Household Model |
| AKIS | Agriculture Knowledge and Innovation Systems |
| CAP | Common Agricultural Policy |
| CFS | Community food security |
| CSP | Conditions-Strategies-Performances |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations |
| FNS | Food and Nutrition Security |
| GMO | Genetically Modified Organism |
| HACCP | Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points |
| HLPE | High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition |
| IA | Institutional Arrangements |
| ICT | Information and Communications Technologies |
| IMF | International Monetary Fund |
| MEA | Millennium Ecosystem Assessment |
| MLP | Multilevel Perspective |
| OECD | Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development |
| RD | Rural Development |
| RR | Reference Region |
| SCP | Structure-Conduct-Performance |
| SES | Socioecological Systems |
| STS | Sociotechnical Systems |
| UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme |
| VSD | Vulnerability Scoping Diagram |

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FOREWORD

The volume provides an in-depth exploration of the determinants, dynamics and outcomes of rural and agricultural change processes, with a special focus on the role of family farming.

Covering both the system and the farm level of analysis, the book offers a comprehensive view of approaches and models capable to grasp different complementary aspects of the development trajectories followed by farms, food systems and territories facing multidimensional drivers of change and exposed to a range of vulnerability factors. The emerging characters and roles of innovation networks and social learning, as well as the decision-making processes at the farm level are explored in particular depth, with attention to the multidimensional societal expectation from agriculture, family farms and rural areas, with specific attention to food and nutrition security concerns.

The contributions have been first elaborated as conceptual frameworks of some recent EU-level research projects, with the participation of a wide range of contributors with diverse scientific, professional and geographical background. This gives the volume the capability to interpret the plurality of agricultural change and innovation processes taking place in different spatial contexts, with specific attention to the role small farmers can play in these processes.

The original documents have been adapted for this publication in a volume, while retaining their specificity. This background makes each contribution readable as a document in itself as well as in continuation with one another. It also involves a limited degree of overlapping, as some concepts or categories are addressed in more than one chapter. Far from creating redundancy, we believe this gives the reader the opportunity to confront with an issue or a conceptual category through different lenses and from different perspectives, deepening their understanding. The references made from one chapter to another aim at the same objective.

More specifically, the large part of Chapter 1 comes from the framework developed for the project SALSA¹; [Chapters 2, 3 and 4 \(with the related Appendix\)](#)

¹SALSA – Small farms, small food businesses, and sustainable food security. Funded under Horizon 2020, grant agreement n. 677363. <http://www.salsa.uevora.pt/en/>.

are the result of the unpacking of the framework of TRANSMANGO², with some elements taken from SALSA project outcomes in Chapter 2; Chapter 5 is an exception, as it reproduces with some adaptation a paper already published by the authors³; Chapter 6 comes from the framework of SUFISA⁴ whereas Chapter 7 (and most of Chapter 8) relies on the work carried out for the framework of INSIGHT.⁵

²TRANSMANGO – Assessment of the impact of drivers of change on Europe’s food and nutrition security. Funded under the seventh FP, grant agreement n. 613532. <http://www.transmango.eu/>.

³Brunori, G., Galli, F., & Grando, S. (2016). Sustainable agri-food systems: A reflection on assemblages and diversity. *Systèmes alimentaires/Food Systems*, 1, 21–39. Classiques Garnier, Paris, 2016.

⁴SUFISA – SUstainable FInance for Sustainable Agriculture and fisheries. Funded under Horizon 2020, grant agreement 635577. <https://www.sufisa.eu/>.

⁵INSIGHT – Strengthening Innovation Processes for Growth and Development. Funded under the sixth FP, contract n. 44510. <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/84139/factsheet/en>.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The editors and the contributors are deeply grateful to all the colleagues that have participated in the activities of the projects whose conceptual frameworks have been adapted for this publication. Any research project, and any outcome of such projects, is a collective endeavour to which each partner and each involved person contribute. Special thanks also to Sophie Barr and Emma Leverton, who helped the editors in the complex work of revision and refinement of the book's content and editing.