Co-constructing innovative market and policy incentives to face agroecological transition in Europe: challenges and opportunities

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Abstract

Agroecological transition needs concrete changes to the current farm practices and the governance of farming systems. These changes may be hindered by various barriers that make challenging the agroecological transition. Building on the co-creation of strategies to overcome transition barriers in 15 European case studies, a set of market and policy instruments (MPIs) were identified and assessed through workshops with local stakeholders.

With the overall objective of investigating the policy and governance needs to face the identified challenges, a mixed method approach was used, based on : 1) a multi-criteria analysis of the potential performances and relevance of a set of MPIs, carried out in each case study; 2) a qualitative analysis for a more in depth analysis of the design and the implementation of the identified MPIs, as well as on the key opportunities and challenges that lie ahead with future policies in each case study; 3) a comparative analysis of the case studies through the integration of the findings from the MCA and the qualitative analysis. Results highlight differences and commonalities among case studies and allow to formulate key policy and governance lessons to face the identified barriers and challenges for different farming systems. A critical analysis of future European strategies was finally carried out to explore if these strategies are aligned with the identified policy and governance needs.

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