From Farm to Fork in Regional National Parks

Bridging the gap between agriculture and biodiversity in EU policies

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Agriculture & Biodiversity

Many studies have pointed out the impacts of agriculture on biodiversity

IPBES Global Assessment report (2019)

Studies on bird decline linked to agricultural intensification in France (2018)

Agriculture, a key sector for addressing environmental degradation
What role for NRPs in Agriculture?

Mainly rural areas, directly concerned by agricultural policies

French NRPs:
→ **58 000 farmers**
→ **43%** of total area covered by arable land
→ High proportion of grassland areas (60%)
What role for NRPs in Agriculture?

- Specific **natural & agricultural identities** that must be preserved
- No regulatory constraints...
  ... But **territorial coordination** between local actors
  → Local government, farmers organizations, local companies, consumer-citizens...
- **Technical know-how** at the service of rural development
NRPs: a local approach to sustainable food

- Supporting farmers in the agroecological transition
- Facilitating installation of new farmers
- Promoting quality/origin labels
- Developing local food circuits
- Fighting against food insecurity & food waste
- Educating youth on food & agriculture
Luberon : an example of a local food project

Since 2009, the Luberon NRP has developed several initiatives in relation with sustainable food systems.

In 2017, these initiatives received official recognition with the label « Plan Alimentaire Territorial » (Territorial Food Project).
Luberon: an example of a local food project

- Preserving natural areas
  - Animation of AECM on pastoral practices
  - Launch of PES to limit the use of pesticides
Luberon: an example of a local food project

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• Maintaining agriculture on the territory
  → Securing protected agricultural zones (ZAP) & monitoring local urban plans
  → Installation of new farmers in communal farms
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• Building local food systems
  → Promoting local & organic supply for school canteens
  → Structuring local food circuits via farmers’ markets, local food transformation & regional products
  → Educating on local food via school field trips
Luberon : an example of a local food project

2020 : territorial diagnostic on food production and consumption in Luberon

Positive effects of the local food project...
...BUT not enough to counteract current trends in the area:

→ Decrease of agricultural lands (-11 %)
→ Increase in non-food production and de-localization of food production
→ Little to no improvements for the environment

NRPs foster positive dynamics to reconcile agriculture and the environment, that must be massively encouraged by EU policies
A lack of consistency across EU policies

Agriculture listed as a key sector to address biodiversity decline

- Reach 25% organic farming & 10% landscape features in farmlands
- Reduce use of pesticides by 50% & nutrient loss by 50%
- Promote public sustainable food procurement
- 30% of land & sea under protected areas
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**Green Deal**

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**Future CAP**

Lack of ambition to match Green deal objectives

- Proposed measures insufficient to incentivize and support farmers in this transition
- Link with food sector barely taken into account
- What agriculture do we want in protected areas?
Thank you for your attention