

2. Proposal on Young Farmers



FILM « YOUNG FARMERS »

Leadership :

Cécile Schalembourg – Walloon Rural Network (Belgium)

Mail : c.schalembourg@reseau-pwdr.be

Context

After a work session with farmers representatives (Young Farmers Federation), it appears that needs for training and support increase during installation phase. The process of installation as farmer is reduced to a technical and economical study. Social needs are not taken into account. Similarly, training opportunities (after installation) need to be updated to reflect changes and evolutions in farmer profession : a new panel of training sessions need to be set up.

A second aspect is how young farmers face announced changes : climatic change, environment, energy and multifunctionality. How do they adapt their practices and way of thinking ? Are they pro-active ? What do they still develop?

We propose to create a video that will highlight important aspects of young farmers situation. What are interesting practices, relevant experiences that could illustrate :

- To start or continue a farming activity (included for young people out of family farming) : what motivations, levers and difficulties, life project, lifecourse and career.
- Multifunctional agriculture : what interests for young farmers to develop a multifunctional farm : to produce, to process, to sell, to open its farm ? Why ? Which challenges does it meet ? What social demand ?
- Environment and energy : how do Young farmers face energy and environment challenges ? Are they receptive ? What impact on their farm development, on the general perception of agriculture ? Is it more expensive to produce with green-friendly methods ? is environment conflicting with productivity ? Living observation, management of soils and water, improvement of farming practices and controlling the flows,... are they ready to integrate these dimensions in their daily life ? Are they ready to enter in future CAP new dimensions ?
- Networks : young farmer evolves in a social network (neighbors, village, activity in rural area, maintain of essential functions for people,...), in a territorial network (interactions with the life of a territory, use and production of local resources,...), a professional network (others farmers, training sector, providers, banks, local developers,...)
- Entrepreneur and businessman : a farm needs to be managed as any enterprise. It requires specific and strong skills in administrative and financial management, controlling data, knowledge of challenges and actuality, adaptability, curiosity and openness.
- Regulatory aspects : each farm has to deal with standards and norms, with CAP regulations. How are aspects of control and quality, food safety taken in account ? How to take advantage / benefit from norms and standards ? What tools developed by Member States and EU are helpful for farmers ?

How to use this video?

- As an animation tool for farmers associations, rural NGO, local communities in order to launch the debate around new challenges, training of young farmers and recommendations for future RDP. We propose to work on a methodological guideline for the use of this video.
- As a way to promote agriculture and young farmers near a wider public (diffusion via other medias, local televisions,...)
- As a way to show European dimension of agriculture and how young farmers evolve and face new challenges in different Member States. We are not alone ☺

Planning for Walloon video

	Subject	Date	Where
1	Scénario, main questions and casting	April	Under construction ☺
2	Presentation to EU networks and collection of interests	April	NNU Meeting Germany
3	Film of Walloon videos	May / June	
4	Montage	July / Augustus	
5	Promotion	September	

Proposal to other networks

- Creation of a virtual work group to complete the content above (other challenges, questions, aspects,...)
- Each network partner organizes itself (and finances) the production of six small videos by using same technical conditions as Walloon network (common standards and way of filming). We can provide a technical framework. These videos are in local language, but each video is subtitled in English by the partner itself.
- Is it possible for PCE to finance the final montage or have we to include that in our budget ?

Technical aspects

- 6 small interviews showing young farmer speaking and in activity (context, farm,...) : max 4 minutes / video
- subtitled in English
- use of common standards (defined by Walloon network for its video)