

Workshop on « Governance, practices, potentials, and tensions in a comparative perspective »

17th and 18th July 2023, Kassel, Germany

A process for participatory co-design of “Agroecological Transition Pathways” at the landscape and food system levels: A process for the articulation of action-research activities and lessons learned from early implementation.

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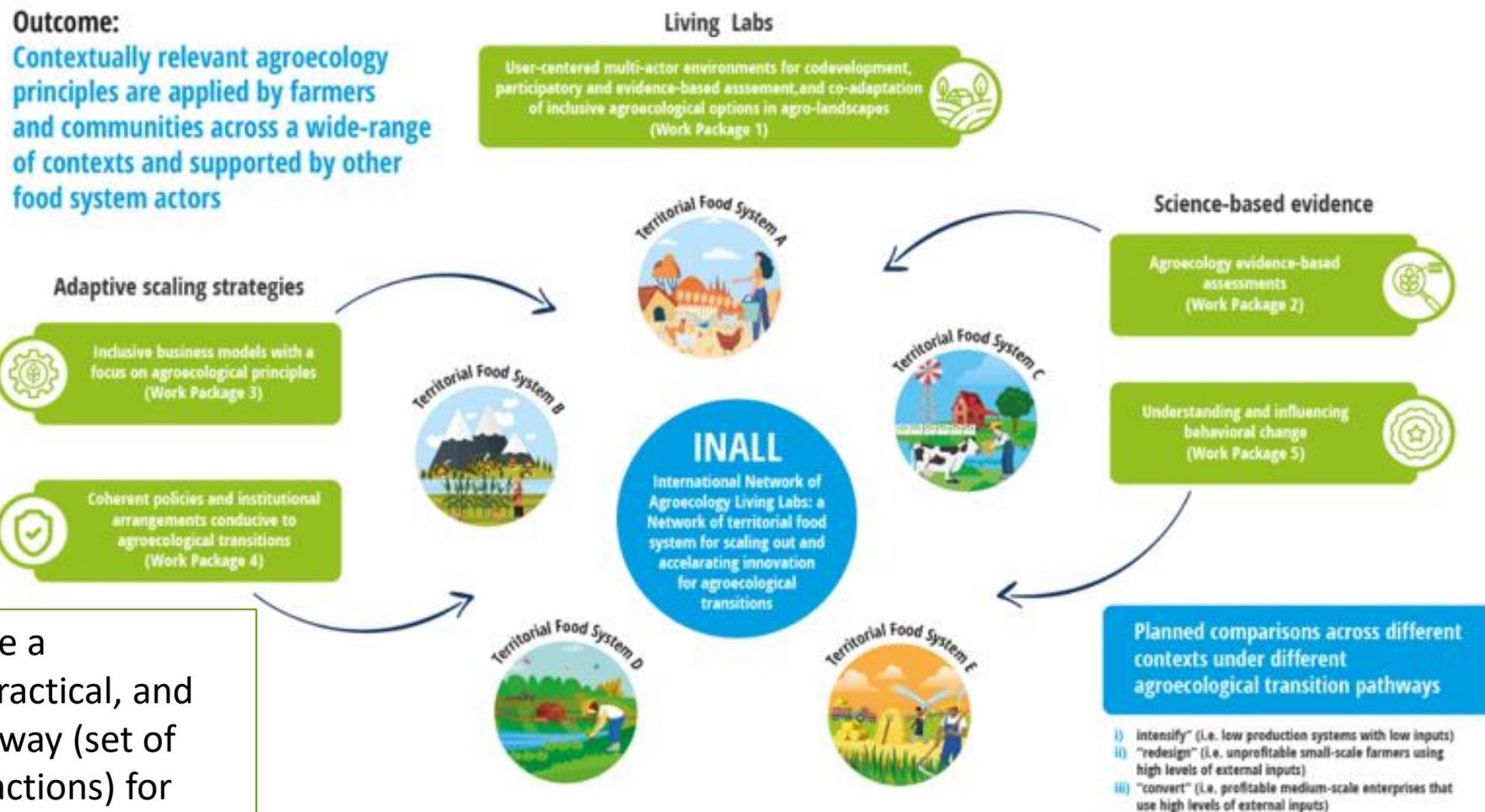
Plan of the presentation

- Problem and objectives
- Entry point for planning agroecological transition: the visioning
- Pre-requisites of the visioning
- The implementation process and steps
- Results of the visioning implementation: Towards transition pathways
 - The resulting shared vision
 - From shared vision to agroecology principles
 - The resulting transition pathways
- Conclusion and challenges

Problem and objectives

- Pilot research 4 development project aiming at stimulating and promoting agroecological transition.
- Agroecology as defined through its 13 principles.
- How to move from a pre-defined theory of change towards « practical, real and concrete transition pathway » (TP).
- Need for iterative implementation & complexity aware framework for such a TP.
- Starting point, the ToC of the One CGIAR agroecology initiative.

Problem and objectives



Objective: how to derive a contextually relevant, practical, and iterative transition pathway (set of R4D and development actions) for selected communities (or landscapes) based on this ToC.

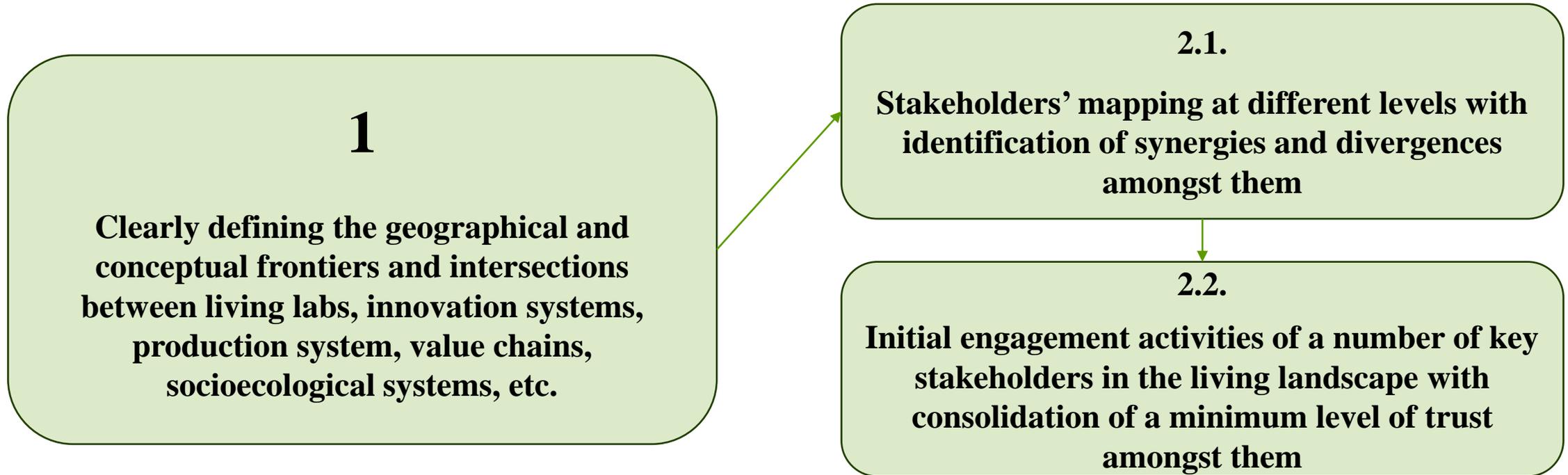
Entry point for planning agroecological transition: the visioning

- It is part (or early beginning) of the process for re-designing agricultural and production systems through action research and/or development activities.
- It encourage creative and unrestricted discussion, and enabled the creation of ‘desirable futures’ by the participants to find shared ambitions and go beyond the single interests of specific stakeholders groups.
- A process of developing a framework or a shared vision (stories) about the future.
- Expressed qualitatively (using narratives and/or pictures), quantitatively through numerical estimates and projections, or by combining both (McKee et al., 2014).

Pre-requisites of the visioning

- Proper stakeholder mapping in relation to the domain of intervention of the project (in this case, agroecology transition),
- The frontiers of the ALL are clear and well delimited (including the definition of the specific systems and sub-systems of intervention within the landscape),
- Some "actionnable" drivers of territorial change / development have been pre-identified, to be used to guide and channel the visioning exercise.

The implementation process and steps



The implementation process and steps

3.1.

Predefine some "actionable" drivers of territorial change / development

3.2.

Sharing and validating, among key ALL members, an understanding of the context and of the purpose of the "vision-to-action" process

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Developing a shared vision for a desirable future amongst different ALL stakeholders

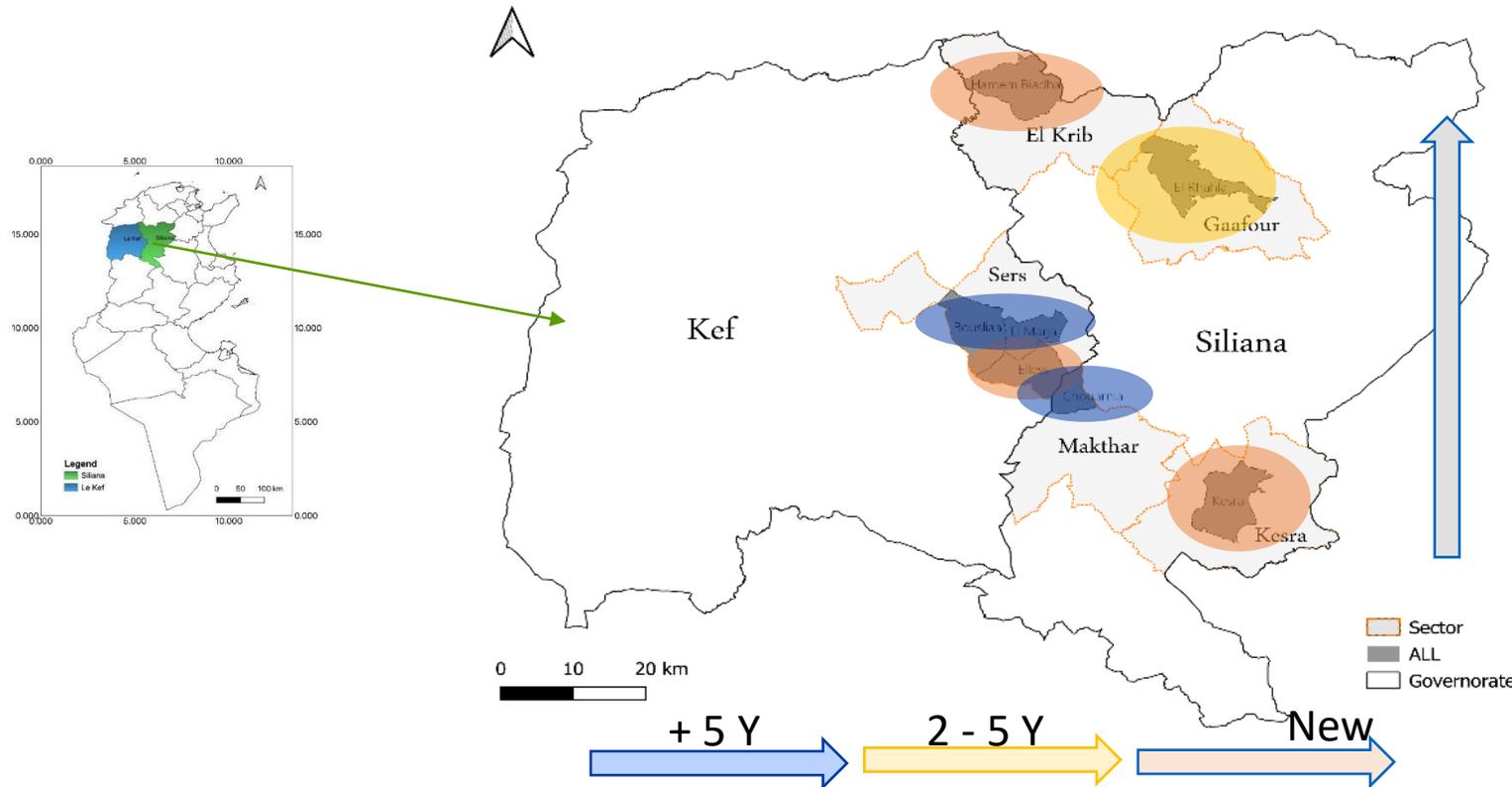
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Articulating this vision with the AE principles (by the support of experts and planning agents) through co-validation and participation.

6

Plan your program activities (transition pathway) around the validated vision as predefined through agroecological principles and targets.

The study (project intervention) area

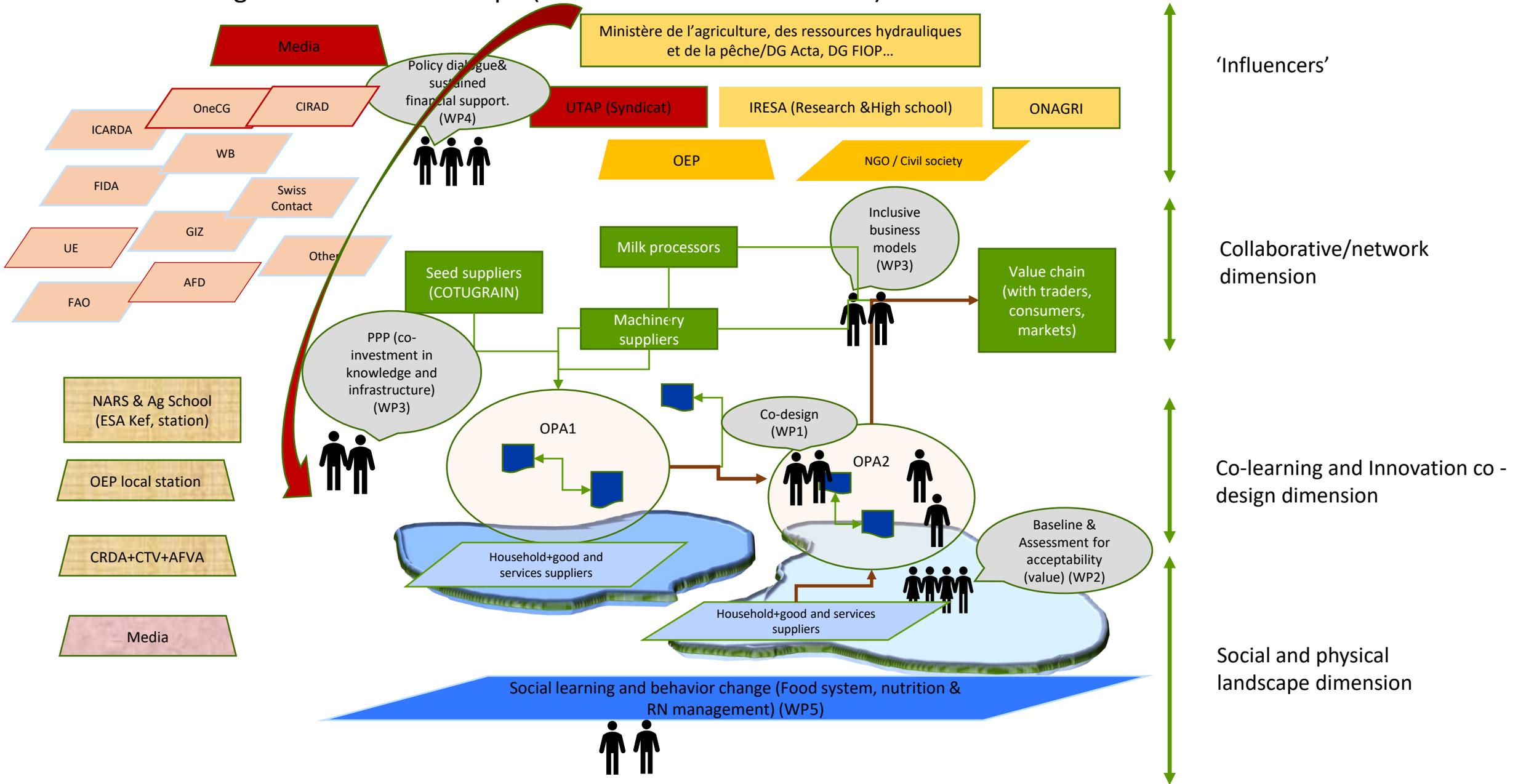


Cover a gradient of agroecological contexts of the mixed tree-crop-livestock systems in a semi-arid zone, from the mountainous to plain zones.

- Three systems:
- Mixed crop-livestock
 - Olive-based
 - agroforestry

Gradient of AE packages & partnerships from “existing partnership and AE packages” to “new partner, new AE package”

Build on an existing institutional landscape (relevant institutions for AE-i)



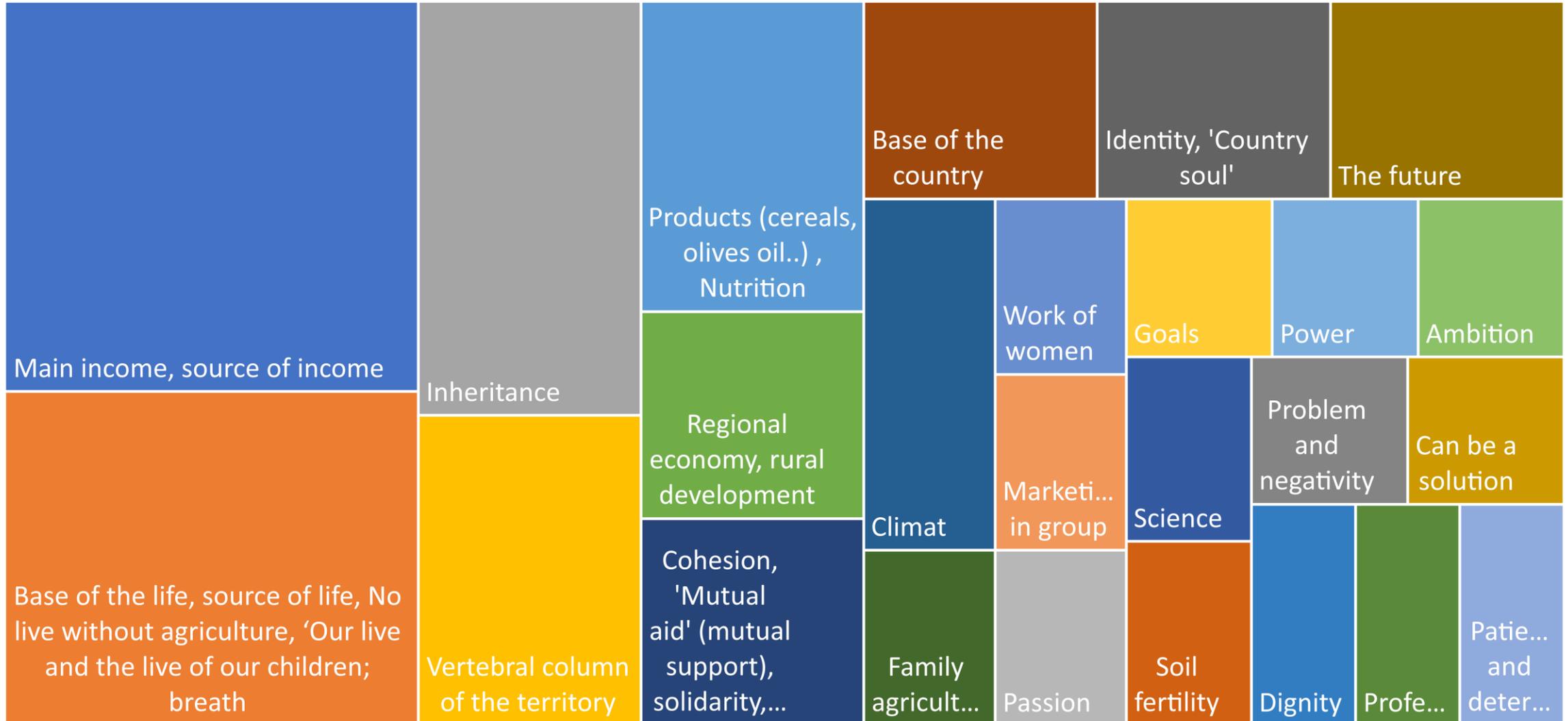
Results of the visioning implementation: the shared vision

Three steps:

1. How they describe the agriculture today?
2. what are the main issues?
3. How they see their desired future in 10 years?

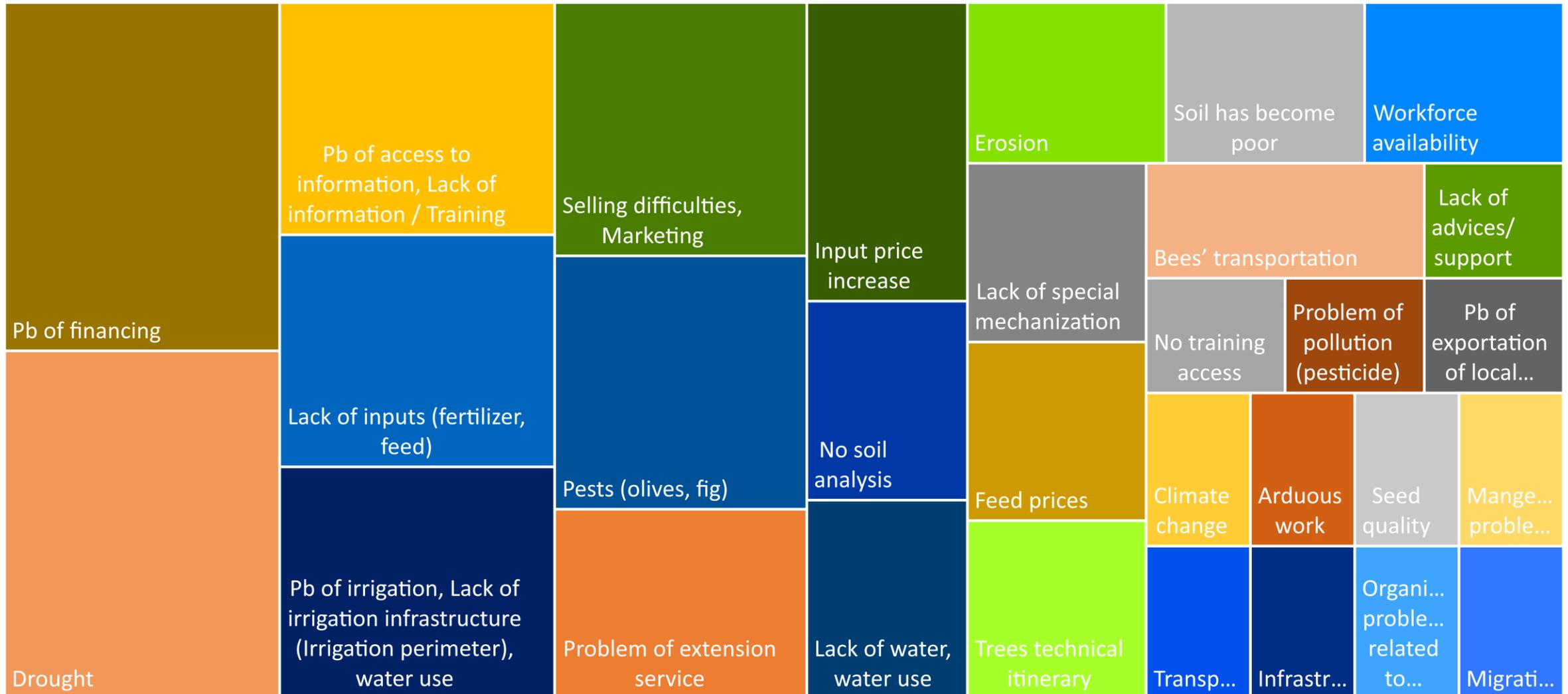
Results of the visioning implementation: the shared vision

Significance of agriculture Today (Tunisian ALL, Nov. 2022, 8 FG)



Results of the visioning implementation: the shared vision

Main problems (Tunisian ALL, Nov. 2022, 8 FG)



Results of the visioning implementation: the shared vision

The local future expectations per domain

Economic					technical					social value								
Good marketing, better selling network		Self sufficiency, Food security			Agroforestry		SWC technics (water harvesting)			Proud, dignity, love		Solidarity, Goals, cultural		Satisfaction, motivation		Trust		
Diversification		Valorize local products (transformation)		Connectivity, Network, Infrastructure	Knowledge (well trained farmers)	Rotation		CA adoption, permane... cover	Legumes integration		Rigor, honesty, self confidence, openness		Youth inclusion		Autonomy-- > freedom	Livelihood, confort		Ment...
		Better profitabi... of the...	Law	mechani...		better produ... (yield)	New techn...	olive oil valoriz...	Health, social infrastruct...	Power, effort					Women autonomy... Justice,...			
Financing, credit, support		employe...	bus... net...	local devel...	quality guar...	Less chemicals (pest management, manure)	Product diversific...	Organic certific... (honey)	Comp...	Grazin...	partnership and involvement, collaboration, union, coopération		Knowledge sharing , capacity		Biological agriculture	Limit the use of pesticides		For... trees pla...
		(GDA) Common marketing...	grant and...	re...	so... of ag...			Tr... & inf...	Access...	Intercr...					recycli...	Ecotouris...	More nurs...	Polli...
										Social			Environmental					

Results of the visioning implementation: from shared vision to agroecology principles

- Futures oriented towards enhancing the principles of input reduction, diversity, social values, knowledge, fairness, and participation in the same way.
- Soil health can however be embedded into soil fertility problems widely suggested by farmers.
- Synergy is not directly evoked but can be articulated with the principle of input reduction.
- majority of techniques and practices desired by farmers for the coming 10 years are related to AE principles in terms of input reduction and synergy, and also soil fertility management, and soil health.
- social values mentioned by the FOs and research groups highlight the concerns related to attractiveness and inclusiveness of the youth into agriculture.

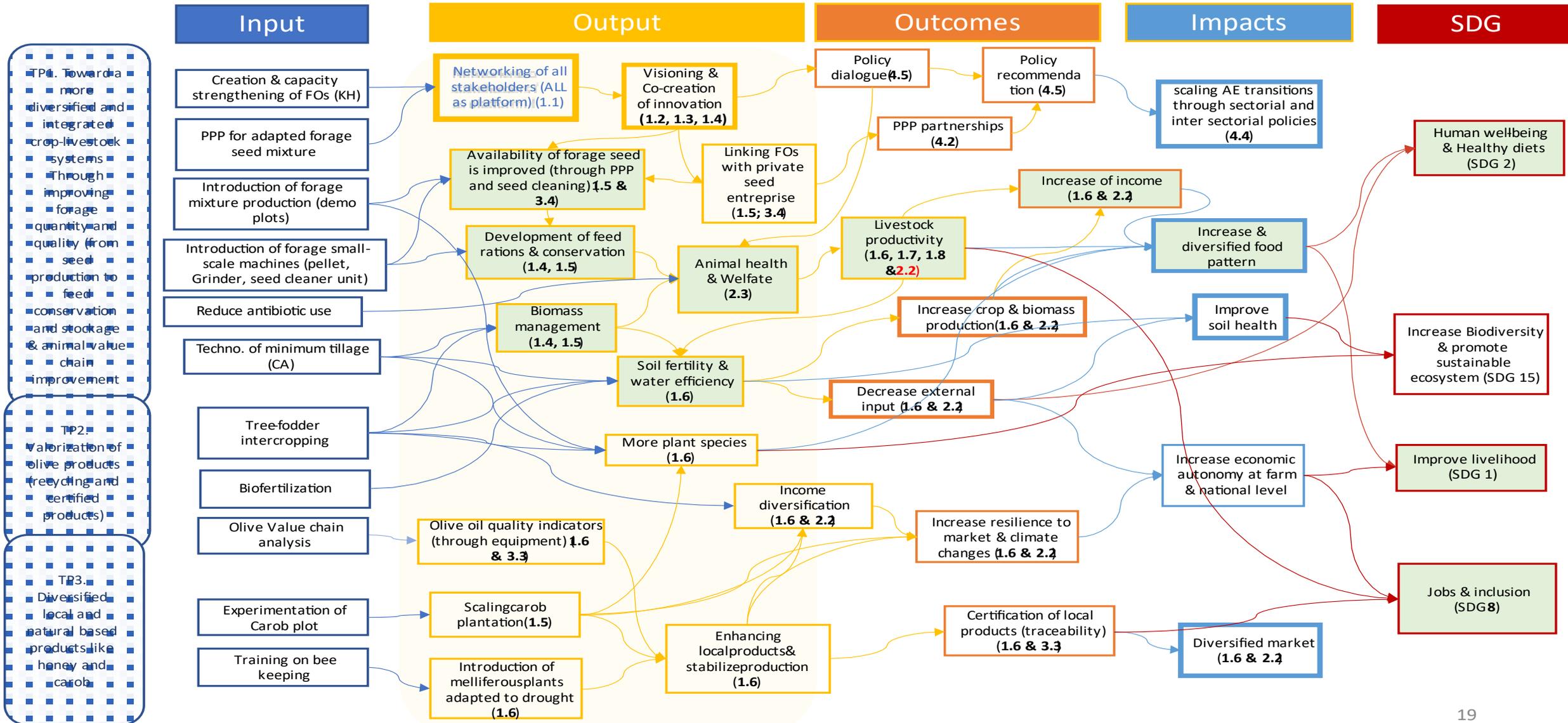
Results of the visioning implementation: the resulting agroecological transition pathway

Articulating the visioning results with agroecology principles and specific production systems (and typologies) in place.

This resulted into the prioritisation of the following clusters of activities:

- 1) [Animal products' value chain from the seed multiplication and forage production/feedstock](#) (with crop/tree residues) to the [dairy products marketing](#); this pathway includes the improvement and diversification of the crop system, the crop-livestock synergy and input reduction and the valorization of local and national products;
- 2) [Certified olive tree value chain](#) in integration with all the other activities (livestock-cereal) enhancing the valorization of local products in addition to input reduction through recycling of olive by products into biofertilization;
- 3) Promoting the [honey value chain](#) (through promoting melliferous plants) as well as carob and fig commodities. This includes prioritization of [short commercial channels](#) and [product labeling](#).

Results of the visioning implementation: the resulting agroecological transition pathway



Conclusions and challenges

while visioning, engagement, and planning for agroecology were relatively manageable and effective at the community levels,

stakeholder engagement at food system level is rather harder and more contextual,

Other conceptual and practical challenges for piloting similar projects aiming at agroecological transitions are:

- Representativeness,
- Agroecology transition is an investment for some stakeholders/farmers, and thus a reward (mostly in terms of labeling?) need to be considered for quicker uptake.
- Lack of public engagement for facilitation.

Thank you!



INITIATIVE ON
Agroecology