

Initiation of an interorganizational network in the sustainable agri-food field : an embedded case study of a transnational North-Mediterranean cooperation project

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Aix-Marseille Université

Initiation of an interorganizational network in the sustainable agri-food field : an embedded case study of a transnational North-Mediterranean cooperation project.

TISSONE Flore, HERNANDEZ Solange, MOUSTIER Emmanuelle

Track 2.2: Territorial and local governance

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Context of the research

Global food system

Negative externalities & inegualities

Humans

Natural environment & biodiversity

Urban

Transnational networking activities

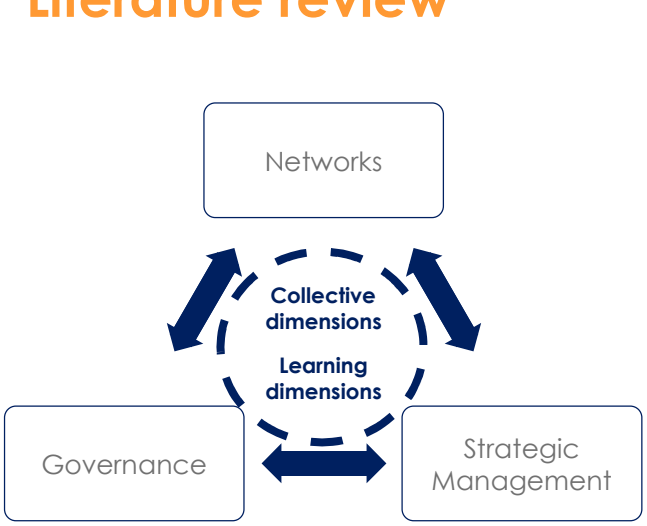
Rural

Local networking activities

Local and sustainable food systems

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Literature review



Common and Public purpose (food security)

Interorganizational network learning

Public authorities, Civil society, Private actors, Academic world

Collaborative strategic management

Through networking and learning as a group

"Develop, implement and evaluate

"Public and private inter-organizational and multi-stakeholder collectives "

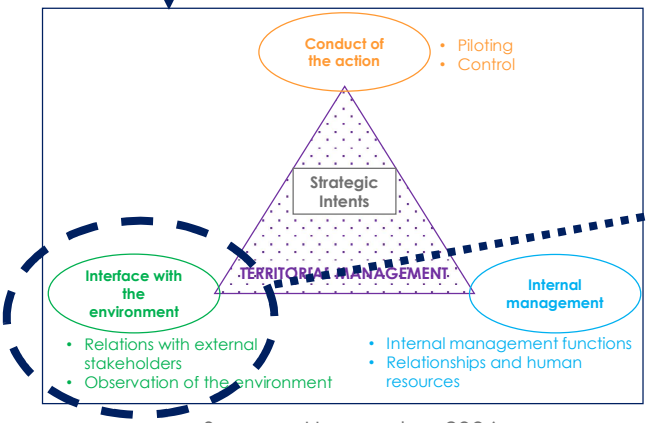
Provan, et al., 2007; Knight, 2002, Martinet, 2008; Favoreu, et al., 2016; Stoker, 2006; Ansell et Gash, 2008

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Literature review

Territorial management practices

Public managers



Common and Public purpose (food security)

Collective (and public) strategies

Interorganizational network learning

Public authorities, Civil society, Private actors, Academic world

Collaborative strategic management

Develop, implement and evaluate

Through networking and learning as a group

Public and private inter-organizational and multi-stakeholder collectives

Source : Hernandez, 2006

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Research questions

How does transnational networking could meet the expectations of North-Mediterranean territorial stakeholders in the field of sustainable food and agriculture ?

What are the expected territorial external management practices within the network?

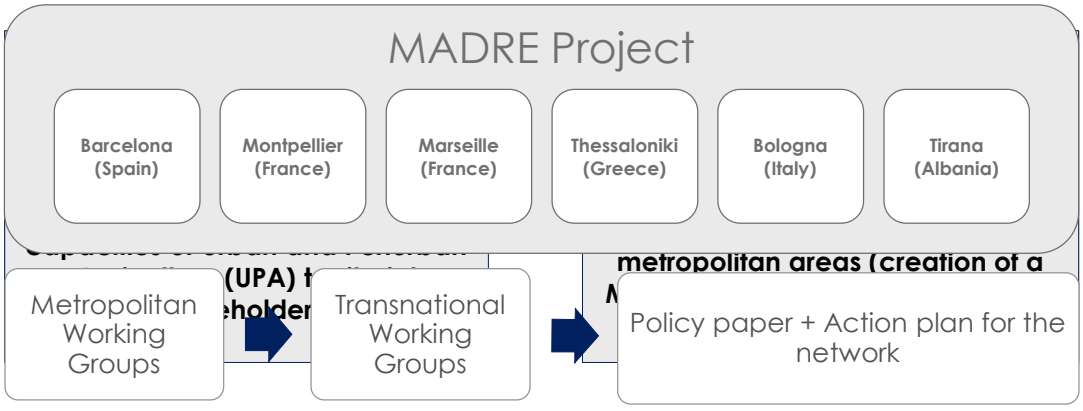
What is the expected public & collective transnational networked strategy ?

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Methodology

- INTERREG MED (Feb. 2017- Sept. 2018) – **AVITEM (Marseille)**
- MADRE Project (*Metropolitan Agriculture for Developing an innovative, sustainable and Responsible Economy*)



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Methodology

Provan, et al., 2007; Knight, 2002

The « whole network » or « network centred-view »

→

Shared cognitive structure

→

Expected future fonctionning (outcomes, strategy and tools)

"The structure formed by beliefs, values, opinions concerning a particular object and their interdependencies" (Codol 1989, cited by Allard-Poesi, et al., 2003: 449).

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Methodology

Participant & non participant observations

Online questionnaire (english, french & spanish)

Secondary data

The official reports of the metropolitan working groups (MWG) that took place in the different metropolises with local stakeholders;
The official report of the six transnational working groups (TWG) bringing together actors from each metropolis.
The Powerpoint presentations of the project leaders during the TWGs.
The transnational action plan for the creation of the network.
The detailed agendas of the meetings.

Primary data

Notes were taken during participant and non-participant observations (active participation in TWG, focus groups and technical field visits in the metropolises involved). It has been coupled with informal exchanges with participants and picture takings.

80 questionnaires completed (for about 120 territorial stakeholders targeted).

4 groups of actors:
Public authorities and related (**41%** of respondents)
Civil Society (**23%**)
Academic research (**20%**)
Private sector (**16%**)

15 open-ended questions (out of 45)

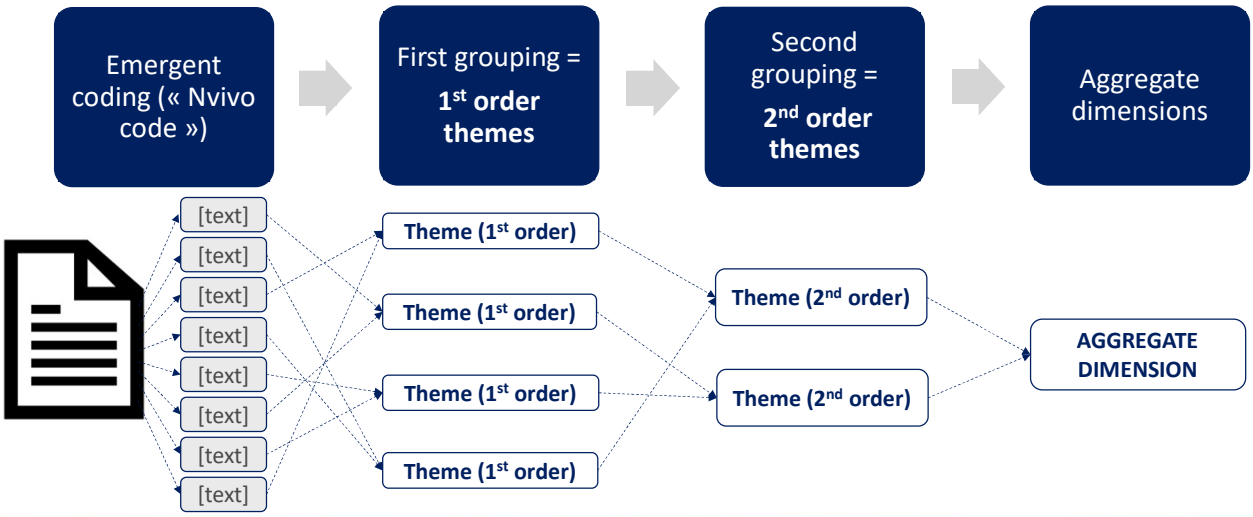
Statistical analysis

Emergent coding process

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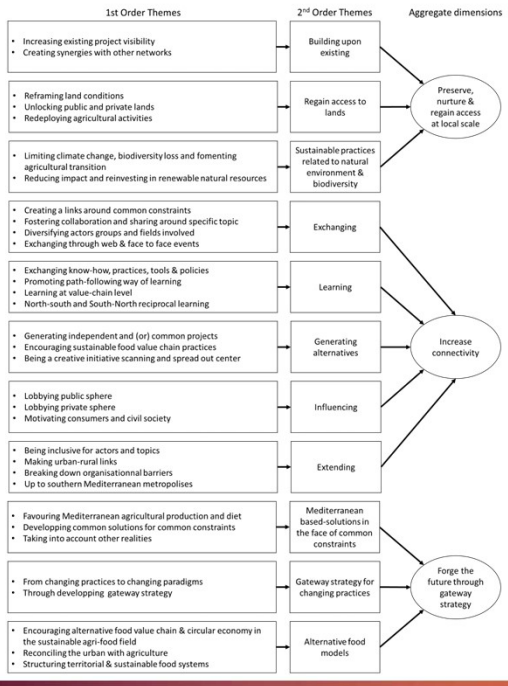
Methodology

Emergent coding process (Gioia, et al., 2013)



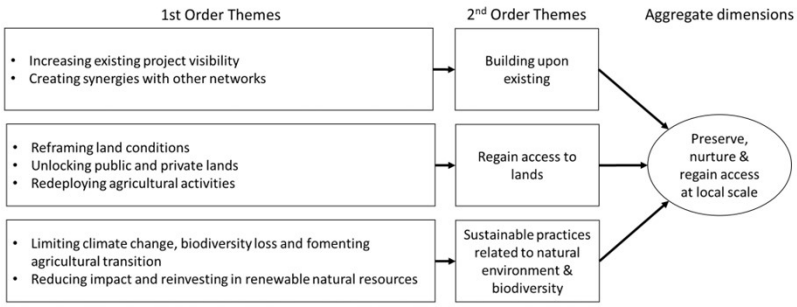
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Methodology



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Methodology



Theme	"Representative Quotations"
PRESERVE, NURTURE & REGAIN ACCESS AT LOCAL SCALE	
Building upon existing	
Increasing existing project visibility	« Peut-être justement faire en sorte que tous les projets existants soient connus et travailler en lien avec ces projets existants. » « Visibilité d'une plus grande diversité des projets dans des contextes institutionnels différents », "Getting to know other experiences from countries of the region"
Creating synergies with other networks	"Creo que hay una sobreacumulación de redes y plataformas y que se debe trabajar para establecer sinergias." "Rechercher le lien avec les autres acteurs et réseaux tels que Switchmed, Urgenci Med, etc. » « Networks that combat poverty »

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Main results

Preserve, nurture & regain access at local scale

- Building upon existing
- Regain access to lands
- Sustainable practices related to natural environment & biodiversity

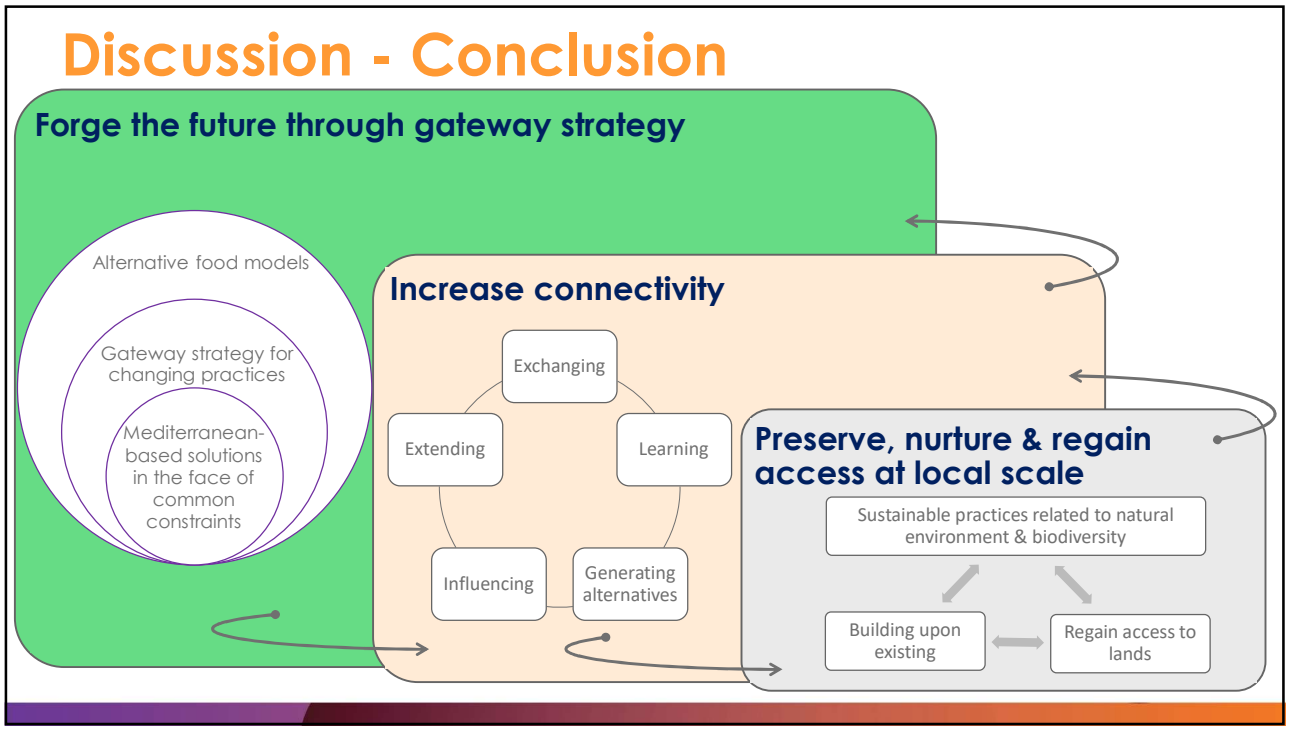
Increase connectivity

- Exchanging
- Learning
- Generating alternatives
- Influencing
- Extending

Forge the future through gateway strategy

- Mediterranean based-solutions in the face of common constraints
- Gateway strategy for changing practices
- Alternative food models such as Local & sustainable food systems

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MADRE
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