

**MASTER** European Innovations for a Sustainable Management of Albanian  
Territories, Rural Areas and Agriculture: Instruments, policies, strategies

## Module description V.2

### D3.3.

# Module 2 Territory innovation and actions

September 2019

**Developed by:**

- **Aldona Minga, University Fan S. Noli, Korçë, Albania**
- **Marc Dedeire, Université Paul Valéry, Montpellier, France**

The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

## 1. *Description of the module - objectives, and procedures*

### 1.1 OBJECTIVES OF THE MODULE

The module will be focused on the innovation process in the rural areas aiming to identify the actors that may support and disseminate the innovative projects on the rural areas, and instruments of smart specialization of the rural areas. The information should offer examples and instruments on how to put in place the innovative projects and to replicate them.

The module also aims to find the assessment and management of the methods and role of local actors in the development of territorial innovation.

### 1.2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this module students should be able to:

- Acquire the meaning of innovation;
- Get acquainted with the creative processes and methods of problem solving: observation, definition, representation, evaluation and decision making;
- Enhance creative skills and thinking about territorial innovation;
- Practice and unite the values of communication and diversity;
- Understand risk taking in the process of the change in the rural territory;
- Connect the transformation of territories and local social innovation.

### 1.3 DESCRIPTION OF THE MODULE

In this module the students will find information on the following issues (a short explanation for each topic that is going to be discussed):

#### **Part I: Introduction and concept**

##### **Topic 1 – Innovation**

1. Definition of innovations
2. Taxonomy of innovations
3. The scale of innovation
4. The innovation structures

##### **Topic 2 – Territorial innovation and the dynamic of innovation**

###### **Introduction**

1. Territory dynamics: findings and analysis tools
2. The actors of the territorial dynamics of innovation

##### **Topic 3 - Innovation and governance of rural territories**

1. Models of regional and territorial development
2. Policies of development by innovation
3. What form of governance to help innovation emerge in rural and periurban areas?

#### **Part II: Characteristic of the territorial innovation.**

##### **Topic 4 – Innovations and Ressources**

###### **INTRUDUCTION**

*Quality, resources and territories through the prism of qualification*

*Quality, resource and territory: à triptych to be used?*

*Quality and space: a dimension to focus on territory planning*

- a) *The three challenges of quality territories*
- b) *Territory and resources: transcending the quality of the territory*
- c) *Quality and comparative advantages of the territories*

*Territory and food relations : a stake in the quality, resource and territory triptych*

*From the spatial utility to the territorial utility of agriculture*

*Territorial concerns or renewal of the "territorial utility" of agriculture*

**Topic 5 – Innovation and quality.**

1. 1. *The role of actors in resource mobilization*
2. *Territorial resources and qualifications*
3. *Resources and qualification*
  - a) *The notion of resources in its confrontation over the long term*
  - b) *Can we speak of a territorial qualification trajectory ?*
4. *The logic of spatial diffusion by means of mobility and the alteration of quality from the case of food products: effects of the subjective dimension of the space of territorial qualification.*
5. *The local strategies of qualification : towards a qualitative improvement of space.*

**Topic 6 – Innovation and skills**

1. The place of specific skills, between human capital and territorial social capital
2. The territorial perspective for an approach to managing jobs and skills
3. Social capital in a territorial logic of management of jobs and skills
4. The territorial specificities of human capital through the local dynamics of employment.

**Part III: The problematic of the sustainable development**

**Topic 7 – Innovation for sustainable rural development.**

1. *Introduction*
2. *Background on innovation for development*
3. *Institutional mechanisms and public policy instruments for innovation in family farming*

**Topic 8– Challenges to strengthening agricultural innovation systems**

1. *Introduction*
2. *Agricultural innovation second time around*
3. *Creating space for diversity and sharing innovation experiences*

**Part IV: Social innovation and territorial development**

**Topic 9 – The social innovation and territorial development**

1. *Social Innovation in Contemporary Social Science*
2. *Social Innovation and Territorial Development*
3. *The Social Relations of Territorial Community Development*

**Part V: Case study**

**Topic 10 – Methodology of case study. Diagnostic methodology for the territory project: an approach using spatial models**

1. The diagnosis of territory, an approach to be built
2. A methodological proposal for a territory diagnosis
3. Principles of the territory diagnostic process
4. A methodological itinerary based on spatial models

**Topic 11– (Case study) how we can implant it this case in Albania.**

**Topic 12 - (Case study) how we can implant it this case in Albania.**

#### 1.4. PREREQUISITES:

The prerequisites that are required to follow the module are:

- ❖ Basic knowledge on rural development, policy analysis and EU and Albania institutions that are relevant to sustainable rural development and the territory innovation, also they have to know about the macroeconomics issues.

#### 1.5. STUDENTS OBLIGATIONS AND THE EVALUATION METHOD:

The student will be evaluated for the work he/she has provided during the whole semester and from a final exam as it is explained on the table below:

Nr.	(the evaluation grid is only indicative; the pair of lecturers will decide of the final module evaluation grid)	Evaluation in %	Maximal amount
1	Participation on teaching hours	%	5
2	Midterm exams	%	15
3	Individual research work	%	10
4	Final exam (written)	%	70

## 1.6. REQUESTS TO THE STUDENT

### A. Instrumental skills

### B. Systemic skills

## 1.7. EVALUATION OF LEARNING (calculation of ECTS)

Nb.	Learning elements	Work (hours)
I	<i>Learning elements (in the institution)</i>	
	Theoretical class	30
	Practical class	20
	Individual or team assignments	22
	Midterm exams	3
	<b>Total I</b>	<b>75</b>
II	<i>Individual work from the student</i>	
1	Individual work	70
2	Preparation for the exams	5
	<b>Total II</b>	<b>75</b>
	<b>Total (I+II)</b>	<b>150/250</b>
	<b>Numbers of ECTS</b>	<b>6/10</b>

## 2. Calendar plan of the module

Week/date	Theoretical/ practical class	Teaching materials/ literature
I	Innovation	Knierim, A., Koutsouris, A., Mathé, S., Ndah, T.H., Temple, L., Triomphe, B. and E. Wielinga (2015): Support to innovation processes: a theoretical point of departure. WP 1, deliverable 1.2 report of the AgriSPIN project
II	Territorial innovation and the dynamic of innovation	Camagni R., Maillat D., 2006. Milieux Innovateurs. Théorie et politiques. Anthropos , Economica, Paris.
III	Innovation and governance of rural territories	Michel Godet et Bruno Jarry, Technologies et territoires d'innovation. Synthèse des résultats du séminaire annuel de l'Académie , des 11 et 12 octobre 2017
IV	Innovations and Resources	Torre A., Wallet F., 2013, Innovation and governance of rural territories, in Coudel E., Devautour H., Soulard C.T., Faure G., Hubert B. (eds), Renewing Innovation Systems in Agriculture and Food: How to go towards more sustainability? Wageningen Academic Publishers, 240 p.
V	Innovations and Resources	<p>BERTRAND N., MOQUAY P. (2004) La gouvernance locale, un retour à la proximité, Economie Rurale, 280, 77-95</p> <p>BOUBA-OLGA O., GROSSETTI M. (2008) Socio-économie de la proximité, Revue d'Economie Régionale et Urbaine, 3, 311-328.</p> <p>BOURDEAU-LEPAGE L., HURIOT J.M. (2009) Proximités et interactions : une reformulation, Géographie, Economie, Société, 3/11, 233-249.</p> <p>CHAMBOREDON J.C., LEMAIRE M. (1970) Proximité spatiale et distance sociale, les grands ensembles et leur peuplement, Revue Française de Sociologie, XI, 3-33.</p> <p>DEDEIRE M., GIRAUDEL J.L. (2008) La distance cognitive avec le territoire d'origine du produit alimentaire : une mesure par les réseaux de neurones (Kohonen), Revue d'Economie Rurale, n° 301, 36-54.</p> <p>LEFEBVRE R. (2005) La proximité à distance, typologie des interactions élus-citoyens in La proximité en politique, usages, rhétoriques et pratiques (sous la</p>



		dir.) Le Bart C., Lefebvre R. Presse Universitaire de Rennes, 103-128. RALLET A., TORRE A. (2004) Proximité et localisation, Economie Rurale, 280, 25-41. TALBOT D. (2008) Les institutions créatrices de proximités, Revue d'Economie régionale et Urbaine, 3, 289-310.
VI	Innovation and quality	Dedeire. M; Aménagement rural et qualification territorial.
VII	Innovation and quality	
VIII	Innovation and skills	
IX	Innovation for sustainable rural development.	Innovation for sustainable rural development (FAO)- <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/i7769e/i7769e.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/i7769e/i7769e.pdf</a>
X	Challenges to strengthening agricultural innovation	Hall, A, Challenges to strengthening agricultural innovation systems: where do we go from here? United Nations University – Maastricht Economic and social Research and training centre on Innovation and Technology Keizer Karelplein 19, 6211 TC Maastricht, The Netherlands
XI	The social innovation and territorial development	Moulaert, F. Social innovation: institutionally embedded, territorially (re) produced. <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/publication/44960912">https://www.researchgate.net/publication/44960912</a>
XII	Methodology of case study. Diagnostic methodology for the territory project: an approach using spatial models	Example of territory approach
XIII	Methodology of case study. Diagnostic methodology for the territory project: an approach using spatial models	Example of territory approach
XIV	(Case study) how we can implant it this case in Albania.	Example of territory approach
XV	(Case study) how we can implant it this case in Albania.	Example of territory approach

*Associated teaching material is developed in separate .doc files for every module and a synthesis of all topics of module 2 is presented in the syllabus booklet (syllabus\_booklet.pdf)*

### 3. Content of the module

In the first part, the students will be introduced to the concept of innovation and innovation territory. Theories and types of innovation dimensions and changes that have occurred in the territory will then be presented. In the second part of the module, students will learn and discuss the role and importance of territorial innovation. The third part of this module is related to social innovation and its impact on territorial development.

#### **Topic one: Innovation**

Introduction of basic concepts for innovations. Theories that relate to the new principles and criteria for innovation, change innovation, how has the innovation evolved over time? *The dynamic of the innovation. Instead we have to be aware of the fact that particular innovative activities can both be cause and result, consequence and prerequisite.*

*Literature: Knierim, A., Koutsouris, A., Mathé, S., Ndah, T.H., Temple, L., Triomphe, B. and E. Wielinga (2015): Support to innovation processes: a theoretical point of departure. WP 1, deliverable 1.2 report of the AgriSPIN project*

#### **Topic two: Territorial innovation and Dynamics of Innovations**

*Presentation of concepts related to the territorial innovation main theories, as is the history and territorial development. (Territory as a geographic)*

*Introducing innovation dynamics. Creating ideas around these dynamics and how these impacts directly on the development of a territory. Based on numerous examples, this topic aims to introduce new forms of innovation of all kinds that contribute to two dimensions of territorial development: competitiveness and attractiveness.*

**Literature: Camagni R., Maillat D., 2006.** *Milieux Innovateurs. Théorie et politiques.* Anthropos , Economica, Paris.

**Literature: Michel Godet et Bruno Jarry,** *Technologies et territoires d'innovation. Synthèse des résultats du séminaire annuel de l'Académie , des 11 et 12 octobre 2017*

#### **Topic three: Innovation and governance of rural territories**

*Students will get acquainted with the innovation and the role of cooperation among the stakeholders. Practices and procedures of local actors as well as public policies that focus on rural and territorial development of the country. Rural development in a number of differentiated practices, such as landscape management, nature conservation, agritourism, organic agriculture, specific farming of products, short supply chains, etc. Multi-level in the diversity of policies and institutions designed to address the issues of rural development, as*

*well as the evolution of the agriculture-society relationship, taking into account the production of public goods, the construction of a new agricultural production model incorporating interactions between agriculture and other activities and the combining of activities at the enterprise scale in rural areas.*

**Literature:** Torre A., Wallet F., 2013, *Innovation and governance of rural territories*, in Coudel E., Devautour H., Soulard C.T., Faure G., Hubert B. (eds), *Renewing Innovation Systems in Agriculture and Food: How to go towards more sustainability?* Wageningen Academic Publishers, 240 p.

#### **Topic four: Innovations and resources**

*This analysis included a review of the territorial diagnosis established in terms of the strengths and weaknesses of the local economy; a description of the priorities defined by local actors. Emphasis has been placed on identifying the types of resources that actors plan to mobilize and the way in which they intend to value them (valorization methods) through projects. We have tried to characterize the trajectories of territorial resources by applying them a conceptual grid inspired by the economy of proximity.*

**Literature:** Dedeire. M; *Aménagement rural et qualification territoriale*

**Literature:** *Livrable n°7 Interpréter les stratégies à travers les projets*

#### **Topic five: Innovation and quality**

*This topic highlights the concepts, terms and meanings associated with a novelty from a structural perspective. It focuses on structures, forms and qualities, and so the factors are stable over a certain time or for a given environment.*

**Literature:** Dedeire. M; *Aménagement rural et qualification territoriale*

#### **Topic six: Innovation and skills**

On the territory, the economic dimension is expressed through the human capital specified by space and skills. Thus, each territory becomes a socio-spatial formation with more or less autonomous functioning in terms of employment dynamics with a generic and specific human capital. When we take a closer look at the specific character of human capital, skills become a central element of this topic. Thus, we will be able to identify three skill levels, strategic capabilities with specific potential, individual abilities, and collective abilities. Specific territorial capabilities are defined as a combination of territorialized capacities that are expressed at the individual and collective levels in evolutionary processes generating added value for the whole organization.

**Literature:** Dedeire. M; *Aménagement rural et qualification territoriale*

#### **Topic seven: Innovation for sustainable rural development**

*In this topic students will be presented with the concept of sustainable rural development and the importance of innovation for the development of the territory. Students will become familiar with the objectives of sustainable development in the territory.*

**Literature:** <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7769e.pdf>

#### **Topic eight: Challenges to strengthening agricultural innovation systems**

*Its focus is the challenge of strengthening agricultural innovation systems. While agricultural innovation has never been better studied and understood, many of our ideas about innovation have failed to fundamentally change the institutional and policy setting of public and private investment intended to promote innovation for development. In this topic is focused in the located and the current interest in innovation systems in the evolving and contested approaches to agricultural development, noting that this is characterized by a long history of false dichotomies. The contingencies of the emerging agricultural scenario will demand the more networked modes of collective intelligence and innovation that are embodied in the innovation systems concept.*

**Literature:** Hall, A, **Challenges to strengthening agricultural innovation systems: where do we go from here?** United Nations University – Maastricht Economic and social Research and training centre on Innovation and Technology Keizer Karelplein 19, 6211 TC Maastricht, The Netherlands

#### **Topic nine: The social innovation and territorial development**

*In this topic we will show the definition of social innovation. Understanding social innovation and defining the types of social innovation in rural areas. We' are presented case studies in different countries, the impact that social innovation has on territorial development. Social innovation' is a concept significant in scientific research, business administration, public debate and ethical controversy. The term is not new, especially in the sciatic world. But it has returned to prominence in the last 15 years, after a period of neglect. It is used in ideological and theoretical debates about the nature and role of innovation in contemporary society, either to confront mainstream concepts of technological and organizational innovation, or as a conceptual extension of the innovative character of socio-economic development. That is, the concept enlarges the economic and technological reading of the role of innovation in development to encompass a more comprehensive societal transformation of human relations and practices.*

**Literature:** Moulaert, F. *Social innovation: institutionally embedded, territorially (re) produced.* <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/44960912>

#### **Topic ten: Methodology of case study. Diagnostic methodology for the territory project: an approach using spatial models**

**Topic eleven: Case study** *how we can implant it this case in Albania.*

*Topic twelve: Case study how we can implant it this case in Albania.*

#### *4. Planning of the practical teaching classes*

The main scope of the practical classes is to learn directly from the most current areas of practice regarding innovation and territorial development in all geographical levels and administrative tiers.

#### *5. Individual research project (if applied)*

In the first week of module development, students will be notified to think about a project related to this module. After that, students are asked to come up with ideas and choose their project for the next steps. This action must be done using different techniques and criteria.

During the weeks of learning development, students will work to clarify the idea, design and write the plan in detail using various tools and techniques, thus providing the statement of the field, the elaboration of the project activities, the preparation of the work plan / schedule.

All prepared projects will be presented in class which are individual works of each student that will be evaluated by the professor at the end of the module.