

SESSION DESCRIPTION

ID: S1b

Motivating contract design for the provision of ecosystem services and biodiversity in agriculture

Hosts:

	Title	Name	Organisation	E-mail
Host:		Matzdorf	Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF)	matzdorf@zalf.de
Co-host(s):		Mette Termansen	University of Copenhagen (UCPH)	mt@ifro.ku.dk
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Abstract:

For decades, large-scale attempts have been made to make agricultural production more environmentally friendly by means of incentives including, crucially, financial instruments. However, not least in Europe, it has not been possible to bring about a real change towards a conscious provision of biodiversity and ecosystem services through financial incentives alone. The causes are often path dependencies in the design of complex state instruments such as agri-environmental programmes, and a lack of political will to effectively and consistently implement new approaches. It is therefore crucial that science and practice work together to develop new models that illustrate how innovative incentive instruments can be designed. This work should also vitally include elements of 'bottom-up' or 'co-designed' knowledge, as we plan to discuss in another session. Further efforts are needed to explore more innovative approaches to improving existing programmes. We are particularly interested in how agri-environmental contracts can be integrated into the value chain, and also how different approaches can be combined to develop more fair, flexible and attractive instruments for delivering environmental public goods through agriculture. In this session, we will present empirical research results including the perspective of practitioners that contribute to the development and implementation of these innovative contract models to produce more biodiversity and ecosystem services in the agricultural landscape. We bring together results from two EU H2020 research projects, Contracts2.0 and Effect, on innovative contract design and welcome insights, experiences and research results from other projects.

Goals and objectives of the session:

Exchange on novel contract design between researchers from different disciplines, including the perspective of practitioners, to synthesise key lessons learned regarding the development and feasibility of innovative contract models.

Planned output / Deliverables:

Correspondence or perspective paper

Session format:

Standard session (presentations)

Voluntary contributions accepted:

Yes, I allow any abstract to be submitted to my session for review

Related to ESP Working Group/National Network:

[Sectoral Working Groups: SWG 1 – ES in Agricultural production systems](#)