

Diversification in scenarios of future agricultural systems: Pathways, requirements and impacts

Convenors:

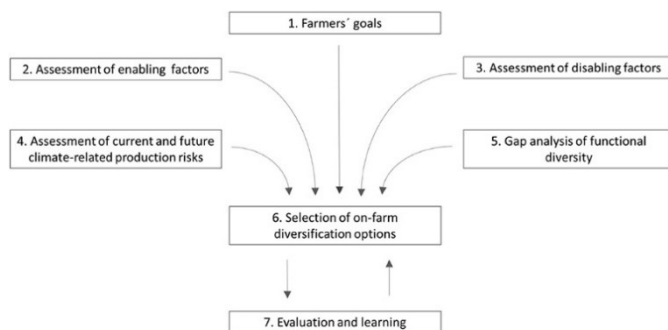
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Examples of causal loops (left, Mouratiadou et al. 2020) and decision making frameworks (right, van Zooneveld et al. 2020) to analyse the role and pathways of diversification in the future.

The diversification of agricultural activities, landscapes and value chains involves complex processes inducing uncertainties with respect to the pathways towards it and its impacts (Ridier & Labarthe 2018). Scenario analysis, used as a foresight tool to explore the complexity and uncertainty associated with future developments (Giaoutzi et al. 2012), can be a valuable approach to understand future conditions, opportunities, requirements and risks for diversification and its impacts.

Based on state-of-the-art scenario design research, this master class will explore the scope for diversification and its role in shaping sustainable and resilient agricultural systems across multiple scales under different future framework conditions. Succeeding the conference session on multi-scale scenario design for European agriculture, where five scenario studies will be presented, here we will explore how scenario assumptions, logics and scales relate to diversification in the five examples of scenario sets (Eur-Agri-SSPs (Mitter et al. 2020), legume cultivation, soil management, digitalisation, pesticide use).

We will examine what agricultural and food systems diversification means and reflect on the rationales behind the scenarios that lead to diversification. By exploring diversification in different scenario frameworks, the master class will increase understanding of the conditions, technologies, policies, scales, and value chains shaping the opportunities and risks for diversification and its impacts.

Landscape 2021 – Masterclass 11

Cross scale systems



Session format:

- Introduction on diversification and its forms
- Analysis of framework conditions and impacts of diversification within the Eur-Agri-SSPs
- Group exercise to identify the conditions, role and formats of diversification in the other four scenario sets
- Plenary discussion on the role of scenarios in exploring diversification pathways and next steps for further assessments.

Suited to participants from across world regions interested in diversification and/or scenario design (no prior knowledge expected).

Maximum number of participants: 40