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# Analysis of the dynamics and exchange networks of farmers' collectives sponsored by the French Call for AgroEcological Projects

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**Governance models promoting this integration with citizens and local areas as well with the downstream and consumers**



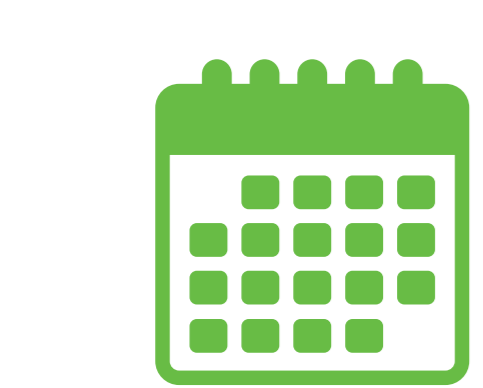
**AGRI** summit 2019  
**Innovation**



### Other Multiactor Project

**Analysis of the dynamics and exchange networks of farmers' collectives sponsored by the French Call for AgroEcological Projects**

Analyse des dynamiques et réseaux d'échanges des collectifs d'agriculteurs de l'appel à projet Mobilisations pour l'AgroEcologie



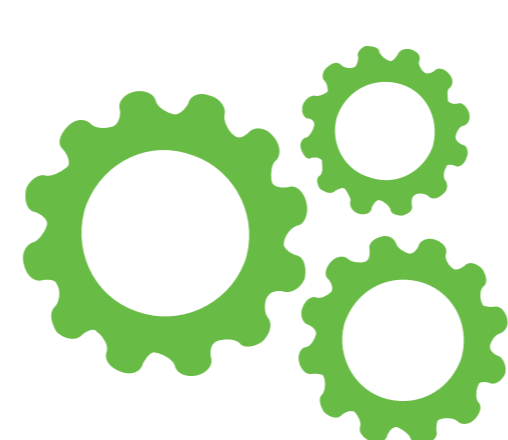
#### Calendar

Start: 01/01/2015  
End: 01/01/2017



#### Budget

Total amount:  
€45,000



#### Practical problem

To identify the new possibilities of empowering the agro-ecological transition through a Sociological Observatory of changes



#### Partners

Researchers of INRA under the supervision of Marc Barbier and Claire Lamine; Collectives of farmers; Intermediary Structures; Ministry of Agriculture

### Objectives of the project

This project, known as ObsTAE (French acronym), combines several field studies and participatory research activities with the objective of co-producing a self-evaluation capacity of changes and innovation that have been triggered by a public policy instrument designed to promote agroecological practices (French Call "Collective Mobilization for AgroEcology" – CMAE). It ambitions to contribute to the design of a Sociological Observatory of Agroecological transitions in France.

### Main activities

1. A characterization of agroecological projects and their constitutive partnerships, according to their location and objective, to provide actors and stakeholders with a global interpretation of the landscape of agro-ecological innovation in France; 2. A set of sociological studies conducted by 12 social scientists researchers sharing a common methodology applied to the analysis of innovation dynamics carried out by 15 farmer's groups chosen for their originality; 3. A transdisciplinary seminar involving the leaders of the collectives of the projects studied, the researchers, intermediaries and public officers.

### Expected results

The ObsTAE project reveals the effects of a special policy instruments based on a call for innovative projects carried by organized groups of farmers involved in the agroecological turn. It takes into account the multi-functionality of agriculture and has a redistributive dimension by direct supports to innovative processes. The sociological observations of change analyses the social and organizational features of this agroecological policy and shows the relevance of a participatory and in itinerary description of grass root innovations. It claims for the necessity to better account for current changes and to value the social dynamics of interactive innovation.

### Results so far/first lessons

Projects funded by the Call "Collective Mobilization for AgroEcology" have been the bearers of collective experiences based on bottom-up approaches favoring interactive innovation. A characterization of the landscape of submitted projects was performed with textual analysis methods. Results shows a geographical differentiation of region towards bottom-up agricultural development initiatives and it deciphers the emergent themes of agroecology: soil biology, farm autonomy, biodiversity and pesticide, experiential learning in groups, short circuits. Crossing this analysis with social field research on groups shows the relevance of establishing an Observatory of AgroEcological Transitions.

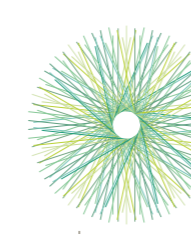
### Who will benefit

Farmers' groups; Intermediaries; Ministry of Agriculture; Researchers

Supported by:



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