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# Designing a tool for the sustainability evaluation of intra-urban agriculture using a participatory approach

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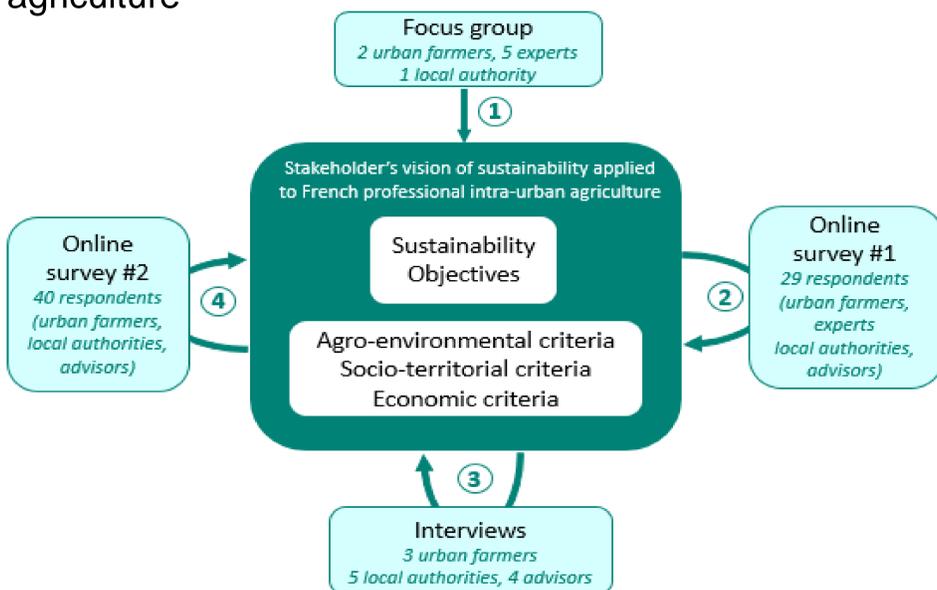
## Introduction

Urban agriculture is presented as one of the solutions to ensure sustainable urban development, based on the multidimensional benefits it provides. However, the evaluation of urban farms cannot be carried out by using existing sustainability assessment tools designed for rural farm. Intra-urban agriculture requires a specific tool to assess its sustainability, taking into account the specificities of the urban context, such as pollution management or land scarcity. The design of such a tool needs involving stakeholders and especially future users in order to ensure that their diverse visions of sustainability and their needs are included.



## Methods

Participatory process to elaborate sustainability objectives and criteria for professional intra-urban agriculture



Diagnosis of the uses of criteria to select and create intra-urban farms by decision makers.

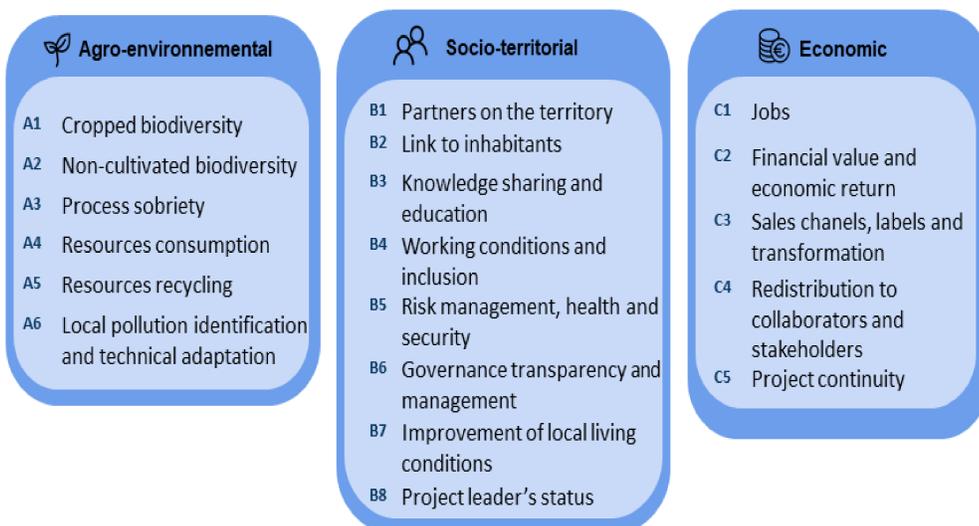
**Which criteria or indicators do they use in current working situation ?**

Around 25 semi-directive interviews planned over French territory

- Public institutions (city councils, metropolitan councils, public financing institutions)
- Social housing stakeholders
- Consulting firms
- Architects
- Urban farmers
- Urban planning agencies
- Wholesale and mass retail stakeholders
- Regulatory institutions

## Results and perspectives

Need for an evaluation tool intended for decision makers providing land, investments or technical expertise to urban farms



Interviews in progress (20 realized)

Preliminary results:

- No indicators and no tool currently used
- Environmental criteria mentioned but not considered as key criteria for decision
- Social and/or economic criteria always considered as key criteria for decision
- Innovation criteria often mentioned as decisive
- Stakeholders often request the support of UA experts for decision process

=> Participatory conception of a tool to assess sustainability of intra-urban farms will take place in 2020-2021, involving stakeholders of the French UA sector

## Literature

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