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MULTIFUNCTIONALITY : SEA FISHING, SHELLFISH CULTURE ACTIVITIES AND DURABILITY

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ABSTRACT

In the context of the restriction of production, French agriculture modifies its activities by developing multifunctionality. This concept translates the fact that, beyond the saleable production of agricultural and food processing products, the agricultural activity fulfils other functions: economic, social, environmental. Multifunctionality of agriculture is implemented in a number of ways and at various levels (regional, national, European). Measures to support it take two forms. It can be support for projects, collective services which cannot be remunerated by the market and which require a financial contribution. Other measures, *ad hoc* and limited in time, subsidise projects which will generate viable activities and which will then be financed by the market.
Sea fishing and shellfish culture activities have an important role in the spatial planning on the coast. The development of these activities allows the stabilisation of employment and the preservation of an economic and social fabric throughout the year. These activities also exert an undeniable attraction for tourism.
In the context where striking a balance between safeguarding the resource, rationalisation of economic activity and maintenance of social objectives is more and more difficult, the assertion of a multifunctionality of sea fishing and shellfish culture would also have, as for agriculture, to allow the continued existence of a significant number of enterprises because of the generated complementary incomes and financing of non commercial services ensured within this framework. As in agriculture, specific measures would make it possible to generate new activities in order to make them economically viable in the medium term in particular improvement of methods of fishing, diversification of the activities and enhancement of sea food products.

Keywords: multifunctionality, fisheries, sustainability

INTRODUCTION

During very many years agriculture had the quasi-exclusive role to provide a function of production of commercial food goods. In fact of the fall of the agricultural incomes making increasingly random the profitability of the exploitations, in particular for smallest, to stop the decline of the number of exploitation and since the awakening of the problems arising from the sustainable development, the concept of multifuntionality of agriculture emerged. It is currently taken into account in Europe by the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and in France, by the agricultural law of orientation of 1999. The implementation of this multifuntionality of agriculture must make it possible to maintain in activity of the farms, dedicated a priori to disappearance, in their getting incomes complementary and recognizing to agriculture a significant role in the production of non-commercial services.
Even if the problems with which the fishermen are confronted are often different nature, it is convenient to wonder whether there is a multifuntionality of maritime fishings and cultures marine. In the affirmative, it is then interesting to wonder about the means which can be implemented to support this multifuntionality.

MULTIFUNTIONALITY OF AGRICULTURE

On the level of agriculture, there is not yet a definition of the multifuntionality which achieves the unanimity. Without entering in a more precise way the deepening of this concept, two great approaches are distinguished. In the first approach, the multifuntionality is defined by particular characteristics of the production process:

- The existence of multiple, basic and different products, which are jointly produced by agriculture.
- The fact, that other different products present characteristics of externalities or goods of public interest, the result being that the markets for these goods do not exist or function badly (Vermersch, 2001).

The second approach consists in considering agriculture by taking of account the whole of the roles, the multiple functions and the objectives which the company assigns to him (Laurent, 1999).
The multifuntionality of agriculture and the role of the farmers are recognized in the agricultural policy on the levels national (Law of agricultural orientation n° 99-574 of July 9, 1999) and Community Europeans (Agenda 2000). The explicit will to take account of the multifuntionality resulted in the granting of an increasing fraction of the public transfers to the respect of objectives uncoupled from the production.
Today replaced by the Sustainable Contract of Agriculture (CAD), the Territorial Contract of Exploitation (CTE) appears in France like the first tool of the implementation of the multifuntionality. The objectives of the CTE were triple :

- to produce agricultural of quality and diversified goods meeting the needs for the company ;
- to preserve and manage the natural resources, the landscapes and the biodiversity by promoting respectful exploitations of the medium and to maintain an activity on the whole of the territory (Urbano and Vollet, 2005).

Moreover, the CTE aimed at passing from a system of fixed-rate aids and automatic to a policy of contractual engagement between the farmers and the State, in order to implement an agriculture at the orientations laid down by schedules of conditions national and departmental.

Table I: Contract Territorial of Exploitation: Stakes and Objective

Parts economic and relating to employment		**Territorial part and environmental**	
Employment	To maintain and create jobs To facilitate the installations be young people To contribute to the transmission of the firms	***Water***	To preserve and improve quality of water To improve the stock management out of water
Work	To adapt competences and the qualifications To improve the conditions and organization of work	***Ground***	To fight against erosion To preserve the fertility
Quality of the product	To improve qualities of the product To increase the medical safety of the foodstuffs	***Air***	To preserve and improve quality of the air
Animal wellbeing	To improve the animal wellbeing	***Bio-diversity***	To preserve the natural species and the biotopes To preserve and increase the biodiversity of the domestic species
Economy autonomy	To reinforce the economic organizations of the producers To diversify the agricultural and non-agricultural activities To increase the value added by reducing the production costs and by developing the natural resources	***Landscape and cultural inheritance***	To preserve, emphasize the built inheritance To preserve, emphasize and to improve qualities of the landscapes
		Natural risks	To fight against erosion, the floods, the fires and the avalanches
		Energy	To reduce consumption of energy To develop the use of the resources of renewable energy

From Le Bihan and Perraudeau (2002)

Various measurements can be constant to direct the farms towards a sustainable and multipurpose agriculture:

- the measures agro-environmental (MAE), intended to remunerate the farmers for over costs or losses of earnings related to the installation of more respectful practices of the environment ;
- measurements aiming at the diversification of the activities (in particular agri-tourism) ;
- measurements for the installation of signs of quality ;
- measurements aiming at the conservation and the protection of the rural inheritance ;
- measurements aiming at the balance of the territory like the Compensatory allowances of Natural Handicaps (ICHN): allowances paid with the farmers of the under privileged areas and mountain in netting of the geographical or environmental constraints.

These measurements take two forms. It can be a question of support for shares, collective services which cannot be remunerated by the market and which require a financial counterpart : MAE, ICHN... These assistances can be perennial and are justified for practices which have a positive impact on the environment, the territory, the local economy... Other measurements are assistances, specific and limited in time, subsidizing shares which will generate viable activities and which will then be financed by the market :

- restoration of ships to make of it rural lodgings ;
- passage to signs of quality, change of system of production (biological agriculture)...

They are to encourage the innovation and the taking risk during starting creative new activities of added value and/or revenue, in particular those which are related to the particular characteristics of the territories (Le Goffe, and Mahé, 2001).

MULTIFUNTIONALITY OF MARITIME FISHINGS AND THE MARINE CULTURES

Beyond the questions which relate to agriculture directly, the problems of the multifuntionality question all the other sectors. Triple economic, social and environmental vocation that it supposes is not specific to agriculture. The difficulties which encounter the maritime fisheries sector, and of the marine cultures thus result in registering the future of this sector from a logic of sustainable development and the point of view of multifuntionality. Maritime fishings and the marine cultures are invited to transform their practices gradually, to support respectful technologies of the environment, to reinforce the quality and the reliability of the products and the services, to seek generating activities of employment...

Maritime fishings and the marine cultures play a particular role in the littoral areas. Their contributions are many and varied; they can in particular include :

- At the economic level : production of the food goods (produced sea), maritime creation of job, the development of blue tourism, the creation of value added by the production of product of quality (red label, certification of conformity...).
- At the environmental level : the maintenance of the territory and the landscaping, environmental protection (waste management and processing of production, practise respectful fishing of the environment...).
- On the social standing : food safety (guaranteed quality of the products - quality assurance, traceability - and maintenance of a productive potential), safeguard of a cultural inheritance, the maintenance of an economic and social fabric littoral...

An example in marine cultures : the conchylaceous CTE

Today, the shellfish farming is confronted with a number of difficulties to which it must answer in order to guarantee its development : problem of quality of water, saturation of the mining areas, impossibility of increasing the cultivable sectors, problem of renewal of the personnel, question of the quality of the products...(Bihan and Perraudeau, 2002). Occupying the estran, the shellfish farming is an essential activity for the management of the coastal landscapes, the safeguarding of the remarkable sites and the littoral inheritance. The way in which the owner leads his activity (the landscape integration of its farm buildings, the management and treatment of its waste of production) interferes with the concerns of other users of the coastal band which constitutes a very coveted territory.

The Territorial Contract of Exploitation (CTE) was a tool adapted to promote the improvement of the economic, environmental and social performances of the conchylaceous activity (MAPAR, 2001). Before its suspension in 2002, several initiatives were launched to put in place of the conchylaceous CTE such as for example at Marennes Oléron, in Handle, Ria of Etel or Country of the Loire. The purpose of the first measurements retained in the conchylaceous CTE are to even improve to consolidate the economic situation of the exploitations through signs of qualities and a communication reinforced towards the consumers. They also aim at facilitating the accession with the firms of the young people and thus to ensure the renewal of the profession. In same time, the environmental factors are integrated through measurements aiming at limiting the biomass in the producing mining areas, the adjustment of the surfaces used by the shell-fish breeders (Bihan and Perraudeau, 2002). Since the suspension of the CTE, even if some projects of CAD succeeded, there is a real difficulty to adapt the CAD to the conchylaceous activities.

Which steps to support to implement the multifuntionality in maritime fishings?

In a context of an increasing pressure in favour of the reduction in the effort of fishing and of a reduction in the establishment in the sector, several means can be implemented in order to help to ensure the perenniality of the fishing's activity. It can be a question of encouraging the firms to decrease the effort of fishing and to return towards a level of sustainable exploitation, to find incomes complementary. One can consider three ways:

- Improvement of the methods of fishing :

As in agriculture, the will to take into account the environmental concerns in the management of fishings is increasingly strong. It is a question well of finding a solution of balance between exploitation (parameters social and economic) and capacity of the medium (environmental parameter). The European police chief Franz Fischler, in a speech of March 12 2004, explains that: " These a few twenty last years we tried to make fishing a more respectful activity of the environment through a whole range of measurements generally known as techniques " (Fischler, 2004). Among these measurements, the use of techniques of more selective fishings and more respectful of the environment is very constant. The fishermen are thus incited to use new techniques of fishings which must tend to reduce the additional and accidental captures (fish or other species), the fish rejections (generally the youthful ones) and the losses after capture by the use of means and more selective machines.

- The diversification of the activities of the firms of fishing in particular worms of the tourist activities :

The fishing ports have an undeniable gravitational negotiable instrument on tourism : the tourists appreciate to walk on the port, to attend on arrival and the unloading of the fishing vessels... This gravitational negotiable instrument is primarily considered by the professional fishermen a means of developing the outlets for their traditional activity : direct sales with the tourists but also at the restaurants...(Alban, 1998). The diversification of the fishermen towards tourist activities is still not very widespread. However, the development of this type of activity makes it possible to benefit from the emergence of a new form of tourism which is interested in discovered medium, inheritance and products of the soil, cultural and teaching tourism coming to reinforce the idea to maintain activities traditional.

- The product beneficiation of the sea :

A step of valorisation aims to obtain a better price for the market products and thus to release from better returned throughout the chain of value. It also aims to better adjusting supply with, to even cause new requests.
Valorisation can be intrinsic or extrinsic. An intrinsic valorisation aims at proposing quality or a qualitative specificity of the product itself : it is the case of the signs of quality. An extrinsic valorisation aims at putting forward a quality or a characteristic attached to the product, without involving effects on the product itself : the ecolabelling for example. The eco-labelling consists in differentiating a product while putting forward the criteria from environmental protection by announcing that specific measures were taken by the producer, to preserve the resource, to avoid or limit adverse effects on the ecosystem and the environment (Boude, Charles et Gouin, 2002).

CONCLUSION

In a context, which makes increasingly difficult balance between safeguarding of the resource, the rationalization of the economic activity and the maintenance of social objectives, the assertion of a multifuntionality of maritime fishings and cultures marine would also have, as for agriculture, to allow the maintenance in activity of a significant number of firms because of the generated complementary incomes and non-commercial financing of the services ensured within this framework. With the image of agriculture, specific measurements would make it possible to generate new activities in order to make them economically viable in the medium term in particular the improvement of the methods of fishing, the diversification of the firms and the product beneficiation of the sea
In order to implement the multifuntionality, the steps suggested could not, alone, systematically inflect the strategy of exploitation of the producer towards a good stock management. However, they can influence the behaviour of the economic actors appreciably, especially if they are not imposed outside and if they result from a suitable social construction by the actors concerned. In the field of the halieutic exploitation, these steps can seem economic opportunities for fisheries and a tool of accompaniment for a bearable exploitation of certain fisheries and for a sustainable management of the resource (Boude, Charles, Gouin., 2002). Please insert the text of the body of your paper here, replacing this text. The text should be full justified, Times New Roman font, no smaller than 10 points (this text is 11 points). Please do not use any other fonts, including Asian fonts! Please be sure the words “Times New Roman” are visible in the font window. The words “**BODY OF PAPER**” above is an example of a main heading style. The style of the phrase “**Subheading**” is an example of the subheading style.

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