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RESEARCH IN RURAL SOCIOLOGY AND DEVELOPMENT,
VOLUME 25

**INNOVATION FOR
SUSTAINABILITY: SMALL
FARMERS FACING NEW
CHALLENGES IN THE
EVOLVING FOOD SYSTEMS**

EDITED BY

GIANLUCA BRUNORI

University of Pisa, Italy

STEFANO GRANDO

University of Pisa, Italy



United Kingdom – North America – Japan
India – Malaysia – China

Emerald Publishing Limited
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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AHM	Agricultural Household Model
AKIS	Agriculture Knowledge and Innovation Systems
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
CFS	Community food security
CSP	Conditions-Strategies-Performances
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FNS	Food and Nutrition Security
GMO	Genetically Modified Organism
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
HLPE	High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition
IA	Institutional Arrangements
ICT	Information and Communications Technologies
IMF	International Monetary Fund
MEA	Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
MLP	Multilevel Perspective
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
RD	Rural Development
RR	Reference Region
SCP	Structure-Conduct-Performance
SES	Socioecological Systems
STS	Sociotechnical Systems
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
VSD	Vulnerability Scoping Diagram

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FOREWORD

The volume provides an in-depth exploration of the determinants, dynamics and outcomes of rural and agricultural change processes, with a special focus on the role of family farming.

Covering both the system and the farm level of analysis, the book offers a comprehensive view of approaches and models capable to grasp different complementary aspects of the development trajectories followed by farms, food systems and territories facing multidimensional drivers of change and exposed to a range of vulnerability factors. The emerging characters and roles of innovation networks and social learning, as well as the decision-making processes at the farm level are explored in particular depth, with attention to the multidimensional societal expectation from agriculture, family farms and rural areas, with specific attention to food and nutrition security concerns.

The contributions have been first elaborated as conceptual frameworks of some recent EU-level research projects, with the participation of a wide range of contributors with diverse scientific, professional and geographical background. This gives the volume the capability to interpret the plurality of agricultural change and innovation processes taking place in different spatial contexts, with specific attention to the role small farmers can play in these processes.

The original documents have been adapted for this publication in a volume, while retaining their specificity. This background makes each contribution readable as a document in itself as well as in continuation with one another. It also involves a limited degree of overlapping, as some concepts or categories are addressed in more than one chapter. Far from creating redundancy, we believe this gives the reader the opportunity to confront with an issue or a conceptual category through different lenses and from different perspectives, deepening their understanding. The references made from one chapter to another aim at the same objective.

More specifically, the large part of Chapter 1 comes from the framework developed for the project SALSA¹; [Chapters 2, 3 and 4 \(with the related Appendix\)](#)

¹SALSA – Small farms, small food businesses, and sustainable food security. Funded under Horizon 2020, grant agreement n. 677363. <http://www.salsa.uevora.pt/en/>.

are the result of the unpacking of the framework of TRANSMANGO², with some elements taken from SALSA project outcomes in Chapter 2; Chapter 5 is an exception, as it reproduces with some adaptation a paper already published by the authors³; Chapter 6 comes from the framework of SUFISA⁴ whereas Chapter 7 (and most of Chapter 8) relies on the work carried out for the framework of INSIGHT.⁵

²TRANSMANGO – Assessment of the impact of drivers of change on Europe’s food and nutrition security. Funded under the seventh FP, grant agreement n. 613532. <http://www.transmango.eu/>.

³Brunori, G., Galli, F., & Grando, S. (2016). Sustainable agri-food systems: A reflection on assemblages and diversity. *Systèmes alimentaires/Food Systems*, 1, 21–39. Classiques Garnier, Paris, 2016.

⁴SUFISA – SUstainable FINance for Sustainable Agriculture and fisheries. Funded under Horizon 2020, grant agreement 635577. <https://www.sufisa.eu/>.

⁵INSIGHT – Strengthening Innovation Processes for Growth and Development. Funded under the sixth FP, contract n. 44510. <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/84139/factsheet/en>.

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