



European Forum on
Nature Conservation
and Pastoralism

Introductory remarks

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A network on High Nature Value farming Learning, Innovation & Knowledge

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Innovation in High Nature Value farming systems

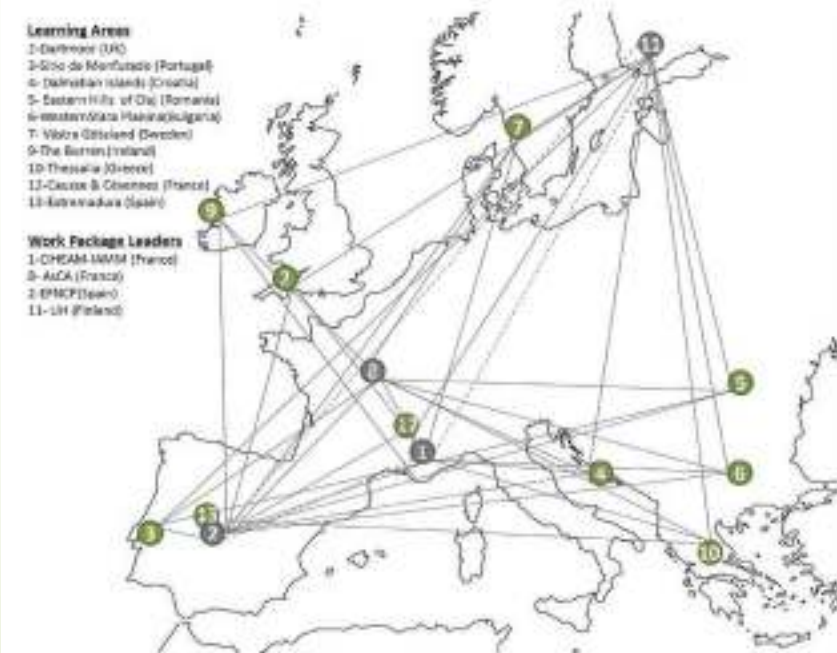
- Systems based predominantly on semi-natural forage areas
- Systems associated with low gross margins, low returns to labour
- (Where change was possible, has happened, and resulted in loss of HNV farmland)
- Systems largely marginalised by education, research and industry
- Systems where innovation is often linked to responding to crisis
- But systems which are allegedly delivering a lot of what society wants from the farmed countryside

Genesis of the project

- EIP group on HNV farming
- Challenge in a nutshell – **how to be more economically viable and socially sustainable while still staying HNV**
- H2020 call based on the findings of the group
- Innovation network – finding and sharing best practice

HNV-Link

- ▶ 13 partners
- ▶ Revolves around real places - the Learning Areas
- ▶ Looked at Technical, Product, Policy, Social innovation
- ▶ Why Dartmoor?
 - ▶ Common land focus
 - ▶ Proven track record
 - ▶ Lots of problems
 - ▶ Opportunities to benefit
 - ▶ Dependable local colleagues



Thank you!!

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- Funders
- Partners
- Help from local partners
- Farmers
 - Farmers in Ireland and Sweden (and Wales!!)
 - Dartmoor farmers
 - John Waldon



Fundamental challenges remain

- How to detach HNV farming from socio-economic marginality
- How to create a holistic framework of mutually-coherent policies with a realistic time dimension
- How to bring HNV farming (and other agro-ecological approaches) into the mainstream of lifelong learning
- How to nurture local initiative while not depending solely on the work of individuals locally to deliver national policy
- How to detach HNV farming innovation from crisis