SOLINSA
Support of Learning and Innovation Networks for Sustainable Agriculture

Agricultural Knowledge Systems In Transition:
Towards a more effective and efficient support of Learning and Innovation Networks for Sustainable Agriculture

solinsa.net

FACTSHEET 04
APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY IN SOLINSA

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HOW TO SUPPORT LINSA?

- LINSA are often great at what they do but often lack the skills to systematically reflect. They can be supported by being shown how: helping them to help themselves.
- Methods are most effective if they are those that both researcher and participant are comfortable with, so the best way to start is to work together to find where the needs are and how best to address them.

HOW TO LEARN MORE?

A great summary of the project and the ideas behind the methodology is in the video on www.solinsa.net.

A methodology manual will be published at the end of 2013.

01. GENERAL APPROACH USED TO WORK/COLLABORATE WITH LINSA IN THE SOLINSA

The general approach is based around alternating workshops or interactions with LINSA in the field and capacity building workshops for project partners.

The principle behind the interactions is participatory action research: We work with LINSA rather than study them.

The research agenda is dynamic! The work with the LINSA focuses on what is important for them, and changes according to their needs.

We look for common issues from 17 case studies so we can identify common challenges that LINSA face.

Diagram 01 below shows the project structure with the alternating project workshops and LINSA interactions.

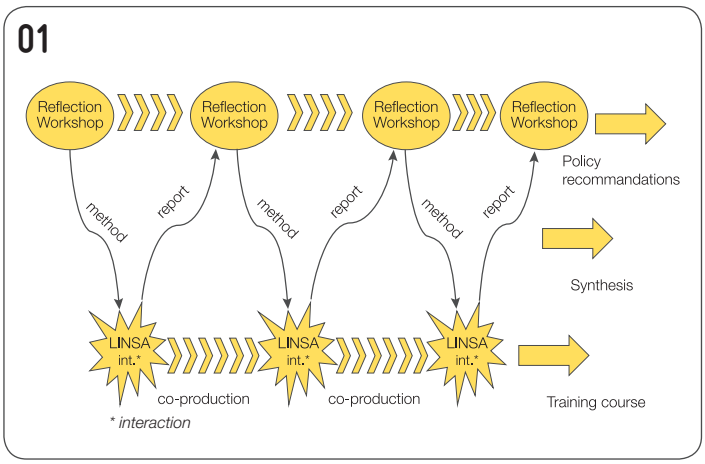
02. EXAMPLES OF METHODOLOGY AND METHODS

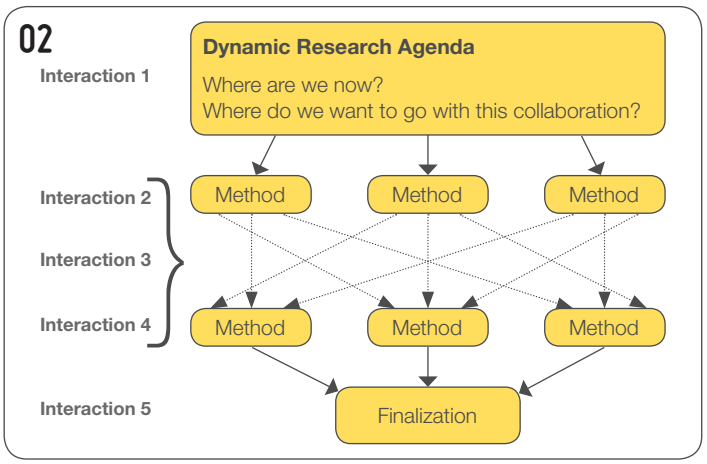
Collaborations started with negotiating a shared direction, including methods, with the LINSA.

LINSA members could participate in interactions they were comfortable with.

A wide variety of methods were used in the workshops, depending on context, including 'open space', 'world café' 'systems analysis', 'participatory video' and web based interactions.

Diagram 02 below shows how the LINSA interactions had the same starting point, but used different methods, before coming to a common final point.





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SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

Funded by the European Union