



Guidelines on Innovation Transfer and Dissemination a Template to develop a Learning Area “Action Plan” for brokerage activities on High Nature Value Innovation Projects

WP4 – Deliverable 4.7

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Learning Area THESSALY "Action Plan"

for brokerage activities on High Nature Value Innovation Projects



From October 2017 to December 2018





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1. Starting point

This first section will be the reference point for each narrative of “HVN innovation process” at LA level. The aim is to briefly summarize the following three points:

- *The HNV Vision: challenges & actors analysis (cf. for instance the discussions and results highlighted during session 1 of NM#2)*
- *The Innovation situation @ LA level: scoring (cf. for instance the discussions and results highlighted during session 2 of NM#2)*
- *The LA strategy: Innovation needs to be addressed as priorities (cf. for instance the discussions and results highlighted at the beginning of session 3)*

This will be done using materials and conclusions from the Shaping Phase (Atlas, Compendium, Innovation Fair Workshops, etc.).

However, throughout the course of the Using Phase, some priorities can be re-assessed; the Vision can be improved and included new elements. Do not hesitate to keep a written record of all the events and information that contributed to the consolidation of the HNV Vision.

1.1 HNV Vision of LA-THESSALY

Date	Your text – notes – pictures/tables, etc.
(31/01/2018)	<p>Slogan</p> <p><i>The sustainable reconquest of the region: building our horizontal governance to better manage and promote the HNVf heritage</i></p> <p>Short Description of the Vision</p> <p>The current trends, as described in the BaU scenario, suggest that the same polarised pattern is the most probable outcome. Intensification in the accessible and productive areas and abandonment in the less accessible, marginal areas. Both possible outcomes on the detriment of the HNV areas e.g. for the rough grazing areas near the towns overgrazing by larger herds in fewer hands while for the mountainous areas expansion of scrub and the forest resulting thus to a homogenisation of the landscape. <i>All the above render unattractive both the HNV agricultural activity and the area as an activity basin. A policy focused on the support of the HNVf is required.</i></p> <p><i>The vision of re-conquering the area is feasible because all the necessary conditions are there (the installation of new farmers lately creates the requirements for the productive exploitation of the region's important resources, consumers are looking for products and services that incorporate environment and quality). What is more this vision can rely on the exploitation of a multi-partnership among the LA's local actors by planning an integrated intervention that will effectively handle in time and in space the pressures and impacts on the biodiversity landscapes of the LA and the prevention of pausing or intensifying the holdings and it will support the multifunctional role of the LA's HNVf systems, the scale of every community and biodiversity landscape.</i></p>



Visual

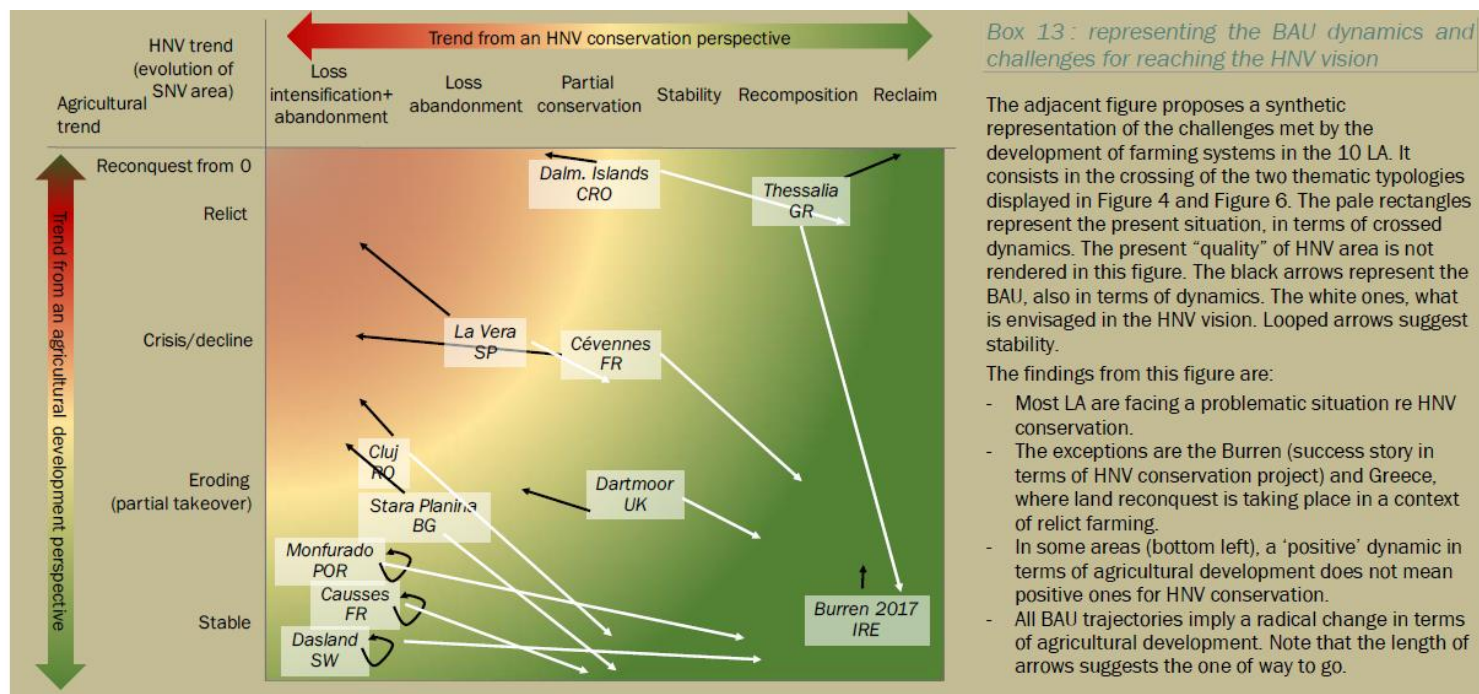


Figure 1 : BAU dynamics and challenges for reaching HNV Vision, HNV-Link Atlas , p. 70

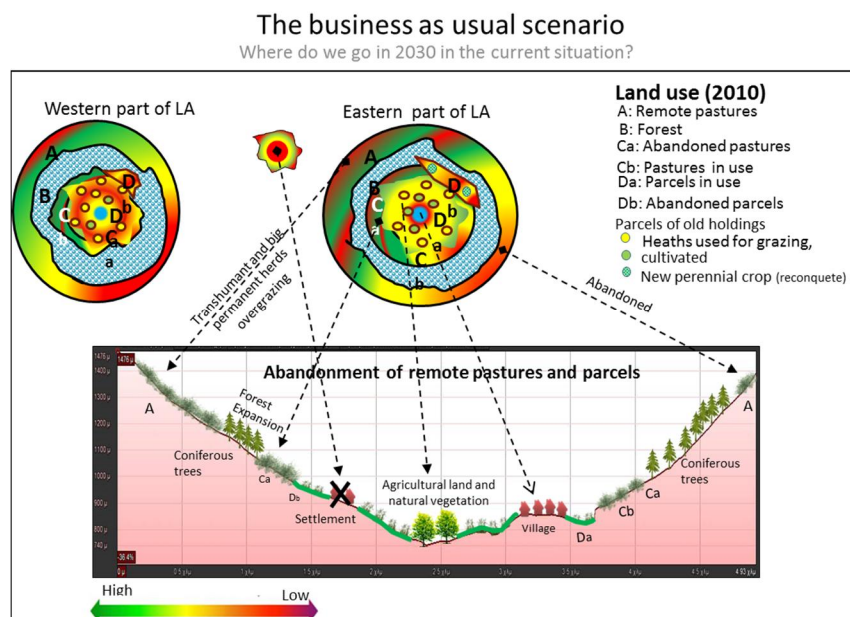


Figure 2 : example taken from The TEN BASELINE ASSESSMENTS, p. 240

The expected abandonment of livestock breeding and agricultural land by the large number of mainly small holdings with aged leaders (45%) irrespectively of the renewal degree, resulting in the elimination of small herds, will cause changes in the organization of the grazing system in the zone around the settlement. Parallel, the growth tendency of the permanent and transhumant herds will be strengthened. The choice of less remote pastures based on clearly spatial criteria (distance, infrastructures etc.) would continue. Small trend of land concentration and intensification of practices, resulting in the loss of fertile soil. New perennial crops extension in the old remote farmland zone

Biodiversity-rich landscapes: how will they function in 2030?

LA's integrated reconquest management plan:

Pastures: *herds' optimal distribution to all pastures*

Agricultural land : *integration of new perennial and arable crops into HNVf*

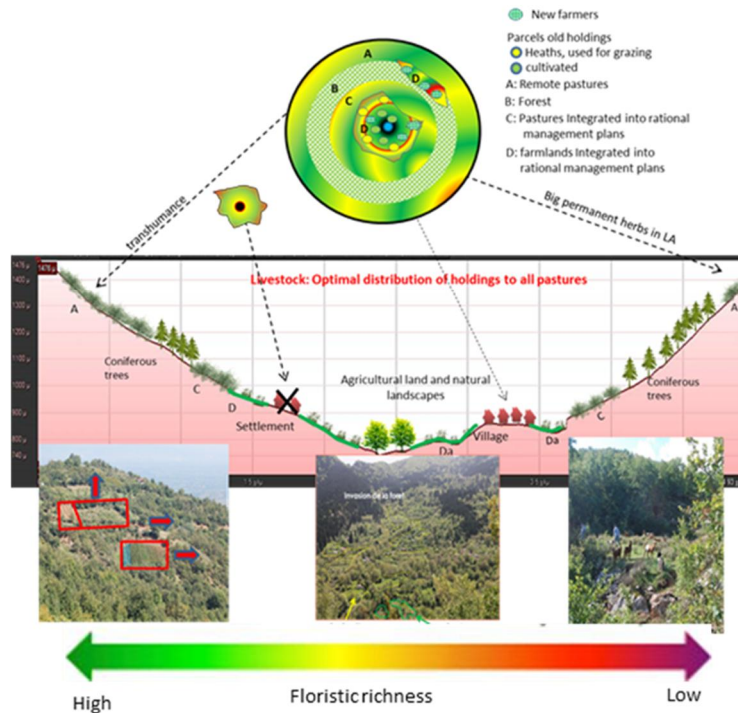


Figure 3 : example taken from THE TEN BASELINE ASSESSMENTS, p. 242

Actors' typology

The area is influenced by different actors that have different interests and expectations.

Old producers: Knowledgeable of inherited collective management systems of territory

New producers: preservation of HNVf systems contributes to productivity, increase of the products' value, recognition of their holding's multifunctionality and their quality of life.

Local entrepreneurs/New comers (not in agriculture): development of activities that support the territory's multifunctionality



	<p><u>Diaspora's communities/cultural associations</u>: management of the HNV farmland concerns community's future and the protection of their own interests (fire prevention, settlement management, quality of life in the village etc.).</p> <p><u>Municipalities</u>: preservation of HNVf systems responds to the management and utilisation of its natural resources and territorial cohesion.</p> <p><u>Regional authorities</u>: management of natural resources</p> <p><u>University /Research institutions</u>: transfer of innovation and knowledge on management issues on of the relationship between the agricultural system and the HNV agricultural surface</p> <p><u>Local Development agencies</u>: operational planning and utilization of European programmes for the development of the territory's multifunctionality and the support of local governance</p> <p><u>Management authority of National Park of Tzoumerka</u> : protected area management body protect the vulnerable habitats</p> <p><u>Environmental NGOs (GreenArc, CEE of Mouzaki)</u>: education and awareness of the producer on the one hand and of the consumer on the other hand on the role of the HNVf and their association with the promotion of local specific resources</p> <p><u>Territorial cluster "Terra Thessalia"</u>: support of the promotion of specific livestock products</p> <p>LA's integration in a management plan for the relationship between the HNVf system and farmland is an innovative endeavor that will allow their active participation in the adjustment of the rural policies and the elaboration of suitable support plans on HNV holdings and rural development.</p> <p>Using the proposed framework one can suggest the following classification of actors</p> <table><tr><th></th><th><u>Internal</u></th><th><u>External</u></th></tr><tr><td>Private</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Farmers/Producers : Knowledgeable of inherited collective management systems of territory,- New entrants in agriculture: Innovative- Local entrepreneurs- New comers (not in agriculture): Innovative- Young people: Specific issues, access to land, resources etc.</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Absentee land owners- Investors in large farming, energy, recreation projects,</td></tr></table>		<u>Internal</u>	<u>External</u>	Private	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Farmers/Producers : Knowledgeable of inherited collective management systems of territory,- New entrants in agriculture: Innovative- Local entrepreneurs- New comers (not in agriculture): Innovative- Young people: Specific issues, access to land, resources etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Absentee land owners- Investors in large farming, energy, recreation projects,
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	<p>Collective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diaspora's communities/cultural associations: not only because they care about their home village but also because they have vested interests - Municipal authorities Mayors of PINDOS Network - Territorial cluster "Terra Thessalia" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Universities /Research institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Laboratory of Rural Space, University of Thessaly, o Agricultural University of Athenes o Panteio University - Regional authorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Agricultural authorities o Rural Development authorities o Management authority of the regional Community Support framework o Forestry authorities o Environmental authorities - Local Development agencies (Local Action Groups of Karditsa and Trikala) - Management authority of National Park of Tzoumerka - Environmental NGOs (GreenArc, CEE of Mouzaki)
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Figure 4 : Actors involved to implement the HNV vision



1.2 The Innovation Situation in LA-THESSALY

Date	Your text – notes – pictures/table
(31/12/18)	<p>Innovation scoring <i>According the four themes – cf. Session 2 of NM#2</i></p> <p>1. Creating new forms of organization 2. Launching initiatives for the territorial management NEEDS: Creation of only few and scattered new forms of organization because : (a) the legislative framework is recent, (b) time and a support structure (education-awareness, monitoring) is needed in order to incorporate strong informal partnerships</p> <p>framework of Natura 2000, New institutional framework of new forms of organization, non-activation of the RDP measures on preserving and improving biodiversity, areas of the Natura 2000 network, landscapes etc. Proposals for the amendment of regulations (eg. raw milk) are made by local bodies (eg Terra Thessalia) as part of pilot projects-applications, GI regulatory framework NEEDS: a/ bottom-up mobilization of local actors (public, social & private) b/ local pilot surveys in order to define the specifications needed for their implementation</p> <p>(a) GI products (PDO, PGI, FAT, local quality standards), (b) development of short chains aiming at the members of diaspora and consumer co-operatives as loyal product markets (alternative markets), (c) search for quality markets similar to that made by Terra Thessalia, utilizing new forms of cooperation, new tools, local Leaders etc. NEEDS: Enabling relevant RDP funding measures will reinforce these initiatives. Support structures need to specialize more on issues around the promotion of HNVf values to consumers</p> <p>(a) the progress/diffusion of innovation is limited due to a deficit of research on the relationship between biodiversity and HNVf, (b) Traditional knowledge, practices and know-how dominate in HNVf and they have just begun their osmosis with new methods and technological tools in the fields of (b1) land use management; and (b2) practices and techniques that will support grazing management of pastoral herds NEEDS: The majority of holdings that have new leaders or successors have largely adopted new production techniques and, to a lesser extent, farm management techniques (financing through improvement plans (PDR) and cheese-making units)</p>



<p>Innovation priorities</p> <p><i>According the four themes – cf. Session 2 of NM#2</i></p> <p>The priorities for the network using phase of the HNVLink project will respond to the needs that can be solved during one year time period. The priority in the Innovation categories is: 1st priority is the category "Social and Institutional", 2nd priority is the category "Product and Market", 3rd priority is the category "Farming Techniques and Management" and 4th is the category "Regulations and Policy".</p> <p>Priority was given in order to resolve innovation deficits. It is estimated that these will be achieved through the actions-priorities mentioned below.</p> <p>highest priority: Social and Institutional , (importance's order : 1, 3, 4, 2)</p>	
<p>specific innovation gaps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Lack of experience in the operation of multi-holding cooperation and coordination forms (governance) that integrate HNVf 	<p>top priorities for the next phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilization of LA's multi-holding & institutional framework of decentralization and RDP, transfer of experience from other countries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Lack of a support structure for a long-term HNV "animation" project for the LA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organization of a Coordination Center (Development Agencies, University and Technical Institution Laboratories etc)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Organization of local groups for the management of land use and natural resources (HNVf, Natura 2000, rural tourism) in the scale of the community and the Municipality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local assembly of producers, entrepreneurs, the Diaspora (internal), representatives of the community Networking new farmers is a driving force for the support of LA's HNVf
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Reinforcement of producers and actors participation in planning and management procedures concerning land use, pastures and biodiversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of interactive spatial tools to support procedures of consultation, decision making, preparation and implementation of management plans

The innovations (organizational, technological and technical) presented by the Greek team were shaped during the implementation of the European strategic programme LACTIMED within the context of *the ENPI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme*. *The organization of Terra Thessalia as an official body took place after the end of the programme and its pilot actions continued.*



1.3 The LA-THESSALY strategy as HNV Learning Area: making choices

Within the time frame of HNV-Link project, there is a need to narrow the innovation needs and priorities raised up in the “innovation situation analysis”, in order to realistically target activities and means that can make the difference for HNV challenges. Making explicit such strategic choices is a pragmatic posture, which is building both on a strategic understanding of the situation and the wise use of windows opportunities, favorable circumstances, and sometimes unexpected events, etc. It is expected that this section may evolve during the course of the Using Phase.

Date	Your text – notes – comments - pictures/table
(31/12/2018)	<p>Overall Objectives</p> <p>In order to achieve the vision concerning the <i>sustainable reconquest of the region: building our horizontal governance to better manage and promote the HNVf heritage</i>, the aim is to promote in the society of consumers, producers and public actors the multifunctional role of the LA's HNVf systems (through interventions in the whole range of the local value chains) in order to increase the value of the LA's products and services</p> <p>Priorities</p> <p>The priorities that were set will be achieved by a) building a multi-partnership form of governance and b) organizing the new farmers and their collaboration with the small already organized entrepreneurs of agrotourism.</p> <p>We also have to make local farmers aware of the value of their system and make them knowledgeable of the significance of their practices and why they are valuable. In many cases they were implementing specific practices because of the conditions. When the conditions change it does not seem rational to keep the same practice. E.g. Terraces in grazing area.</p> <p>Specific Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) building a new and flexible form of governance that will contribute to the management of rural areas and living resources by gathering a set of actors with different objectives (Pindos, Support Center, Farmers' Network) b) implementation of a participatory guarantee system of the HNV character of the production systems and the holdings aiming at respecting the obligations and the promotion of their products in the market c) integration of the holdings in a cooperation and coordination territorial structure of the actions for promotion and placement of their products in markets that recognize and reward the agro-ecological services of those holdings.



Main Actions

- ◆ Meetings with PINDOS Network and the various Greek and foreign research laboratories and Centers in order to organize the cooperation and creation of an informal Support Coordination Center of the farming systems
 - PINDOS Network will cooperate with Greek Universities (University of Thessaly, the Agricultural University of Athens Panteion University etc.) and with universities from abroad as well (AgroParisTech, Université Blaise Pascal, CIHEAM, the Open University of Cyprus) for the creation of an informal Support Coordination Center of the farming systems
- ◆ Meetings with producers in order to inform them for
 - the possibilities and opportunities of setting up a producers network
 - § The aim is to inform, monitor and support existing (producers groups, cooperatives, etc.) or new forms of cooperation among farmers focusing on HNV holding
 - the possibilities of utilizing-using 3D and virtual reality tools as well as GPS
 - § for the support of local actors' active participation in planning and documenting their choices and decisions and their contribution in the preparation of specifications for the organization and operation of every holding within the limits of the village and the agro-ecological unity in which it belongs
 - the possibilities to develop a mixed innovative initiative (social-institutional, regulatory, technical and product-market) through the adaptation of the Territorial Participatory Guarantee System
- ◆ with a double aim: a) internally to control the implementation of the obligations that every holding has and b) externally to inform the consumers on the sustainable links between the HNV systems and the production area of local products

Actors

- ◆ the Mayors of PINDOS Network
- ◆ National Park of Tzoumerka
- ◆ Development Agencies of Karditsa and Trikala,
- ◆ Environmental bodies (GreenArc, CEE of Mouzaki),
- ◆ Public Services (Department of Rural Economy and Veterinary -DAOK Karditsas and Forestry Office of Trikala),
- ◆ Thessaly Agrotourism Association,
- ◆ Territorial cluster TERRA THESSALIA
- ◆ Livestock breeders and farmers from the area of Mouzaki and Pyli,
- ◆ Laboratory of Rural Space, University of Thessaly



	Risks			
	Risk	Probability	Assessment	Mitigation measures
	Reluctance of certain stakeholders/ actors to be engaged.	Small (UTH has a long history of involvement and co-operation locally)	If the reluctant actors constitute part of the civic involvement , the obstacle could be serious	Keep the continuous involvement of HNV partners and have a frequent communication on the project.
	Conflict between actors/ Personal conflicts	Medium	It could lead to reduced participation and engagement of some of the actors	Careful selection of the participative methods to be used. In case of strong conflicts focus groups of interests instead of workshops.
	Best Practices innovation (1)_Terra Thessalia, a territorial cluster for dairy products of pastoral livestock innovation (2) _ Participatory Guarantee System innovation (3) _ Public participation and consultation 3D-Mapping tools innovation (4) _ GPS-Tracking to monitoring and certification of extensive livestock-farming			
	Timeline Cross-Visits: Greek mission to Suede in May and to France in October. The Greek team received Bulgarian mission at June Regional Meetings: 09 December 2018			
	The short term through the implementation of this Action Plan does not allow the objectives set to be attained. However the actions that were developed the previous year contributed to the acceptance of two basic needs: (a) the creation of a network of new farmers who have recently settled in agriculture, aiming at informing them and promoting their activities (b) focused and coordinated action by the local actors in support of extensive farming and the promotion of its products. The actions that have been decided for the promotion of those two needs are presented in section 2.3. All stakeholders believe that time is required for the cooperation conditions to mature and to build trust between both the members of the team and the different teams.			



2. Innovation exchanges – Cross Visits

Peer learning exchanges between LA will be implemented through Cross-Visits. These cross-visits/operational study tours will involve key actor groups. They will discuss the innovations in their real agro-ecological and socio economic context, to better understand the possibilities of transfer. They will be organized according a common methodology.

This chapter of the “LA Action Plan” will take stock of the different innovation exchanges that have been organized during the Using Phase: objectives, implementation, results, through: A Visit Report (from the Visiting LA), A Host Report (if the LA is hosting some Cross Visit), Next step and follow-up activities: a follow up of the innovation transfer process.

2.1 Visit Report(s)

A more detailed Cross-Visit methodology will be issued in the first months of the Using Phase. It will specify and enrich those general guidelines. However, the following core questions should be addressed in the Visit Report(s):

- Date, Place, Innovation Cases visited and participant list
- Reasons of the choice of the cross-visit
- Expectations of the participants
- Expectations for the Learning Area
- Narrative: who, when, where, what?
- Lessons learnt: for the participants – and at the scale of the Learning Area
- To what extend those innovations / good practices contribute to the HNV Vision? What type of innovation needs or gaps are they answering to?
How do they contribute to solve the bottlenecks and challenges for HNV farming in your area (in line with the Business as Usual Scenario) (1) from the HNV conservation perspective (2) from a socio-economic perspective?
- If it was possible to do it again.... What would be the same? What would be different?



The Annex I.a contains the reports about the visits made by the Greek missions to Sweden in May and to France in October 2018

Sum-up of the cross-visit:

A Greek delegation travelled to Sweden in May for 3 days to learn about the Facilitation of Collaborative Land Use Management (FOLCUM) and the mobile abattoir. The participation of a farmer in the delegation gave to the team the opportunity to learn about other small technical innovations that can be easily transferred in the production process and the development of parallel actions.

A Greek delegation travelled to France in October for 3 days to learn about *Intercommunal Pastoral Agreement (Pacte Pastoral Intercommunal - PPI)*, *Land control and collective land management* and *Collective approaches by breeders*. The participants of the Greek delegation (representative of the National Park, the Local Government and a farmer) discovered that the development of cooperation is a result of: (a) active participation and (b) mutual trust achieved through long term cooperation. Moreover, it was found that showing to the public the work that takes place in extensive holdings and the difficulties that farmers and livestock breeders face are basic tools for the promotion of their work and the quality products they produce.

Cross-visits contributed to (a) learn about new innovative actions that can be easily transferred, (b) realize the need to mobilize and organize so that producers themselves can claim the recognition of their activity.



2.2 A Host Report(s)

A more detailed Cross-Visit methodology will be issued in the first months of the Using Phase. It will specify and enrich those general guidelines. However, the following core questions should be addressed in the Visit Report(s):

- Narrative: who, when, where, what?
- Lessons learnt: what did we learnt from the visitors and their questions? Did they raise some blind spots?
- If it was possible to do it again.... What would be the same? What would be different?

The Annex I.b contains the report about the visit made by the Bulgarian mission to Greece in June 2018

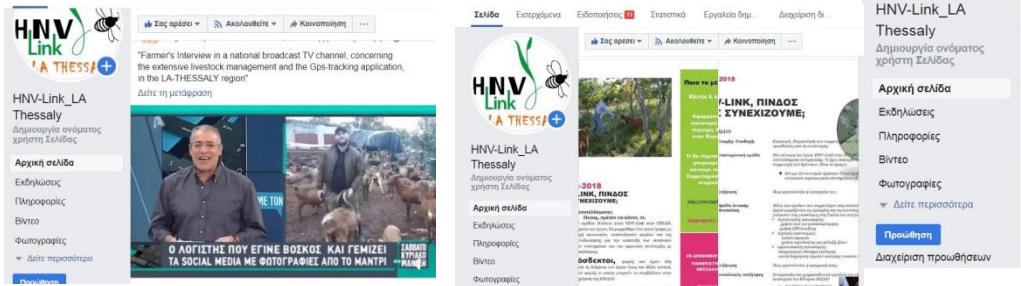
Bulgarian partners involved in the HNV-Link project came to visit the Ovest Thessaly (Pinde) territory between June, 13rd and 15th of 2018. We have organized visits and discussion with different actors as Municipality, representative of Rural Development Ministry (discuss about CAP and its implementation), farmers participated to pilot actions (improvement of pastures, seminars, ...) Environmental Center,



2.3 Next steps and follow-up activities?

In this section, the aim is to provide a follow up of the cross-visit and keep track of the Innovation transfer process: its achievements and its limits. Indeed, transferring HNV innovation which are context-based (as highlighted in the HNV-Link Compendium) into another context is a challenge in itself.




Please describe how you will follow and support the innovation transfer? What can be transfer? How? Who will be part of the transfer? What is the time frame (short agenda)? And what are the expected results?

Date	Your text – notes – pictures/table
2017-2018	<p>The team used the facebook page they created (HNV-Link_LA Thessaly) to promote its innovations and the actions that were developed through HNV-Link.</p> 
April 2018	<p>The team of the Laboratory of Rural Space of the University of Thessaly created for the needs of the project a video shown through the facebook page (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7TMZR2dsysQ&feature=youtu.be)</p>



20 January 2018	<p>The team of the Laboratory of Rural Space of the University of Thessaly presented innovations for the development of extensive livestock breeding at a meeting of the Regional Association of Thessaly municipalities in Elassona. The title of the meeting was "Livestock breeding and possibilities for the development of its products". In detail, the innovations: (a) TERRA Thessalia and (b) re-grassing of pastures: Results-cooperation between Research Institutes and the Local Government were presented by Mr D. Gousios and Mrs D. Gaki to sheep breeders and representatives of the Local Government.</p> <p>The meeting was attended by all the members of the Board of Directors of the Regional Association of Thessaly municipalities, breeders from the area of Elassona and representatives of breeders' associations from various areas of Thessaly.</p>
February – April 2018	<p>The Laboratory of Rural Space of the University of Thessaly coordinated the organization of a series of educational seminars that were carried out under the scientific responsibility of the Agricultural University of Athens, in Thessaly. The seminars were addressed to producers with mainly extensive holdings and focused on the following topics: Livestock breeding- Aromatic plants-Beekeeping. The main purpose was for the producers to develop technical and organizational skills</p>
1 March 2018	<p>Visit, of the team from the University of Thessaly with French experts in pastoral livestock holdings in Ellinopirgos, Karditsa and in Ellinokastro, Trikala.</p> <p>There was also a discussion on the problems that farmers with extensive holdings are dealing with as well as on the opportunities that arise.</p>







Date	Your text – notes – pictures/table
28 March 2018	Mrs Gaki participated, via Skype, in a working meeting within the context of the research programme "Sustainable Finance for Sustainable Agriculture and fisheries-SUFISA" that is funded through the Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme of the EU and is implemented by the Agricultural University of Athens..
April 2018	<p>Working meeting with farmers from LA Thessaly. The main objectives of the meeting were: (a) to present to the producers the innovations suggested by the partners of the project, (b) the organization of expeditions, for those who are interested, in the areas of other partners in order to study the respective innovations that have been developed (cross-visits). After a discussion the cases of the French and Swedish innovations were chosen as interesting, without at the same time excluding the other areas that have also showcased equally interesting innovations such as the management of grazing lands, the organization of producers in various levels (production, processing) etc</p>  
5 May 2018	Presentation by Mr Gousios of the innovative initiatives for the promotion of local dairy products originating from extensive production systems in the conference "Innovation days in the agri-food sector in Central Greece" in Lamia. The conference was organized by the Central Greece Region in cooperation with the University of Thessaly.
5 May 2018	<p>Presentation of the innovative initiatives that can be developed especially from small households and extensive holdings aiming at: (a) promoting local products, (b) better organization of the holdings. The presentation was made by Mrs Gaki, during the Conference organised by the Development Agency of Karditsa (AN.KA) with the title "The role and the contribution of social economy in the development of the Regional Unit of Karditsa"</p> 







Date	Your text – notes – pictures/table
10 May 2018	<p>The learning area (LA) HNV Thessaly, was presented in a technical visit of Portuguese local government representatives in Arta city. The particular visit, organized by the Portuguese development agency Adrimag and hosted by the Management authority of the Tzoumerka, Meteora and Agra National park, was a good opportunity to introduce the aspects of HNV farming done in the Greek learning area and exchange ideas from the representatives of the protected area of Magical Mountains in Portugal. Mrs Gaki, from the Laboratory of Rural Space, gave a throughout presentation of the research done in participatory guarantee system, which was received very well.</p>  



Date	Your text – notes – pictures/table
15-17 May 2018	<p>Greek HNV team visiting Sweden. The Greek team decided to visit the LA Dalsland in Sweden, due to the innovations that have been applied in the area : The tool developed by the Swedish team, the FOCLUM & FOCLUM-LUP (Facilitation of collaboration land use management & Land use plans) and the mobile slaughterhouse. They also visited farms that had developed others activities (agrotourism, sell of their products, etc)</p> 
13-15 May 2018	<p>The Greek HNV-Link team welcomed to the study area the corresponding Bulgarian HNV team. Visits took place in livestock and agricultural farms and meetings with: (a) the Local Government, as the support body for actions on pasture management issues, (b) the local Directorate General for Agriculture on issues concerning the practical application of the political agricultural development and its results in local level (c) the National Park of Tzoumerka for the management of protected areas and the certification of a sustainable tourist destination by Europark, as a tool for environmental management and promotion (d) the Environmental Education Centre for educational and awareness raising actions on biodiversity topics in protected areas..</p> 

Date	Your text – notes – pictures/table
30 May 2018	<p>In cooperation with a specialist on pasture management the teams visited farmers and discussed the methods applied by them on pasture management especially in areas where actions to re-grass pastures have been implemented (pasture improvement with cultivation of pastoral plants).</p> 
19-20 June 2018	<p>Presentation of the issue concerning the support of extensive farming (HNV) in mountainous Mediterranean areas in consultation with the technical committees of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment (sectors of Agriculture, Environment and Forests) of Cyprus. There was a discussion on the sustainable development of the protected areas (forests, Natura areas, agricultural land) in Cyprus and it was suggested that those areas should be part of shared management through a Body that will design and implement an Agri-environmental Management Plan. This Plan will take into consideration both the protection of biodiversity and the development of human activity. A future cooperation was proposed between the mountainous areas of Troodos with partners from HNV-Link on matters of agri-environmental management</p>
9 September 2018	<p>A meeting was organized at Neraida in Trikala with livestock breeders from the area and the National Park of Tzoumerka. The main purpose of the meeting was to inform the breeders (extensive sheep and goat breeding and cattle breeding): (a) for the support opportunities of their activity, (b) for the innovative tools that could facilitate their work and (c) for the possibilities to give added value that their products.</p> 



Date	Your text – notes – pictures/table
27-30 September 2018	<p>Presentation on Conference: D. Gousios, D. Gaki, I. Faraslis, Pr. Mardakis, D. Michalakis "The interdependence of High Nature Value production systems and territorial development within the HNV areas. The example of Pindos." announcement at the 5th Panhellenic Planning and Regional Development Conference, 27-30/9/2018 in Volos.</p> 
3-5 Octobre 2018	<p>Greek HNV team visiting France. The Greek delegation HNV Link team decided the cross visit in LA Causses and Cevennes, in France, due to the innovative schemes that have been adopted regarding pastoralism within a protected area such as the NP of Causses and Cevennes. More specifically the choice was done for the following two reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The approach adopted in the Intercommunal Pastoral Pact among the many local stakeholders, decision makers and local breeders b) The actions taken regarding biodiversity preservation and pastoralism within a protected area.    



Date	Your text – notes – pictures/table
5 Octobre 2018	Mrs Gaki participated, via Skype, in a working meeting within the context of the research programme "Sustainable Finance for Sustainable Agriculture and fisheries-SUFISA" that is funded through the Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme of the EU and is implemented by the Agricultural University of Athens. The subject of the third working meeting of the SUFISA programme advisory team was: Biodiversity of the European agriculture in 2015: the changing context and strategies to fight it"
23 November 2018	Meeting with the technical consultant of the Thessaly livestock breeders' association. A lot of the members of the association are farmers practicing transhumance and are interested in promoting their products' specificities and dealing with degraded pastures. Mr. Faraslis presented the technological (gps-tracking) and organizational innovations developed by the members of the research team of the University of Thessaly and the partners of the HNV-Link Network. The technical consultant has asked to explore the possibility of a future cooperation with the Thessaly livestock breeders' association to inform them and raise awareness on the above innovations. <div data-bbox="1541 448 2007 724" data-label="Image"> </div>
20 & 28 November 2018	"Farmer's Interview in a national broadcast TV channel, concerning the extensive livestock management and the Gps-tracking application, in the LA-THESSALY region" (@greekcountryliving #gralistafarm #organicfarm #gralistafarmpic). The farmer Thanasis Papoutsis is especially innovative and active. He breeds animals from a local breed and he also produces dairy products. He is a founding member of the Thessaly Agri-touristic Company and he welcomes visitors to his farm to participate in the various works of the herd. In cooperation with the Laboratory of Rural Space he uses the technological innovation GPS-tracking to track the movement of his stock. The next step is the production of cheese with guaranteed quality and authenticity of his products. To achieve this he will create a workshop for the production of dairy products (cottage industry) and he will make good use of the innovations of the HNV-Link programme. <div data-bbox="1563 804 2007 1050" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="1285 1102 1659 1329" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="1666 1102 2007 1316" data-label="Image"> </div>



Date	Your text – notes – pictures/table
9 December 2018	Regional meeting. The subject of the meeting was mainly the future of the informal cooperation and network among the farmers of the LA-Thessaly. Two main issues arose from the discussion-consultation between the stakeholders: (a) the need to support the new farmers on operational issues of their farms and (b) the support of actions for the promotion of the agri-friendly practices that they implement and consequently the products that they produce. The Laboratory of Rural Space and the Development Agencies of Karditsa and Trikala committed to support the effort to organize the producers (Farmers' Network) and promote their products. The sustainability, expansion and operation of the Farmers' Network (decided to be the second priority for the support of the vision of the LA Thessaly, during the Innovation Seminar that took place in 2017), will also be supported by the inter-municipality body that is active in LA-Thessaly under the name "PINDOS Network".
January – February 2019	Scheduled information and working meetings with new farmers from the LA who are interested in participating in the Farmers' Network to bring out extensive farming and promote their products. The producers will receive information from an associate of the University about the ERASMUS+ programmes and how they can use them as welcoming bodies or as training areas.

For the future, we will try to keep in touch with the partners who have developed interesting innovations, so that additional information can be obtained in order to adapt the innovations at the Greek conditions. The farmer that participated in the cross-visit to Sweden is in close touch with the representative of the LA in order to know and understand as better as he can their innovations and contribute actively to their replication in our area for both self-use and dissemination to other producers. Producers from the LA Thessaly are planning to open their farms to visitors (cultivation of aromatic plants and their processing, beekeeping) while at the same time they are aiming, in cooperation with other farms and the horse riding centre in the area, to develop educational activities for children.

The acceptance by young producers that knowledge, information and the implementation of collective activities, will help them develop their activity, leads support bodies (development agencies and the Laboratory of Rural Space) to search for funding (possible funding was presented during the Regional Meeting) in national or European level. At the same time those bodies are trying to achieve partnerships with the partners from the HNV-Link Network in order to support actions for the maturation and diffusion of the innovations. The existence of specialists (range



scientists-forestry scientists) is very important for the implementation of Grazing Management Plans, in municipality level, aiming at the development of new tools in favor of the pastoral systems in Pindos..

A range scientist-forestry scientist has participated to the Regional Meeting. As he is specialized at the Grazing Management Plans and their implementation tools, he gave many explanations and transferred knowledge about the claim of their implementation by the Ministry and the Region of Thessaly, as well as the development of new tools for the benefit of pastoral systems in Pindos



3. LA regional meeting(s)

Objectives of the LA regional meetings:

Reaching the regional / national AKIS;

Sharing at the national/regional level the HNV Vision established through the Baseline Assessment and the set of HNV innovations collected using also the compendium of innovations collected in all LA;

Triggering a reflection on innovation process adaptation: the main pathways by which to improve the economic viability of HNV farming, failure factors/constraints, contexts which allow innovation process to take off;

Starting a larger regional network on HNV farming and innovation brokering,

Based on general guidelines, each LA Coordinator will propose to the WP4 leader a "Regional Meeting Action Plan": concept note, materials, participant list, and agenda, and work methodology, expected results and impacts, type of reporting. This section will keep track of the different steps of implementation.

The LA Regional Meetings will play an influential role in the local dissemination process (hundreds of people are expected to be exposed to the HNV Link findings.

Therefore, depending on each LA specificities, the regional context, and means, LAs may also consider the possibility of organize a series of Regional meetings / seminars / events addressed to different audiences, goals, and purposes. Moreover, the LA could also consider the organization of the Regional Meeting within the framework of global major regional event / meeting / seminar, developed under the form of round table / session / workshop, when the goals and audiences could be reached in a better way, with the best expected impact. In these cases, the LA regional activity should be individually identified.

To the Annex II will find the report about the Regional Meeting realized to Mouzaki at 9 December 2018

The most important results of the Regional Meeting were:

Ø *search for funding in order to further support:*

- *information and awareness-raising actions aiming at the producers professional organization that will allow them to claim the promotion of their activity and the benefits from the operation of extensive holdings for the environment, biodiversity, the consumer's health.*
- *actions to inform consumers and society about the role of pastoral farming and extensive agriculture in agricultural areas and especially environmentally sensitive areas.*
- *solutions on pasture issues*
- *acquisition and use of tools for the promotion of quality and identity products.*

Ø *commitment of the bodies to support the informal farmers' group, up until the point where they will receive funding and will be able to function autonomously*



4. Dissemination & communication activities:

In line with its HNV Vision and its "identified innovation needs" each LA will draft a "Dissemination and communication action Plan". Those innovation brokerage activities will be envisioned in complementarity with the "Cross Visits" and the Regional Meetings.

This plan encompasses both the nature of the C&D itself (what kind of communication/dissemination methods can be used/what materials/what budget/what agenda) and the C&D strategic process (actors, successes and failures, etc.): What are ALL the key target groups that the LA should reach (in ideal world)? Which of these the LA reached at the innovation seminars? Which are still missing?

Three levels of dissemination:

Local/regional Actors – directly involved in the innovations transfers – grassroots

AKIS – go back to the AKIS

Broader Audience –

The objective is to communicate on the HNV farming, on the specific forms encountered in the areas of Pindos at the west of Thessaly and the related issues as well as to publicize innovations from the partners of the HNV-Link Network to local actors and bodies. The dissemination and communication activities are presented to the session "2.3 Next steps and follow-up activities?" The different categories of actions developed within the HNV-Link project are:

- *Disseminate the HNV-Link Greek project brochure*
- *Inform stakeholders of existing innovations in other countries by presenting innovations in conferences, meetings and special information meetings on livestock breeders.*
- *Organize and/or participate to forums and meetings in local and regional scale on topics for the promotion of local resources and extensive livestock with the participation of local bodies, technicians and breeders.*
- *Support the organization of special training for the acquisition of skills from farmers.*
- *Communicate with vocational educational institutes and environmental centers to disseminate the educational tools concerning the forms of HNV farming and their relationship with biodiversity.*
- *Use of the website of the Laboratory of Rural Space and the facebook page of LA Thessaly to disseminate the Baseline Assessment and the Innovations Report to stakeholders.*
- *Provide press releases and / or organize press conferences on local meetings, cross-visits and other actions.*



5. Conclusion: Strategic Innovation Brokerage to support HNVf

At the end of the Using Phase, a short questionnaire will be sent to all LA coordinators and will be followed by an bi-lateral interviews with WP4 leader, to harvest their experience as "innovation brokers " for HNV area and assess the usefulness of the methodology proposed by HNV-Link network. These exchanges will be used to build the conclusion of the Action Plan.

Possibility of Cross Reviews ?

The knowledge gained from the implementation of the project is multiple and involves various levels. Initially, the methodological approach of making diagnosis on the intervention area and its production systems is considered very innovative. The methodology steps that were applied to understand the current situation and the dynamics of the LA- Thessaly proved very useful for the scientific team and the local actors who will be invited to implement them in local scale and other areas. The way that those innovations were approached and their distinction in four groups offered the acquisition of knowledge and deepening. The collected innovations proved to be very rich in experiences. The way they were presented proved to be educational and helped disseminate them. The discussions between the actors contributed to highlighting the problems and led to the identification of solutions. The process of discussing and consulting among the different groups is by itself an innovation reinforcing the consensus and the possibility of finding solutions for common problems.

The cross visits helped the members of the delegations to acquire knowledge and experience, during the exchanges, about the management of HNV holdings and also see innovative actions being implemented. The replication of those actions requires some adjustments at local level. We estimate that the exchanges during the project contributed to create the mood for further cooperation among the partners in the future.

Through the diagnosis and the implementation of the project it became once again clear that in Greece, in an intervention area, there are various bodies that act and function without sufficiently cooperating with each other to bring positive results for the area. Finally, the creation of international networks for the exchange of experiences contributes to the adoption of knowledge and the implementation of actions that have been tested and help the sustainability and the function of extensive holdings.

