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SUCCESSFULL EXPERIENCES
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Young AND farmer By Cécile Schalenbourg RRN Wallonia - Belgium





Why the Rural Network decided to work on Young Farmers ?

Constatations of Network members :

- needs for training and support increase during installation phase
- the process of installation as farmer is reduced to a technical and economical study. Social needs are not taken into account.
- training opportunities (after installation) need to be updated to reflect changes and evolutions in farmer profession : a new panel of training sessions need to be set up
- how do young farmers face announced changes : climatic change, environment, energy and multifunctionality. How do they adapt their practices and way of thinking ? Are they pro-active ? What do they still develop ?

Videos as part of a global approach :

- ❑ Identification of all skills needed today to manage a farming activity - interviews of young farmers and **videos**, debate/discussion with focus groups : what are challenges for future, new thematics, new needs,... ?
- ❑ Analysis of existing training courses and way to improve them – Network working group with trainers, training centers, schools,...
- ❑ Building of new references, adaptation of existing training and recommendations for next RDP – Network working group
- ❑ Dissemination of information, videos,... (seminar, conference, press, TV,...) and thematic leaflet with collected material (on going)

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Method and tools

Use of video :

- As tool for farmers associations, rural NGO, local communities in order to launch debate around new challenges, training of young farmers and recommendations for future RDP. A methodological guideline for the use of this video is also provided.**
- As a way to make medias, local televisions,... aware of future of agriculture, role of young farmers in society,...**

Six thematics -> six videos / testimonies

- To start or continue a farming activity** : what motivations, levers and difficulties, life project and career.
- Multifunctional agriculture and small scale farming** : what interests for young farmers to develop a multifunctional farm : to produce, to process, to sell, to open its farm ? Why ? Which challenges does it meet ? What social demand ? How to raise / increase the efficiency of small scale farming, of multifunctional farms ? How to develop high added value productions ? What market ? What training for improving technical aspects, better knowledge of EU context and regulations ?

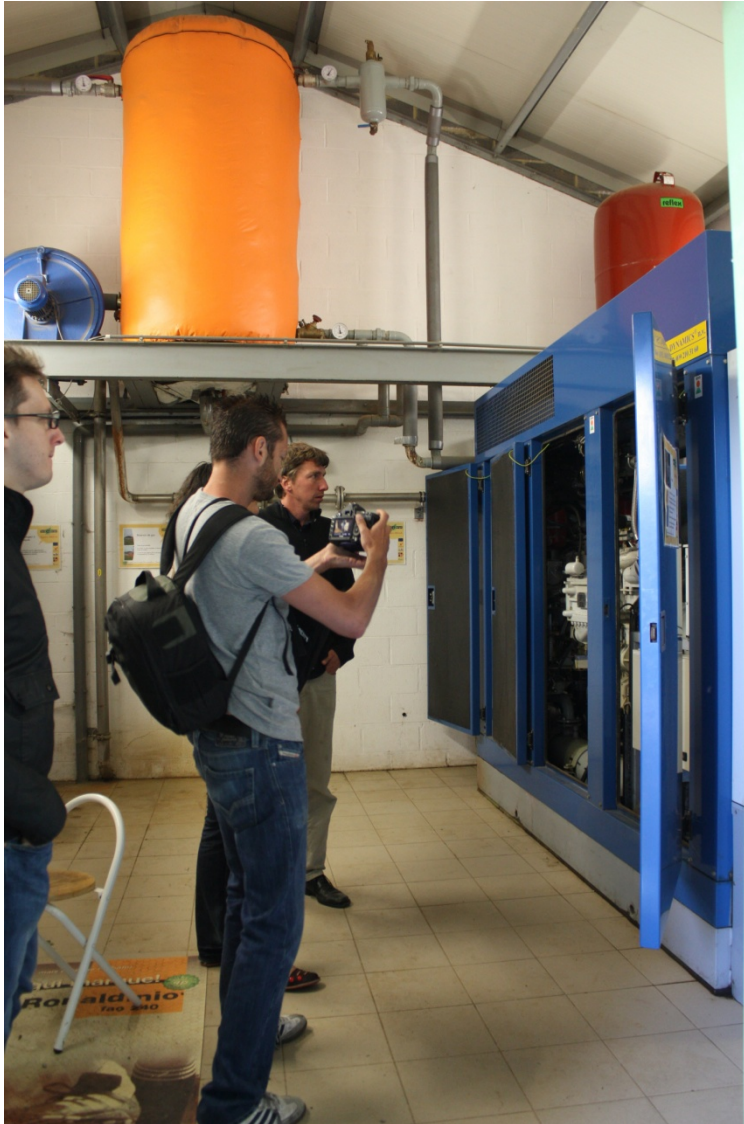
Organic breeding
-> Multifunctional agriculture

Arnaud and Jessica COLLARD
26y and 25y old



- ❑ **Environment and energy** : how do Young farmers face energy and environment challenges ? Are they receptive ? What impact on their farm development, on the general perception of agriculture ? Is it more expensive to produce with green-friendly methods ? Is environment conflicting with productivity ? Living observation, management of soils and water, improvement of farming practices and controlling the flows,... are they ready to integrate these dimensions in their daily life ? Are they ready to enter in future CAP new dimensions ?
- ❑ **Regulatory aspects** : each farm has to deal with standards and norms, with CAP regulations. How are aspects of control and quality, food safety taken in account ? How to take advantage / benefit from norms and standards ? What tools developed by Member States and EU are helpful for farmers ?

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**Biogaz installation
-> Environment and
energy**

**Dimitri Burniaux
38y old**

❑ **Networks** : young farmer evolves in a social network (neighbours, village, activity in rural area, maintain of essential functions for people,...), in a territorial network (interactions with the territory, use and production of local resources,...), a professional network (other farmers, training sector, providers, banks, local developers,...). How to develop collective initiatives and groups of producers ? How to (re)create links between young farmers and citizens ?

❑ **Entrepreneur and businessman** : a farm needs to be managed as any enterprise. It requires specific and strong skills in administrative and financial management, controlling data, knowledge of challenges and actuality, adaptability, curiosity and openness. How to access funding for innovation, small scale diversification ? Alternative solutions to classic loans ?

Businessman and entrepreneur

Raphaël Grodent
35y old



Link to videos

**Raphaël
Grodent**

**Anne-Françoise
Georges**



Main actions / Chronology

- May - Identification of thematics and selection of young farmers with the support of Network members**

- June - Individual preparation of interviews (common canevas) / technical aspects with sub-contractor**

- July – August - Filming and authoring DVD**

- October - “Avant première” with interviewed young farmers (feedback and discussion together)**

- November - Test with focus groups and dissemination**

Budget dedicated to videos :

- **12 working days (set up, following and interviews)**
- **Sub-contractor : 6.500 euros (filming, monitoring, authoring DVD)**
- **Dissemination : around 2.000 euros**

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EU extension

Joint initiative of eight networks

- BE – WALLONIA and FLANDERS, GREECE, HUNGARY, ITALY, LATVIA, NETHERLANDS, SPAIN**
- Production of 12 videos compiled into a DVD**
- To do : building of a common method to use these videos**

To complete with
Youtube link



Thanks for your attention

Cécile Schalenbourg
Regional Rural Network Wallonia
Website : www.reseau-pwdr.be