



ANNEX II to Policy Factsheet: Key governance challenges & implications for policy and support

Country	Case	Governance (policy/ institutional/c operation) challenges	Policy implications/ support needs
Belgium	<i>Farmers at a Crossroads:</i> Workshops and helpline to identify and support farmers at risk. Making discussion on mental health issues more acceptable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of government programmes & regulations, administrative burden can increase stress. • Inspection regime creates stress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Financial support to sustain and operate the helpline and structure ✓ Training on mental health support and making mental health and problems debatable ✓ Targeted support for women farmers on mental health issues (also to reach male farmers) ✓ Network of farming, healthcare and other (including those in contact with farmers = gatekeepers) ✓ Facilitate learning networks: enabling farmers to exchange experiences and advice each other on common problems
Belgium	<i>Ferm voor agravrouwen:</i> Learning network on mental wellbeing; brings together female farmers for networking and education		
Greece	Energy Community Myrmidones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncertain / continuously changing legislative framework • Lack of awareness on benefits of an energy community • Lack of funding opportunities for energy technology and infrastructure • Need for cooperation among relevant stakeholders • Lack of representation of women within energy communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Access to funding: Energy Communities need funding to invest in renewable energy projects, develop the necessary skills and knowledge, and build partnerships with other stakeholders. ✓ Legal and policy support: Governments need to provide a supportive legal and policy environment that enables the growth of energy communities. ✓ Technical support, training & capacity-building: Energy Communities need technical support to develop and implement renewable energy projects ✓ Community engagement: Energy Communities need to engage with local communities, building trust and support for their projects and raising awareness of the benefits of renewable energy. ✓ Partnerships between different stakeholders, such as women's organisations, energy providers, energy agencies, financial institutions, and government agencies, can help leverage resources, share knowledge and expertise & create synergies. ✓ Gender balance: Rural women can and should be included in the energy sector either in mixed cooperatives or within Women's Energy Communities
Greece	Women's energy community meets Women in Olive Oil & women's agricultural/agrotouristic cooperatives : Empowering women in new sectors such as energy		
Hungary	<i>Zala Valley Open Farms:</i> Improving financial sustainability of small-scale farming through	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low citizen involvement; • Value of these or similar initiatives not recognised in national CAP implementation; • Future uncertainty of LEADER support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Financial support for building social capital & networks (dedicated measure to support farmers' networks) ✓ Regulatory & financial stability ✓ Simplified access to small grants for small-scale production & marketing





Country	Case	Governance (policy/ institutional/c operation) challenges	Policy implications/ support needs
	farm and food producer cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power relations – farmers vulnerable & lack trust in institutions; • Generally poor cooperation culture; • Limited animation capacities and skills & lack of services for improving them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Simplified legislation on small-scale food processing and sales/marketing ✓ Access to new ideas, support for training & skills development ✓ Increase knowledge & capacity of LEADER or other local actors on animation, network-establishment, brand building, civic organisation, business models, facilitation, etc. ✓ Improve support activities of national rural / CAP networks in these areas ✓ Develop farmer-to-farmer learning networks
Hungary	Hungarian Social Farm Association: Social inclusion of mentally disabled people, support small producers and enhance local communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social farm definition • (Legal) recognition of Social Farm community as a group performing agricultural activity • Land use/ land utilisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Changing relevant government acts/ decrees to create more favourable conditions for the operation of social farms ✓ Ensuring financial stability through support (especially in times of crisis)
Italy	Ghetto Out - Casa Sankara: Integration & social inclusion of migrants; reducing exploitation of agricultural workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureaucracy concerning living & employment is slow and complex - requires support to get through the system (especially for migrants) • Lack of financial stability / support • Lack of access to training (e.g. language classes, driving, agricultural skills) • Lack of access to housing, land and technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ (More stable) financial support to NGOs that support migrant workers ✓ Development of/ supporting dedicated training activities ✓ Establishing cooperation with local employment services ✓ Ensuring better access to land & technology ✓ Simplifying bureaucracy for those going through professional services in terms of living and employment / start discussions & negotiation with specialist NGOs like Casa Sankara for simplification
Italy	Humus Job: A social enterprise that aims to regularise work through a contractual network and job sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for wider recognition of ethical employing • Need for better cooperation with local employment services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Establishing cooperation among farmers and local employment services ✓ Creation of widely recognisable 'ethical label' for farmers (as an incentive) ✓ Existing farming support organisations to create partnership with organisations like Humus Job to incentivise farmers/ companies to join the network ✓ Reduce timelines for hiring workers on a short-term basis
Poland	<i>Independently (not alone):</i> Care farming. Social care and therapeutic services for mentally disabled rural people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal and organisational framework creates a barrier for farmers to run such activity. • Administrative, tax, and insurance barriers for farmers to conduct non-agricultural economic activities, such as providing care services on farms. • Discontinuity of funding after project ends and hence, discontinued employment & services (e.g., psychological, rehabilitation, –and speech therapy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Consult farmers/ care farms when designing institutional support ✓ Need to create a more stable financial support framework for care farming – cross-sectoral (ministries) collaboration ✓ Need to create a more favourable and clearer legal basis (definition, operating conditions, registration, certification, etc.) and administrative/ tax and incentive system ✓ Creating conditions for network of care farms (demonstrations, study visits, workshops) ✓ Make support for care farms a legal obligation for advisory centres





Country	Case	Governance (policy/ institutional/c ooperation) challenges	Policy implications/ support needs
		support provided near the place of residence) for disabled people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Create cooperation & coordination activities: farms, local policy institutions, local government, NGOs, agricultural advisory centres, etc. ✓ Develop capacity for delivery of care farm training programmes/best practice guide
Poland	<i>Home hospice:</i> provides healthcare services for elderly, terminally, and chronically ill rural people of five municipalities in Podlaskie region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shortage of medical personnel, including carers, nurses, and physiotherapists, and the availability of services such as psychologists or dieticians is virtually non-existent. Systemic issues further exacerbate the situation. • Insufficient financial resources within the healthcare system, coupled with a limited catalogue of diseases covered by the NFZ, result in many elderly and terminally ill individuals being excluded from public healthcare in their final stages of life. • Municipal governments' low activity in securing external funding for healthcare, especially palliative care, worsens this problem. • The lack of proper coordination among institutions involved in palliative and hospice care. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social innovation has created a comprehensive palliative care system that includes doctors, nurses, caregivers, rehabilitators, dieticians, psychologists, and a local support network consisting of community leaders, volunteer groups, and neighbours. ✓ This system is reliable and effective, filling the gaps in the national healthcare system. It also addresses the loneliness experienced by beneficiaries and provides the support they need. ✓ There is need for financial resources and collaboration with local government/ healthcare system for mainstreaming the service.
Romania	Women's Neighbourhood Association of Saschiz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating an enabling environment to empower women in farming communities (access to knowledge and funding) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ More focus in policymaking is needed on 'farmers well-being' and 'social innovation' ✓ Raise the awareness of importance of maintaining wellbeing of small farmers, families and communities.
Romania	Transylvanian Highlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the importance of cooperation and collaboration in farming communities, improve access to knowledge, information and funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ LEADER to be continued as a tool for supporting, local small-scale social innovation (to include in Local Development Strategies) ✓ Better linkages are needed with EIP-AGRI Operational Groups ✓ CAP Networks can facilitate knowledge exchange and exchange of good practices (e.g. among LEADER LAGs/ EIP OGs)/ Managing Authority to provide guidance on how to best support social innovation

