

# The European Research and Innovation Agenda in an international perspective – *the role of multifunctional approaches*

Uno Svedin & Bettina Heimann

EURAGRI work-shop; 4 June 2019, Brussels



# The Topic

- Primary production and connected consumption are characterised by **multifunctional** - economic, ecological, social and cultural - **features**
- The bio- and circular economy are concepts that comprise a plurality of societal uses including the **generation of public goods and interests.**



# Workshop programme

I. Multifunctional approaches internationally – framings and experiences

II. Options in realizing multifunctional approaches in Europe

III. How to implement multi-functionalism in a globalized Europe – problems and solutions?

IV. What are the implications for research directions, - strategies and - organisation?

EURAGRI



# I. Multifunctional approaches internationally – *framings and experiences*

EURAGRI

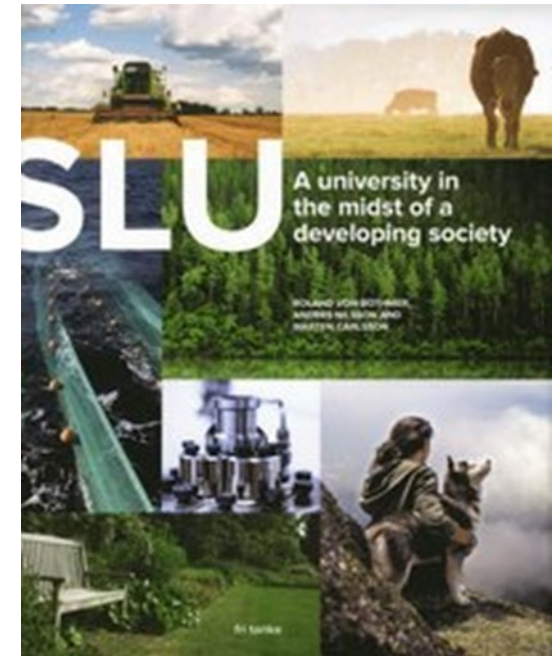


# Approaches and experiences

Mårten Carlsson, former vice-Chancellor SLU

Agricultural research over 40 yrs time:

- changing context
- changing role
- changing ethics





# What is multifunctionality?

A wide-angle photograph of a rural landscape. In the foreground, there is a field of numerous small, bright yellow flowers, possibly gorse, interspersed with some green and brown vegetation. A rustic stone wall, built from irregular, greyish-brown stones, runs across the middle ground, curving slightly. The background shows a flat, open field extending to a distant, low horizon line under a pale, overcast sky. The overall scene conveys a sense of traditional agriculture and natural beauty.

Maria Tengö

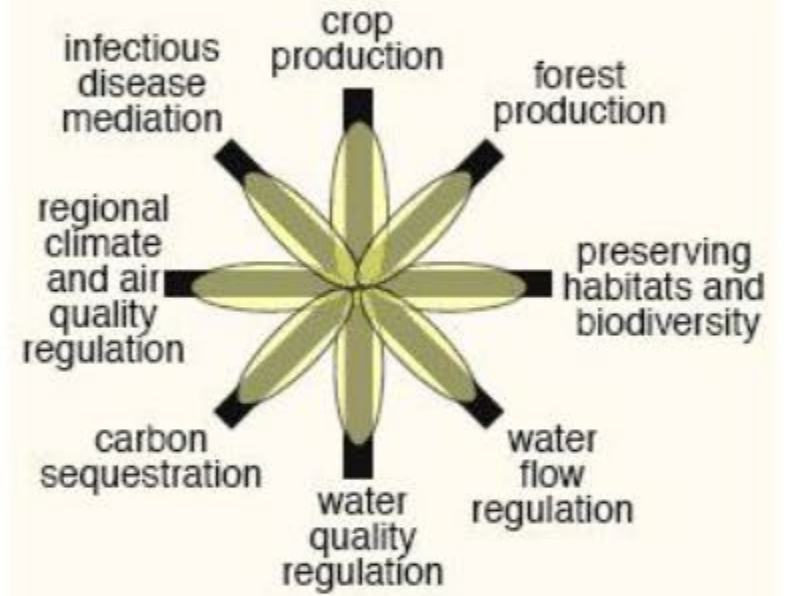
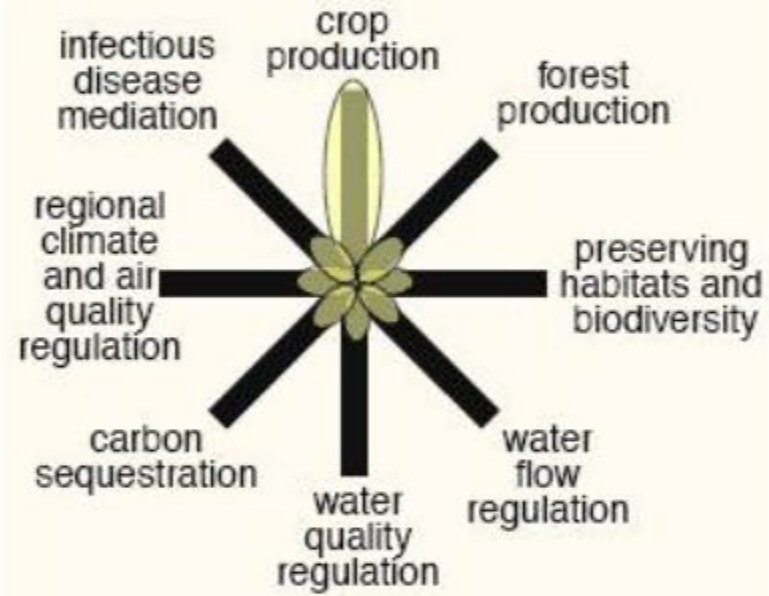
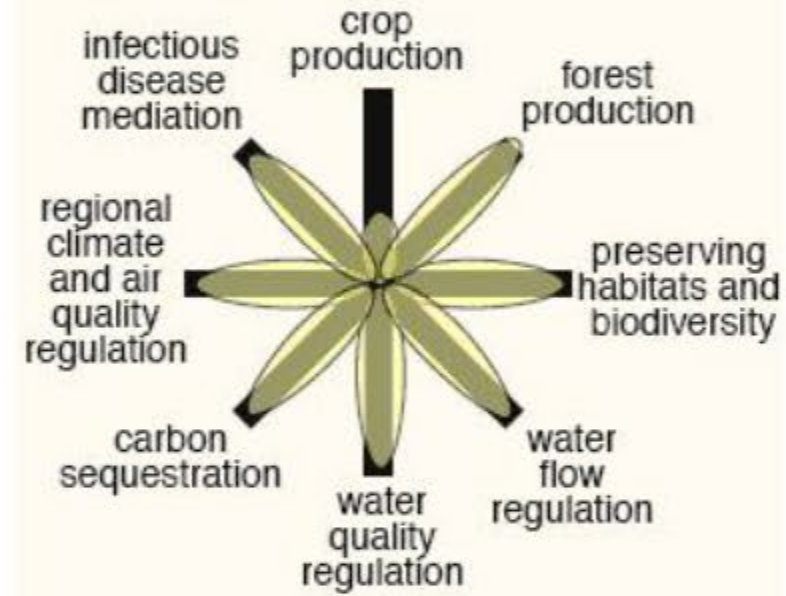
Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University

[maria.tengo@su.se](mailto:maria.tengo@su.se)

EuroAgri June 4 2019



# Ecosystem services to illustrate multifunctional landscapes



## **II. Options in realizing multifunctional approaches in Europe**

EURAGRI





# Options in realizing multifunctional approaches in Europe

EURAGRI workshop June 4, 2019, Brussels

**Katrina Rønningen (Dr. polit. Geography)**

**Institute for Rural and Regional Research - Ruralis**

# THE GREEN SHIFT IS NOT NECESSARILY GOING TO BE PRETTY

- While the bioeconomy is promising – and challenging for coordinating scientists, experts, organisations, enterprises – across siloes,
- Research, innovation and development still will have to relate to ‘traditional’, conventional and agricultural economies and socio-economic structures
- Maintaining / managing landscape, biodiversity, ecosystems, and cultural heritage even more crucial today than when «agricultural multifunctionality» came on the agenda in the 1990s-2000s
- Climate versus biodiversity? Mutually interacting and reinforcing negative developments

# III. How to implement multi-functionality in a globalized Europe – *problems and solutions?*

EURAGRI





# INNOVATION TO IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY AND SUSTAINABILITY IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE: POLICY INSIGHTS FROM COUNTRY REVIEWS

Catherine Moreddu  
Trade and Agriculture Directorate

EURAGRI workshop  
Brussels, 4 June 2019





## Pay attention to adoption

---

- Main driver of innovation is the market and motivation to increase profit, save on costs (labour): Improve the “enabling environment”
- Non-adoption often linked to capacity and incentives (knowledge, viability, size, regulatory constraints, high support): Focus public efforts on those who do not have access
- Facilitate adoption through:
  - education, training, and extension: different systems and actors
  - facilitating knowledge flows
  - fostering an innovation culture and society’s acceptance
  - Targeted incentives
- Government role in extension systems: Governance, public goods aspects

## **IV. What are the implications for research?**

- Directions
- Strategies
- Organisations





European  
Commission



# EURAGRI workshop

*Brussels*

*4 June 2019*

*Marc DUPONCEL  
DG Agriculture and Rural Development  
European Commission*

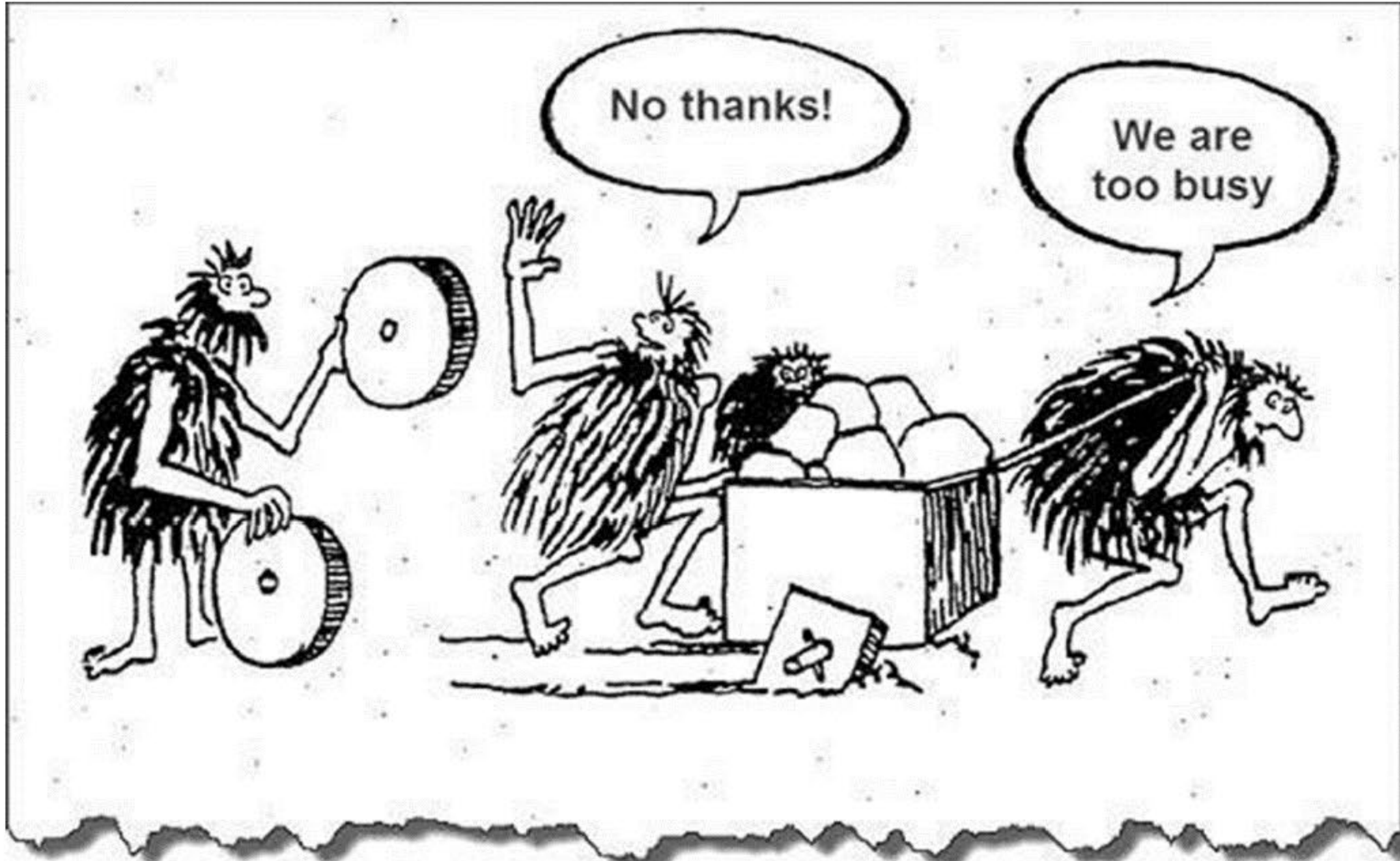


Agriculture  
and Rural  
Development





European  
Commission





# Workshop - Conclusions

What is the euro style for all this neo-pluralism?

- The international perspective is important
- There are many aspects of multifunctionality
  - **Drivers** – an array of different sorts
  - **Many approaches** - addressing different aspects
  - **Ecosystem services** – are important facets
  - **Often co-created** – interaction social-ecological processes
  - **Stewardship** issues are relevant
  - Multifunctional **actors and policies** are important to highlight



# Thank you for your attention!

[www.euragri.aau.dk](http://www.euragri.aau.dk)

EURAGRI

