



Bringing Science to Society through Co-Innovation and Co-Creation – The Soil-Health and Food Mission

EURAGRI conference, 27-28th September 2021

Évora (Portugal)

“Uptake and Out-scaling: How to make it happen?”

James Moran

Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology

Outline

- Up-take and out-scaling
- The case of hybrid result-based and locally adapted agri-environment payments for ecosystem services (nature, water, carbon)
- Challenges and Solutions



The reality



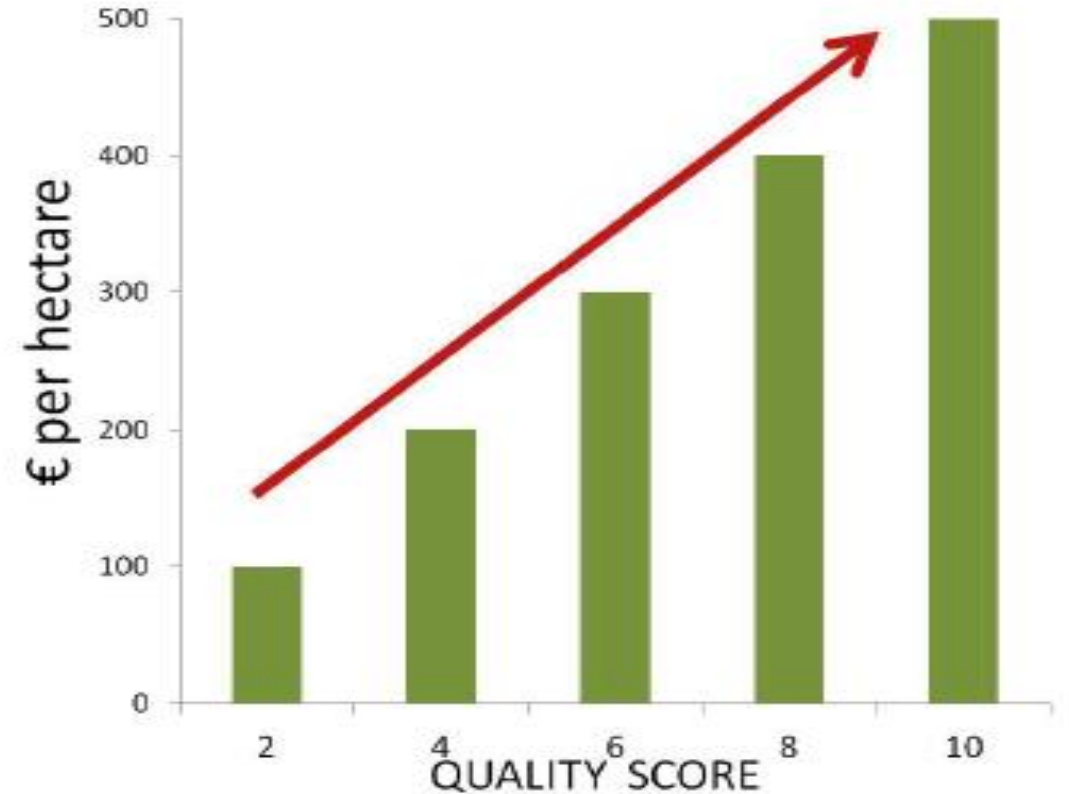
The plan

CONTEXT: State of Nature In Ireland and Interactions with Agriculture

- Unfavorable conservation status with a declining trend.
- Large areas of semi-natural vegetation completely undervalued in policy framework (semi-natural grasslands ~30% of area monitored lost in last 10-15 yrs.)
- No clear policy/land use targets for high nature value farmland
- Legacy issues and inadequate policy response to date
- Positive moves - locally adapted pilots, results-based payments for biodiversity and related ecosystem services.
- Threats identified, solutions identified
- **HOW TO SCALE?**



Higher Nature Quality = Higher Payment

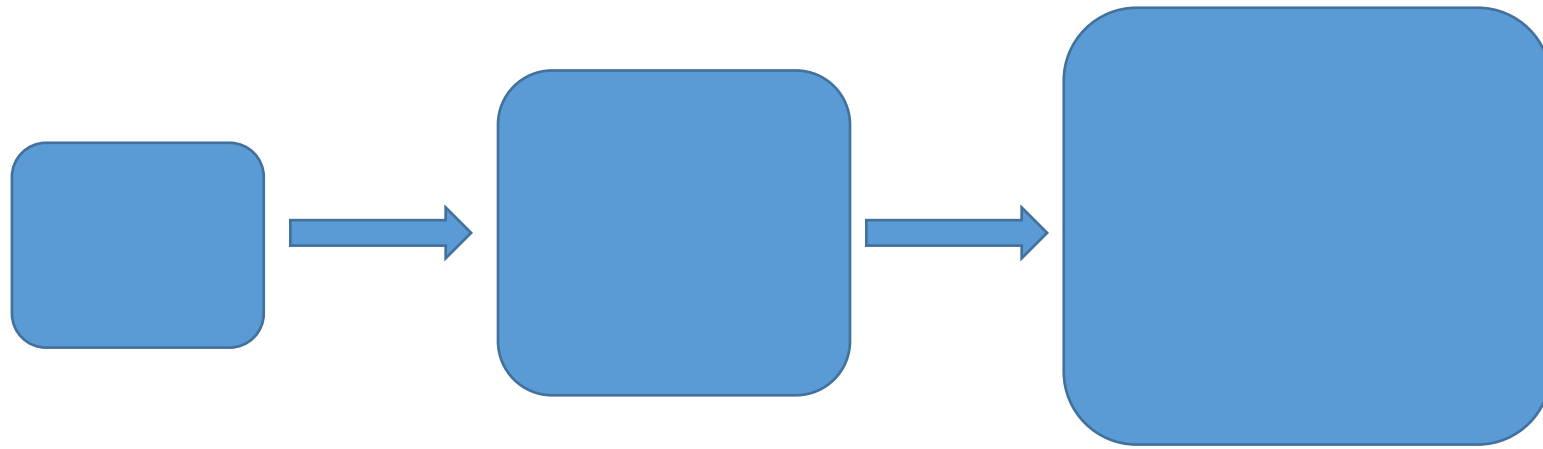


What are Results Based Payments

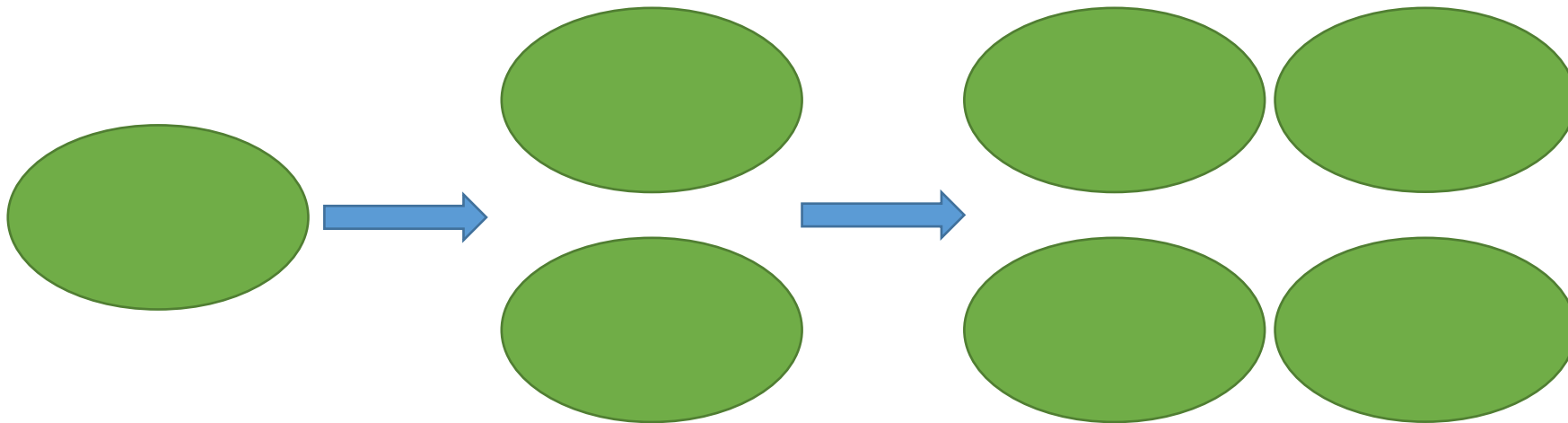
Agri-environment schemes where payments are linked directly to delivery of results rather than actions expected to deliver result.



Up-scaling vs. Out-scaling



Increasing size of component/system within a discrete geographical area



Adding more discrete components/replicating system in other discrete geographical areas

UP-SCALING

BurrenLIFE
Concept (20 farms)

2004-2009

Burren Programme
Testing and Upscaling (~160
farms)

2010-2015

Burren Programme
Full Roll out (~350 farms)

2016-2023

Burren Region:
Integrated Land Use
Continuous Development

2023-2027

OUT-SCALING

EU RBAPS Pilots
Ireland, Spain, UK,
Romania (~150 farms)

2014-2018

EIP Agri + EU LIFE +
Horizon 2020 +
INTERREG
R&D (~2000 farms)

2016-2023

National Pilot
RBAPS Development and
Admin. Capacity Building
(~5000 farms)

2021-2023

CAP Strategic Plan
(Ireland)
HNV farmland regions
Incl. Burren (~20,000?)

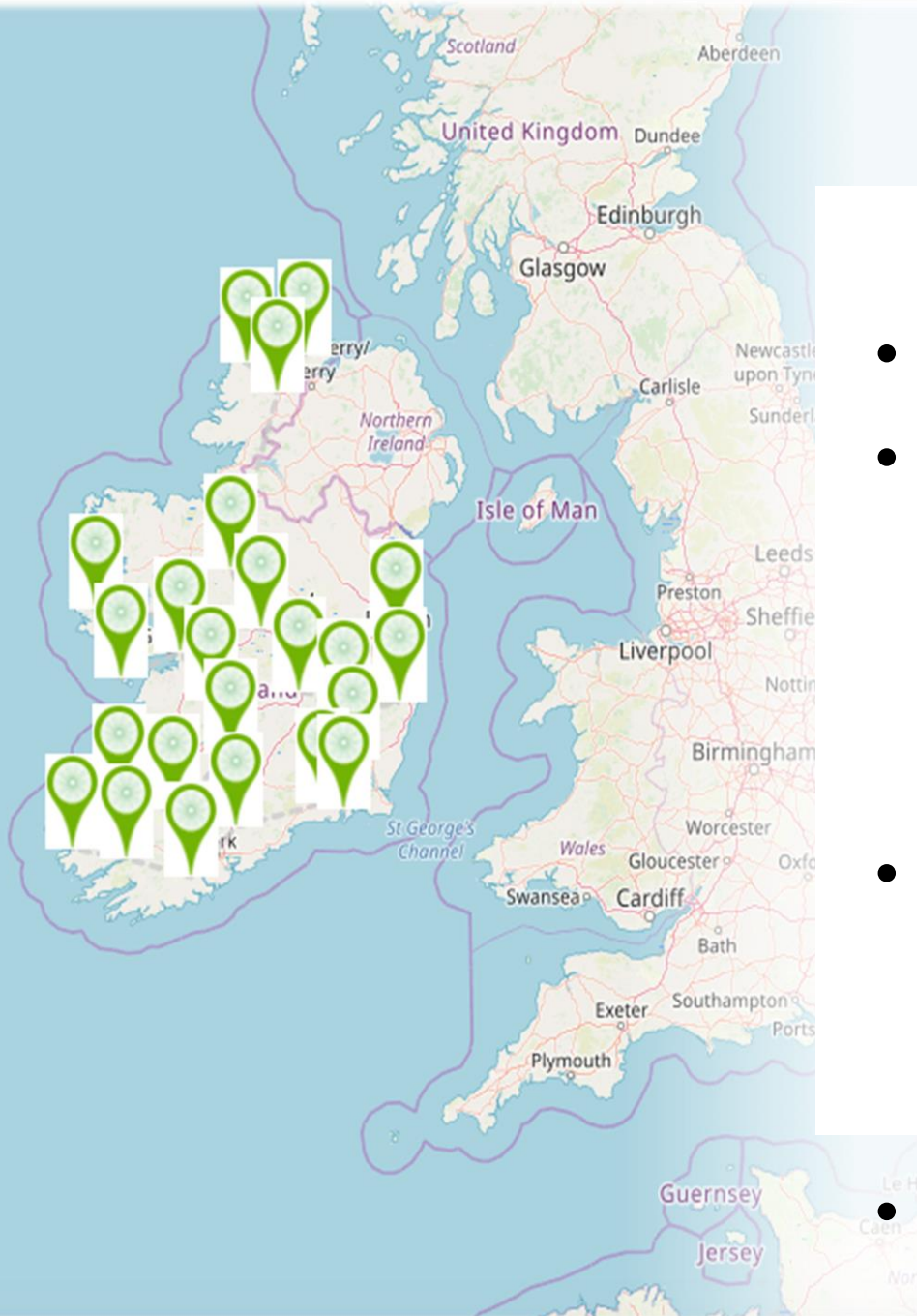
2023-2027



Creating and seizing opportunities

- Could appear like a systematic approach where we have co-creation of solutions and integration of research and innovation processes **(OVERSELLING AND IMPOSSIBLE)**
- More of an organic and reactive process **(REALITY)**
- Policy advocacy work to try and create opportunities (e.g. advocated strongly in 2011-13 for EIP-Agri OGs in Ireland to facilitate testing and scaling of the Burren Model!)

Stepping stones to out-scaling



- EU RBAPS (2014-2018)
- 2016 DAFM selected *23 Irish EIP-AGRI projects (10 now involve testing RBP)* following a number of competitive open call processes
- Innovation: local adaptation to multiple targets (nature, water, climate); administrative efficiencies-mobile apps
- Delivery at scale: Hen Harrier EIP = 1600 farmers



Innovations Brokers and Local Cooperation Teams/Partnerships

- Local Cooperation project teams/partnerships
- Role as innovation brokers:
 - Not a neutral actor
 - Strategic approach actively committed to particular goals
 - Flexibility and adaptability in findings goal orientated solutions
 - Team of people
- Champions (among different stakeholder groups and at all governance and political levels e.g. local-national-EU)



Knowledge co-creation, sharing and networking



Key to secure future uptake and successful scaling



Trust and capacity building – built on sound scientific evidence base combined with local knowledge



Capacity building in preparation for out-scaling (incremental approach)

Draft Proposal Key Issues for the CAP Green Architecture and Implementation in Ireland

Our proposal is informed throughout
by the following Six Core Considerations
for the CAP green architecture in Ireland

Value For Money



Our proposal ensures
value for the public funding
paid to farmers

1

Farmer Engagement



Ensure better buy-in
from farmers and other
stakeholders

2

Evidence Based



Built on many years of
research and programme
delivery

3

Integrated and Simplified



Integrated across the
CAP framework and a simple
'one plan' interface

4

Results-based and auditable



Use of scorecards and
indicators to generate
reliable, real-time data

5

Relevant



Consistent with a range
of strategies at national and
EU level

6

Combining Policy and Practice to design framework for out scaling in Future CAP

- Key principles and emerging common framework for hybrid results-based and locally adapted agri-environment payments

High Nature Value Ireland Programme (Heritage Council and EFNCP)

- **Seed funding** for initiatives on HNV farmland and improvement of agri-env policy over 20 years
- **Awareness raising; Networking and capacity building**
- **Policy and advocacy work**
- **Developing the CSP 2023-2027: Farming For Nature Technical Group 2020-2021**

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council



Providing that
"Je ne sais quoi"



Shaping a new narrative around Farming and Nature



Current Ambassadors

The Farming For Nature Ambassadors since 2018



Their products

The products and services from our Ambassadors



Useful links

Policy, research and practice of Farming for Nature in Ireland



How To Do Guides

Guidance on how you can make changes on your farm by land type



National Farming For Nature Initiative recognising the central role of farmers





Summary and key messages

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Moran, J., D. Byrne, J. Carlier, B. Dunford, J. A. Finn, D. Ó hUallacháin, and C. A. Sullivan. 2021. Management of high nature value farmland in the Republic of Ireland: 25 years evolving toward locally adapted results-orientated solutions and payments. *Ecology and Society* 26(1):20. <https://doi.org/10.5751/ES-12180-260120>



Synthesis, part of a Special Feature on [High Nature Value Farming Systems in Europe](#)

Management of high nature value farmland in the Republic of Ireland: 25 years evolving toward locally adapted results-orientated solutions and payments

James Moran¹, Dolores Byrne², Julien Carlier¹, Brendan Dunford³, John A. Finn⁴, Daire Ó hUallacháin⁴ and Caroline A. Sullivan⁵

- **UNDERSTANDING WIDER POLICY CONTEXT:** Agriculture policy framework needs to enable positive action and incentivize delivery of results to combat biodiversity and climate crisis, while supporting viable HNV farms
- **SYSTEMS CHANGE NEEDED:** Evolution rather than revolution (need to bring stakeholders with you – systems collapse and rebuild not an option).
- **CAPACITY and TRUST BUILDING:** preparation for out-scaling is crucial
- **SOLUTIONS:** need to be developed, locally adapted and scaled
- **EMPOWER THROUGH KNOWLEDGE SHARING:** farmers and rural communities
- **PARTNERSHIPS:** capacity building, co-creation, innovation
- **PROMOTE AND RAISE AWARENESS:** societal demand and recognition for these areas and the services they provide
- **Out-scaling can now progress at a much more rapid pace**

Increasing Uptake and Out-scaling Sustainable Agriculture?

