

L'ARSIA, Agenzia Regionale per lo Sviluppo e l'Innovazione nel settore Agricolo-forestale, istituita con la Legge Regionale 37/93, è l'organismo tecnico operativo della Regione Toscana per le competenze nel campo agricolo-forestale, acquacoltura-pesca e faunistico-venatorio.



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Supporting policies for Social Farming in Europe

Progressing Multifunctionality in Responsive Rural Areas

So Far" (acronym standing for "social farming"; complete project title: social services in multifunctional farms) is a Specific Support Action funded by the EU VI Framework programme for research and innovation.

The SOFAR Consortium consists of researchers from Germany (Forschungsinstitut für Biologischen Landbau (Research Institute of Organic Agriculture)); the Netherlands (Plant Research International, Wageningen University and Research Centre); Belgium (Flemish Support Centre for Green Care, University of Ghent.); France (QAP Decision); Slovenia (University of Ljubljana); Ireland (National University of Ireland, Dublin) and Italy (ARSIA and the University of Pisa). The co-ordinator is Professor Francesco Di Iacovo (Dipartimento di Produzione Animale, University of Pisa, Italy).

"Social farming" (or 'care farming' or 'green care') is a term used to describe a wide range of diverse farming practices aimed at promoting disadvantaged people's rehabilitation or care and/or contributing towards the integration of people with 'low contractual capacity' (i.e.: people with physical or intellectual disabilities, convicts, people recovering from alcohol/ drug/substance abuse, young people at risk, migrants). Social farming represents a new chance to broaden the scope of European rural development – to diversify farming/rural activities and enhance the role of a renewed agriculture in society. The overall aim of the SoFar project is to support the building of a new institutional environment for social farming by linking research to practitioners/rural players; by bringing diverse European experiences together to enable exchanges and comparisons of experiences to take place and by bringing together key stakeholders in social farming and rural development who can support the design of future policies at regional and European levels. The book with the included video presents the main results from the SoFar project.



Regione Toscana
Sviluppo Innovazione Sostenibilità



Project no.: 022682
So Far: Social Services in Multifunctional Farms ('Social Farming')
Specific Support Action
Priority [8.1.B.1.1]

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● SoFar project: supporting EU agricultural policies

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