

Annex I

Cases description, at a glance

Social farming in the Netherlands



Social/Care Farming in the Netherlands
State of the Art for “So Far” project
(Social Services in Multifunctional Farms)
EU FPVI

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Name of the farm/project Hoeve Ackerdijk

Activities and structure in brief

Kind of organisation	Family business
Farm/garden size (Ha)	44 ha
Kind of veg./animal produce	Dairy cows
Social activities	Day care
Field of qualification	Agriculture (3) and care (1)
Participants/clients (n°/type)	Diverse
Project start	2001

Introduction: general aspects and history of the project

The care farm is originally a dairy production farm with a conventional production. The dairy production has changed from conventional to biologic in 2001. There are 60 dairy cows and 18 sheep on the farm. Nature conservation and education are other activities on the farm.

The farm is open 3 days a week for day care. The number of clients varies from 1 to 7 a day. In total, five women visit the farm. According to this farmer, social farming is important for diversification of the farm income, satisfying personal motivations and attitudes and the wish to follow a different style of production. The motivation to start the project was diversification of the income.

The problems faced were: lack of knowledge, experience, lack of financial support and reserve of officials.

Sources of support were: information from an association. The limiting factors are not enough financial support and lack of time.

Activities today

The farmer and his wife work most of the time on the farm. The farmer works about 56 hours a week mostly for agriculture. The farmer's wife works about 10 hours a week, also most of the time for agriculture. One woman works 15 hours a week on paid basis, 2/3 of the time on agriculture. Two female volunteers 3 hours a week on care activities. For three persons, the field of qualification is agriculture, for one it is care.

The profiles of the clients that are visiting the farm are diverse: 1 person has autism, 4 persons are mental disabled and 7 are elderly. The clients are considered as persons that need support, they are not employed by the project and the farmer is paid for the support given. For the clients with a mental disability the farm is paid by the budget of the clients (€ 50,- per client per half day). For the elderly, the farm collaborates with a health institution as a subcontractor (€ 20,- per client per half day).

The impact of the care activity on the economic vitality is low. The income and costs are balanced. The composition of family income is 55% agriculture, 20% care, 5% nature conservation and 20% off farm activities. The farm has invested in facilities for clients (€ 3.000,-), equipment for clients (€ 400,-) and adaptation of tools (€ 150,-). The situation was worse 5 years ago; the income was lower. The composition of the family income in 2001 was 73% agriculture, 2% care, 5% nature conservation and 20% off farm. The expectation of the economic situation in 5 years time is that agriculture will improve, because the income will increase, care will be the same as today. The overall feeling of social farming is positive. A negative aspect is that there are a lot of people from health institutions that misuse the efforts of the farmer and his family and try to get the services for free. They feel the silent respect from many people. A negative point is that they miss the flexibility with the agricultural activities on the days that the clients are on the farm.

Side dimensions and prospects

There are nest boxes for bats on the farm, they protect nests in meadows, support diversity of species on grassland, keeping endangered farm animal breeds. Limiting factors for implementing measures of nature conservation are not enough financial support and no limitations. They think care farms are well suited to perform measures in nature conservation. The clients work in the maintenance of the trees, handcraft, and landscape elements.

They are engaged in networks and follow meetings and activities with other farmers and institutions at regional/national/international levels, participate in associations focused on this topic, and participate in negotiation processes with local administrations and public/private social services. The farm is open for visits of other farmers and citizens. They participate in meetings and events to present social farming to a wider public and provide information in social farming activities to consumers and clients of other in farm services. They find their contribution to networking medium. In their opinion social farming is clearly recognized and supported by public institutions. Social farming should be supported directly by the clients and partially by the state. Policies to support social farming are support for communication and information, define practical guidelines for entry farmers, and quality.

Name of the farm/project unknown

Activities and structure in brief

Kind of organisation	Family business
Farm/garden size (Ha)	36
Kind of veg./animal produce	Dairy cows
Social activities	Day care
Field of qualification	Agriculture
Participants/clients (n°/type)	Diverse
Project start	2001

Introduction: general aspects and history of the project

The care farm is originally a dairy production farm with a conventional production. They started with nature conservation in favour of the clients. The farm is open 4 days a week for day care and has place for 10 clients each day. These places are not filled every day. About 4 women visit the farm on a daily basis.

According to the farmer, the special value of care farms is the diversification of the income. The motivations to start the care farm were better use of available facilities, strengthening the process of integration of clients and the wish to start a private care business. The farmer and his wife didn't face any problems during the start of the project. They have got financial support of the province and followed a course about agriculture and care. There were no limiting factors for improving the care activities.

Activities today

The farmer works about 60 hours a week on the farm and his wife works 40 hours a week. Both combine the agricultural activities with care. They both have an agricultural background. The profiles of the clients who visit the farm are very diverse. Target groups are mentally disabled, people with psychiatric problems, physically disabled, young people, young people with difficulties at school, elderly, autism, and for rehabilitation after accidents or illness. The clients are considered as persons that need support, they are not employed by the project and the farmer is paid for the support given. All the clients pay the farm with their own budget. The level of funding is € 25,- for half a day. The impact of the care activity on the economic vitality is considerable. The income and costs are balanced. The family income in 2005 originates for 25% from agriculture and 75% from care. The farm invested in facilities for clients (€ 40.000,-), improved accessibility (€ 10.000,-), equipment for clients (€ 1.500,-) and adaptation of tools (€ 3.500,-). The situation 5 years ago was worse, because the income was lower. The family income in 2001 was 75% agriculture and 25% care. The expectation of the economic situation in 5 years time is that the position of care will improve, because the income will increase. The agricultural part will worsen, because the income will decrease. The positive aspects of social farming are the joy it brings and the income. The negative aspect is the paperwork. A problem is that they can not do any tractor work when there are clients on the farm.

Side dimensions and prospects

They protect nests in meadows, have special measures on arable land, and care for orchards with local varieties. Limiting factors for implementing measures are not enough financial support and lack of time. They think care farms are medium suited to perform measures in nature conservation. The clients don't work in the nature conservation.

They are engaged in networks and follow meetings and activities with other farmers and institutions at regional/national/international levels and participate in associations focused on this topic.

The farm is open for visits of other farmers and citizens. They participate in meetings and events to present social farming to a wider public and provide information in social farming activities to consumers and clients of other in farm services. They find their contribution to network activities high. In their opinion social farming should be fully supported by the state. Policies to support social farming are: support for network activities, communication and information, juridical framework to regulate these activities, monetary compensations and quality.

Name of the farm/project **Christelijke zorgboerderij Krimpenerwaard**

Activities and structure in brief

Kind of organisation	Foundation
Farm/garden size (Ha)	40
Kind of veg./animal produce	Dairy sheep
Social activities	Day care
Field of qualification	Agriculture and Care
Participants/clients (n°/type)	Autistic children (12)
Project start	2006

Introduction: general aspects and history of the project

The basis of the care farm is biological dairy sheep production. In addition education is provided. The farm is set up with the combination of care and agriculture by a young farmer and a foundation. Without care activities the young farmer could not start the farm. Care is provided 1 day a week for children with autism.

According to the farmer care farms have special value as it enables farmers to follow a different style of production and to pay attention to special care. The motivation to start the care farm was to start a private care business, instead of working in a health institution. The problems faced and the limiting factors were reserve of officials and legislation. The care farm got information from the national support centre and regional organisations.

Activities today

The farmer works 40 hours a week only in agriculture. One woman is hired for 16 hours a week to provide care. One man is paid to do administrative work for the farm. One trainee with a background in care comes for 8 hours a week on the farm.

Care is provided for 8 children one day a week. This number grows with 1 each month and the goal is to have 16 clients. The clients are considered as persons that need support, they are not employed by the project and the farmer is paid for the support given. All the clients pay the farm with their own budget, about € 45,- for half a day.

There is no impact of the care activity on the economic situation of the farm. A problem is that the costs are too high. The farm has started in 2005, so there is no estimation made of the family income so far. A positive aspect of social farming for the farmer is the increase in social contacts. The negative aspect for him is the danger of infections.

Side dimensions and prospects

They implemented several measures for nature conservation: care for orchards, building of and care for biotopes, installation of nest boxes and shelter for bats, protection of nests in meadows, and keeping endangered farm animal breeds. Limiting factor for implementing measures of nature conservation is lack of time. They don't know if care farms are specially suited to perform measures in nature conservation. The clients help with the biological vegetable garden.

They participate in associations focused on this topic and give guest lectures. In their opinion, their contribution to network activities is relatively small. There is a debate with health institutions, but so far the farmer still does not receive adequate support or recognition from these institutions. The farmer thinks that social farming should be supported directly by clients. Policies to support social farming are aids for structural investments and technical assistance.

Name of the farm/project Hoonhorst

Activities and structure in brief

Kind of organisation	Family business
Farm/garden size (Ha)	30
Kind of veg./animal produce	Dairy cows and fattening pigs
Social activities	Day care
Field of qualification	Agriculture
Participants/clients (n°/type)	Mentally disabled (1)
Project start	2002

Introduction: general aspects and history of the project

The farm is a conventional dairy production farm with fattening pigs. It is situated on the ground of “natuur monumenten” for which they have to do all the nature conservation on the farmland and preservation of the landscape elements. One client comes 4 days a week for day care.

The farmer thinks that care farms have special value for following a different style of production and the help people who need help. The motivations to start the care farm were better use of available facilities, better quality of life of clients, wanting to help people, and no possibility to expand the agricultural activities. The problems faced were lack of financial support and reserve of professionals. The care farm got information from the National support centre. The limiting factor was no cooperation of health institutions.

Activities today

The farmer works 40 hours a week in agriculture and 25 hours a week in agriculture combined with care. His wife works about 3 hours a week only for care. Their son works 60 hours a week in agriculture and 5 hours a week in agriculture combined with care. All have a background in agriculture.

One client comes 4 days a week for day care. The clients are considered as persons that need support, they are not employed by the project and the farmer is paid for the support given. The client pays the farm € 25,- per half day with his own budget.

The farmer has no idea what the impact is of the care activities on the income. The income and costs are balanced. The composition of the family income in 2005 was 70% agriculture, 20% care and 10% nature conservation. They invested in equipment for clients (€ 300,- - € 400,-). There was no change in the economic situation during the last five years. The farmer said it is a pity that health institutions pay little money for the care that farmers provide on their farms.

The overall effect of social farming is the respect you get in society as a social farmer. Social farming also gives satisfaction in life. The farmer doesn't experience any impact of care on the agricultural activities.

Side dimensions and prospects

They implement several measures for nature conservation: planting and care for hedges, protection of nests in meadows, and keeping endangered farm animal breeds. They don't experience any limiting factors for implementing measures for nature conservation. They think care farms are well suited to perform measures in nature conservation. The client helps with the maintenance of the trees.

They participate in the negotiation processes with local administrations and public/private social services, and open visits for other farmers and citizens. Their contribution to network activities is relatively small. In their opinion, social farming is clearly recognized by public institutions. Social farming should be fully supported by the state. Policies to support social farming are the definition of practical guidelines for entry farmers and monetary compensations.

Name of the farm/project **Tuinderij Buitenkans**

Activities and structure in brief

Kind of organisation	Family business
Farm/garden size (Ha)	0.3
Kind of veg./animal produce	Ornamental plants
Social activities	Day care
Field of qualification	Agriculture
Participants/clients (n°/type)	Diverse
Project start	2004

Introduction: general aspects and history of the project

The basis of the farm is the production of plants and flowers. They use a conventional production method. The products are processed on the farm. In addition they give education about farming for health to visitors. The farm is open five days a week for day care.

They think that care farms have special value for the diversification of the income. The motivations to start the care farm were diversification of activities for clients, better quality of life of clients, wanting to help people, and to start a private care business, instead of working in a health institution. The problems faced were lack of professional support and reserve of professionals. The limiting factors were lack of clients and transport of clients.

Activities today

The farmer and his wife work 40 hours a week on the farm. They combine the agricultural activities with care activities.

Around 8 clients come 4 days a week on the farm and 6 clients come half a day on the farm. The clients are considered as persons that need support, they are not employed by the project and the farmer is paid for the support given. For the young people the farmer receives € 34,50 per half day and for the homeless people € 3.000,- a year.

The impact of the care activity on the economic situation is considerable. The income and costs are balanced. The composition of the family income is 10% agriculture and 90% care. The farmer has done no investments. He thinks that the economic situation will improve the coming 5 years, because the income will increase.

The care activities have no impact on the agricultural activities.

Side dimensions and prospects

They implemented care for orchards as nature conservation.

They don't participate in networks or social activities. Their contribution to networking activities is relatively small. To their opinion, social farming is clearly recognized by public institutions, but there is a lack of attention on the topic. Social farming should be supported directly by clients, partially supported by the state, or fully supported by the state.

Policies to stimulate social farming should be support for communication and information.

Name of the farm/project De Grote Wiede

Activities and structure in brief

Kind of organisation	Family business
Farm/garden size (Ha)	0.75
Kind of veg./animal produce	Ornamental plants
Social activities	Day care
Field of qualification	Agriculture
Participants/clients (n°/type)	Diverse
Project start	2004

Introduction: general aspects and history of the project

The farm has a biological production method for ornamental plants. They also have some animals for pleasure. Products are processed on the farm. The farm is also involved in nature conservation. The farm is open five days a week for day care.

To their opinion, care farms have special value for satisfying personal motivations and attitudes. The motivation to start the care farm were diversificating income, expanding social network, better quality of life of clients, better use of available facilities, wanting to help people, and to start a private care business, instead of working in a health institution. The problems faced were lack of professional support, reserve of professionals, and reserve of officials. The limiting factors were lack of time, no cooperation of health institutions, and lack of clients.

Activities today

The farmer works 40 hour a week in agriculture, 40 hours a week in care and 40 hours a week for the combination of agriculture and care. His wife works 20 hours a week in agriculture, 40 hours a week in care and 40 hours a week in de combination of agriculture and care. The have one employee from the health institution who works 4 hours a week on the farm and one volunteer who works 16 hours a week on the farm.

The number of clients varies between five and two clients per half day. The clients are considered as persons that need support, they are not employed by the project and the farmer is paid for the support given. The farm gets between € 21,- and € 43,- paid per hour.

The impact of the care activity on the economic situation is moderate. The income is too low. The composition of family income is 75% agriculture and 25% care. The farm has invested in facilities for clients (€ 1.000,-). The expectation is that the economic situation will improve in 5 year, because income will increase to a greater extent than the costs.

The positive impact of the care activity is that the whole family is involved. At the other hand, this is the negative impact as well. The children don't want to be involved the whole time. The overall impact is the enlarged social feeling and combining agricultural production with care.

Side dimensions and prospects

They implemented several measures for nature conservation: planting and care for hedges, building of and care for biotopes, installation of nest boxes and shelter for bats, and keeping endangered farm animal breeds. Limiting factors for implementing measures of nature conservation are not enough financial support, lack of time, and lack of labour force. They think care farms are excellent suited to perform measures in nature conservation.

They don't participate in network activities because they have a lack of time. The farm has open visits for other farmers and citizens. Their contribution to network activities is very small.

They do not receive adequate support or recognition, and there is a lack of attention on the topic. In their opinion, social farming should be partially supported by the state. Policies to serve social farming are monetary compensations, aids for structural investments, and vocational training

Name of the farm/project Meerhoeve

Activities and structure in brief	
Kind of organisation	Family business
Farm/garden size (Ha)	40.5
Kind of veg./animal produce	Arable and ornamental plants
Social activities	Day care
Field of qualification	Agriculture
Participants/clients (n°/type)	Diverse
Project start	2003

Introduction: general aspects and history of the project

The basis of the farm is conventional arable production. In addition there are some farm animals. The farm is open four days per week for day care. They think that care farms have special value for following a different style of production.

The motivations to start the care farm were better quality of life of clients, wanting to help people, strengthening the process of integration of clients, and diversification of income. The problems faced were lack of professional support, lack of financial support, reserve of professionals, reserve of officials. The limiting factors were no cooperation of health institutions, lack of clients, and transport of clients.

Activities today

The farmer works 30 hours a week in agriculture, 20 hours a week in care and 10 hours a week in the combination of agriculture and care. His wife works 20 hours a week in agriculture and 36 hours a week in the combination of agriculture and care. Their daughter works 30 hours a week in care and 10 hours a week in the combination of agriculture and care. Their son works 10 hours a week in the combination of agriculture and care.

The number of clients varies between two and four per half day. The clients are considered as persons that need support, they are not employed by the project and the farmer is paid for the support given. The farmer receives € 25,- per client per half day.

The impact of the care activity on the economic situation is moderate. The income is too low. The composition of the family income is 10% agriculture, 20% care and 70% other activities. The farm has invested in facilities for clients (€ 1.500,-), improvement of accessibility (€ 500,-), equipment for clients (€ 500,-), adaptation of tools for clients (€ 500,-), and adaptation of animal husbandry (€ 400,-). Their expectation is that the care activities will become a large part of their income.

The positive impact is the added value of the farm and of life itself. The negative aspect is that some activities are not suitable for clients. The overall aspect is that the care farm is an enrichment for the whole family.

Side dimensions and prospects

They implement several measures for nature conservation: building of and care for biotopes, and keeping endangered farm animal breeds. Limiting factors for implementing measures of nature conservation are not enough financial support and bad experiences with nature conservation. They think care farms are medium suited to perform measures in nature conservation.

They participate in meetings and activities with other farmers and institutions at regional/national/international level, associations focused on this topic, and in the negotiation processes with local administrations and public/private social services. The farm has open visits for other farmers and citizens, active participation in educational training programmes, active participation in meetings and events to present social farming to a wider public, and provide information on social farming activities to consumers and clients of other on farm services. Their contribution to network activities is high. In their opinion, social farming should be partially supported by the state. Policies to serve social farming are support for networking activities, support for communication and information, aids for structural investments, vocational training, and quality.

Name of the farm/project **Cornelishoeve**

Activities and structure in brief

Kind of organisation	Family business
Farm/garden size (Ha)	31
Kind of veg./animal produce	Dairy cows
Social activities	Day care
Field of qualification	Agriculture
Participants/clients (n°/type)	Diverse
Project start	2004

Introduction: general aspects and history of the project

The basis of the farm is conventional dairy production. The farm provides four days per week day care. According to the farmer, care farms have special value for the diversification of the income and satisfying personal motivations and attitudes. The motivations to start the care farm were better use of available facilities, better quality of life of clients, and strengthening the process of integration of clients. The problems faced were reserve of professionals and reserve of officials. The limiting factors were lack of clients and transport of clients.

Activities today

The farmer and his son both own the farm. The farmer works 30 hours a week in agriculture and 32 hours a week in the combination of agriculture and care. His son works 32 hours a week in the combination of agriculture and care. There is also a volunteer for seven hours a week.

There are three to seven clients per half day on the farm. The clients are considered as persons that need support, they are not employed by the project and the farmer is paid for the support given. The farmer receives between € 32,50 and € 43,50 per half day.

The impact of the care activity on the economic situation is considerable. The income and costs are balanced. The composition of the family income is 50% agriculture, 35% care and 15% other activities. The farm has invested in facilities for clients (€ 70.000,-), to improve accessibility (€ 18.000,-) and adaptation of tools for clients (€ 800,-). The expectation is that the economic situation for care will improve, because the income will increase. The income for agriculture will worsen, because the income will decrease.

Side dimensions and prospects

The farm does not implement measures for nature conservation. Limiting factor for implementing measures of nature conservation are not enough financial support, lack of time, and no direct outcome for the farm. They think care farms are rather not suited to perform measures in nature conservation.

They participate in meetings and activities with other farmers. The farm has open visits for other farmers and citizens, and provides information on social farming activities to consumers and clients of other on farm services. Their contribution to network activities is high.

In their opinion, social farming is clearly recognized and supported by public institutions. Social farming should be supported directly by clients. There is no need for any special policy.

Name of the farm/project Lindenhoff

Activities and structure in brief

Kind of organisation	Family business
Farm/garden size (Ha)	30.25
Kind of veg./animal produce	Fattening cows and vegetables
Social activities	Day care
Field of qualification	Agriculture and Care
Participants/clients (n°/type)	Diverse
Project start	2006

Introduction: general aspects and history of the project

The basis of the farm is fattening cows and the biological production of vegetables. There is also a shop. Products are processed and the farm is involved in nature conservation. The farm is open five days a week for day care for clients.

According to them, social farming has special values for everybody who wants to experience agriculture, nature, animal and well being without to make profit. Live life like one does for centuries. The motivation to start the care farm were expanding social network, wanting to help people, better quality of life of clients, and diversification of activities for clients. The problems faced were lack of professional support and lack of financial support. The limiting factor was lack of clients.

Activities today

The farmer works 24 hours a week in agriculture and 16 hours a week the combination of agriculture and care. He has a background in agriculture and in care. The profiles of the clients are mental disability, psychiatric problems, ex drug and alcohol misuse, and young people. One woman visits the farm two days a week. The clients are considered as persons that need support, they are not employed by the project and the farmer is paid for the support given. The farm collaborates with a health institution as a subcontractor. Per client the farm receives € 25,- per half day.

The impact of the care activity on the economic situation is moderate. The income and costs are balanced. The family income is not known. The farm has invested in the improvement of access (€ 2.000,-), equipment for clients (€ 800,-), and adaptation of agricultural production (€ 1.200,-). There is no change in the economic situation since the start of the care activities.

Social farming is most important because of the social aspect. The agricultural activities are done in the morning before the clients come on the farm. In that way the work of the clients is not under pressure.

Side dimensions and prospects

They implemented several measures for nature conservation: care for orchards, planting and care for hedges, building of and care for biotopes. They do not see limitations to implement measures of nature conservation. They think care farms are very well suited to perform measures in nature conservation. Clients help with maintenance of the nature on the farm.

They participate in meetings and activities with other farmers and institutions at regional/national/international levels. The farm has open visits for other farmers and citizens, active participation in educational training programmes, and provides information on social farming activities to consumers and clients of other on farm services. Their contribution to network activities is medium. They think that social farming is clearly supported by public institutions and there are adverse positions against social farming. Social farming should be supported directly by clients, indirectly by consumers and partially by the state. Policies to serve social farming are support for networking activities, support for communication and information, monetary compensations aids for structural investments, aids for structural investments, and quality.

Name of the farm/project Saenmond

Activities and structure in brief	
Kind of organisation	Family business
Farm/garden size (Ha)	45
Kind of veg./animal produce	Dairy cows
Social activities	Day care
Field of qualification	Agriculture
Participants/clients (n°/type)	Diverse; at this moment psychiatric background
Project start	2005

Introduction: general aspects and history of the project

The farm combines conventional dairy production with nature conservation. One day a week one client visits the farm for day care.

The motivations to start social farming were expanding social network, better quality of life of clients, and wanting to help people. The problems faced were lack of knowledge and/or experience. The farm received information about care from a regional organisation. The farm faced no limiting factors.

Activities today

The farmer works 7 hours a week in agriculture, 2 hours a week in care and 9 hours a week in the combination of agriculture and care. He has a background in agriculture. His wife works 3 hours a week in agriculture, 6 hours a week in care and 9 hours a week in the combination agriculture and care. She finished high school.

The profiles of the client are psychiatric problems, ex offender and ex drug and alcohol misuse. The farm gets € 25,- paid for a half day. The clients are considered as persons that need support, they are not employed by the project and the farmer is paid for the support given.

The farmer has no idea about what the impact is of the care activities. He thinks that the income is too low. The farm has invested only small amounts of money in equipment for clients (€ 86,-) and adaptation of tools for clients (€ 120,-).

Side dimensions and prospects

They think care farms are medium suited to perform measures in nature conservation. The client helps with the preservation of special biotopes.

They participate in associations focussed on social farming. The farm has an active participation in meetings and events to present social farming to a wider public. Their contribution to network activities is medium. In their opinion, social farming should be partially supported by the state. A policy to serve social farming is development of quality standards.

Name of the farm/project Komt en Gaat in Vrede

Activities and structure in brief

Kind of organisation	Family business
Farm/garden size (Ha)	27
Kind of veg./animal produce	Dairy cows
Social activities	Day care
Field of qualification	Agriculture
Participants/clients (n°/type)	Mentally and physically disabled
Project start	2001

Introduction: general aspects and history of the project

The basis of the farm is conventional dairy production. The farm is open one day a week for three clients for day care.

According to them, social farming has special value for the diversification of the income and satisfying personal motivations and attitudes. The motivations to start the care farm were diversification of activities for clients, better use of available facilities, better quality of life of clients, expanding social network, wanting to help people, to start a private care business, instead of working in a health institution, diversification income, and cost reduction of care/therapy. No problems or limiting factors were faced during the starting process.

Activities today

The farmer work 16 hours a week in a combination of agriculture and care. His wife works 4 hours a week in a combination of agriculture and care. Both have a background in agriculture.

The profiles of the clients are mental disability and physical disability. One out of the three clients is a woman. The clients are considered as persons that need support, they are not employed by the project and the farmer is paid for the support given. The farm collaborates with a health institution as a subcontractor and gets paid € 50,- per a half day per client.

The impact of the care activity on the economic situation is moderate. The income and costs are balanced. The composition of the family income is € 40.000,- agriculture, € 5.000,- care and € 15.000 other. The farm has invested in facilities for clients (€ 2.000,-). Five years ago the situation was better. The expectation is that the economic situation will become better for care, because the income will increase. They think that the economic situation will not change for agriculture.

The positive aspect of social farming is talking about what the clients have in their minds. The negative aspect is that they drink coffee when the children ask their attention. The overall effect is positive.

Side dimensions and prospects

The farm doesn't take any nature conservation measures, because the soil doesn't give the opportunity. They think care farms are medium suited to perform measures in nature conservation.

They participate in meetings and activities with other farmers and institutions at regional/national/international levels, and associations focused on this topic. The farm has an active participation in meetings and events to present social farming to a wider public. Their contribution to network activities is medium. According to them, social farming should be fully supported by the state. Policies to serve social farming are support for networking activities, support for communication and information, the definition of practical guidelines for entry farmers, monetary compensations, juridical framework to regulate these activities, vocational training, and quality.

Name of the farm/project Schapenstreek

Activities and structure in brief

Kind of organisation	Family business
Farm/garden size (Ha)	30
Kind of veg./animal produce	Dairy sheeps
Social activities	Day care
Field of qualification	Agriculture
Participants/clients (n°/type)	Diverse
Project start	2005

Introduction: general aspects and history of the project

The basis of the farm is biological dairy sheep production. Besides the dairy production there is a shop, recreation, education, landscape conservation, and processing of products. The farm is open 4 days a week for clients and provide day care. The maximum number of clients is 6 a day and the minimum is 2. The number of women is 1 or 2 clients a day.

The special value of the care farm for them is contributing to the wellbeing of the clients. The motivations to start the care farm were expanding the social network, better quality of life of clients, strengthen the process of normalization of clients, wanting to help people, and to let people experience the farm and the surroundings. The problems faced during the start were the reserve of professionals and officials. They have got support for agriculture and information from Landzijde (regional organization). Limiting factors now are the lack of clients and no cooperation of health institutions.

Activities today

The farmer works 20 hours a week in agriculture and combines 36 hours a week agriculture and care. His wife works 10 hours a week in agriculture and also combines 36 hours a week agriculture and care. Both have a background in agriculture.

The profiles of the clients are mental disability, psychiatric problems, and ex drug and alcohol misuse. The clients are considered as persons that need support, they are not employed by the project and the farmer is paid for the support given. The source of income is the clients own budget, which is paid by Landzijde. The farm gets € 25,- per client per half a day. The farm also get subsidy for the sheep, which is about € 3.00,- per year.

The impact of the care activity on the economic situation is considerable. The income and costs are balanced. The composition of the family income is 30% agriculture, 60% care and 10% other activities. The farm has invested in facilities for clients (€ 1.000,-), equipment for clients (€ 400,-) and adaptation of tools for clients (€ 300,-). They think that the economic situation will improve in 5 year, because the income will increase.

Positive aspects of social farming is the pleasure it brings together with the money. The negative aspect is the loss of privacy of the children. Without the care activity the farm had to stop processing of products from the dairy production and the vegetables.

Side dimensions and prospects

Many measures were taken for nature conservation: planting and care for hedges, building of and care for biotopes, protection of nests in meadows, and support diversity of species on grasslands. The limiting factor is not enough financial support. They think that care farms are well suited to perform measures in nature conservation and landscape care. The clients work with the maintenance of the hedges on the farm.

They are engaged in networks and follow meetings and activities with other farmers and institutions at regional/national/international levels, participate in associations focused on this topic and negotiation processes with local administrations and public/private social services. The farm is open for visits for other farmers and citizens, the farmer and his wife active participate in educational training programmes and meetings and events to present social farming to a wider public, and provide information on social farming activities to consumers and clients of other on farm services. They consider their contribution to networking as very high. They think that social farming should be fully supported by the state. Policies that could serve social farming are: support on networking activities and communication and information, definition of practical guidelines for entry farmers, monetary compensations, and aid for structural investments.

Name of the farm/project Van Velsen

Activities and structure in brief

Kind of organisation	Family business
Farm/garden size (Ha)	25
Kind of veg./animal produce	Dairy cows
Social activities	Day care
Field of qualification	Agriculture and Care
Participants/clients (n°/type)	Diverse
Project start	2004

Introduction: general aspects and history of the project

The farm is a conventional dairy production farm. They provide 2 days a week day care for 3 clients. They think that the special value of care farms is diversification of the income. The motivations to start the care farm were improvement of the quality of life of clients, wanting to help people, and the wish to start a private care business. Problems faced during the start were reserve of professionals and officials. They received information from a regional organisation. Limiting factors now are no cooperation of health institutions.

Activities today

The farmer works 80 hours a week in agriculture and has a background in agriculture. His wife works about 20 hours a week in agriculture and 14 hours a week in care and has a background in care. The profiles of the clients are mental and/or physical disability, and elderly with dementia. The group of clients is 3 persons. The clients are considered as persons that need support, they are not employed by the project and the farmer is paid for the support given. The farm receives a salary for the elderly with dementia of € 22,50 per half day, for the clients with a mental disability € 25,- per half a day and for the clients with a physical disability € 20,- per half day.

The impact on the economic situation is moderate. The income and costs are balanced. The composition of the family income is 80% agriculture and 20% care. The farm has done no investments for care activities. The expectation is that the economic situation will improve for the care activities, because the income will increase. Agriculture will worsen, because the income will decrease. The positive aspects of care activities are that one can help other people and to provide care with keeping the farm in its original state. The negative aspect is that you have to take care what kind of work you can do with the clients. The overall effect is the satisfaction for the whole family. A specific point for consideration is that some of the agricultural activities can not be done when there are clients on the farm. Other activities are done specially for the clients.

Side dimensions and prospects

This farm doesn't have certain measures for nature conservation. The limiting factors for implementing measures of nature conservation are not enough financial support and no direct outcome for the farm. They don't know if care farms are specially suited to perform measures in nature conservation and landscape care.

The farmer and his wife participate in lobbying activities, in associations focussed on this topic, in meetings and events to present social farming to a wider public and provide information on social farming activities. They estimate their current contribution to networking as medium. They find that there is a lack of attention on the topic. Social farming should be fully supported by the state. Policies that could serve social farming are: support on networking activities and communication and information.