VOLANTE

D1.2 Summary

Summary reports for each case study including additional data
This report serves as the documentation of the survey results. It presents the main findings for each case study in summary form as well as tables which provide detailed documentation for the investigated topics. Each section of this report, which reports the findings for one case study, is structured according to 7 topics:

1. Biographical Information (age, duration of ownership, education, etc)
2. Property Characteristics (size, ownership type,)
3. Economic Activities (agriculture and non-agricultural economic activities)
4. Time and employment (level of engagement in agriculture and other economic activities)
5. Agricultural/Forestry production on property (land use and livestock ownership 2002 and 2012,)
6. Land use change decisions (types of changes and motives for changes)
7. Knowledge and use of subsidies (Natura2000 and other EU nature protection policies and regulations).

The following observations summarize the main findings from each case study.

Lesvos
The area is marginal from a national/regional perspective. Mytiline and its environs in Lesvos have not yet become tourism ‘hot spots’, as is the case for many Aegean islands The majority of respondents were families owning small farm properties, run by family members themselves. High dependence on off-farm income is found and farm diversification has not taken hold. There is a need for development of innovative strategies in farm diversification. Hobby farmers constitute the main category, while their level of engagement in farming has remained stable over the last 10 years. Farming, and especially full-time farming landowners, is more commonly associated with the countryside than with the town. Crop and livestock production remained more or less stable (production mostly for own consumption), while a decrease has been detected in crop yield, nitrogen and pesticide use. Crop production is more widespread and important then livestock. The main land use changes concern transformation of grasslandl areas to perennial crops. Mytiline is a mid-size Aegean town, slowly opening up to tourism. Its environs still maintain their rural character, through alternative forms of tourism development. There is a potential for farm diversification from a productive past to a post-productive future.

Heerde
The marginalization of agriculture in rural society of Heerde is increasingly apparent. The share of part-time and hobby farmers has increased in the last 10 years and the se farmers play an important role, in particular in comparison to more progressive agricultural regions in the Netherlands. The average farm size and stocking rate are slightly lower than national average. The farmer population is aging with farmers beyond retirement age and a limited number of successors. Many farmers have chosen to gradually extensify their agricultural activities. The foot and mouth epidemic has had a major impact and led many farmers to off-farm activities or on-farm diversification. The full-time farmers that remain in the area have limited options for expansion due to urban pressure. The vicinity of National Park ‘De Veluwe’ and other Natura2000 areas limits opportunities for expansion and regulations for livestock are perceived as very strict. It is hard for competitive farmers to keep up with the on-going scale enlargement. It is expected only few full-time farmers remain. A shift from ‘production’ to ‘consumption’ land use is expected. There is engagement in landscape through the maintenance and establishment of landscape elements. Twocampings fare well and domestic tourism might become an increasingly important. Hobby farming with sheep and horses are increasingly important. With the establishment of ‘fast internet’ and nature and landscape preservation the region might be able to attract telecommuters to enjoy the countryside and engage in hobby farming.

Portofino
The Portofino case study is a showcase for declining agriculture in upland Mediterranean landscape. The majority of the population consists of old farmers, with a shrinking agricultural area which depends for a limited extent on farm income. There has been a continuing trend of land abandonment and extensification of land use. Olive groves have been reduced and culturamista and vineyards have
almost vanished. The aims of the Regional park and farmers are conflicting: the park strives for more ‘natural areas’, farmers want to maintain their lands. The role of farmers is not acknowledged by the managers of the Regional Park, and although there has been a cultural landscape for many centuries, the tendency is that cultivated land reverts to natural groves. The farmers position is further weakened by wild boars. The labour involved in maintaining terraces and fences coupled with the age of farmers, results in further marginalisation. The vicinity of urban centres and development of tourism with alternative employment opportunities leads to an exodus from farming. If payment mechanisms are developed for landscape management, farming could have a future in such marginalised areas.

**Romania**

The case study is representative for the rural South-East part of the Romania (Romanian Plain and Danube Floodplain), in majority agricultural areas with farms for vegetable production. The land is used mainly for agriculture, especially cereal crops, the farmers having only small numbers of animals. The results show that most of the farms are family-run farms, although most of the land is managed by companies. The family farm land was obtained predominantly by land restitution process after 1990 – when in the post-socialist era Romania began land reforms. More than half of the full time farmers are older than 60, the farming activity is providing less than 50% of the household income and one third of the respondents have agricultural training. Part of the vegetable and livestock production is used for household consumption. The land use changes over the last 10 years are very limited, but extensification is the tendency: annual crops being afforested or planted with woody energy crops.

**Reichraming**

According to the survey results and the interviews, the long lasting trend that small farms tend to give up farming or become part time farms while bigger farms keep on growing is still on-going, though slowing down. One of the most interesting findings of the case study was the fact that although intensification is hard to achieve in the area of study, farms still do intensify. The main aim of intensification is to become less work intensive and thus more attractive for younger generations. In many cases this implies that the work load on the farm allows for part time farming which also seems to be more attractive for the successors. There are farms that changed their production to a new, less labour intensive farming type, which allow for part-time farming. Very few farms are exploring innovative niches such as the direct selling. Subsidies are an important source of income and thus influence the way land is managed. Farmers know them well and try to make use of them although they do not appreciate the regulations and wish to become more independent from subsidies.

**Roskilde**

Roskilde municipality and is located approximately 30 km west of Copenhagen and represents a peri-urban location. The overall characteristics of a peri-urban area found were a small percentage of full-time farmers, a high percentage of non-farmers and almost two-thirds of the land owners have income from non-agricultural activities which either use the land or buildings. The main motive for property purchase was dwelling purposes. Approximately one third of the respondents have changed from annual crops to less intensive land uses. Compared to their number hobby farmers have made much afforestation and left large areas unmanaged. But also part-time farmers have participated in afforestation. Full-time farmers have changed much area to perennial crops, and planted some bushes. The non-farmers have been less active. The most important landscape element changes are establishment of hedgerows and ponds whereas very few landscape elements have been removed. It is expected that the attractive location and characteristics of the area (closeness to major urban areas, good infrastructure, attractive rural landscape) will increasingly make recreational and residential motives stand out as the most important motives for property purchase and use. Interestingly, despite the high agricultural potential of the area, the area still experiences a decline in the number of full-time farmers. Production is likely to become increasingly concentrated on fewer farms.