



# **Multifunctionality as key concept for agriculture sustainability scenarios: *the TOP-Mard Approach***

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# *I. Structure*

## **1. Definition of Multifunctionality**

### **1.1. Definition of Multifunctionality**

### **1.2. Multifunctionality: TOP-MARD approach**

## **2. TOP- MARD project:**

### **2.1. Aim**

### **2.2. Objectives**

### **2.3. TOP-MARD approach to sustainable agriculture and RD.**

## **3. Some reflections about Multifunctionality as key to agrarian sustainability in Spain**

### **3.1. General context**

### **3.2. Scenarios of Multifunctionality for Sustainable Agriculture**

## **4. Some final ideas**



# 1. Definition of Multifunctionality



## **1.1. What is agrarian multifunctionality:**

**Two domains of agrarian multifunctionality:**

- a) The analytical one or activity-oriented concept: It describes the characteristics of farm production, the outcomes from land uses and the joint-production, focusing on these relationships.**
  
- b) The normative domain or policy-oriented concept : it is considered as a policy instrument of rural development.**



## **1.2. What is multifunctionality: TOP-MARD approach**

**Broader definition** considers and emphasizes the generation of non-commodity outputs that relate multifunctionality not only with the environment (**Narrow definition**) but with the safety of food production, rural viability and quality of life in rural areas.

**Holistic or 'joined-up' approach:** analyses all market and non-market production relationships by examining the ***input and output ends of the production*** and household livelihood processes, as well as ***the positive and negative non-market outputs and inputs*** involved.

**Disaggregated approach** the relation between market and non-market functions is sensitive to farming styles, farm type and structure, farm household characteristics, and regional and local contexts.



## ***2. TOP-MARD project***



## **2.1. TOP-MARD: aim**

**The main aim** of the research is to develop the concept of multifunctionality as a rural development policy instrument that is sensitive to economic, social, cultural and environmental contexts of the European Union.



## **2.2. TOP-MARD: Objectives**

- 1. To identify the market and non-market functions of agriculture** in a range of European rural contexts considering the disaggregated approach.
- 2. To evaluate the nature and degree of co-production** (*jointness* or *competition*) between the market and non-market goods and services.
- 3. To analyse the factors influencing or determining the nature and degree of different kinds of market and non-market relationships** in the production process.
- 4. To analyse the linkages between these multiple functions and the development of rural areas and their quality of life and environment.**
- 5. To elaborate a systematic and dynamic computer-based model** reflecting the **relationships involved**.
- 6. To provide a tool for policy makers which can assist in evaluating the impacts of policy changes on both agriculture and regional development** in different European contexts.



## ***2.3. TOP-MARD approach to sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development***

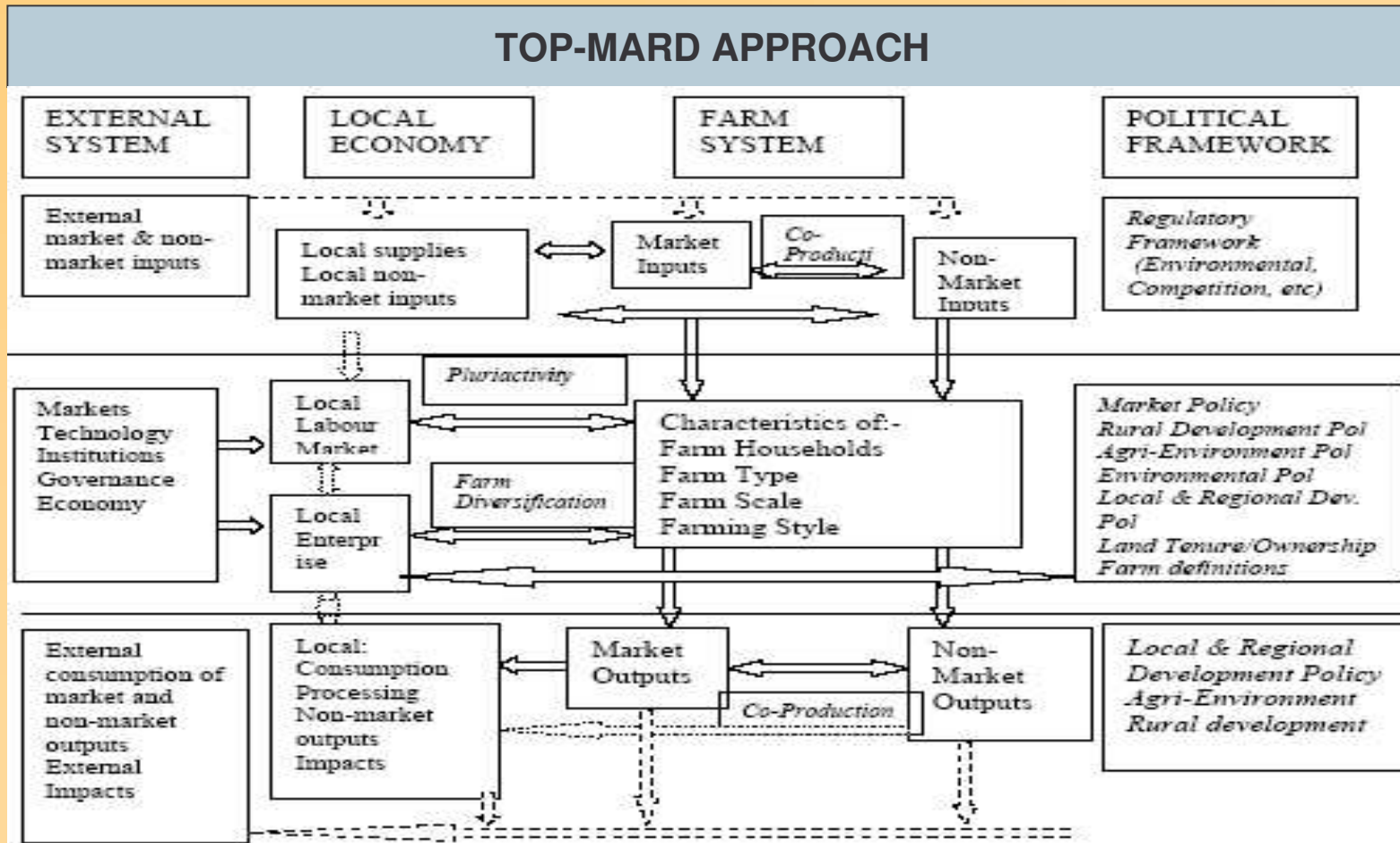
# Production of FOOD & VIABILITY OF FARMS



Production of ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Sustainable Agriculture

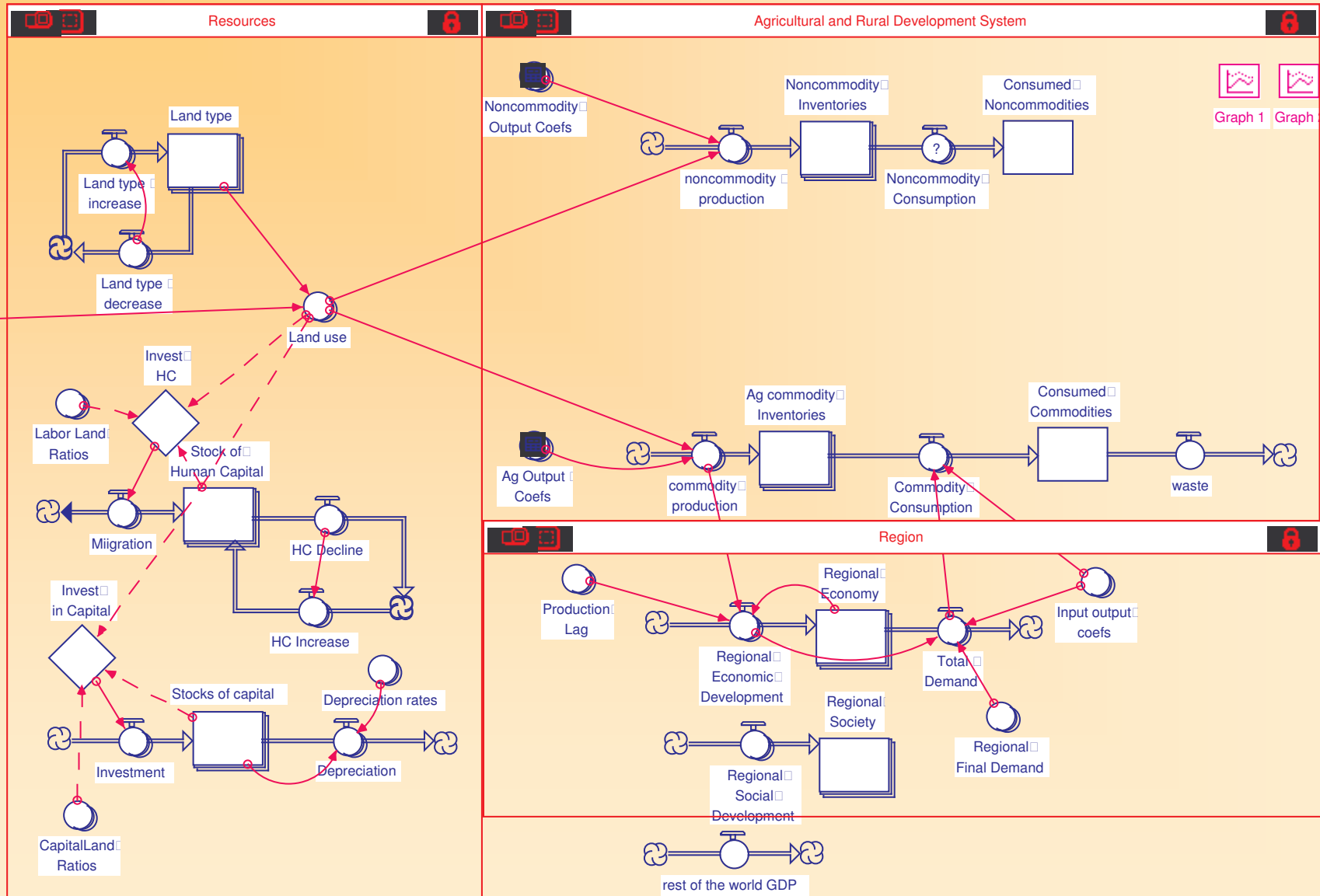
Production of SOCIAL BENEFITS



Quality of Life

Rural Development



# 2.3. TOP-MARD approach to Multifunctional Agriculture and Rural Development





### **3. Some reflections about Multifunctionality as a key to agrarian sustainability in Spain**

## **3.1. General context of the Spanish agriculture**

1. Diverse / Varied
2. Farming systems or styles 
3. The ecosystems with remarkable factors of fragility
4. Rural areas: unevenly distributed population 



# Farming Styles

1. **Traditional extensive systems** in dry land devoted to cereals, sunflower and fallow.
2. **Mediterranean crop systems** in dry land, devoted to vineyards, olive groves and almond trees.
3. **Dehesas systems:** extensive agricultural systems with a mixture of crops, cattle and woodlands.
4. **Extensive livestock systems**, predominantly in mountain or hilly areas, with sheep, goat and cattle presence.
5. **Intensive systems in irrigated land** dedicated to horticulture (vegetable and fruit crops) and other productions such as sugar beet, alfalfa, cereals, tobacco and cotton.
6. **Intensive livestock systems** of pigs, poultry, rabbits and calves.





## 3.2. Multifunctionality is applied to the following scenarios

1. Areas with risk of marginalisation and depopulation
2. Traditional and extensive systems (or styles)
3. The most fragile ecosystems

**Sustainability of the Less Favoured Areas.**

<i>Agro System</i>	<i>NCO</i>	<i>CO</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Traditional extensive</li><li>2. Dehesas</li><li>3. Mediterranean extensive crop</li><li>4. Extensive livestock</li></ol> <p>Nº of trees, borders, fallows, permanent pastures, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Biodiversity: birds, flora</li><li>• Landscape</li><li>• Reduction soil erosion</li><li>• Reduction fires</li><li>• Cultural identity</li><li>• Social fabric</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Food</li><li>• Raw materials</li><li>• Rural tourism</li><li>• Retail trade</li><li>• Agroindustry</li></ul>

**Sustainability of the Less Favoured Areas.**

On-farm diversification  
Pluriactivity  
Quality label  
Leader

↑  
MTF  
Policies

Agrienvironmental  
Land protection  
Environmental directives



## **4. Some final ideas**

**Multifunctionality agrarian contracts as a key for sustainable development in those agrarian marginal areas**

**Sustainable Rural Development strategy: the key elements of sustainability for the territory**

**Farm multifunctional strategy in accordance to the SRD Strategy and CAP.**

**Farm multifunctional strategy with no impacts on market prices distortion in accordance to WTO and Developing issues.**



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