

IPSI Case Study Summary Sheet

Basic Information

Title of case study <i>(should be concise and within approximately 25 words)</i>			
Heritage wheat renaissance in Montespertoli, Tuscany			
Submitting IPSI member organization(s)			
Romualdo del Bianco Foundation			
Other contributing organization(s) <i>(IPSI members and/or non-members)</i>			
University of St Andrews			
Author(s) and affiliation(s)			
Guido Gualandi, Romualdo del Bianco Foundation; Rebecca Narcisa Gualandi, University of St Andrews			
Format of case study <i>(manuscript or audiovisual)</i>	Manuscript	Language	English
Keywords <i>(3-5 key concepts included in the case study)</i>			
Ancient grains; Mezzadria; Montespertoli; Pasta; Tuscan bread; Wheat			
Date of submission <i>(or update, if this is an update of an existing case study)</i>	1 November 2016		
Web link <i>(of the case study or lead organization if available for more information)</i>			

Geographical Information

Country <i>(where site(s) or activities described in the case study are located – can be multiple, or even “global”)</i>									
Italy									
Location(s) <i>(within the country or countries – leave blank if specific location(s) cannot be identified)</i>									
Tuscany									
Longitude/latitude or Google Maps link <i>(if location is identified)</i>									
https://www.google.com/maps/@43.6395302,11.0610746,10z?hl=en									
Ecosystem(s) <i>(please place an “x” in all appropriate boxes)</i>									
Forest		Grassland		Agricultural	x	In-land water		Coastal	
Dryland		Mountain		Urban/peri-urban		Other (Please specify)			
Socioeconomic and environmental characteristics of the area <i>(within 50 words)</i>									
Montespertoli is a Tuscan town with 13,000 inhabitants and an area of 125 square kilometres in the Florence area. Its economy is mostly based on agriculture and tourism with some inhabitants commuting to Florence for work.									
Description of human-nature interactions in the area <i>(land-use, traditional resource management practices etc. – within 50 words)</i>									
Montespertoli has for centuries been a strong wheat producer, selling its wheat locally and to nearby towns such as Florence. In the Virginio valley in Montespertoli, more than ten mills were operating up to the past century. Today, only one mill remains.									

Contents

Status <i>(“ongoing” or “completed”)</i>	Ongoing	Period <i>(MM/YY to MM/YY)</i>	2004 -
Rationale <i>(why activities or policies described, or information shared in the case study are needed – within 50 words)</i>			
The ancient grains project brings back know-how and jobs to the SEPL. It promotes social aggregation around the agricultural calendar and traditions. It sponsors sustainable agriculture, and increases biodiversity in wheat and local flora and fauna. Finally, it brings to the consumer better quality products with several health benefits.			
Objectives <i>(goals of activities or policies described, or of producing the case study – within 50 words)</i>			
The aim of the organisation is to protect and help producers respect the guidelines and promote ancient grain products. The association also acts as a facilitator of cooperation among stakeholders.			
Activities and/or practices employed <i>(within 50 words)</i>			
The work is really a combination of different heritage skills. The university team helped select the wheat varieties and develop the processes for milling and bread and pasta making, as well as made progress on research on health benefits.			

An agronomist follows the producers in the field. The miller, bakers and pasta makers prepare the products and sell them, helped by other members of the association. The association promotes the products.
Results <i>(within 50 words)</i>
Guidelines that involve all the steps from growing the wheat to milling, baking and making pasta were created based on university research to guarantee a healthy and high quality product. 2015 has seen a record production of 80,000 kilograms of wheat, with three pasta makers and three or four bakers and flour shops selling the products in all areas of Florence.
Lessons learned <i>(factors in success or failure, challenges and opportunities – within 40 words)</i>
Both the Ancient Grains Association and the local council sponsor sustainable agriculture that increases biodiversity in wheat and local flora and fauna. Cooperation between the three stakeholders is a key factor for success. An analysis of the birth of this project shows that it was surely initiated by academic research on biodiversity, then gained attention and spread to SEPLs in the Tuscan Region
Key messages <i>(within 40 words)</i>
Initiatives such as the non-profit Ancient Grains Association that sponsors local cultivation, milling, baking and pasta production reap substantial benefits for the local population. Eventually these innovations will need to be supported by the national and European agricultural system, such as including ancient varieties in the subsidies and rewards system.
Relationship to other IPSI activities <i>(if the case study is related to any other IPSI collaborative activities, case studies, etc.)</i>
This case study originally appeared in the Satoyama Initiative Thematic Review v. 2.

Contributions to Global Agendas

CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets (<https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>)

The table below shows based on the self-evaluation by author(s). ● and ■ indicates the “direct” or “indirect” contributions to the CBD’s Aichi Biodiversity Targets respectively to which the work described in this case study contributes to.

Strategic Goal A				Strategic Goal B					
●		■				●	●		
Strategic Goal C			Strategic Goal D			Strategic Goal E			
■		●					■	■	

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>)

The table below shows based on the self-evaluation by author(s). ● and ■ indicates the “direct” or “indirect” contributions to the SDGs respectively to which the work described in this case study contributes to.

	■	●					●	
		●			■			