



Enhancing access to health services in rural areas

Utilising our biggest rural community-asset - agriculture

The case of Dolan's social farm

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Rural GP in Northern Ireland

and

Malachy Dolan

Co-Chair Social Farms and Gardens

Farmers/social farmers



Social prescribing- a definition

Social prescribing is a means of connecting people to a range of non-clinical initiatives in the community to improve their health and well-being through activation, and social mobilisation thereby addressing some social determinants of health.

The sources of support can cover a wide range of activities generally coordinated by local community groups, public health projects and at times by primary care organisations.



SEUPB funded pilot project 2013
Commercial family farm
People with identified needs
Direct links with statutory services





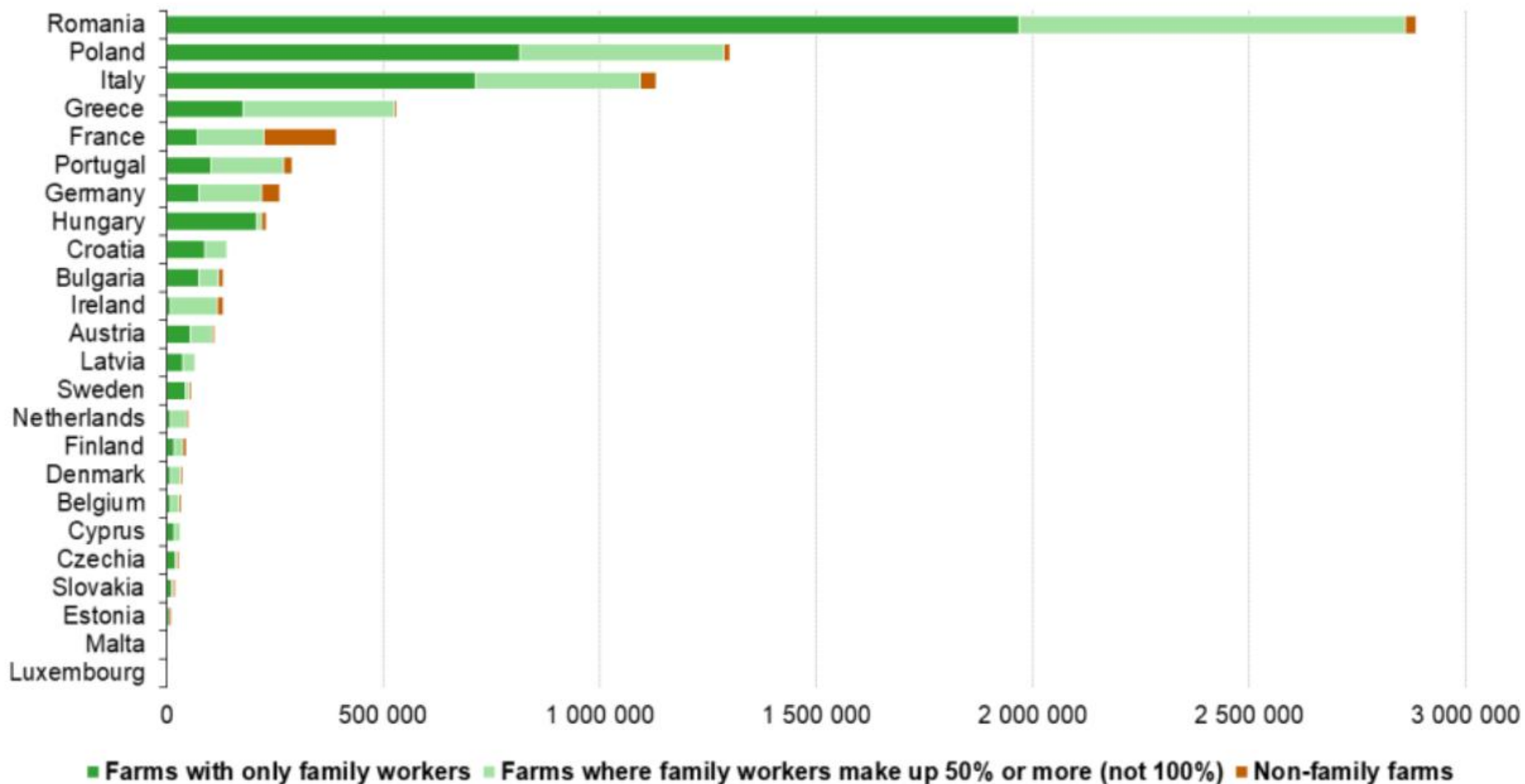
Queens University Belfast:

<https://mediasite.qub.ac.uk/mediasite/play/e7cc0c20d8a943ed91cb27f53d6638231d>

Social farms in Europe

Farms in the EU, 2020

(by family, non-family type)



Note: Data for Spain, Lithuania and Slovenia not comparable with other Member States.

Source: Eurostat (Agricultural Census, 2020)

Social Agriculture (farming) definition (European Economic and Social Committee 2012)

A multifunctional view of agriculture that combines farming with social and health care services at local level.

Farms as places where people with particular needs can take part in daily farming routines as a way of furthering their development, making progress and improving their health and well-being.



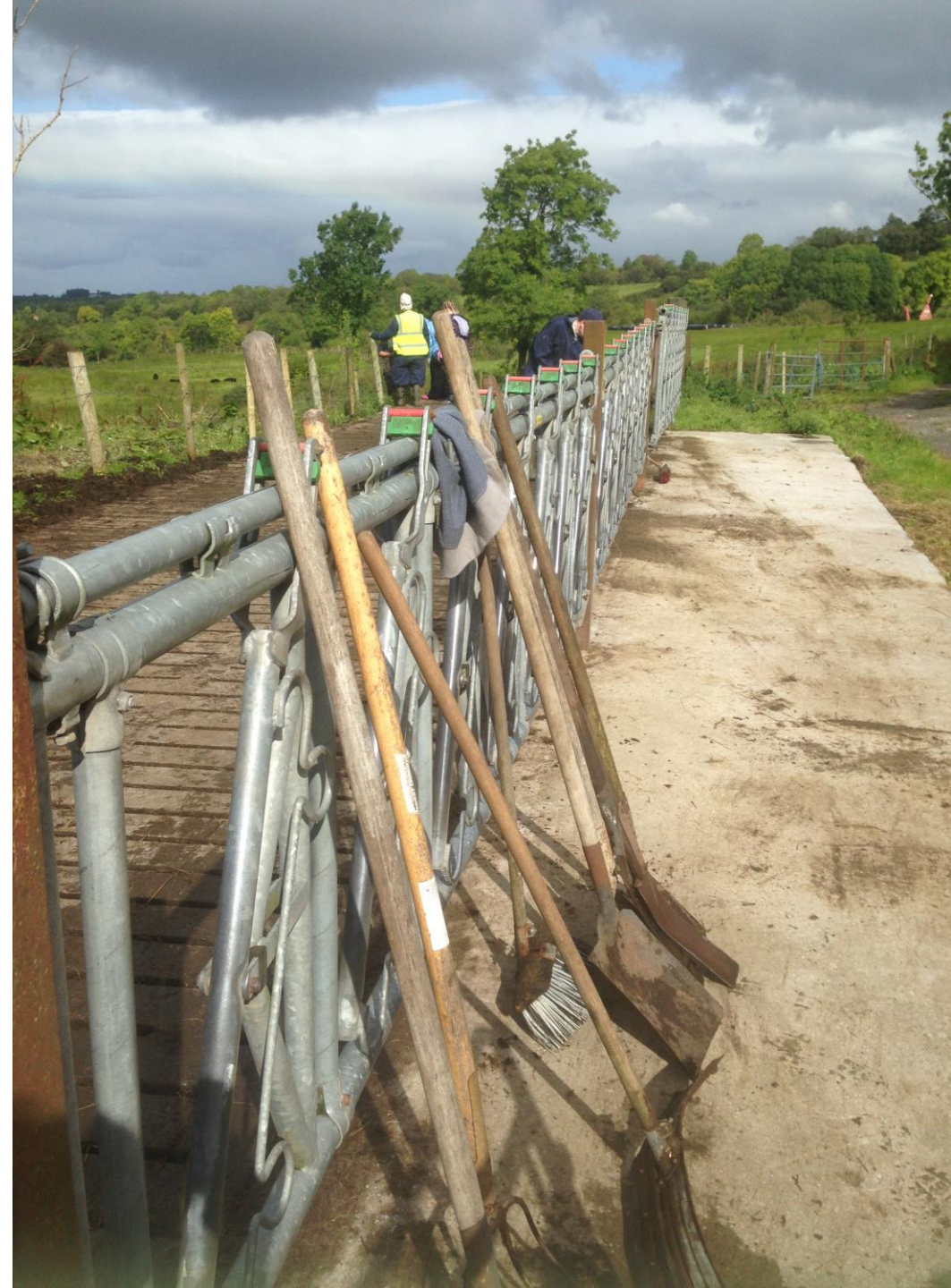
Social Agriculture – benefits and opportunities

Health and social care

Rural Community Development

Sustainability of agriculture

Health, Social, Economic and Environmental Added
Value





Further information

<https://www.farmgarden.org.uk/knowledge-base/article/care-farming-around-world>

<https://learning.socialfarms-erasmus.eu/case-studies/>

<https://learning.socialfarms-erasmus.eu/training-modules/>

A scenic landscape photograph showing a dirt path leading through lush green trees and bushes towards a distant mountain range under a cloudy sky. The path is flanked by dense foliage, and the mountains in the background are hazy and blue-toned.

<https://dolanssocialfarm.com>

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