



Map of regenerative farms in Denmark. Photo from the network website <https://regenerativ.dk/jordbrugsliste/>



Regenerative farmer in Zealand demonstrating the farm soil characteristics, photo from fieldwork



Regenerative farmer in Zealand demonstrating farming equipment, photo from fieldwork

#### Community social characterization

Regenerative farming network is a community of farmers located throughout Denmark. The network consists of different types of farmers and people interested in regenerative farming: young small-scale farmers, established farmers who want to transition from industrial farming to regenerative practices.

#### Motivation of the pilot

Regenerative approach to farming and to human-nature relations in general as a "solution" to sustainability crises. Regenerative approach implies agriculture based on nature restoration. Regenerative farming is based on the principles of 1. continuous soil coverage with "green cover" to avoid risk of erosion, loss of living microorganisms and fertile topsoil. 2. Minimum soil disturbance 3. Agriculture must support soil microlite 4. Integration of farm animals into cultivation systems. In the pilot case we will be working with regenerative farmers to co-create understanding of how regenerative practices can be enabled in Denmark.

#### Existing NBS applications and initiatives

The semi-formal network is already functioning autonomously at the level of individual, mainly precarious farmers who connect with each other through digital media and occasional seminars.

#### Leverage resources for NBS

We rely, firstly, on the already existing dynamics of the self-organized network with its knowledge-sharing digital platforms, as well as seminars organised by the farmers. Secondly, previous research that has been conducted in Roskilde University about the regenerative farmers, and, lastly, the FabLab project in RUC that works with the network.

#### Environmental Challenges

Denmark is known for highly efficient and productive farming systems. The members of the regenerative farming network are interested in re-thinking and searching for different ways of doing farming other than highly effective, production-oriented and industrial model, that leads to loss of biodiversity, soil degradation and nature-human relations.

#### Social Challenges

Although the regenerative farming practices are aiming at producing environmentally beneficial outcomes (e.g. soil regeneration, biodiversity), it is unclear how they can be integrated at a societal level, given the high cost of regenerative production, as well as risk of exhaustion and burnout of the farmers.

#### Economic Challenges

Precariousness of farmers engaging in regenerative farming due to the fact that the practice does not fit into the production-oriented agri-food paradigm, and focuses on nature restoration.

#### Governance in the pilot case

The farmers are skilled in self-organising, and creating platforms and spaces for knowledge sharing, therefore they succeeded in organising a bottom-up successful initiatives. The pilot is aimed at connecting the farmers through horizontal processes with other types of actors, such as municipality and international networks.

#### Local governance profile

Our ambition is to make it a farmer-led pilot with RUC as the main partner of the network.

#### Target group

Young precarious farmers, women farmers, established farmers interested in transitioning to regenerative agriculture.

#### Small scale NBS testing

Sustainability of the regenerative farming network and its individual members.

#### Challenges raised during the preparatory meetings

It was suggested to focus more on engaging other relevant actors besides the farmers

#### Who owns the land?

Private land

#### Related projects to create synergies

A FabLab project led by Roskilde University initiated a series of meetings between interested actors related to regenerative agriculture topic. The pilot project will collaborate with the FabLab initiative to build on and enhance the collaboration.

#### Possible local partners, associations, initiatives and champions to be engaged

To be determined.