



AGRICULTURE IN AN URBANIZING SOCIETY

International Conference on Multifunctional Agriculture and Urban-Rural Relations

1 - 4 APRIL 2012

Session W11. Urban, peri-urban and regional planning.

Understanding the agricultural-urban system.

Sustainable agricultural-urban systems: a scientific project in the Mediterranean

Elodie Valette, Coline Perrin, Christophe Soulard
Montpellier, France



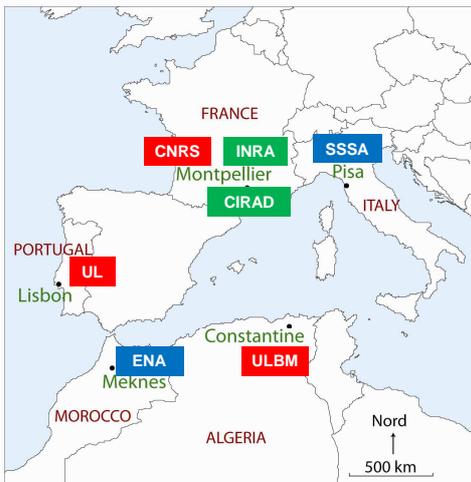
The agricultural-urban system:
a concept to address the sustainability of the
urban and peri-urban agriculture

- Focus on the **interactions between urban and agricultural** actors, activities and places, which contribute to integrate agriculture in a sustainable urban development.
- A concept to address how agriculture and urban development could be articulated in the long run:
 - In the **practices** of the farmers, consumers, citizens
 - In the formal or informal local **organizations**
 - In the political **projects**



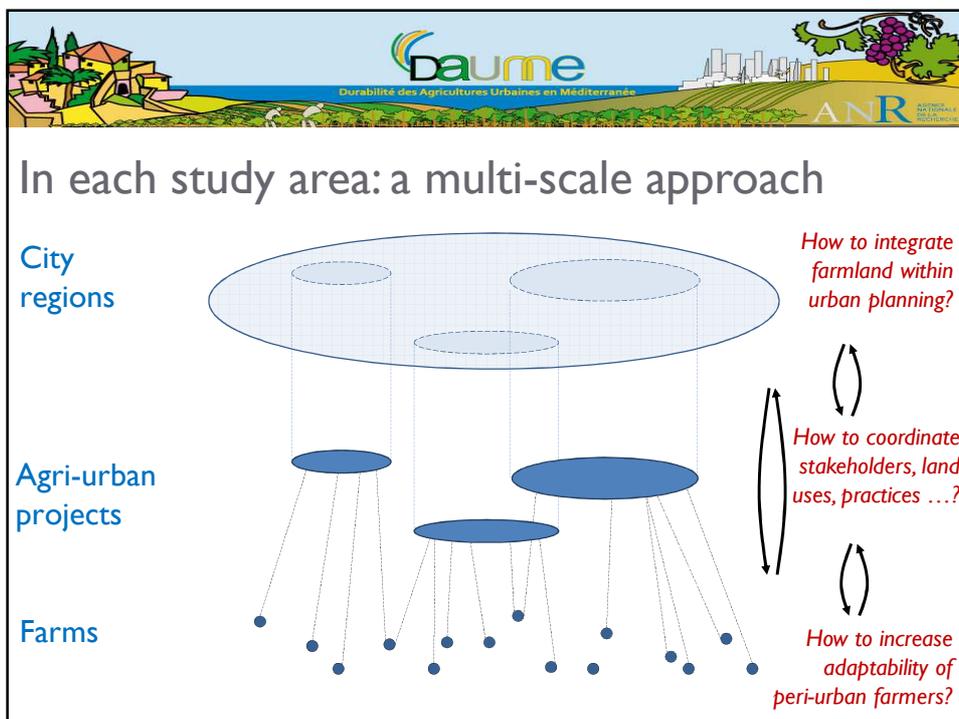
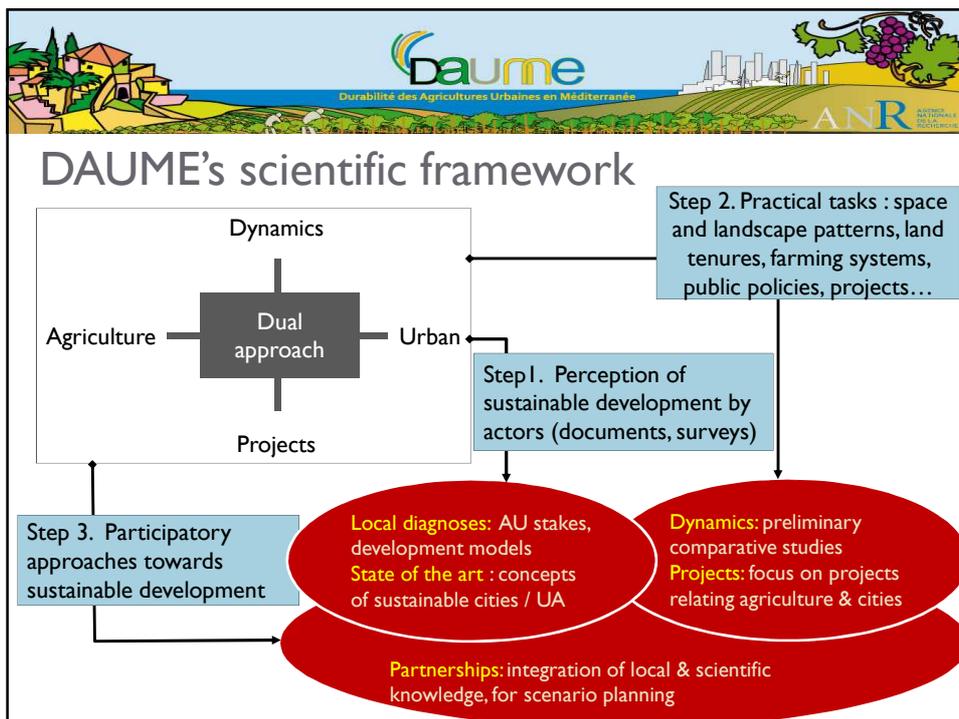
The DAUME project: Sustainability of Urban Agricultures in the Mediterranean

- An **academic** research project to describe the agricultural-urban (Agri-Urban) dynamics
- A **comparative** project between 5 city regions located in Maghreb and southern European countries
- A **multi-disciplinary** project crossing agricultural, rural and urban planning studies
- An **participatory** project linking researchers and local stakeholders of the rural-urban interface

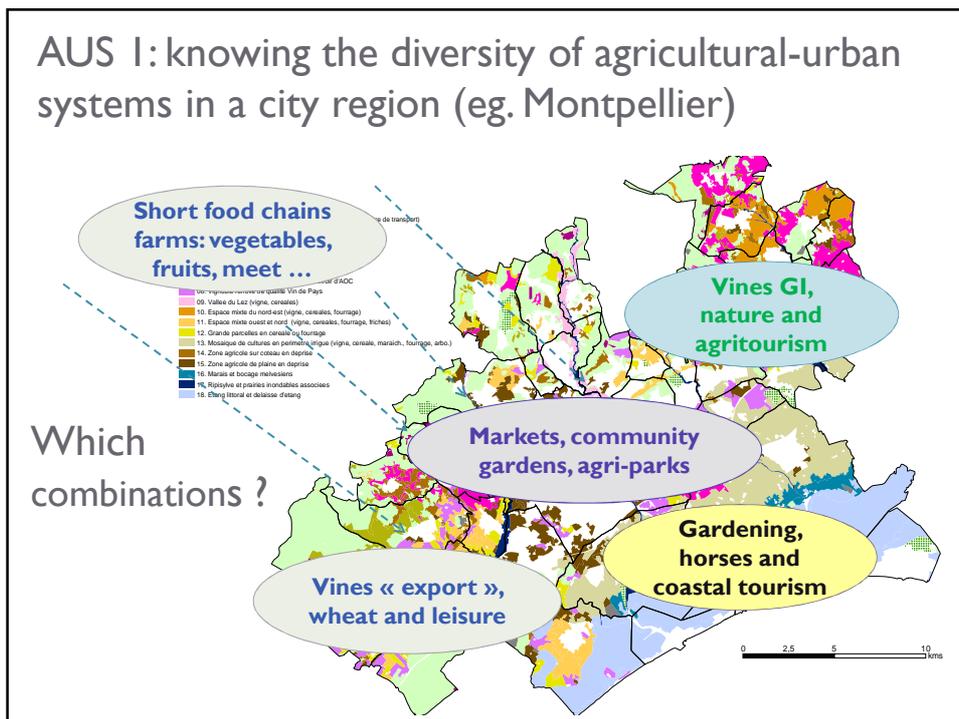



DAUME

- Funded by ANR
- 5 city regions
- 50 researchers from 10 labs
- 4 years: 2011-2014

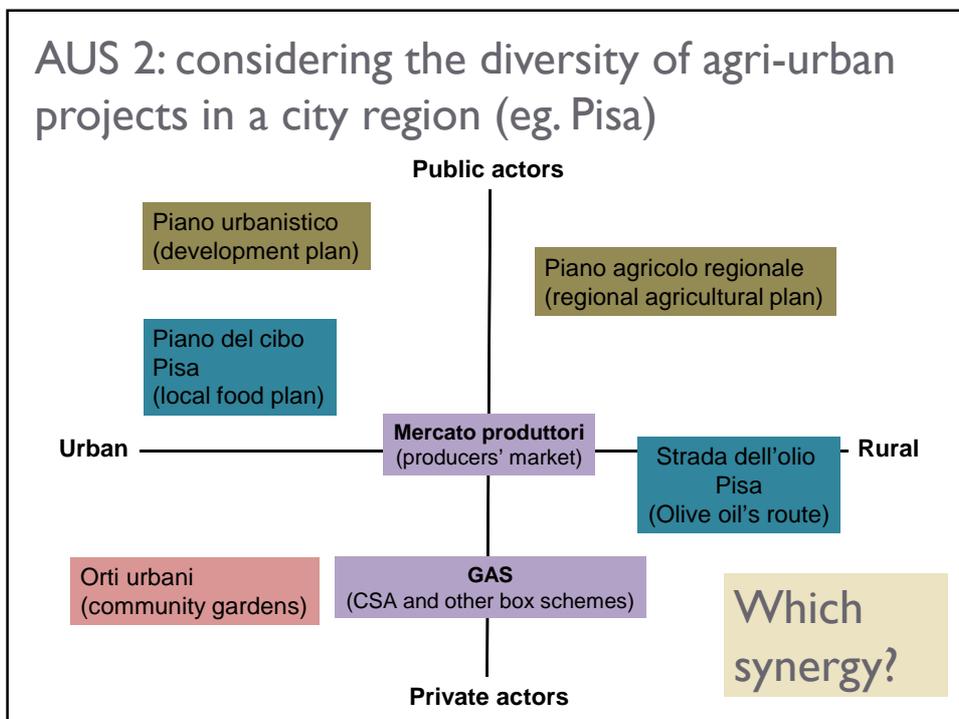


AUS I: knowing the diversity of agricultural-urban systems in a city region (eg. Montpellier)



Which combinations ?

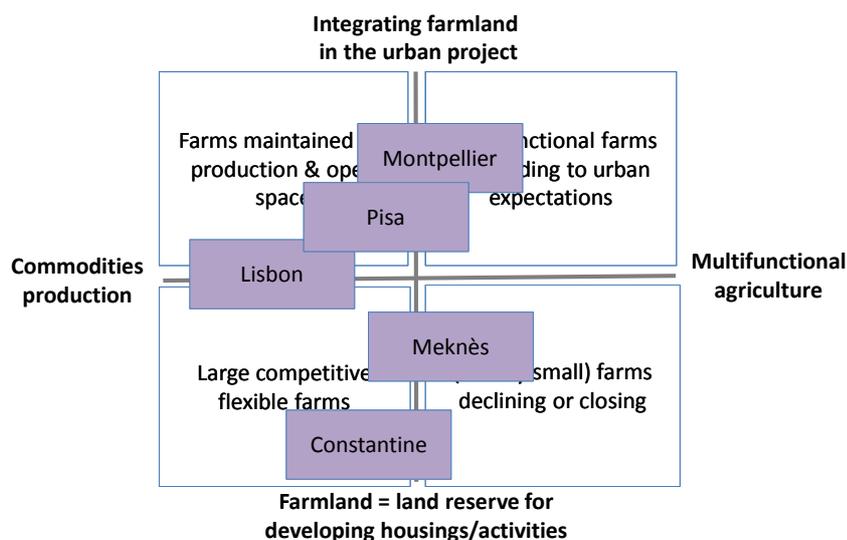
AUS 2: considering the diversity of agri-urban projects in a city region (eg. Pisa)



AUS 3: comparing the agri-urban dynamics in 5 Mediterranean cities

- Similarities:
 - **Urban sprawl / farmland receding.** And also the main role of the global trends affecting agriculture, environment, and the national and European policies.
 - **Water issue:** irrigation, flood, wetlands, conflicts between urban and agricultural uses, threat on the water resource
 - **High diversity of farming systems,** farmland tenures, social styles of farmers, but everywhere only few multifunctional farms
- Differences:
 - **Integration of UA in public policies:** Montpellier-Pisa >> Lisbon >> Meknes >> Constantine (but weak efficiency in all cases)
 - **Environmental stakes:** water waste (Meknes), industrial pollution (Constantine), risk of forest fire (Montpellier), natural reserve (Pisa, Lisbon)
 - **Social farming:** emerging in Montpellier and Lisbon, ignored else where

First synthesis: elaboration of AUS' models (work in progress...)





Conclusion: the agricultural-urban system, concept or approach ?

- AUS is not yet a concrete reality, but rather a constructivist approach in order to consider a wide diversity of dynamics regarding agriculture in urban settings
- AUS is a useful approach in order to combine comprehensive descriptions and systemic schemes of agro-urban development models.



Welcome to the DAUME project website!
<http://www.l.montpellier.inra.fr/daume/>



DAUME annual meeting - ENA Meknès, (Morocco) 26-28 march 2012

soulard@supagro.inra.fr

Thank you for your attention