



PRACTICE ABSTRACT No 28

Keywords

Intermediaries, Collective contracts, Actors roles, Collective agri-environmental measures, common land

Intermediaries in Collective Contracts 2: Situating facilitators in common land contracts

Facilitators play a crucial role in the successful delivery of collective approaches: they are important intermediaries at multiple stages in collective contract development & delivery. In this practice abstract, we show where some countries have gaps in their use of facilitators, by outlining collective agreements on common land in England & France.

Countryside Stewardship (CS) Higher Tier (HT) is the English AES which common land can be enrolled in. In developing CS HT contracts for commons, two sets of intermediaries play an important role: administrators & negotiators. Administrators can be private intermediaries such as land agents & solicitors who help in the development of a compulsory parallel 'internal agreement' between the commoners in the CS HT contract. The negotiators in CS HT agreements are Natural England (NE) advisors who prioritise the environmental goals for a common which farmers need to. Once the contract is in place, however, in CS HT there are no facilitatory intermediaries built into the common's contract delivery. In the UK, facilitation can be funded through a separate contract; CS Facilitation Fund.

Common pastoral land managers (CPLM) are able to contract AECMs in France. In the mountain areas, the intermediaries are the pastoral extension services. These public-private agencies' mandate is to provide general technical advice to CPLMs. Regarding AECMs, their role is to promote and facilitate the contacting of new AECMs, by supporting CPLM in developing their management plan, intermediating with farmers, shepherds and environmental actors (i.e. N2000 facilitator) and in administrative tasks. Intermediaries are funded by EARFD and the CPLM for administrative support.

However, **no funds are available to support facilitation in the monitoring and adaptation of contracts.**

Author(s)

Jennifer Dodsworth
(UNIABDN)

Céline Dutilly
(CIRAD)

Contacts

Jennifer.dodsworth@abdn.ac.uk

Celine.dutilly@cirad.fr

Country/Region

England, UK

France

EU