

Service Area 1:

Support services for the Pillar 1-DeSIRA projects to prove and improve impacts

Cycle 1: Sept. 2022- June 2023

Unlock your capacities to manage for impacts

The overall logics of intervention of the DeSIRA initiative is based on the promotion of research and innovation (R&I) within an agricultural innovation system (AIS) perspective, as a major lever to transform agri-food systems towards more resilience and more sustainability, and thus addressing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

A project portfolio of 69 projects across three continents in various countries was selected to run the Pillar 1 of the DeSIRA Initiative. Most of them started between 2018 and 2020 for 3 to 5-year periods.

The DeSIRA-LIFT facility is made for upgrading five core capacities of Pillar 1 project implementers to manage for impacts: capacity for Monitoring-Evaluation and learning, capacity to manage open processes, capacity to adapt and respond to innovation needs in countries; capacities to influence project’s institutional environment and strengthen national AIS, capacity to collaborate in multi-actor settings.

Between May and June 2022, a participatory capacity need assessment was conducted in order to help the fine-tuning of the DeSIRA-LIFT service offering for the first delivery cycle (from Sept. 2022 to June 2023). From the results of the assessment a set of services were identified and are described below.

Service formats

Our support services are delivered in various ways: on-line courses or in-person sessions for which we could travel to you or you could come to us. We can also provide blended approaches, mixing in-person and on-line courses. For this first cycle of service delivery, we start mainly with online courses, mentoring of up to a dozen projects and regular community of practice (CoP) activities and events. Other approaches will be offered according to more specific requests from you. All our online courses are a combination of several possible formats: e-learning, webinars, group work, coaching, panel discussions, and guided assignments. The one-on-one mentoring will be offered on utilization-focused evaluation and open innovation management approaches.


The CoP aims to enhance mutual learning and networking across DeSIRA projects:

1. Offering spaces and resources for discussion between projects in the same country (synergy of actors and outcomes)
2. Offering spaces and resources for discussion between projects working on similar topics (agro-ecological transitions; livestock management; livings Labs; innovative irrigation technologies; etc.)
3. Offering spaces and resources for networking between Agrinatura and international expertise on capacities for R&I and DeSIRA Projects.




Courses

-  Facilitated e-learning
-  Participatory evaluation workshops
-  On-line training courses
-  Training of Trainers

Mentoring

-  One-on-one mentoring

A DeSIRA Community of Practices

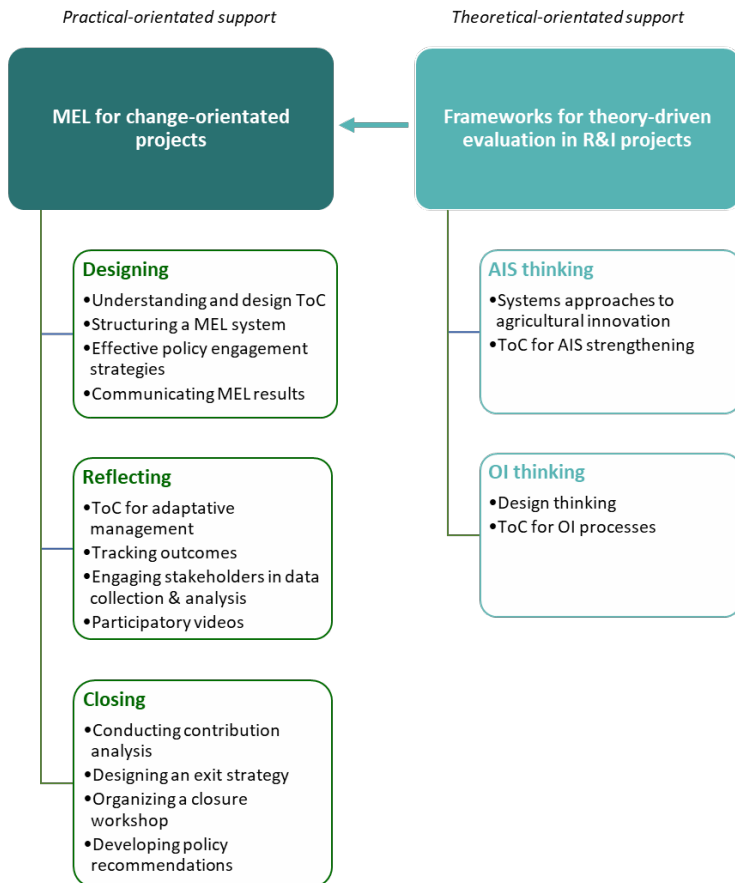
-  Learning reviews
-  Panel of experts in webinars
-  Sharing knowledge and communication resources (stories, videos, infographics)

Courses

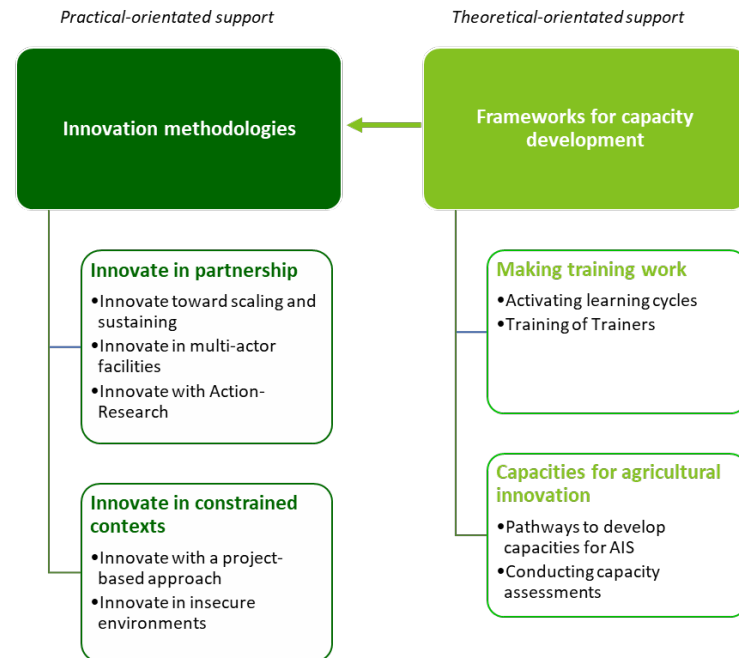
Our courses address the main challenges raised by project managers (and teams) during the DeSIRA-LIFT inception phase. They are meant to provide them with both theoretical and practical insights ready-to-use in their project activities.

Each course is delivered using one of the service formats. A detailed description will be made available together with registration links.

Proving impacts



Improving impacts



Targeted audiences

The primary audience are the DeSIRA project leaders and managers, as well as their MEL officers. Some courses are more specifically dedicated to communication officers or to projects' staff with facilitation & training roles. Also, some courses will be more effective with the participation of stakeholders and projects' partners.

For each course, the learning objectives and the targeted audience will be made clear.

How to access our services

Each course is communicated through an announcement flyer, with full information for registration. Some courses are subject to readiness criteria that are necessary to ensure commitment and efficiency. Self-assessment forms will be made available to the projects.

Calendar

A [calendar of all courses](#) is gradually made available on our Community of Practice website. Periods and dates of the courses and other events are communicated in the announcement flyers sent by emails and also made available in [our updates section](#).

Contact information

DeSIRA-LIFT Service area 1 is coordinated by CIRAD (Centre International de Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement, France) and ISA (Instituto Superior de Agronomia, Portugal) and implemented by [a team of European and international experts from the Agrinatura networks and its partners](#). For any additional information, please contact us: service@desiralift.org