# CONTEXT PROFILE

ROMANIA

**FARMER**
Alexandru Szell

**INNOVATION**
Farm to fork strategy at a beef farm

Video

**MAIN DOMAIN OF THE INNOVATION**
Improvement of marketing

**AGROCLIMATIC AREA**
Continental south

**CLIMATE**
Moderate rainfall

**SOIL TYPE**
Clay

**MANAGEMENT**
Pasture beef

**TECHNICAL**
Computer-based

**FINANCE/INVESTMENT**
High

**MARKET**
Local-urban

**SOCIAL**
Part-time farmer

*All contents of this document are expert opinions of the G4AE Scientific Technical Working Group*

# CONTEXT PROFILE

ROMANIA

| Case Study: RO_12 | Agroclimatic Zone | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Item (Key Innovation Elements)** | **Alpine** | **Atlantic Central** | **Atlantic North** | **Atlantic South** | **Boreal** | **Continental North** | **Continental South** | **Mediterranean North** | **Mediterranean South** |
| Breeding of Angus cattle (250 suckling cows+ 750 beef calves purchased for fattening) | ++ | +++ | ++ | ++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ |
| Pasture-based fattening (6 months/year) | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ |
| Beef calves slaughtered at 18-24 months (550-650 kg) | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ |
| outsourced slaughterhouse services | +++ | ++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | +++ |
| Own butchery shop for Halal products | ++ | ++ | ++ | ++ | ++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | ++ |

+++ **Strong transferability** ++ **Slightly limited transferability** + **Very limited transferability** × **Generic information/not relevant**

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## Implementation Gaps

- In the Mediterranean area, improving the efficiency of the extensive forage system is a pre-requisite, especially under climate change.
- In some areas of the Mediterranean region the Blue tongue transmitted by mosquitoes could be a serious threat to the transfer of cattle to slaughter. Vaccine or PCR analysis is needed before animal transfer. Each serotype needs its specific vaccine and not all the serotypes can be controlled by a vaccine.
- The system heavily relies on purchased animals to fatten and on concentrates
- The number of heads per farm is quite low in the Mediterranean area due to the extensive farming systems. It could be a limit to develop an adequate income
- What meat products are processed to add value
- Optimse the consumtions of concentrate/feed that is purchased and the grass;

## Research Gaps

- Environmental impact
- Breed adaptability to the climate change
- Establish an optimum feeding ration (grass/concentrates) for the region;

## Suggestions to Adapt

- Increase the number of calves according to the Cow-calf line
- Improve pastures
- Improve grazing tecniques
- Focus on hay self-sufficiency
- The meat from Angus is not popular with the Italian consumers as it is too fatty

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# COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

## INVESTMENT COSTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Total initial investment costs at start up: | high |
| • Initial authorisation costs (e.g. sanitary, veterinary, etc.) | high |
| • Initial advisory costs | high |
| • Initial buildings and machineries | high |
| • Initial certification costs | mid |
| • Initial working capital (personal qualification, marketing and promotion, etc.) | high |

## ON-GOING COSTS

| | |
|---|---|
| On-going advisory costs | high |
| On-going certification costs | low |
| On-going buildings and machinery costs | high |
| On-going working capital | high |

## BENEFITS RELATIVE TO ORIGINAL SYSTEM

- **Economic**

| | |
|---|---|
| Reduction in energy consumption (electricity; fuel consumption) | mid |
| Reduction in input use (fertilizers; pesticides; feed) etc. | mid |
| Payback period | mid |
| Product value added | mid |
| Additional farm income through agroecological/agri-environmental payment schemes | not applicable/not known |

- **Environmental**

| | |
|---|---|
| Animal feed self-sufficiency increase | mid |
| Biodiversity increase | mid |
| Improved nitrogen cycling | not applicable/not known |
| Soil regeneration | not applicable/not known |
| Animal health and welfare improvement | not applicable/not known |

- **Social**

| | |
|---|---|
| Workload reduction | mid |
| Engagement of young generation | not applicable/not known |

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# Literature

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