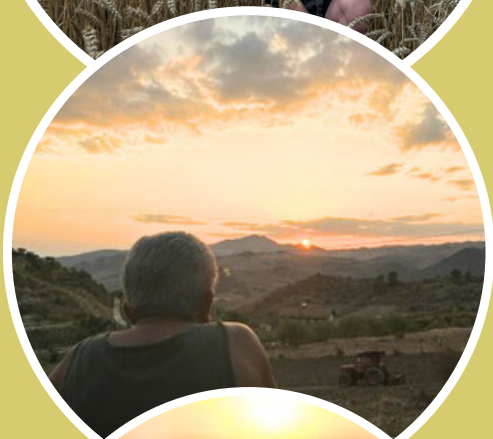


# CAFE DOC

**Generational renewal  
in agriculture:  
what's the problem  
represented to be?**

**VENDREDI 24 OCTOBRE 2025  
12H30-13H30**



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## **Deconstructing policy representations in rural development programmes across Italian regions**

This study critically examines how the issue of generational renewal in agriculture is represented in European policy, focusing on Measure 6.1 (first-settlement aid for young farmers) under the 2014–2022 Rural Development Programme. It analyzes how different Italian regions implemented the measure—through eligibility rules, selection criteria, and regional discretion—revealing significant variation. Using Bacchi's "What's the Problem Represented to Be?" (WPR) approach, the study explores the underlying assumptions and effects of these representations. A combination of qualitative content and cluster analysis identifies five regional policy approaches. The findings show that policies mainly favor successors of family farms, often excluding new entrants or potential successors. The study calls for more inclusive strategies that reflect diverse farming entry pathways and support identity development among young farmers.

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