



Announcement of topics for theses at dep 430A

(November 2024)

General

We welcome you developing your own topic. It is beneficial for both sides if you use a research question or build on a concept that you have encountered in a module offered by our research group. Please also refer to the information in our guidelines for theses.

Occasionally, we also offer topics for theses, usually in connection with current research projects or requests from practice partners. These are briefly described below. If you are interested in one of these topics, please contact the person in charge with a short letter of motivation.

Masterthesis: Good advisory practices to support interactive innovation

Across the EU member states (MS), agricultural advisors offer services to farmers to support the development, testing and implementation of innovations with collaborative network approaches. Within the European project i2connect (www.i2connect-horizon2020.eu), many examples of such interactive innovation cases were studied with an innovative methodological approach: a peer review that included a heterogeneous team of reviewer, e.g. a farmer, an advisor and someone with a research perspective which were outsiders to the respective case. From these app. 55 peer reviews of interactive innovation cases, study reports are available (<https://i2connect-h2020.eu/practical-interactive-innovation-cases/>).

The master thesis shall be developed so as to systematically examine and analyse the material in order to identify promising features and approaches that support and advise towards successful interactive innovation. The analysis will be based on concepts from advisory and innovation services studies discussing the findings against the background of the current state of knowledge, and how they might be presented to the community of innovation support actors. The methodological approach of peer review used shall also be presented and reflected upon. The result of the thesis has the potential to contribute to scholarly debates on effective farm advisory and innovation support practices.

Contact person: Andrea Knierim (andrea.knierim@uni-hohenheim.de)