

# Food Citizens? 'Taking stock' from fieldwork- January 2020

## Taking stock

This is a compact calendar from the 13<sup>th</sup> until the 31<sup>st</sup> January when the research group meets to take stock of the data gathered during the first months of fieldwork, reflect on it together and make plans for the remaining months of fieldwork.

Please prepare homework for the meetings in the week before we start the meetings.

We will record the sessions so that our brainstorming can be generative of further insights when revisited later on.

Please, book yourselves from Monday through Friday over these three weeks, to make sure you are available if the schedule changes, or for potential additional meetings .

## Week One:

This week is devoted to reflections about the successes and shortcomings of the field. The PhD candidates present and discuss their fieldwork within the team. Through a number of peer-presentation and diverse writing techniques, we critically address fieldwork done so far. We engage with the field reports and make detailed oral and written descriptions of issues, places and social actors encountered.

### Homework for week 1

- 1) Read each other's field reports. Prepare to report on other people's field (see below how).
- 2) Prepare to present your field. You may build on what we already know. Introduce developments as well as new institutions, places and actors that became relevant during their fieldwork. Explain how these relate to the research project and their relevance. Identify the hurdles you found in the field. Explain whether and how you managed to overcome them. Spell out the three scales of interaction they you have been researching. Provide detailed descriptions and analyses of the main issues and social actors that operate at each level.
- 3) Write an ethnographic vignette (max 2 pages) from your field. Choice is yours. Write only about the field, do not include any theory or references to readings *in the vignette*. When we discuss the vignette, you can of course explain to us why you chose this one in particular and how it speaks to your field and you may refer to theory in the discussion.
- 4) Prepare and send to Cristina and the team by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January a short field report (2-3 pages) aimed for the advisory board members (ABMs) who will be present at the AB meeting of 20th January. We will discuss, bundle together and send on your reports for the AB meeting. The report presents the fieldwork so far in your own words to the ABMs and includes questions for the ABMs. Questions can relate both to the ABMs' field of expertise and to the fieldwork.

- 5) Read the relevant documentation (presentations, summaries, readings) of the previous Advisory Board meetings, which will be in the VRE

### Meetings week 1

#### **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 10.30 – 12.30 and 13.30 - 15.30**

- Every PhD student gives a presentation of another person's field, based on their understanding of the field on the basis of having read the field reports. What emerges, what remains unclear from the reports? Suggestions? Questions?
- Each PhD candidate presents their own fieldwork (you can use a PPT format building on your previous, pre-fieldwork presentations).
- Together, everybody tries to understand each other's work based on their own experience in the field. Give tips, compare other people's experiences and sites/events/people encountered with one's own.

#### **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 10.30 – 12.30 and 13.30 - 15.30**

- Together, we read the three ethnographic vignettes. The research group discusses about how to write from and about the field. We exchange tips and relevant reading recommendations.
- In the light of Monday's presentations and discussion, we discuss and finalize the field reports for the ABM.

#### **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 10.30 – 12.30 and 13.30 - 15.30**

- Together, the members of the research group critically engage with the materials presented and the discussions we had in the 2 previous Advisory Board Meetings
- We reflect on our findings and assess how far we are in answering the questions we posed to the ABMs in previous AB meetings. Do we need revisiting/rephrasing them? Do we have new ones? (basis for this is your report to the ABMs).

### Week Two: Advisory Board week

This week we host the advisory board meeting. We revisit the previous meetings and relevant discussions. We use this, and the discussion from week 1, to revisit the questions and comparative framework of the project. We begin to focus on how to visualize our narratives.

### Homework for week 2

- 1) Read again the full project text, called 'Description of Action', and the Field research protocol.
- 2) The PhD candidates prepare their 15-20 minutes presentations for the AB meeting (PPT). includes questions for the ABMs. Questions can relate both to the ABMs' field of expertise and to the fieldwork. How do you 'see' your peer's fieldwork based on the audiovisual material present in the VRE?
- 3) Prepare a list of readings concerning issues that emerged from your fieldwork, or that you deem fit in preparation to the advisory board meeting. It can be a short list taken from previous team readings, new readings, or readings that you already proposed via email, now

revisited in a systematic way in the light of their cogency for your field/ for the discussion in the AB meeting. Select one (or max two) that you wish us to read and COMMUNICATE it as soon as possible in any case by January 8<sup>th</sup> AT THE LATEST, so we can read in advance.

- 4) Read the readings that have been recommended by your peers and be prepared to present them and discuss them (see below).

## Meetings week 2

### Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January

10:00 – 10:15 Welcome with Coffee and tea

10:15 – 11:30 Presentation Celia Plender, Exeter University

11:30 – 12:30 Presentation Federico De Musso, *Food Citizens?*

12:30 13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 16:00 Presentation PhDs

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break

16:30 – 18:00 Guided discussion

From 18:00: Drinks and Dinner with ABM

### Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 10.30 -12.30 and 13.30 to 15.30

- Each PhD candidate has proposed one (or max two) readings and we have all read them (see homework week 1).
- A different PhD candidate than the one who chose the reading presents it to the group, explains why it is relevant for the research project and how it relates to the concerns raised in the previous weeks. The person who proposed the reading can act as discussant. Follows Team discussion.

### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 10.30 - 12.30 and 13.30 to 15.30

- Together, the members of the research group critically engage with the questions that were identified and presented before going to fieldwork (see Field protocol).
- We reflect on findings and assess how far we are in answering each of the questions from the Field protocol. Do we need revisiting/rephrasing them? Do we have new ones? (basis for this is the full project text, called 'Description of Action'. Please read it again).
- How do we make our questions and answers visible in the platform? Which narratives do we want to develop? What can we already 'see' in each other's materials from the field?

## Week three

Based on the previous two week's discussion, we operationalize plans for the next 5 months of work.

### Homework for week 3

- 1) Prepare a list of people and places (max 20) that could be selected for the platform. Please indicate whether the person or place fall in one of the following categories:
  - a. The person or place help understand a specific/common dynamic
  - b. The person or place have a peculiar angle that nobody else has
  - c. The student has widely depicted the person or place
  - d. The person or place represent a possible link to another field-site
- 2) Prepare photos, sounds, and videos of the people and places that you selected for the platform. Please include more than one item for each subject
- 3) Be prepared to describe the rationale behind both the form and the content of your media – i.e. why and how you took the pictures, shot the videos, or recorded the sound.
- 4) Identify the positive turns of events you experienced in the fields. Explain how you did not expect them and how they helped you.

### Meetings week 3:

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 10.30 - 13.30      14.30 – 17.00**

- The members of the research group brainstorm and produces a workable structure for the platform under Post-Doc2's lead. It includes people, events, places. PhD candidates participate in defining some of its interactive functions.
- The members of the research group envision a visual grammar for the platform under Post-Doc2's lead – i.e. what kind of styles for photos, videos, and drawings should be included in the platform. The research group brainstorm and defines what people, places, and issues will be included in the platform.

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 10.30- 12.30 14.00-17.00**

- ROGS (Achievements and Development Interviews) with members of the team
- In case there are still things to discuss from the previous day - the 27<sup>th</sup> of January – we will use this slot, and space for the ROGS will be made elsewhere
- Sound recording and editing – Taking stock

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 10.30 - 13.30    14.30-17.00 TBC**

- Based on the outcome of the three weeks, the members of the research group discuss how to continue with the remaining 6 months of fieldwork under the PI's lead. Schedule (including Post-Doc2's visits) will be finalized.
- First thoughts on how to structure the thesis (outlines, etc.)

## February - June 2020: Back to the field

The PhD candidates return to the field for the second half of fieldwork.