

**Gendered
representations,
territory, places : what
link ?**

Presentation

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CERMOSEM

A center of studies and research

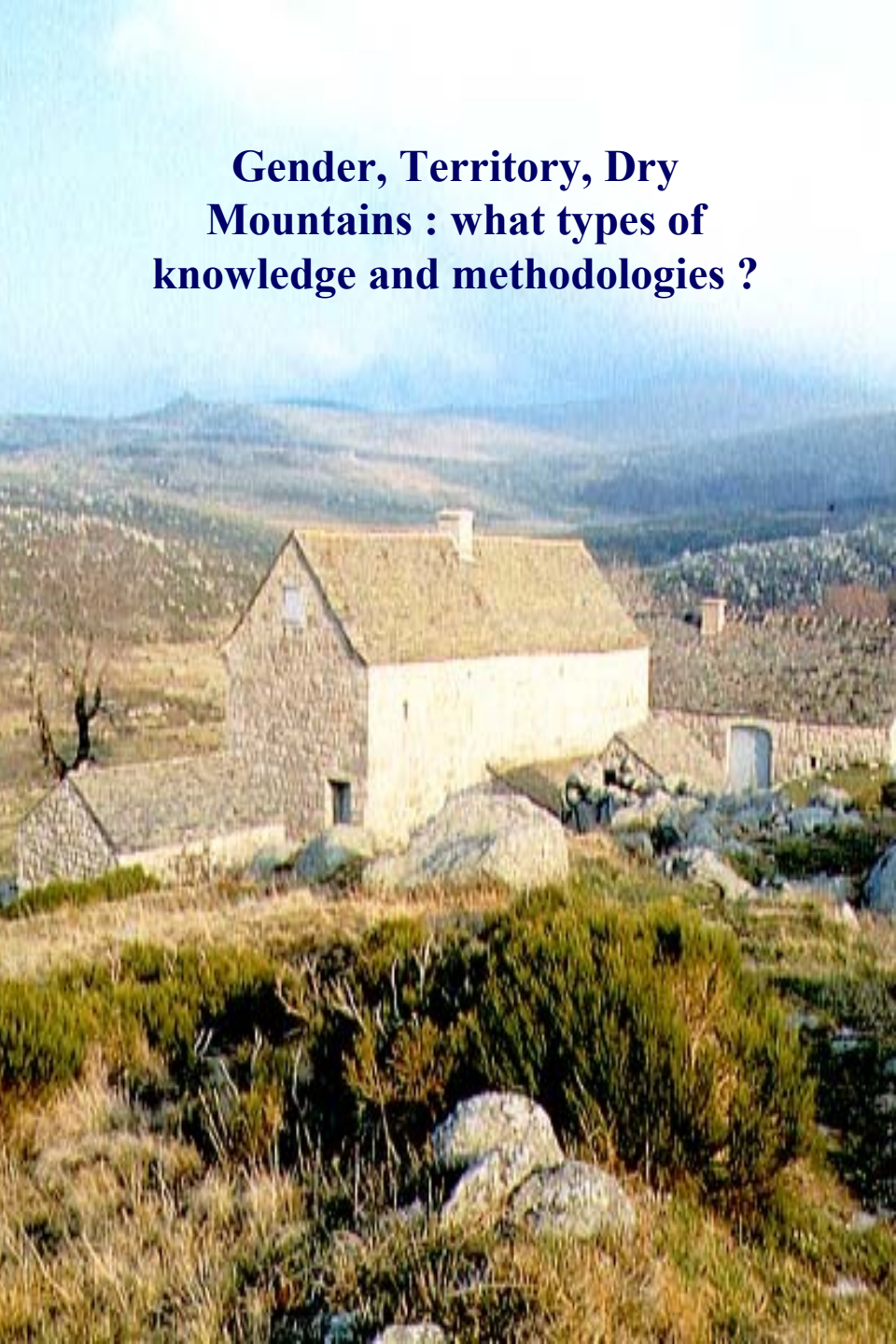
A thematic :

Local development and environment

Study areas

The dry mountains in Europe and

North Africa



**Gender, Territory, Dry
Mountains : what types of
knowledge and methodologies ?**



Outlines

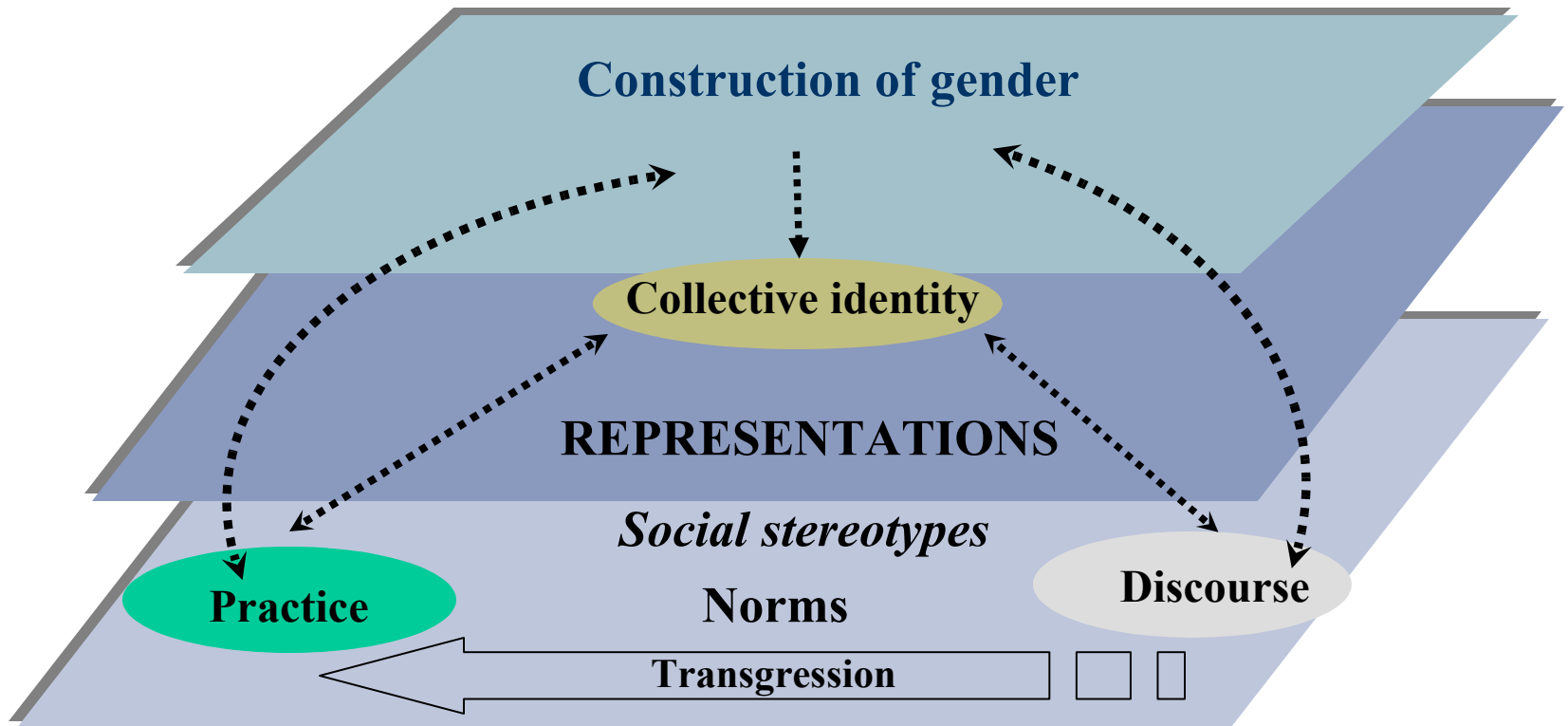
- **Introduction : context and topical issue of research**
- **Why are gendered representations a relevant issue in geography ?**
- **What is the link between places, systems of values, micro-activities ?**
- **The choice of a qualitative approach creating qualitative information data**
- **synthesis and limits**



Main objectives

- ⇒ **Objective 1 : Identify and explain the link “gender-place-territory”**
- ⇒ **Objective 2 : Show how far the field of rural tourism is a place that reveals gender**
- ⇒ **Objective 3 : Analyse if the social and spatial trajectory of farmers has an impact on the place construction and valid the taking into account of time in the gendered approach**
- ⇒ **Objective 4 : Demonstrate that actual experiences are linked to imagination and representation to a specific relation to the norm of agricultural tourism**
- ⇒ **Objective 5 : Analyse the necessity of a comparatist approach to justify the way the common Western Mediterranean representations are built.**

Social construction of place and gender





Central question



- ◆ Are places the expression of the territorial production of meaning through a system of gendered values in which gendered norms-*issued from a dominant rural tourist model*-contribute to feed the process of construction-re-construction of rural territories ?



Hypotheses

- 1. The values present in the women life's project reveal the existence of gendered distinctions in their social relationships and their spatial transcriptions**
- 2. Rural tourism is an activity in which the appropriation of places generate a sexual , gendered identity**
- 3. The actual experiences allow to identify these identities and to determine the interaction with a gendered norm which is inscribed in the territory**
- 4. The life's stories are an explorer approach which allows to understand the representation, the praxis and the spatial expression – comparing actual experiences instead of backgrounds in West Mediterranean countries.**



Methods

- ◆ “ From a metaphoric viewpoint, life’s stories are signifiers [...] there are two approaches : some are interested in the signified – the meaning contained in what the people express in the interview ; and others are interested in the referent, that is to say the norms, relations and processes that underlie social life ”.

Daniel Bertaux, 1998



France

Ardeche

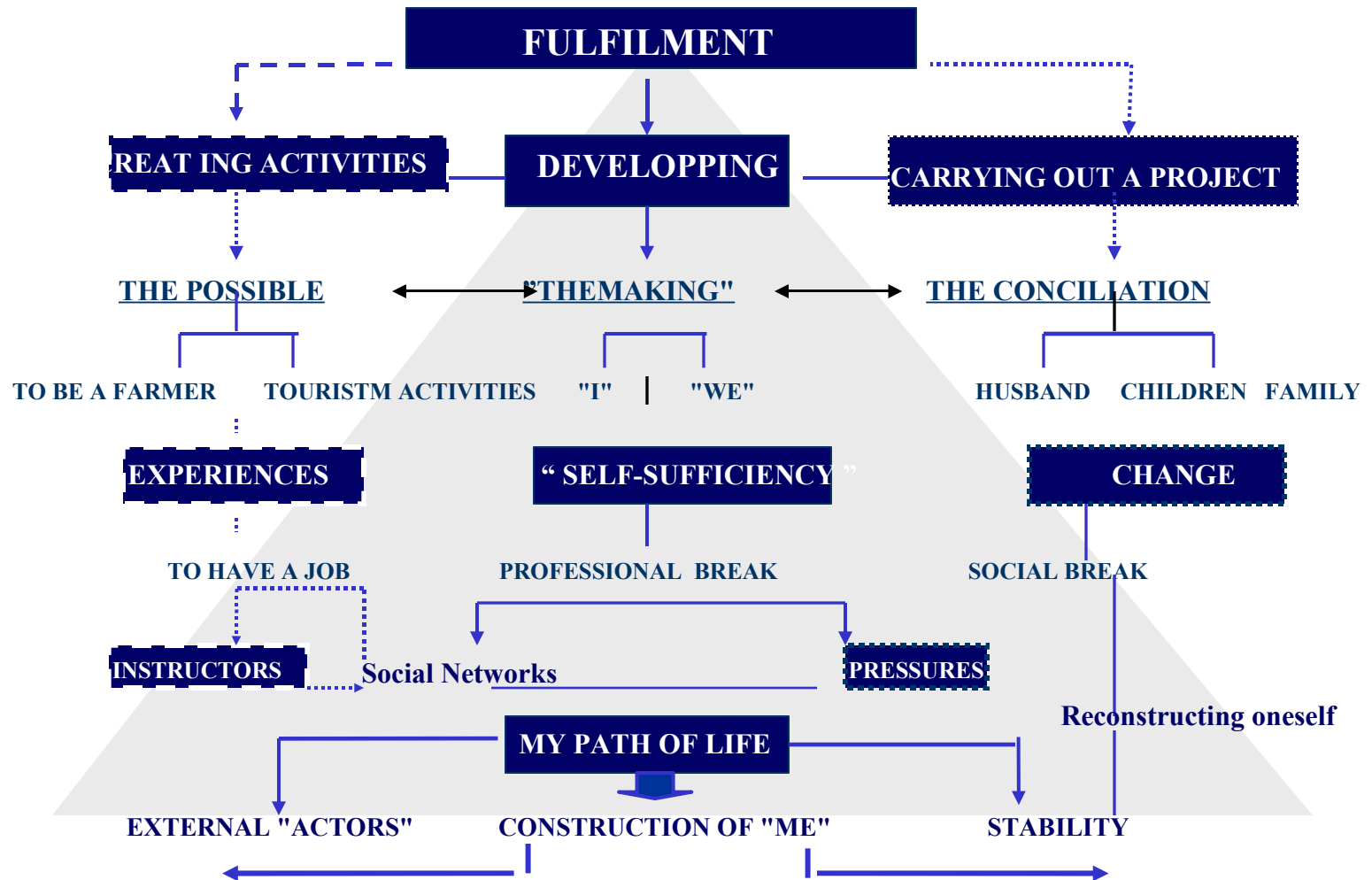
Liguria

Italie

Fez-Sefrou

Maroc

Prescription of time 's life, the reality of space...





Synthesis and perspectives

LIMITS

- ◆ The lack of articles & books about « gender geography » translated in French
- ◆ comparative studies are difficult to valid
- ◆ making interviews in many languages

ADVANTAGES

- ◆ For French geographers, its a new line of research
- ◆ This gives a better vison of discourse in each country
- ◆ It 's an East/West conception of the Mediterranean relations