

Supplementary materials

Table S1. Variables selected for the ERGM of the advice network.

| | | Terms | Process | Hypothesis |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Structure variables (endogenous) | | Edges | Density (base term) | The probability of there being a link corresponds to the density of the network |
| | | Mutual (reciprocity) | Mutually linked partners | One actor linked to another tends to result in a mutual advice relationship |
| | | GWESP (transitivity) | Outgoing Two-path ("OTP") or "transitive shared partner" | Two actors linked to a third tend to establish advice ties according to the schema $i \rightarrow k \rightarrow j$ |
| Exogenous variables | Attributes reflecting the formal status of the producers | Age | Age of the member | Producers with a higher formal status are more likely to be sought for advise / With respect to homophily, producers with the same attributes tend to form denser advice relationships |
| | | Level of education | Superior | |
| | | Seniority in the cooperative (+ homophily) | Member since before 2000 (vs after 2000) | |
| | | Position in the cooperative (+ homophily) | Members on the board of directors (vs members not on the board of directors) | |
| | | Farm production | Quantity (t) of milk produced per year per farm | |
| | | Level of intensification (+ homophily) | Intensive system (cosmopolitan breeds, free-stalls, Total Mixed Rations) vs traditional system (less productive breeds, tie-stalls, separated feed delivery) | |
| | | Number of cows | Number of milk cows | |
| | Geographical attributes | Farm size | UAA (in ha) | Individuals in some localities |
| | | Proportion of lactating cows taken to summer farms | % of the herd | |
| | | Locality (+ homophily) | Residence | |

are more often sought for advice / With respect to homophily, individuals of the same locality tend to form denser advice relationships Individuals closer to the cooperative tend to be more often sought for advice Individuals who live close to each other tend to form more advice relationships

Distance from the farm to the cooperative In km
Distance (independent dyadic phenomena) Distance between two actors of a dyad (km)

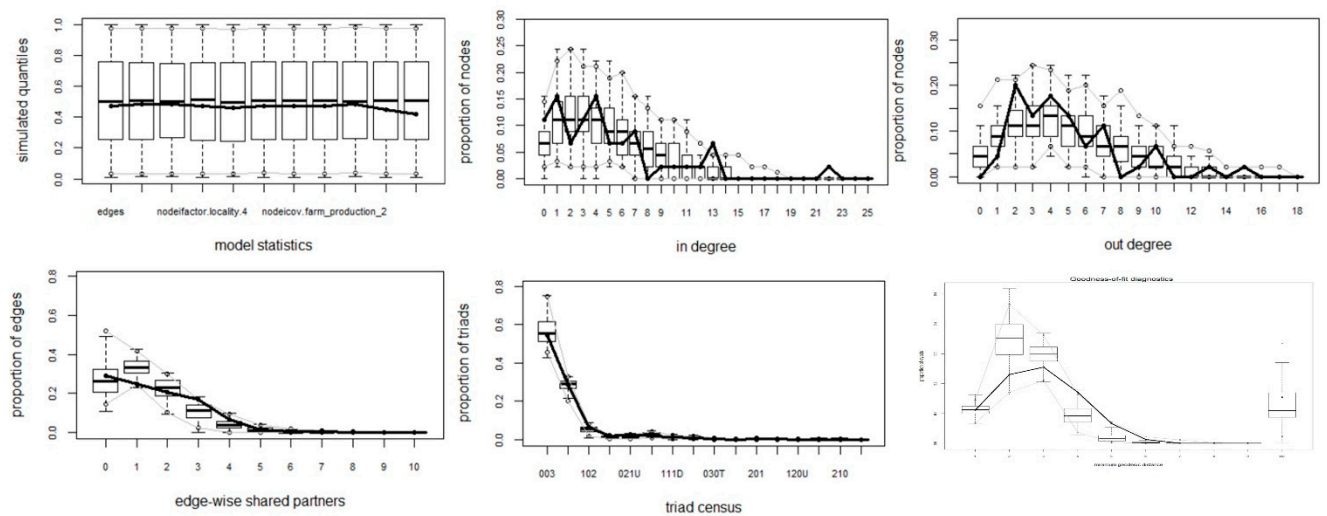


Figure S1. Goodness of fit of the statistical model and results for indegree, outdegree, edge-wise shared partners, dyad-wise shared partners, triad census, and minimum geodesic distance parameters of the directed advice network among the members of the Primiero cooperative (AIC=1260).