



RUR-06-2020 & RUR-07-2020 Projects

Joint Event

Sister Projects' Cooperation Experience

Brussels, Thursday, 26th October 2023

10:00 – 12.30 CEST

Summary report

24 November 2023



These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N°101000852, N° 101000594, N° 101000439 , N°101000617and N°101000723.



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1. Venue

COPA-COGECA Rue de Trèves - 61 1040 Bruxelles - Room A

(online option)

2. List of attendees

Project	Participating person	Institution	Role	ONLINE
RUR-06 (CO-FRESH, PLOUTOS, FAIRCHAIN)	Ivana Oceano	REA	REA Project Officer	
RUR-07 (FOODRUS, LOWINFOOD)	Mihai Pera	REA	REA Project Officer	
ALL SISTER PROJECTS	Ana Patricia López	DG AGRI	Policy Officer	
-	Sam Emerson	COPA-COGECA	Policy Advisor	
RUR-06 FAIRCHAIN	Geneviève Gésan-Guiziou	INRAE	Coordinator	
	Daniele Rossi	CONFAGRICOLTURA	Coop WP Leader	
	Tancredi Marini	CONFAGRICOLTURA	Coop WP contributor	
	Francesca Marino	CONFAGRICOLTURA	Coop WP contributor	ONLINE
	Christophe Cotillon	ACTIA	Policy recommendations	ONLINE
	Katherine M. Flynn	ISEKI-IFA	Com & Dis WP Leader	
	Luminita Ciolacu	ISEKI-IFA	Com & Dis WP	ONLINE
RUR-07 LOWINFOOD	Ana Ramalho	ISEKI-IFA	Com & Dis WP	ONLINE
	Clara Cicatiello	Univ. Tuscia	Coordinator	
	Luca Contrino	AREFLH	Innovation WP contributor	
RUR-06 CO-FRESH	Eriselda Canaj	AREFLH	Innovations WP contributor	
	Inés Echeverría Goñi	CNTA	Coordinator	
	Elena Gascón	CNTA	Coordination team	
	Ágnes Major	Kislépték	Policy expert	
	Edelbis López Dávila	Gent University	Coop WP leader	
	Katarína Blicklingová	BEC	Policy expert	
	Michael Bregler	Univ. Hohenheim	Com & Dis WP	ONLINE
RUR-06 PLOUTOS	Jos Bijman	Wageningen Univ.	Agri Business expert	
RUR-07 FOODRUS	Nikos Marianos	GAIA EPICHEIREIN	Coordinator	
	Deitze Otaduy	Deusto Univ.	Coordination team	
	James Ling	Greenovate Europe	Com & Dis WP leader	ONLINE
	Mónica de Prado	ELIKA	Coop WP	ONLINE

3. Background

The 5 projects funded under RUR-06-2020 and RUR-07-2020 calls, started a close collaboration practically from the beginning of their activities, in November 2020 following the Topic requirement *“To maximize impact across Europe and to ensure wide dissemination of the project results, proposals should foresee a dedicated work package for cooperation with other selected projects under topic RUR-06-2020 and earmark appropriate resources. Cooperation with other selected projects under topic RUR-07-2020 is encouraged”*.

For this purpose, and in an agreed and coordinated manner, the 5 projects have established a working system, through the creation of a series of tools (common databases; different working groups, organisation

of rotating meetings...) which have enabled efficient collaboration and the implementation of a set of actions to maximise the impact of our projects.

After 3 years of cooperation, and since some of the projects are nearing completion, the sister projects proposed to organize a joint event to present and debate their cooperation experience with their REA Project Officers and DG Agri Policy Officer.

4. Objectives and expected outcomes

This meeting should allow for a joint analysis of the cooperation experience resulting in the identification of good practices that may be of interest for future cooperation activities between sister projects, aimed at maximising impact, maximising synergies, and avoiding overlaps.

(see annex1: introduction presentation)

5. Agenda

Sister Projects' Cooperation Experience Joint event		
Thursday, 26 th October 2023		
Time	Topic	Presenter
10:00-10:30	Registration and Networking Coffee	
10:30-11:00	Welcome and introduction: Objectives and expected outcomes from this event Cooperation methodology and Good practices in cooperation	Inés Echeverría (CO-FRESH)
11:00-11:40	Joining efforts to maximize projects' impact: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joining efforts in Social Nets and Web Pages - Organization of Joint Dissemination activities: - Joint Innovation Platform - Policy recommendations 	Clara Cicatiello (LOWINFOOD) James Ling (FOODRUS) Katherine Flynn (FAIRCHAIN) Daniele Rossi (FAIRCHAIN) & Nikos Marianos (PLOUTOS)
11:40-12:20	Round Table: Experiences and lessons learnt. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction & Moderation: - Moderator - Round Table participants (1 representative / project) and REA POs 	Geneviève Gésan-Guiziou (FAIRCHAIN)
12:20-12:30	Closing remarks from REA POs	Ivana Oceano and Mihai Pera
12:30	Event closure	

6. Main outcomes from the event

As a general comment, we would like to highlight the satisfaction of all participants after the event, having the opportunity to discuss and critically review the experience of cooperation of 5 sister projects in these 3 years of work and analysing the collaboration carried out, with its positive and negative aspects. The presentations were followed by a rich debate around project cooperation, generating ideas and proposals to facilitate future cooperation, aimed at maximising the impact of European projects with an efficient use of resources.

The main outcomes and comments collected during the event have been organised into the following points to facilitate their use:

a. What have been the key aspects for a good cooperation experience?

- An early start of the cooperation and a joint definition of common objectives and agreed procedures to be applied during the Cooperation period, from the very beginning.
- Establishing a rotating leadership of different duties (mainly organizing Cooperation meetings) (Work in co-responsibility)
- In addition to the Cooperation Coordination Group, establishing thematic Working Groups (6) with specific focus, incorporating relevant partners from the 5 projects with activity/expertise corresponding WG field and positive outcomes.
- Use of open documentation sharing tools
- Identifying and defining specific cooperation and dissemination activities, of common interest, to be developed
- Establishing common languages/wording/templates in the definition of activities, methodologies, results, plans and timelines.

b. What have each project gained from working with other sister projects?

- Implementing joint actions to maximize the impact of the 5 projects
- Developing a common Innovation Platform to disseminate the activities of the 5 projects as well as results coming from previous projects, and that will last after these sister projects finish, by chaining together funding from other related projects: (<https://www.sustainablefoodplatform.eu/>)
- Disseminating and communicating each other's results (Newsletters, web pages, social media, FLW Hub) maximizing impacts making the effort of each project more profitable.
- Broadening the scope of networking with the CCN (Cooperation & Collaboration Network) on Food Losses and Waste promoted by FOODRUS: transfer knowledge and learning from other projects beyond the 5 sister projects.
- Networking between partners having similar roles in the different projects (e.g. innovators, academics studying the same field of research), which can be exploited for future research activities
- Overpassing physiological limitations on different planning, timing, budgeting. methods, cultures, and more than believed, conviviality and friendships.

c. What have been the obstacles to effective collaboration and how the collaboration could have been even more effective?

- Different cooperation resources available and engagement level from each project, that needed to be harmonized once the projects were already running (not always easy)
- Lack of time to carry all the joint cooperation activities that were proposed, due to other project duties.
- Too many Working Groups, whereas if we had focused on a smaller number, this would have allowed us to better focus our efforts and be more effective.
- The projects have different timelines (e.g. Ploutos ended in September 2023) and methodologies and it took too long to identify any common features. As a result, it was difficult to identify the methodological, technical or scientific aspects on which we could have joined forces to be more effective.
- In the cooperation meetings and co-organized webinars, the focus was on (short) presentations and time for discussion was too short to get familiar with the other projects.
- In Innovation Action projects, the large number of industrial and private partners means that it is not always possible to discuss freely the technical and scientific issues on which the various projects could collaborate collectively.

d. Lessons learnt and best practices adopted from other sister projects.

Our open collaboration has allowed us to "learn" from the good practices of other Sister projects: Some examples:

- Joint Innovation Platform <https://www.sustainablefoodplatform.eu/> (all)
- Co-creation methodology (all)
- Collaborative research work (PhD mobility: FoodRus and Lowinfood)
- Policy recommendations (Ploutos and FAIRCHAIN)
- Identification of Barriers and Best practices from other CCN projects (FoodRUs)
- Enhanced cooperation and collaboration and shared facilities with Food Drink Europe, Copa Cogeca, and other EU umbrella organizations (all)

e. Improvement suggestions for future sister projects cooperation:

- Focus on specific activities (Do not disperse efforts trying to do too many things in the Cooperation framework) and define common clear KPIs-
- When planning Cooperation activities in the proposal preparation phase, consider that these activities may require funding from the other sister projects (Plan this budget in the proposal). In the proposal phase, a budget can be set aside for unforeseen cooperation actions. For example, cross-exchanges between pilot cases are always great, but the partner which organizes the events shall foresee some budget, in the proposal phase, to invite people from other sister projects, and to open events to online attendants to facilitate sister projects partners to attend cross exchanges events of other sister projects.
- Small thematic Working Groups with limited and well-defined objectives are more efficient.
- Propose / Identify tools to assist and facilitate the exploitation of results after the end of the European projects. (i.e. Open innovation platform lasting after individual project completion)

- If possible, instead of (or on top of) producing a Policy Brief each project, Sister projects should be coordinated to produce a Joint one. This is difficult due to different project timelines and durations, and typically, Policy briefs are produced at the end of the projects.
- In Innovation Action projects, it is advisable to focus on collaboration in communication and dissemination activities, as it is often difficult to share technical and scientific activities due to the large number of private companies involved.
- Exploit as much as possible the opportunity to go to conferences together and to organize side meetings or events dedicated to the cooperation
- Mostly appropriate in RIA projects, including PhD / post docs exchanges between sister project partners in the same topic could be considered already at the proposal writing phase
- Also consider maximizing impact on the society (not just in the Food Chains stakeholders).

7. Joining efforts to maximize projects' impact:

- Joining efforts in Social Nets and Web Pages to increase the reach of the communication and dissemination (Annex 2)
- Organization of Joint Dissemination activities (Annex 3)
- Joint Innovation Platform (Annex 4)
- Policy recommendations (Annex 5)

8. Some pictures of the event



9. Annexes: Presentations

Annex 1: Introduction

JOINT EVENT SISTER PROJECTS' COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

BRUSSELS, 26th OCT 2023

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION
Inés Echeverría - CO-FRESH
Mónica de Prado - FOODRUS

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N° 101019862, N° 101019864, N° 101019869, N° 101019871 and N° 101019873.

BACKGROUND

Calls for proposals RUR-06-2020 and RUR-07-2020 had a common requirement for cooperation set in their work programme.

RUR-06-2020 - Innovative agri-food value chains: boosting sustainability-oriented competitiveness "(...)To maximize impact across Europe and to ensure wide dissemination of the project results, proposals should foresee a dedicated work package for cooperation with other selected projects under topic RUR-06-2020. Cooperation with other selected projects under topic RUR-07-2020 is encouraged."

& RUR-07-2020 - Reducing food losses and waste along the agri-food value chain "(...)To maximize impact across Europe and to ensure wide dissemination of the project results, proposals should foresee a dedicated work package for cooperation with selected projects under topic RUR-07-2020. Cooperation with other selected projects under topic RUR-06-2020 is also encouraged."

OBJECTIVES OF THIS EVENT

- Jointly analyze the experience in these 3 years of cooperation of the 5 Sister Projects RUR-06 & 07
- Debate and Exchange with REA Project Officers on lessons learned
- Identify good practices in Project cooperation aiming at maximizing projects' Impact

AGENDA

Time	Registration and Networking Coffee	Presenter
10:00-10:30	Registration and Networking Coffee	
10:30-11:00	Welcome and introduction: Objectives and expected outcomes from this event Cooperation methodology and Good practices in cooperation	Inés Echeverría (CO-FRESH)
11:00-11:40	Joining efforts to maximize projects' impact: - Introduction: - Joining efforts in Social Nets and Web Pages - Organization of Joint Dissemination activities: - Joint Innovation Platform - Policy recommendations	Clara Clouetilla (LOWINFOOD) James Line (FOODRUS) Katherine Flynn (FAIRCHAIN) Daniela Rossi (FAIRCHAIN) & Mihai Marinica (PLOUTOS)
11:40-12:20	Round Tables: Experiences and lessons learnt. Introduction & Moderation: Moderators: Round Table participants (1 representative of project) and REA POs	Domenico Ocean-Orlino (FAIRCHAIN)
12:20-12:30	Closing remarks from REA POs	Inés Echeverría and Mihai Marinica
12:30	Event closure	

STARTING-UP COOPERATION

Cooperation officially started in November 2020

1st Cooperation Meeting – Nov 10th 2020
(in parallel to all 5 projects start-up)

Main agreements:

- A rotational leadership to keep this Cooperation going was established among all 5 projects
- **Common objectives and expectations alignment:**
 - Com & Dis activities
 - Methodological synergies
 - Increase Impact
- **Common SharePoint** was established to facilitate Documents and Information share
- **Common Innovation Platform**

STARTING-UP COOPERATION

Cooperation officially started in November 2020

1st Cooperation Meeting – Nov 10th 2020
(in parallel to all 5 projects start-up)

Expected objectives:

- Learn from the knowledge and experience of other projects to find synergies and complementarities.
- Share results and innovations in order to encourage cross-fertilization
- Find common solutions to build sustainable food systems
- Identify potential cooperation activities
- Define together best practices and recommendations

COOPERATION METHODOLOGY

Core team to manage sister projects cooperation (meet every three months)

Call	Project	Participating person	Institution	Role
RUR-06	FAIRCHAIN	Genevieve Gerssen-Guizoo	INRAE	Coordinator
		Marc-Alexandre	INRAE	Project Mgr
		Danielle Rossi	CONFAGRICOLTURA	Coop WP Leader
		Francisca Marina	CONFAGRICOLTURA	Coop WP
RUR-06	CO-FRESH	Katherine Flynn	RDRI	Coop&Dis WP
		Lutz Mayer	RDRI	Coop&Dis WP Leader
		Inés Echeverría Gallo	CNTR	Coordinator
		Elena Galindo	CNTR	Coordinator assistant
RUR-06	PLOUTOS	Eduard López Avila	Univ. Genti	Coop WP Leader
		Susanne Braun	Univ. Hohenheim	Coop&Dis WP
		Casper Woldringmeyer	Univ. Hohenheim	Coop&Dis WP
		Nikolaos Marinicas	GATA	Coordinator
RUR-07	LOWINFOOD	Akaterini Kasimati	Agricultural Univ Athens	Coop Task Leader
		Clara Clouetilla	Univ. Tuscia	Coordinator
		Clara Clouetilla	Univ. Bologna	Coop Task Leader
		Alfonso Alonso	Univ. Duisburg	Coordinator
RUR-07	FOODRUS	Mónica de Prado	ELKA	Coop Task Leader
		Isaac Albarán	ELKA	Coop Task
		Laura Nieto	GTE	Coop & Dis WP Leader

Note: Some representatives of the partner organizations have changed throughout the project

COOPERATION METHODOLOGY

Decision to create thematic Working Groups with relevant partners involved in such thematic from each Sister Project:

Working Groups

- WG1: Value chain Assessment Methodologies and Food Losses Methodologies
- WG2: Co-creation Methodologies
- WG3: Innovation Platform
- WG4: Dissemination & Cooperation
- WG5: Cooperation Plan & Workshops
- WG6: Policy Recommendations and briefs

WGs meetings

- In general, they have met 2-5 times a year or more depending on needs.

COOPERATION METHODOLOGY

Other joint activities that came up from Cooperation meetings

- Participating in General Assemblies / Annual Meetings of Sister Projects
- PhD students and / or PostDoc mobility
 - FOODRUS (Univ.Deusto)-LOWINFOOD (Univ.Tuscia): Feb-Jun 2023
- Organising an event to jointly reflect on the experience of cooperation between sister projects
- Promoting collaborations / exchanges with other Projects
- Interacting with the EIP-AGRI and the Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR)

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements 101019983, 101019984, 101019985, 101019986, 101019987, 101019988, 101019989, 101019990, 101019991, 101019992, 101019993, 101019994, 101019995, 101019996, 101019997, 101019998, 101019999, 101020000.

PLOUTOS CO+AGRI FRESH LOWINFOOD FOODRUS

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COOPERATION METHODOLOGY

Evolution of Working Groups

M6	M18	M30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WG Value chain Assessment WG Food losses quantification WG Innovation Mapping Methodologies WG Co-creation methodologies WG Innovation Platform WG Communication and Dissemination Activities WG Cooperation Plan and Workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WG Value chain Assessment Food losses quantification subgroup WG Co-creation methodologies WG Innovation Platform WG Communication and Dissemination Activities WG Cooperation Plan and Workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WG1 Value Chain Assessment (Completed in M24) Subgroup: Food losses quantification WG2 Co-creation methodologies WG3 Innovation Platform WG4 Communication and Dissemination Activities WG5 Cooperation Plan and Workshops WG6 Policy Recommendations and Briefs (Created in M20)

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements 101019983, 101019984, 101019985, 101019986, 101019987, 101019988, 101019989, 101019990, 101019991, 101019992, 101019993, 101019994, 101019995, 101019996, 101019997, 101019998, 101019999, 101020000.

PLOUTOS CO+AGRI FRESH LOWINFOOD FOODRUS

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EXAMPLES OF WIDER COOPERATION: LINKING WITH OTHER RELATED PROJECTS

FOODRUS

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements 101019983, 101019984, 101019985, 101019986, 101019987, 101019988, 101019989, 101019990, 101019991, 101019992, 101019993, 101019994, 101019995, 101019996, 101019997, 101019998, 101019999, 101020000.

PLOUTOS CO+AGRI FRESH LOWINFOOD FOODRUS

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COOPERATION & COLLABORATION NETWORK ON FOOD LOSSES AND WASTE (CCN)

<https://www.foodr.us/cooperation/>

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements 101019983, 101019984, 101019985, 101019986, 101019987, 101019988, 101019989, 101019990, 101019991, 101019992, 101019993, 101019994, 101019995, 101019996, 101019997, 101019998, 101019999, 101020000.

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COOPERATION & COLLABORATION NETWORK ON FOOD LOSSES AND WASTE (CCN)

Timeline

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements 101019983, 101019984, 101019985, 101019986, 101019987, 101019988, 101019989, 101019990, 101019991, 101019992, 101019993, 101019994, 101019995, 101019996, 101019997, 101019998, 101019999, 101020000.

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EIP-AGRI - SCAR

Cooperation within the EIP-AGRI and the Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR)

- Strategic Working Groups on: Food Systems and Agricultural Knowledge Innovation Systems (AKIS)

<p>SWG SCAR AKIS 5 - 8th Meeting</p> <p>Online, 1st - 2nd June 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects with the objective 'Innovative agri-food value chains: boosting sustainability-oriented competitiveness' (RUR 6 - Horizon 2020) 1. CO-FRESH, an MA project promoting more sustainable and efficient agri-food value chains - Inés Echeverría-Gent (CO-FRESH Coordinator), CNTA (Eduela López Díaz) 2. FAIRCHAIN, Towards a balanced distribution of value in fruit, vegetable and dairy sectors - Genevieve Desjar-Guzzini, RIFAE 3. Ploutos, Data-driven sustainable agri-food value chains - Héloïse Marianne, Clém Epiphane 	<p>SWG SCAR AKIS 5 - 8th Meeting</p> <p>Online, 14th-15th September 2021</p> <p>14.00 - 15.30: Food system related projects presentation (3*10 min. project + 45 min discussion)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CO-FRESH - Cooperation Methodology - Inés Echeverría FOODRUS - Ambrosia Alonzo Vicuña LOWINFOOD - Clara Ciochetti SHADYFRESH - Susana Braun FDK - Peter Füll <p>Discussion of the Food system related project from AKIS point of view</p>	<p>SWG SCAR AKIS 2nd meeting of the 6th mandate, Prequel 12/14/04-04-2023</p> <p>AKIS for co-innovation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project presentation on Policy Recommendations for a Sustainable Agri-food Sector: FAIRCHAIN, CO-FRESH, PLOUTOS
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COOPERATION METHODOLOGY

Cooperation within the EIP-AGRI and the Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR)

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements 101019983, 101019984, 101019985, 101019986, 101019987, 101019988, 101019989, 101019990, 101019991, 101019992, 101019993, 101019994, 101019995, 101019996, 101019997, 101019998, 101019999, 101020000.

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AGENDA

Sister Projects' Cooperation Experience Joint event

Thursday, 26th October 2023

Time	Topic	Presenter
18:00-18:30	Registration and Networking Coffee	
18:30-11:00	Welcome and introductions Objectives and expected outcomes from this event Cooperation methodology and shared practices in cooperation	Inés Echeverría (CO-FRESH)
11:00-11:40	Joining efforts to maximize projects' impact Introduction: - Joining efforts in Social News and Web Pages - Organization of Joint Dissemination activities - Joint Innovation Platform - Policy recommendations	Clara Ciochetti (LOWINFOOD) James Ling (FOODRUS) Katherine Paves (FAIRCHAIN) Daniela Rossi (FAIRCHAIN) & Nilas Marianne (PLOUTOS)
11:40-12:30	Round Tables Experiences and lessons learnt. Introduction & Moderation: Moderator: Round Table participants (1 representative / project) and REA PoAs	Genevieve Desjar-Guzzini (FAIRCHAIN)
12:30-12:30	Closing remarks from REA PoAs	Isma Ocasna and Mihai Pava
12:30	Event closure	

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements 101019983, 101019984, 101019985, 101019986, 101019987, 101019988, 101019989, 101019990, 101019991, 101019992, 101019993, 101019994, 101019995, 101019996, 101019997, 101019998, 101019999, 101020000.

PLOUTOS CO+AGRI FRESH LOWINFOOD FOODRUS

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Annex 2: Joining efforts in Social Nets and Web Pages to increase the reach of the communication and dissemination

1. JOINT EVENT SISTER PROJECTS' COOPERATION EXPERIENCE
BRUSSELS, 26th OCT 2023
JOINING EFFORTS IN SOCIAL NETWORKS AND WEB PAGES
Clara Cicatiello - LOWINFOOD

2. RATIONALE OF BRINGING WEB AND SOCIAL COMMUNICATION TOGETHER

- Increase visibility of the activities of individual projects
- Maximise impact
- Increase followers
- Activate more reactions/comments on social media
- Communication channel between projects
- getting to know and disseminating within the consortia what the others are doing in real time

WORKING GROUP ON COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION
Activated in April 2021, including at least one representative per project, 13 meetings, continuous exchange of information, still ongoing

3. IN PRACTICE

4. PROJECT WEBSITES

- The links to sister projects are included in the websites

5. NEWSLETTERS

- News from sister projects are included in each project's newsletters

6. COMMON HASHTAG ON SOCIAL MEDIA

#H2020FoodSis

- Social media: create and use a common hashtag
- The hashtag is used for all posts of all projects
- Increase mutual following, triggering discussion
- Track posts from sister projects

7. TRIGGERING FOLLOWERS AND REACTIONS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

- Shared strategy to increase the impact of the dissemination of sister projects
- Share contents and posts of sister projects
- React and comment under posts of sister projects
- Trigger discussion and visibility of social media contents

8. COMMON INFOGRAPHIC ON SOCIAL MEDIA KPI

#H2020FoodSis in 2022

- 4,149 unique visitors / average
- 725 newsletter recipients
- 66% more vs. 2021 website visitors / average
- 3 JOINT Events
- 2,600 social media followers

Common Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) have been established to measure the impact of the sister projects on social media. A common infographic was created to summarize the impact.

JOINT CAMPAIGNS FOR EVENTS

- Joint communication campaigns have been organised and scheduled for shared events → for example the event of today

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements 101019082, 101019083, 101019084, 101019085 and 101019086.

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JOINT CAMPAIGNS FOR EVENTS

- Joint communication campaigns have been organised and scheduled for shared events → for example the special session organised at EFFoST 2022 in Dublin, Ireland

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements 101019082, 101019083, 101019084, 101019085 and 101019086.

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Annex 3: Organization of Joint Dissemination activities

**JOINT EVENT
SISTER PROJECTS'
COOPERATION
EXPERIENCE**

BRUSSELS, 26th OCT 2023

JOINT DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES
James Ling - Greenovate! Europe (FOODRUS)

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N°101019916, N° 101019914, N° 101019913 and N° 101019912.

1

Summary

- Joint Sessions in external events
 1. EU Green Week
 2. EFFoST
 3. COPA COGECA
- Future Joint Events
- Positive Outcomes

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N°101019916, N° 101019914, N° 101019913 and N° 101019912.

2

EU Green Week

Date: 27/05/2021
Place: Brussels
Organiser: ACR+ (FOODRUS)

Concept/objective: "Collaborative and circular food systems to reduce pollution and improve health"

Participants: Scientific community, Policy and business stakeholders

Main results: Presentation of the innovative approaches of the 5 Sister Projects. An expert panel addressed issues related to the sustainability of food systems at local and regional level. The panel emphasized the role of research, innovation, data availability, and cooperation among projects in achieving sustainable food systems. The need for a multi-actor approach was underscored, with a focus on addressing challenges like COVID-19 logistics, the FAO Green cities initiative, and transitioning to sustainable food systems. The inclusion of food waste in EU definitions and upcoming programs like Horizon Europe and the Common Agricultural Policy were also discussed for addressing food waste in primary production.

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N°101019916, N° 101019914, N° 101019913 and N° 101019912.

3

EFFoST

The European Federation of Food Science and Technology Conference

Date: 09/11/2022
Place: Dublin (Ireland)
Organiser: FAIRCHAIN

Concept/objective: Special session: Innovations for food producers and food SMEs: How to encourage putting innovations into practice. Five sister projects.

Participants: Scientific community, Policy and Business FSC Stakeholders

Main results: Presented innovations now in progress in five current European projects, innovations devoted to SMEs and producers which aim to increase food sustainability. Discussed challenges, supporting and hindering factors for putting innovations into practice and possible solutions for their successful implementation at a participant-presenter roundtable.

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N°101019916, N° 101019914, N° 101019913 and N° 101019912.

4

COPA COGECA Workshop

Date: 06/12/2022
Place: Brussels (Hybrid)
Organiser: FAIRCHAIN

Concept/objective: To share experiences of cooperation by identifying good practices of common interest.

Participants: 33 farmers and associations

Main results: Maximising impact, maximising synergies and avoiding overlaps. Discussion on the Horizon 2020 and Interim Horizon Europe Consultation and exchange of views with Members on Horizon Europe Cluster 6 calls of interest

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N°101019916, N° 101019914, N° 101019913 and N° 101019912.

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Upcoming joint events

- Cibus Tec 2023 (Parma, 24-27 October)
- Ecomondo 2023 (Rimini, 7-9 November)
- EFFoST 2023 Conference (Spain, November 2023)
- NFTPs 2023 - National Food Technology Platforms (Vienna, 14 November)
- FOODRUS Final Event at the Committee of the Regions (April 2024)
- EFFoST 2024 (Belgium, November 2024)

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N°101019916, N° 101019914, N° 101019913 and N° 101019912.

6

Joint event tracker

Collaborative file has been developed to help identify future opportunities

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Positive outcomes

- More visibility of our projects actions and events
- Combining of skills and expertise from the different projects
- New contacts and connections with other projects/partners/stakeholders...

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N°101019916, N° 101019914, N° 101019913 and N° 101019912.

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Annex 5: Policy recommendations



**JOINT EVENT
SISTER PROJECTS'
COOPERATION
EXPERIENCE**
BRUSSELS, 26TH OCT 2023

JOINT POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
Daniel Rossi – Francesca Marino – Tancredi Marini- FAIRCHAIN
Nikos Marianos - PLOUTOS

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N°101019062, N° 101019064, N° 101019049, N°101019057 and N°101019073.

1



WBI: Policy Recommendations and Retax

COOPERATION Provided some updates for the meetings on policy issues in Slovakia and Hungary. The second round took place end of September.

CONTENT The policy task includes two parts: 1. Methodology and 2. Content. The methodology meeting was scheduled to take place on June 26th, along with a seminar on policy issues in Rome, held by Confagricoltura. As for the content, 4 case studies have been conducted, followed by the organization of events.

FOODRUS The FOODRUS *First policy roundtable on legal and economic barriers to food waste prevention and reduction* took place online on October 11th, 2023.

FAIRCHAIN The leader of this task is the University of Tuscia, and the task started in April 2023. Its core part involves discussing the results of the demos with stakeholders and policy actors at the end of 2024.

PLOUTOS The final policy event of the PLOUTOS project has been held on the 8th of June at Copa Cogeca in Brussels. The event focused on "Policy recommendations for sustainable agri-food sector" to promote better value chain uptake.

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N°101019062, N° 101019064, N° 101019049, N°101019057 and N°101019073.

2



Policy Recommendations by Ploutos

- Based on challenges faced by its SIPs, Ploutos prepared a preliminary set of "Policy Recommendations for a Sustainable Agri-food Sector" on two closely related categories:
 - Recommendations for Rebalancing the Agri-Food Value Chain;
 - Recommendations for Enabling the Uptake of Digital Technologies in the Agri-Food Sector
- Shared with representatives from the Sister Projects and other initiatives and discussed during a Digital Workshop (23/09/2022).
- New pre-final version building on the input, presented at the Final Ploutos Event at the Copa Cogeca's premises in Brussels (8/6/2023).
- Final version ready collecting feedback from the final event.

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N°101019062, N° 101019064, N° 101019049, N°101019057 and N°101019073.

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Ploutos' Policy Recommendations: Rebalancing and Digital Enabling

First, recommendations for rebalancing the agri-food value chain aim to address existing imbalances and foster a fair and sustainable system. These proposals aim to create a more equitable distribution of value and promote collaboration across the sector.

The second category of recommendations focused on enabling the adoption of digital technologies within the agri-food sector. By leveraging innovative solutions, these policies seek to enhance productivity, sustainability, and efficiency throughout the value chain. Embracing digital technologies has the potential to revolutionize farming practices and unlock new opportunities.

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5



The Fairchain approach to Policies

Co-creation with multiple food chain actors and multi-stakeholder validation are at the core of Fairchain approach. Fairchain also adopted a multi-perspective analysis that considers technological, organisational and social innovations. Fairchain research will involve three main phases:

1. Mapping of innovations that could contribute to the development of intermediate food value chains.
2. Testing in real-life conditions a minimum of eight innovations through [six case studies](#).
3. Formulating recommendations based on results.

The six case studies represent a value chain in the fruit, vegetable or dairy sectors involving small and mid-sized actors facing an unsatisfactory situation.

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6



The CO-FRESH redesign agri food value chains

The main objective of CO-FRESH is to redesign and pilot innovative systemic approaches to agri-food value chains to scale up this innovation at the European level. The CO-FRESH project aims to provide techniques, tools and insights on how to make agri-food value chains more environmentally sustainable, socio-economically balanced and competitive.

The project implemented technological and non-technological innovations in 7 pilots of agri-food value chains to test, how the combination of technological and non-technological innovations at several levels and steps (*from farmer to the food-processing to consumer*) can improve environmental and socio-economic benefits in terms of sustainability.

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N°101019062, N° 101019064, N° 101019049, N°101019057 and N°101019073.

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The CO-FRESH approach to EU Policies

Co-Fresh is looking for transforming Agri-Food Value Chains for Sustainability and Competitiveness in Europe.

CO-FRESH has produced a number of interesting results and outcomes, such as the identification of 100+ sustainable value chains, or a portfolio of innovative business models to make European agri-food value chains more sustainable and competitive..

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N°101019062, N° 101019064, N° 101019049, N°101019057 and N°101019073.

8

The LOWINFOOD Analysis on the EU Consumer Behaviour

The 9th of October 2023, Lowinfood analysed changes in individuals' awareness and behaviour towards food waste when involved in innovations, with James Hutton Institute and other partners. The study went deeply into the effect that being involved in the implementation of innovations (either in the workplace or at home) has on people's awareness, attitude, and behaviour towards food waste. In fact, this approach has not been studied yet.

However, experiences entailing the implementation of concrete tasks have been found to promote change in attitudes and awareness and thus effectively modify behaviours in participants, so the LOWINFOOD partners hypothesise that participating in the implementation of innovations may act similarly.

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N° 101019882, N° 101019884, N° 101019849, N° 101019821 and N° 101019873.

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The LOWINFOOD Results on EU Consumer Behaviour

According to the presentation JHI partners gave at the Retaste conference, through surveying employees of organisations (businesses and schools) and members of households involved in different innovations tests, the participants were asked to rate the same sets of statements both before (to establish a baseline) and after the implementation of the innovations, so as to assess the changes in people's behaviour.

Although data collection is still ongoing, researchers believe "the results of the research will provide useful insights about active participation's role in triggering positive behavioural change and increasing the social impact of the public funding to sustainable innovation".

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N° 101019882, N° 101019884, N° 101019849, N° 101019821 and N° 101019873.

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FOODRUS is working to tackle the food waste and losses by creating resilient food systems across nine European regions.

To achieve this, the project tested 23 circular solutions through diverse forms of collaborative innovation, including: technological (blockchain solutions to manage food losses and waste), social (educational materials and citizen science activities to promote sustainable consumption habits), organizational (last mile networks to foster local consumption and donation), and fiscal (new 'Pay As You Throw' schemes).

These innovative solutions will empower and engage all actors in local food systems, from farmers to end-consumers and everyone in between, to build a multi-actor alliance to tackle the challenge of food loss and waste.

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N° 101019882, N° 101019884, N° 101019849, N° 101019821 and N° 101019873.

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The FOODRUS policy roundtable: "barriers to foodwaste prevention and reduction".

The FOODRUS *First policy roundtable on legal and economic barriers to food waste prevention and reduction* took place online on October 11th, 2023. During the 2-hours interactive meeting, the barriers identified by FOODRUS partners have been presented and further refined with the meeting participants.

The workshop aimed to fulfill 3 objectives: 1. Understanding how far the identified barriers are representative of the national and regional contexts; 2. Evaluate to what extent these barriers still persist, how important they are, and where and how there exist cases where policy-makers managed to overcome the barriers; 3. Identify other barriers that do not appear in the current overview of barriers identified by the FOODRUS consortium partners.

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N° 101019882, N° 101019884, N° 101019849, N° 101019821 and N° 101019873.

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Main conclusions on sister projects, sharing policies and policy makers.....

Dear 5 Sister Projects, first of all, we've got 3 channels: the first one is the modern trade. The second one will be the ho.re.ca. sector with his capacity of being resilient and reactive. Then, new business models/shorter chains. We've got also 2 entrepreneurial targets: the youngest values and world; the senior to be gradually discussed (diet, envi, social...) and rotated. We've got 3 policies from our sister projects teams: sticks and carrots because of no confidence; flags, aperos, sports, co-creating, to be living (lab?), engaging and inclusive; know how gap because of low evidence on science, technology, databases. Last but not least, we've got 2 content blocks: research and innovation on value chains and on diets and consumer behaviour/attitude; radical prevention on agrifood waste, trying to avoid financial and health barriers.

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N° 101019882, N° 101019884, N° 101019849, N° 101019821 and N° 101019873.

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What to do?

A seminar to rethink the policies and to promote the food security, the sustainability and the sectorial growth in Europe?

When?
Monday 26th June 2023, 09:30-18:00

Where?
CONFAGRICOLTURA Head Quarter: Palazzo della Valle, Corso Vittorio Emanuele II, 101 - Rome 00186

Who?
European Project coordinators, interested partners and Academy and Policy Makers

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N° 101019882, N° 101019884, N° 101019849, N° 101019821 and N° 101019873.

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Confagricoltura & AgroNetwork

The Policy Game Seminar: "FARM, FOOD, FOLK! Reshaping EU Policies on Agri-food Systems"


Monday, 26th June 2023
Palazzo della Valle, Rome

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"FARM, FOOD, FOLK!" meeting was born within our 5 Sister projects, CONFAGRICOLTURA and AGRONETWORK Presidencies with the help of European Erasmus + KA Blue Print projects "FIELDS" and "I-RESTART" which support the agrifood policies Pact4Skills and the Food Paths SFS Partnership under the aegis of Copa-Cogeca and Food Drink Europe.

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N° 101019882, N° 101019884, N° 101019849, N° 101019821 and N° 101019873.


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The 5 phases presented at the Policy Game Seminar:

- The Map. Phase 1. A concept note of the agrifood policies (Tools Map)
- The Impact. Phase 2. The impact of policies to timeline, targets, geos and typologies.
- The Connections. Phase 3. The positive and negative interconnections between Policy Tools.
- The Model. Phase 4. The mathematical model with the four case studies prepared for the seminar.
- The Position Paper. Phase 5. The Draft to be shared, modified and approved by the stakeholders engaged.

These projects have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements N°101019882, N° 101019884, N° 101019889, N°101019892 and N°101019873.



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**From the tools and model to the policy implementation:
Lessons learnt from the 5 Sister Projects policy Recommendations and the Position Paper (Phase 5)**

- Lesson 1 :** *No rigidity, no manifesto laws, no pedagogical "push"*
- Lesson 2 :** *Yes to evidence based and scientifically grounded policies but flexibility, adaptation and adjustment*
- Lesson 3 :** *Policies should be complete and integrated but not "all-encompassing"*
- Lesson 4 :** *Yes to distributed attributions, no to top-down decisions.*
- Lesson 5 :** *Accompanying processes*

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