



ICT-AGRI-FOOD Newsletter - April 2023



Dear ICT-AGRI-FOOD community,

Hopefully you are all doing very well. The last weeks were a busy period for many consortium members, as the proposals for the four new Cluster 6 Horizon Europe Partnerships needed to be elaborated and submitted to European Commission. The four new Cluster 6 Partnerships are on: Agriculture and data (AgData), Agroecology, Animal Health and Welfare, Food Systems.

In particularly relevant for ICT-AGRI-FOOD is the **proposal for the Partnership "Agriculture of Data" (AgData)**. ICT-AGRI-FOOD was member of the Core Group of the Partnership "Agriculture of Data" since early 2021. One of the main tasks of the Core Group was the preparation of the [SRIA](#) for the new Partnership. The SRIA was an essential prerequisite and valuable basis for the proposal writing process. On 23 March 2023 the proposal was submitted to the European Commission. Coordinator of "Agriculture of Data" is The Danish Agricultural Agency, and the German Federal Office for Agriculture and Food will be Deputy Coordinator. According to the current planning, "Agriculture of Data" will start in late 2023 or early 2024 and launch calls for research and start with various important strategic framing

actions. If you are interested in details on the Partnership, we invite you to read the article below.

Another topic we are dealing with in the ERA-NET is the next call for 2023. Likely, it will take a bit of time until the next call can be published, as we have come up with something special this time. A pre-announcement of the call will be published in the next weeks and circulated via email to you, the community.

On behalf of the ICT-AGRI-FOOD consortium I wish you a nice spring 2023 and good success in your projects and activities.

Yours sincerely,

Johannes Pfeifer

Member of ICT-AGRI-FOOD's Coordination Team

2022 Joint call



2022 ICT-AGRI-FOOD joint call: more transparent agri-food systems for consumers and other stakeholders along the food value chain based on ict technologies.

Transparency is a critical component of modern food systems. Transparency of food production from farm to fork is crucial to inform consumers, authorities and food system actors on product characteristics such as origin, production method, ingredients and safety, quality, quantity and on sustainability and ethical aspects of products and processes. It is also a crucial factor in ensuring food traceability and authenticity and economic planning.

After peer review and ranking of the 17 eligible full proposals by the International Evaluation Committee, the funders recommended **7 projects** for **funding** within the limits of available national/regional funding.

[Read more](#)

Space Solutions for Sustainable Agriculture



On 25 January 2023, the European Space Agency (ESA), alongside the German Aerospace Centre (DLR) and the German Federal Office for Agriculture and Food (BLE) organised an event to bring together the space and agri-food sectors with the aim of tackling joint challenges and to draw up a shared roadmap. Without action, these challenges can only get worse.

During the event, speakers, panellists, and participants had the opportunity to shape their shared vision for the future of sustainable agriculture using space-enabled technologies. As Nick Appleyard, Head of the Downstream Business Applications Department at ESA highlighted at the event, ESA Space Solutions is not a newcomer to the agriculture sector. The first project referenced in its portfolio was a German-led activity with Vista GmbH called [Talking Fields](#), starting in 2009 with a [feasibility study](#) and later a [demonstration project](#) aimed at providing farmers with affordable and low time-consuming, end-to-end precision farming services to increase production efficiency. This activity helped ESA build its knowledge of the agriculture sector through providing its expertise in space. Several other success stories were highlighted by companies including Spacenus, Telespazio Vega Deutschland and academic institutions including GFZ-Potsdam.

[Read more](#)

ICT-AGRI-FOOD network activities



Credit: Jenson

ESA Call on Sustainable Synergies: Interconnected Systems for Positive Impact

The ESA call for Feasibility Studies aims to promote the operational and commercial roll-out of services addressing interconnected systems for positive impact where at least two systems considered “isolated”, including eco-systems, are operated in a synergistic manner so that

externalities are re-used or recycled and with the use of at least one space assets. The intended contractors are businesses operating in one of the field (e.g. solar panel installers, for the example above) or system integrators. The selected studies will conduct a thorough analysis of the concept they present, the actors involved and main components of the systems and will determine the technical feasibility and viability of a commercial service that will manage the resulting synergistic service.

OPPORTUNITY: Intended Tender

ACTIVITY: Feasibility Study

OPENING DATE: 15-03-2023

CLOSING DATE: 16-05-2023

[Read more](#)

Upcoming events



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Experimentation Fields Conference

On **27 and 28 April 2023**, the **Experimentation Fields Conference** will take place in Berlin, organized by the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) and the Federal Agency for Agriculture and Food (BLE). At the Experimentation Fields Conference, the digital experimentation fields will present themselves and their results.

[Read more](#)

Share your innovation on ICT in AGRI-FOOD sector to inspire people in developing ideas!

In 2021 the ERA-NET ICT AGRIFOOD set up a Knowledge Incubator in order to facilitate knowledge exchange among different disciplines and domains. The interaction among actors of the Agriculture, Food and ICT domains can facilitate the development of ideas for further relevant innovation!

An online tool has been co-designed by the ICT AGRIFOOD network with the aim of presenting a database of innovation developed by projects funded by the action, but also by other initiatives. Please, visit our online database of innovation at this [link](#) and add your innovation to the list.

The online tool will be soon open to other research projects on the development of digital innovation for the agricultural and food sectors.

For further information and for any doubt on how to describe your innovation, please write to livia.ortolani.ext@masaf.gov.it.



This newsletter will be sent regularly (at least twice per year). It is sent automatically to everyone who has registered for the newsletter under <http://www.ict-agri.eu/> or on www.ictagrifood.eu.

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