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# SSA Blueprint on sectoral cooperation on skills for Bio-economy, new technologies & innovation in agriculture

Patrizia Busato, Remigio Berruto,  
Francesca Sanna

DISAFA – University of Turin, Italy

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**fields**

ADDRESSING THE CURRENT AND FUTURE SKILL NEEDS FOR SUSTAINABILITY, DIGITALIZATION  
AND THE BIO-ECONOMY IN AGRICULTURE EUROPEAN SKILLS AGENDA AND STRATEGY - AGREEMENT 612664-EPP-1-2019-1-IT-EPPKA2-SSA-B

# Erasmus+ Sector Skill Alliance Blueprint

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- **Lot 3 - Sector Skills Alliances for implementing a new strategic approach (Blueprint) to sectoral cooperation on skills:**

This strategy has to lead to systemic and structural impact on reducing skills shortages, gaps and mismatches, as well as ensuring appropriate quality and levels of skills to support growth, innovation and competitiveness in the sector. The sectoral skills strategy must include a clear set of activities, milestones and well-defined outputs with the goal to match demand and supply of skills to support the overall sector specific growth strategy.

To fulfill EU Bioeconomy Strategy and Action Plan:

- 2.4 Promote education, training and skills across the bioeconomy
- (also cited in the Pact for Skill presentation)

# Specific blueprint sector: Bio-economy, new technologies & innovation in agriculture

- Bio-economy, circular economy and bio-based products
- Agricultural sustainability, management of natural resources and climate action
- Digital technologies, digitalization, big data and artificial intelligence

**FIELDS** – Addressing the current and **Future skill** needs for sustainability, digitalization, and the bio-**Economy** in agricu**L**ture:  
European skills agend**D**a and **S**trategy

- Duration Project 4 years (Jan 2020 – Dec 2023)
- Funding 4 mil EUR

# Road to successful innovation

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- EIT FOOD Pillars:
  - Innovation (available)
  - Education (training for students, farmers, consultants)
  - Entrepreneurship (business models)
  - Communication – public engagement (dissemination)
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- FIELDS will look at **Education** mainly, and also to **Entrepreneurship** → sustainable choices for the environment and for the economy
  - Connection with agrifood industry → what market demand/offer and can buy from agriculture/forestry (product, services, byproducts)

# FIELDS partners & countries



30 partners from 12 countries  
Training pilot for 7 countries

CONFAGRI, SCOOP, CONFAGRI-PT, GSZ, ICOS, AC3A, CEPI, GAIA, FENACORE represents **agriculture and forestry sector**.

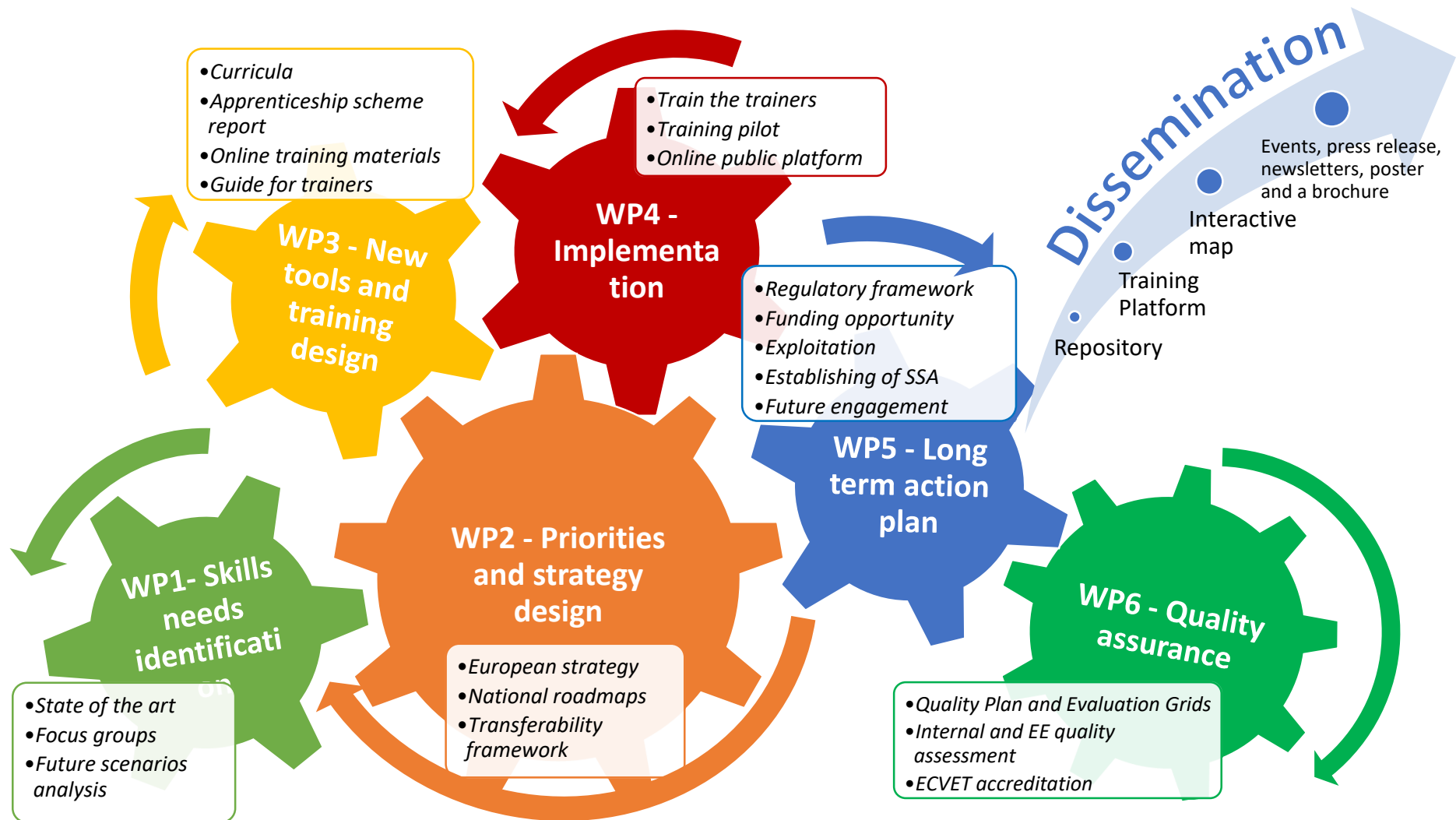
AERES, INFOR, WUR, UNITO, UHOH, UCLM, PA, AP, FJ-BLT, LVA, EFB are offering **training and services** to farmers and foresters. Two of them (UHOH and UNITO) are involved in the **Kic EIT FOOD**.

FIAB, ANIA, ACTIA, SEVT will help to involve also **food industry** in the design of the strategy and training, to make agriculture more aware of what is the demand and opportunities for sustainability, digitalisation and bio-economy from this sector.

Some of these partners (FDE, CEPI, ISEKI, LLL-P, EfVET, PlantETP) are **umbrella organisation at EU level**, to provide an outlook at European strategy for agriculture, forestry and food industry, and link to the educational tools and standards provided by the EU.

Important support from COPA-COGECA will bring connection with stakeholders.

# FIELDS Activities



# High Advisory board

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- Oana Neagu, COPA-COGECA
- Gert Mejers, Nestlè, Chair ETP food for life
- Kjell Ivarsson, Swedish farmer federation
- Jochen Weiss, Universität Hohenheim, Chair Education EIT FOOD
- Rafael Mujeriego, ASERSA, Catalan Water Agency
- Andras Sebok, Camden BRI Hungary

# Lessons learned since project start

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Considering both European and National issues in the project implementation was the right pattern

- This approach stands for focus groups, surveys made, scenario analysis, and strategy formulation
- The EU strategy is used as baseline for the country specific action, training and occupational profiles
- Soft skills and entrepreneurship skill pointed out as important during focus group and survey implementation
- Modular training has to be designed to allow:
  - upskilling on demand of professionals
  - reskilling of students with a whole occupational profile developed and certified
- We draft 10 occupational profiles, however prioritisation and final content of each profile will be adapted to fits the country's needs.



# Ongoing activities 2021

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- European strategy formulation
- Finalisation of occupational profiles with ESCO classification
- Training methodology definition
- Roadmap formulation and refining
- Long term action plan
  - National and EU regulatory framework
  - Funding opportunities
- Sector Skill Alliance establishment

# Thank you for your attention!



Remigio Berruto

Remigio.berruto@unito.it

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