Funding: Horizon Europe - Strategic Research and Innovation

Agenda

Program: Agroecology Partnership

Project title: Agroecological Transition of the European Dairy Farming

System

Budget (RO partner): 159.000 EUR

Project duration: 36 months

Romanian Contracting Executive Unit for the Financing of Higher Education,

Authority: Research, Development and Innovation (UEFISCDI)

Romanian partner: Research and Development Institute for Bovine, Balotesti,

Romania

Webpage: https://www.agroecologypartnership.eu/tedy

SUMMARY:

The TEDY Project aims to advance the Agroecological Transition (AT) within the European dairy sector by combining research, innovation, and collaboration. It seeks to define the current status and aims of AT, while identifying key challenges and opportunities through surveys and stakeholder interviews. Building on these insights, TEDY will develop a comprehensive framework to guide the transition and implement agroecological practices through on-farm trials and Agroecological Living Labs (ALLs). The project will assess the economic, social, and environmental impacts of these practices and promote the widespread adoption of sustainable approaches through dedicated training, capacity building, and knowledge exchange activities. TEDY unites 15 expert partners from 11 countries including Belgium, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, and Turkey to foster a sustainable transition in dairy farming. The project defines what Agroecological Transition (AT) means for the dairy sector across Europe and identifies effective agroecological practices for real-world application.

Through Agroecological Living Labs (ALLs) and on-farm trials, TEDY assesses the impacts of AT on milk yield, greenhouse gas emissions, biodiversity, resilience, and farm economics. Key strategies focus on improving animal health and welfare, optimizing resource use, enhancing nutrient cycles, and reducing external inputs. TEDY also emphasizes social sustainability by supporting youth employment, women's participation, and innovation through training and access to Precision Livestock Farming technologies. Consumer and stakeholder engagement ensures societal acceptance and co-creation with farmers, making solutions practical and trusted. Representing about 66% of EU dairy cows and 46% of EU milk production, TEDY leverages transnational collaboration to drive systemic change enhancing sustainability, resilience, and quality of life in European dairy communities.

Project team:

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