Valorising European Research for Innovation in Agriculture and Forestry

27/06/2016 SC Dissemination Event
Innovation and skills development
Many EU and nationally funded research projects in the fields of agriculture and forestry provide excellent results, but the outreach and translation of these results into field practices is limited.
• Review and summarize knowledge (incl. research outcomes)
• Translate & provide easy access to knowledge
• Mobilise stakeholders (assess viability, barriers, knowledge gaps, empirical knowledge) in case studies
• Establish and document new stakeholder-driven method
• Develop the virtual adviser ask-Valerie.eu
• Ensure its embedding into EIP-AGRI Service Point platform
• Ensure integration of feedback (SCAR, farmer unions, etc.)
Project outline
VALERIE approach – two axes

Theme-driven approach: Six thematic domains charted by experts

- vocabulary
- innovations
- summarize as fact sheets
- expert panels

Stakeholder-driven approach: Ten case studies

- stakeholder communities
- innovation needs
Extract knowledge for innovation
- Extract, screen, summarise
- Create knowledge base for ask-Valerie.eu
- Identify gaps

Create data infrastructure
- Themes structure the extraction
- Structured vocabulary

Case studies on innovation
- Provide ontologies
- Articulate knowledge needs
- Evaluate solutions

Create smart search tool ask-Valerie.eu
- Integrate into EIP NF
## Consortium overview

### Partners and case studies

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<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Participant</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Stichting Dienst Landbouwkundig Onderzoek</td>
<td>R</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Institut National de Recherche Agronomique</td>
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<th>Research centres</th>
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The work of extracting and summarizing knowledge is centred on three main components:

- A document base
- The virtual adviser
  *ask-Valerie.eu*
- An ontology
Project results
document base

We have compiled a list of about **480 innovations**. The aim is to cover all or most of these innovations with mini-factsheets (176 already completed).

- **Valerie-made mini-factsheets**
- Documents considered relevant by experts
- Collections considered relevant by experts (now 3800 docs for testing)

1st step: documents in English
2nd step: national resources
Project results
Valerie ontology

- **Set of concepts**
- **Built by experts**
- **Languages:**
  English, Finnish, French, Italian, (Polish), Spanish, Dutch

Organic fertiliser = Manure = Organic manure

Livestock manure

Solid manure  Liquid manure

Slurry

Pig slurry  Cattle slurry

Solid/Liquid separation (related concept)

Separated cattle slurry solid portion

Separated cattle slurry liquid portion

Nitrogen input (related concept)
ask-Valerie.eu uses the ontology

• to assist users in **query articulation** (autocompletion, suggestions)
• to **find relevant documents** based on synonyms and expansion

Bookmark & comment documents

Connect with other users

Add user-created content
For whom
• Advisers and Farmers
• Actors in EIP-OG’s and Thematic Networks

For What
• Easy access to knowledge for innovation
• Communication platform for practitioners
• Quick access to EU-funded research outcomes

Where
• ask-Valerie.eu access via the EIP-AGRI portal
Impact

• Cross-border and **cross-language** knowledge access for innovation in agriculture and forestry

• Integration of *ask-Valerie.eu* into **EIP-AGRI** platform

• *ask-Valerie.eu* usage will be best indicator for project success
  • growing knowledge base (national ressources, future innovations), active users and interaction, additional countries

• **Dissemination** through the VALERIE website ([www.valerie.eu](http://www.valerie.eu)), brochure, newsletters, workshops, conferences, research papers etc.
Outlook

- **Document base by end 2017**: large but **still limited**
- **Ontology**: thematic domains covered, but need continued **updating / expansion**
- Ontology: align (partly) with **other large ontologies**: Global Agricultural Concept Scheme ("GACS" by FAO, CABI, NAL);
- Expansion by **users**: **functionalities for uploading** new concept names, documents, mini-fact sheets
- Interacting with **other document bases**, knowledge systems (e.g., Open Aire), and knowledge providers (advisers; publishers)
- **Joint Portal** for EC funded programmes?
Lessons learnt

Experts are important to do things right ...
• ... end-users are crucial to do the right things.

Translating research outcome into applicable innovation is challenging
• different notions of innovation
• different timespans to identify innovation (reading vs. applying)

Tasks grow over time, e.g. managing knowledge in software ...
• for different stakeholders ...
• in different languages ...
• with copyright in mind ...
Valorising European Research for Innovation in Agriculture and Forestry

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