

# EuroSheep : share relevant solutions for sheep health and nutrition management between stakeholders across Europe to improve flock profitability

**P.G. Grisot,** B. Fanca, A. Carta, S. Salaris, C. Morgan-Davies, I. Beltran de Heredia, R. Ruiz, S. Ocak, T. Keady, B. McClearn, R. Klein, C. Ligda





# Objective of the project

- To create a thematic network to **improve sheep profitability** through **health** and **nutrition** management.
  - Encourage **knowledge exchanges** between sheep farmers, stakeholders and researchers
  - Widely **disseminate best practices** and innovations ready to be used



# A network across Europe



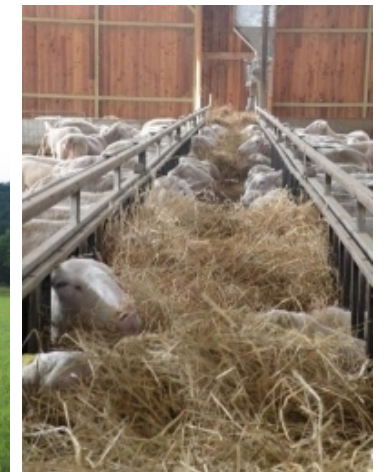
# EuroSheep Work thematic

## 2 structuring axis

Health management



Animal nutrition management



Multi-disciplinary approach within the 2 overarching axis



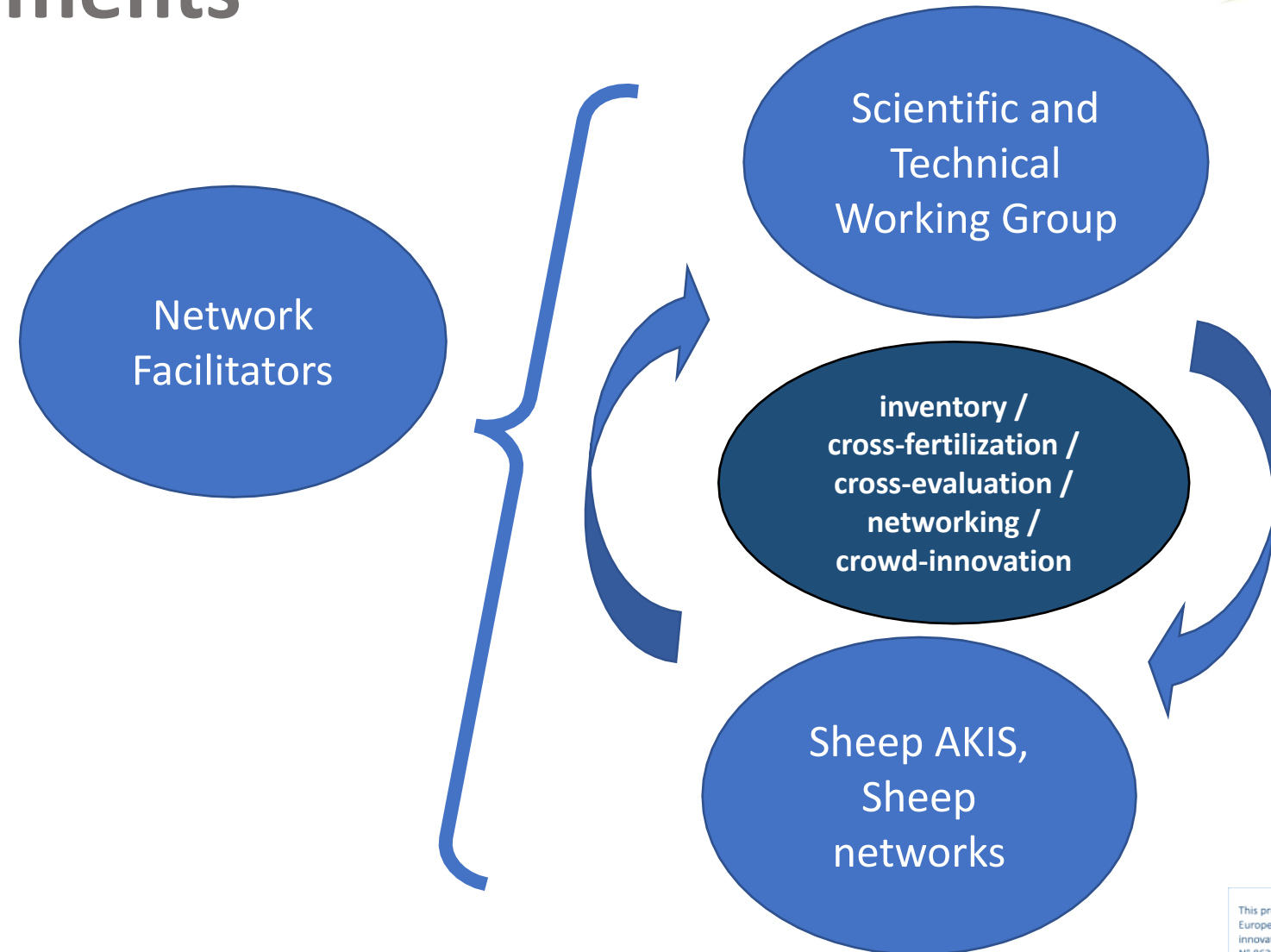


# The 6 EuroSheep steps

- Step **1**: Identification of **end-user needs** at common or specific levels
- Step **2**: Syntheses of **corresponding solutions**, from practical and technical knowledge (and completed by scientific knowledge if needed)
- Step **3**: Prioritisation and **selection of solutions suitable** to the different contexts
- Step **4**: Panel/range of **ready to disseminate solutions** adapted in local contexts with economic, environmental and social analysis
- Step **5**: Assessment of **end-user acceptance** for the different solutions
- Step **6**: Definition of a European **dissemination strategy** and a European **research exploitation**



# EuroSheep based on 3 key elements



# The multi-actors workshops – the central tool of EuroSheep

- **National workshops**

- 1 day,
- alternating work session and field visit,
- NF, STWG and SheepAKIS



- **Transnational workshops (TNWS):** the main place of sharing experience.

- 2 days,
- alternating work sessions and field visits,
- NF, STWG and members of the SheepAKIS of each country (min 2 farmers per country),
- TNWS will be open to people from other countries.



# Step 1: Identification of end-user needs

- Survey online for farmers, advisors, researchers...
- Which are the main challenges and needs regarding nutrition, health and management?
- More than 1200 answers across Europe



**61 needs identified**





## Step 2: Synthesis of corresponding best practices

- Each country proposed **solutions, tips and tricks** and produced **factsheets** (for needs without identified solutions, from scientific knowledge)
  - 96 solutions
  - 26 factsheets
  - 55 tips and tricks
- Published online  
[www.eurosheep.network](http://www.eurosheep.network)



## Step 3 and 5 : selection of solutions suitable and Assessment of end-user acceptance



Country	Number of different solutions	Total number of surveys	Surveys provided by		
			Commercial farms	Research farms	Vets or Advisors
<b>TOTAL</b>	51	167	98	15	34

## Step 4: Economic, environmental and social analysis



- **Economic analysis**

- Additional costs: fuel, labour, feeding, energy, medicine, crops, etc.
- Additional incomes: productivity, quality, subsidies, etc.

- **Environmental and social analysis**

- Additional indicators : Feed efficiency, Grazing efficiency, Manure/slurry production, etc.
- Global environmental analysis
  - Atmosphere (Emissions and air quality), Water (Use and quality), Land (Soil quality and degradation), Materials and energy (Use, waste reduction and disposal), Biodiversity
- Other: family time, animal welfare, social acceptance, etc



## Step 4: Economic, environmental and social analysis



Evaluated impact	Nb of solutions with impact
Increase <b>labour</b>	28
Increase <b>equipment</b>	22
Decrease <b>feeding</b> (forages or concentrates)	14
Decrease <b>medecines</b>	19
Increase <b>external advices</b> (technicians, vet, lab)	22
Increase <b>outputs</b> (meat, milk)	45
Increase <b>feed efficiency</b>	40
Positive impact on <b>athmosphere</b>	27
Improve <b>welfare</b>	45
Improve <b>farm image</b>	41
Reduce <b>physical labour</b>	17





# Step 6 : Identify knowledge gaps



Upon the main **NEEDS DETECTED** from a survey to the main stakeholders,

... **SOLUTIONS** have been identified, proposed, transferred to the sector, ...

... implemented and **ASSESSED BY END-USERS**

... and as a result, the existing **KNOWLEDGE GAPS** to meet the initial needs have been identified





# Step 6 : Identify knowledge gaps



Main gaps

## Nutrition :

- the rearing of ewe lambs to ensure robustness of the breed,
- the nutritional requirements of females during their first gestation and lactation.

**Health**, the heterogeneity of the countries regarding the availability/access to some medicines, or to laboratory for analysis, can limit the implementation of some practical solutions



# Step 6 : European dissemination strategy – dissemination material

- Infographics on the needs
- Solutions pdf and web articles
- Tips and Tricks videos
- E learning material



# Step 6 : European dissemination strategy – dissemination material

- EuroSheep medias

<https://eurosheep.network>



@EuroSheepEU



EuroSheep EU



@EuroSheepEU



EuroSheep



EuroSheep EU





# Thank you for your attention



View slideshows of our conferences at  
**idele.fr**

