

The role of livestock in sustainable circular bioeconomy systems: the MilKey and DairyMix projects

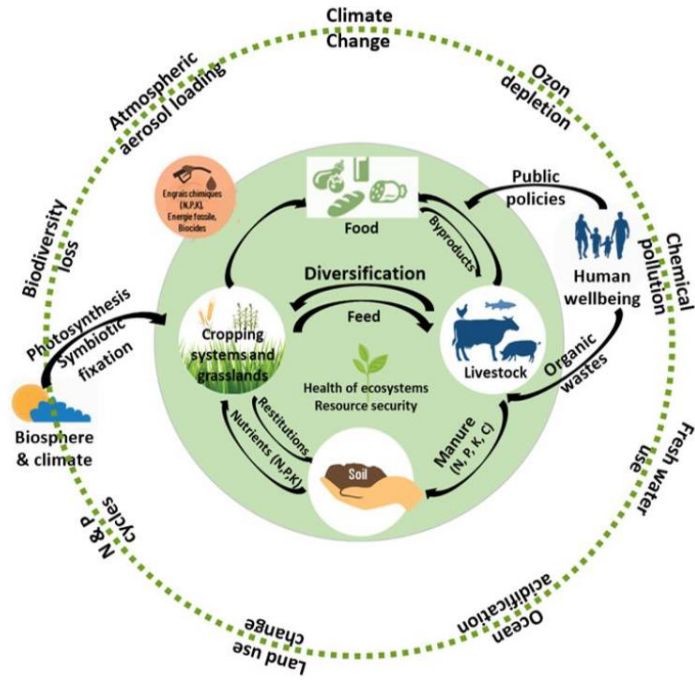


Prof UZ Dr. Barbara Amon
FAO LEAP Conference for LAC, 5th and 6th Nov 2024

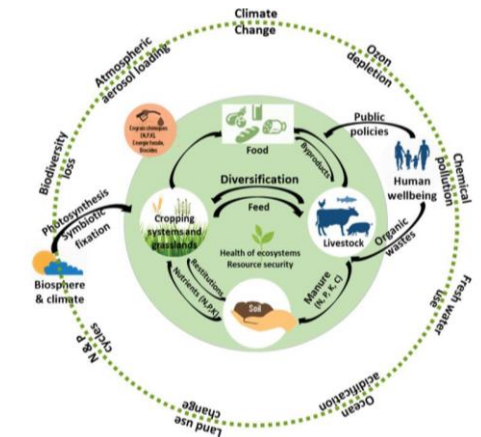
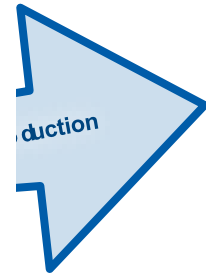
Sustainability of livestock systems

Funded by the European Union

Manure management
 Housing •
 Feeding •
 M4Models



Source: Animal Task Force - Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (April 2021)



Subsidiarity of livestock systems

EUROPEAN NETWORK AND TYPOLOGY OF COUNTRIES

CLIMATE SMART FARMING LIVING LABS

- UK** HOW DO AGROFORESTRY SYSTEMS COPE WITH CLIMATE CHANGE
- IT** BIOGAS IN CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE
- PT** FIGHTING DESERTIFICATION WITH SMART MIXED FARMING
- NL** CLIMATE-PROOF FUTURE FARMING ON PEAT SOILS
- HU** INCREASED CLIMATE ADAPTABILITY THROUGH ORGANIC SOIL-BUILDING STRATEGIES
- SE** COOPERATIVE PRODUCTION OF BIOGAS AND BIOFERTILIZERS
- FR** DAIRY CATTLE FARMERS FACING CLIMATE CHANGE
- DE** OPPORTUNITIES TO MITIGATE FARM GHG EMISSIONS AND INCREASE FARM RESILIENCE
- ES** AN INNOVATIVE NEXUS APPROACH FOR SMALL FARMS TO BE CLIMATE SMART
- SK** REGENERATIVE FARMING AS ANSWER TO CLIMATE CHANGE

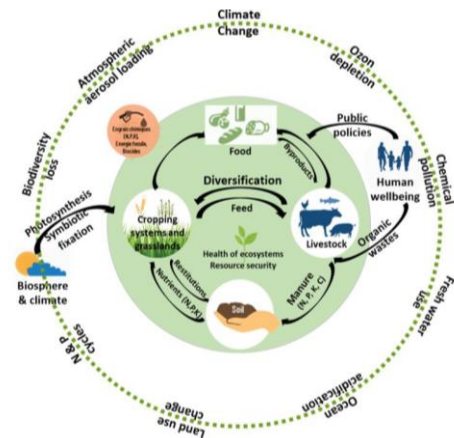
LEIBNIZ INNOHOF



- Multi-stakeholder environment
- Co-creation of innovation
- Agroforestry, carbon farming and other climate-smart practices

Agroforestry-systems •

Future-proof livestock production



The projects “MilKey” and “DairyMix”

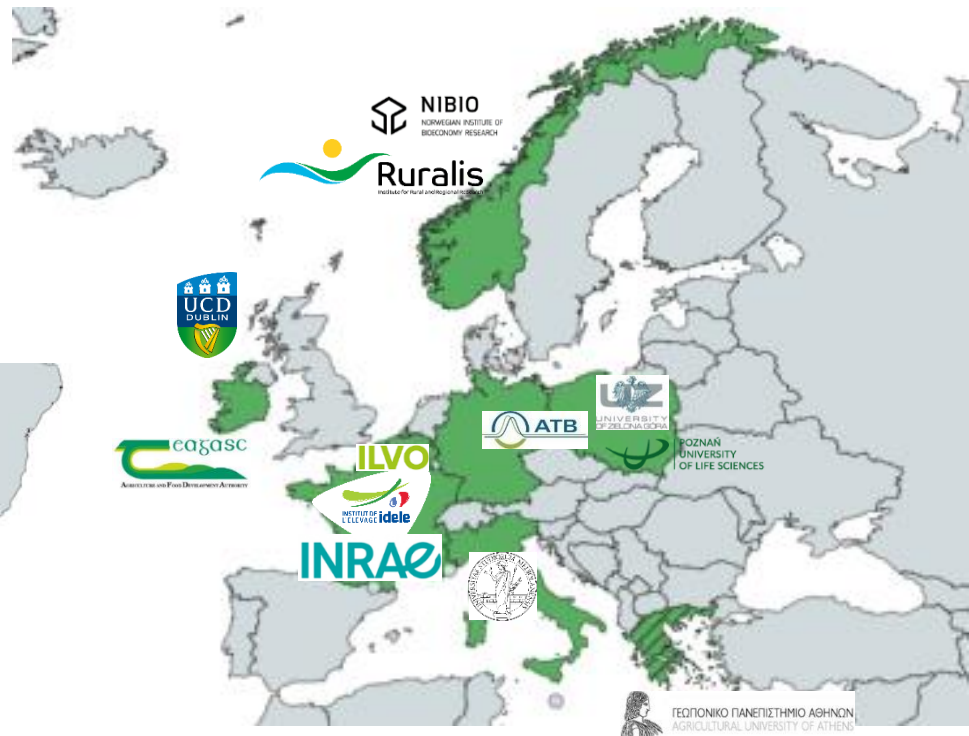


The projects "MilKey" and "DairyMix"



Partners from Europe and Argentina

Advisory Board members from Brazil (EMBRAPA), Chile, China, Portugal, Spain, UK

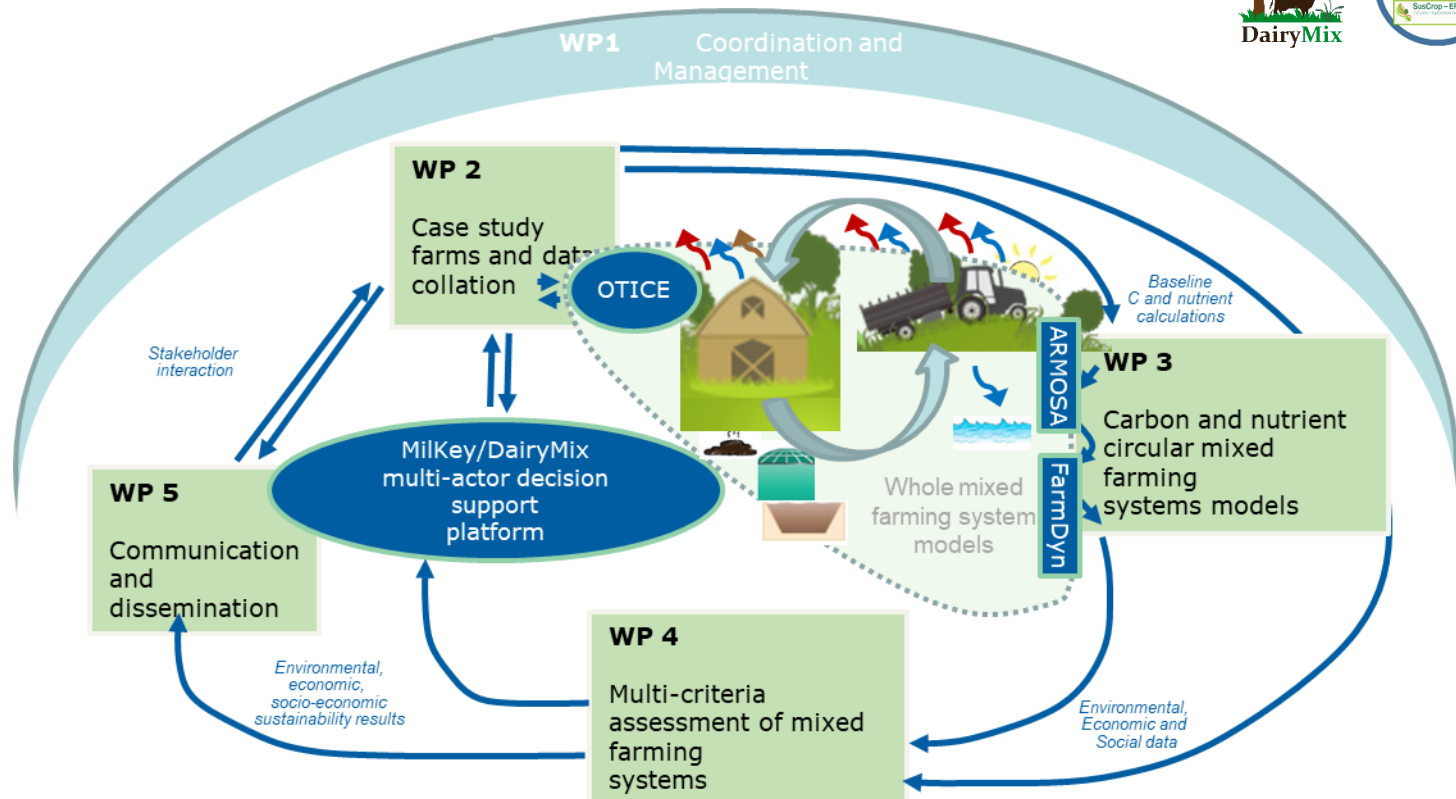


AIM: Multi-criteria assessment, decision support, modelling and management tools for **sustainable circular mixed dairy farming systems** that reduce external inputs (e.g concentrates and mineral fertilizers).

DairyMix workflow



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für Ernährung
und Landwirtschaft
aufgrund eines Beschlusses
des Deutschen Bundestages

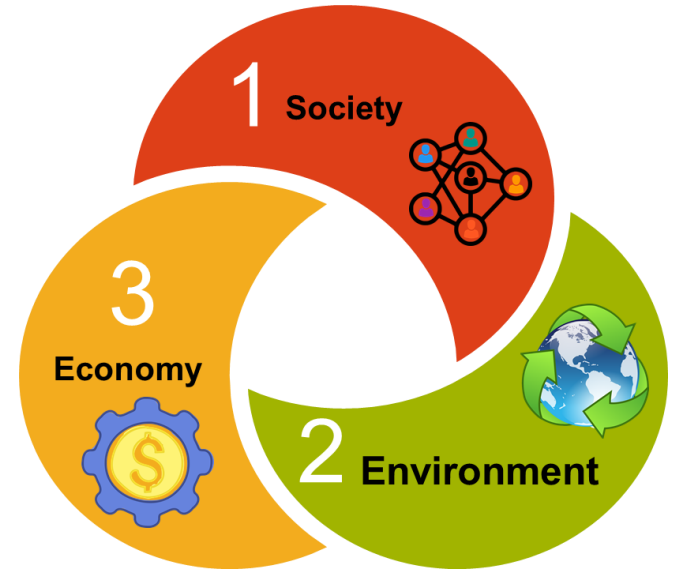


3-pillar sustainability of dairy production systems

- Three sustainability branches:
 - **Environmental**
 - **Economic**
 - **Social**

Objectives:

- ✓ Assess environmental, economic and social sustainability of mixed farming system options for dairy production
- ✓ Develop multicriteria sustainability concepts for mixed farming systems for dairy production
- ✓ Identify and analyse synergies and trade-offs

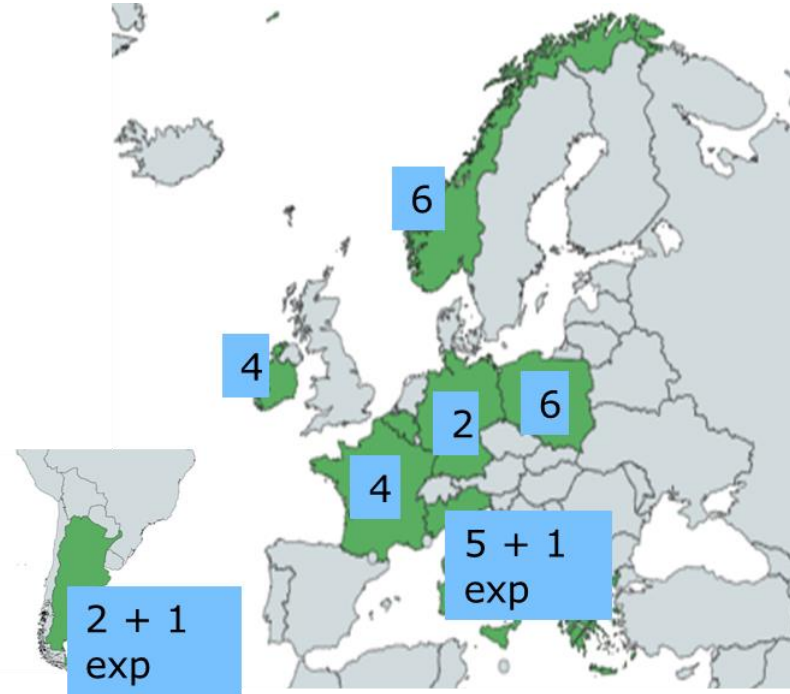


Case Study Data Collection



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des Deutschen Bundestages

- Submitted case studies:
29 commercial farms
+ 2 experimental farms
- Specialized dairy farms
representative of their
countries/NUTS2 areas
+ diversified farms
= **gradient of farm
specialization**



Case Study Data Collection

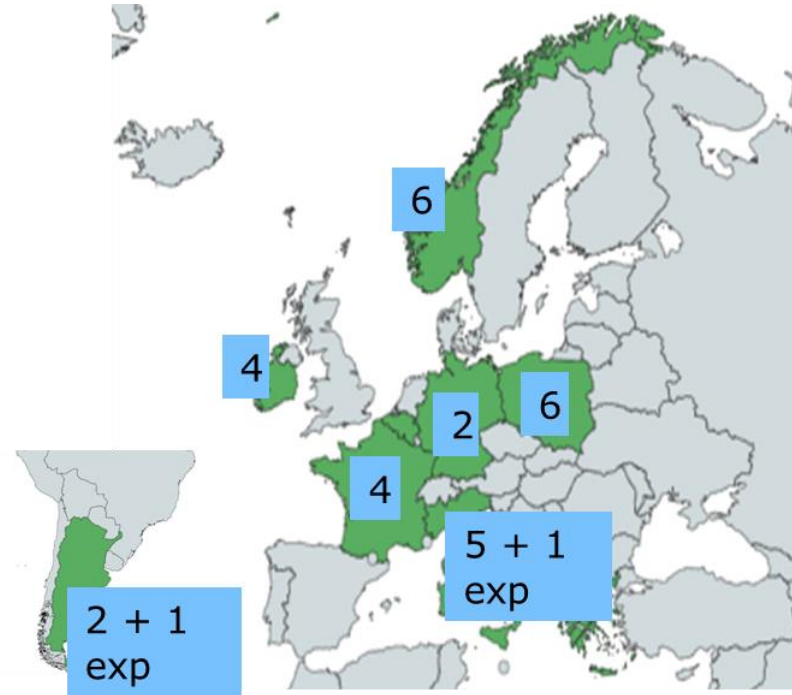


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- Extensive template for (environmental, economic, social) data collection

1. **General farm data:** UAA, Conventional or organic production, Presence of beef enterprise and participation in agri-environmental scheme

2. **Farm holder data:** Age, Agricultural education, Gender, Off farm employment



Case Study Data Collection

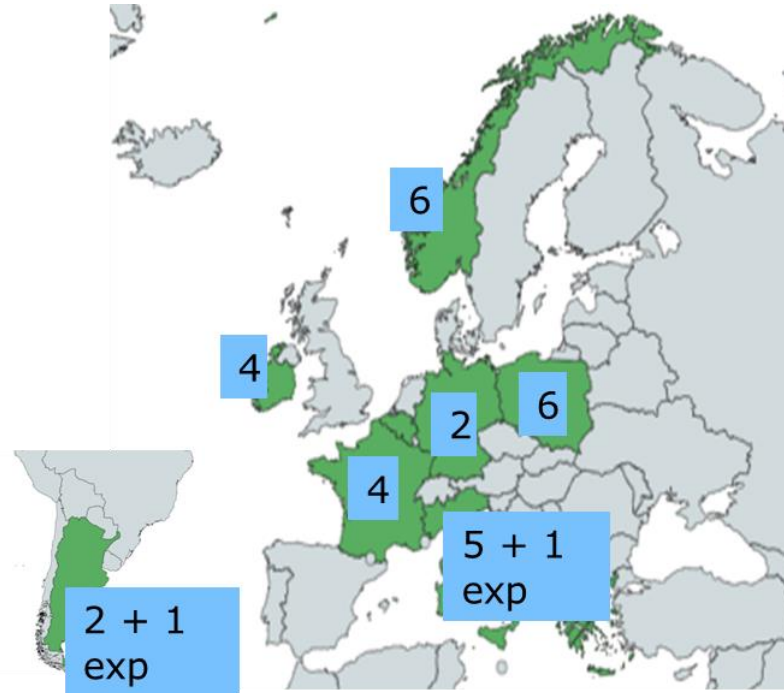


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- Extensive template for (environmental, economic, social) data collection

3: **Dairy enterprise data:** Average dairy cow herd size, total milk production (litres), milk yield per cow (l/cow), milk fat content, milk protein content, FPCM per cow

4. **Grassland & Crop data:** Grassland excluded from rotation, Cropland excluded from rotation, grassland included in rotation, cropland included in rotation, crop species in rotation, crop rotation



Combining two approaches to circularity assessment

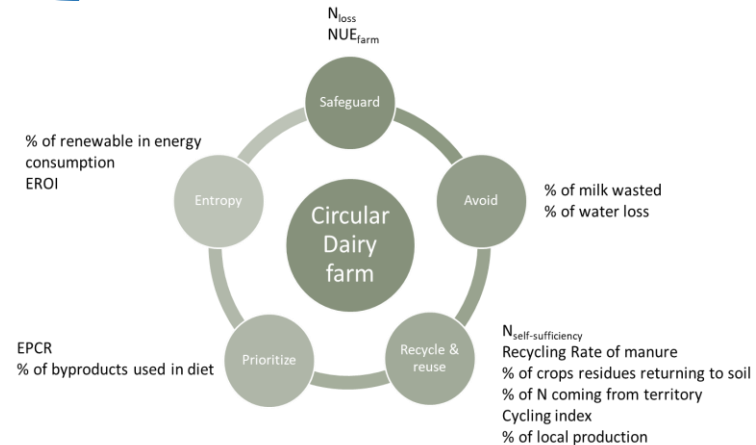


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- **Circularity principles** in relation to circular bioeconomy (Muscat et al. 2021)
 - Multi-disciplinary approach taken- Economic, environmental and social perspective
 - Theoretical foundation: Application of the five Muscat principles for the bio-economy (Adaptation to the farm level)

- **Safeguard**
- **Avoid**
- **Prioritize**
- **Recycle and reuse**
- **Entropy**

- **Cycling indicators** deriving from ecology or industry (e.g., Finn index, Figge index) (van Loom et al. 2023)
 - Concrete, established measures of circularity (i.e. nutrient flows, renewable energy)



Multicriteria sustainability assessment

- ✓ **Multi-attribute decision-making**
(breakdown complex decision problems)
- ✓ Hierarchical model, tree-shaped structure
- ✓ Dependencies are considered

Attributes	Case Studies						
	FR ₀₁	FR ₀₂	DE ₀₁	DE ₀₂	IR ₀₁	IR ₀₂	NO ₀₁
Environmental sustainability ¹	Medium	Medium	Medium to high	Medium	Medium to high	Medium to high	Low to medium
Environmental quality²	Medium	Medium	High	Medium	High	High	Very low
Water quality ³	Medium to low	Low	Medium to high	Medium to low	Medium to high	Medium to high	Low
<i>Eutrophication potential³</i>	Medium to High	High	Medium to low	Medium to High	Medium to low	Medium to low	High
Contribution to climate change ³	High	High	Medium to low	High	Medium to high	Medium to high	High
<i>Global warming potential³</i>	High	High	Medium to low	High	Medium to high	Medium to high	High
Air quality ²	Medium	Medium	Very high	High	Very high	Very high	Very low
<i>Air acidification²</i>	Medium	Medium	Very low	Low	Very low	Very low	Very high
Soil quality ³	Medium to High	High	Medium to High	High	High	High	Low to medium
<i>Erosion risk²</i>	Low	Very low	Low	Very low	Very low	Very low	Very high
<i>Heavy metal balance⁴</i>	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low



DairyMix/MilKey platform: decision support on mitigation measures



MilKey Platform Sustainability assessment Mitigation Practices Sensor system OTICE



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 Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft
 aufgrund eines Beschlusses des Deutschen Bundestages

MILKEY PLATFORM

The MilKey platform constitutes an important tool to display project results for exploitation. It is an educational and informative platform implemented on the web that aims to provide information to several stakeholders (e.g. dairy cattle farmers, farmers' advisors, politicians, and consumers) about key elements to assess and achieve sustainability in dairy cattle production systems (DPS). The results presented derive from different elements of the MilKey project. The platform aims to become a long-lasting multi-actor knowledge hub to increase the level of knowledge and understanding of stakeholders regarding sustainability in dairy cattle production systems.

+ Main functions and content

MULTICRITERIA SUSTAINABILITY SIMULATOR

EMISSION MITIGATION



The project has received funding from national research funding parties in Germany, Poland, Greece, Belgium, Ireland, France and Norway, in the framework of the 2019 Joint Call of three ERA-NET projects (i.e. FACCE ERA-GAS, ERA-NET SusAn and ICT-AGRI 2) on novel technologies, solutions and systems to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in animal production systems.

<https://www.milkey-project.eu/educational-platform>



DairyMix/MilKey platform: decision support on mitigation measures



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A wide range of **GHG** and **N** mitigation options is available

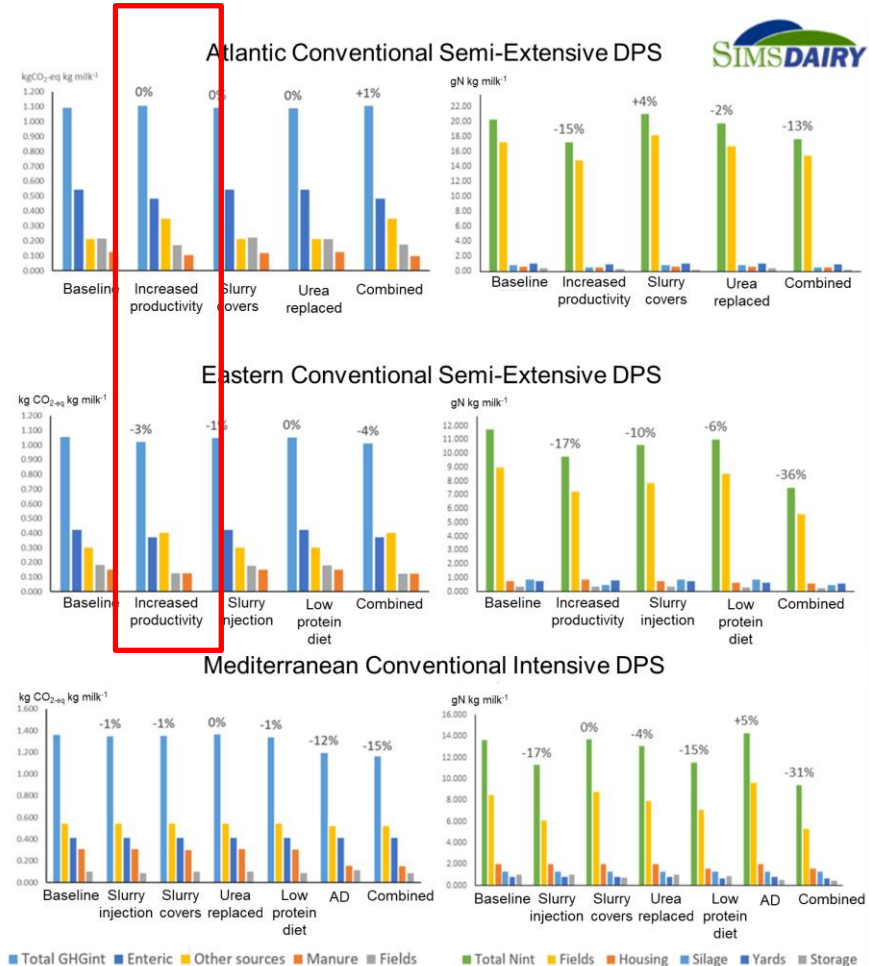
- examples: rigid covers, anaerobic digestion, diet management, slurry application techniques...

1. Modelling of baseline GHG emissions and N losses (SIMSDairy, Del Prado et al. 2011)
2. Selection of **mitigation measures** to be modelled/implemented, in relation to the region and to the individual DPS
3. Modeling of single and **combined** mitigation measures

DairyMix/MilKey platform: decision support on mitigation measures

* The effect of single measures and their combination is **context-specific!**

Example: Increased productivity reduced GHG emission in semi-extensive systems in Eastern Europe, but not in the Atlantic.



DairyMix/MilKey platform: decision support on mitigation measures

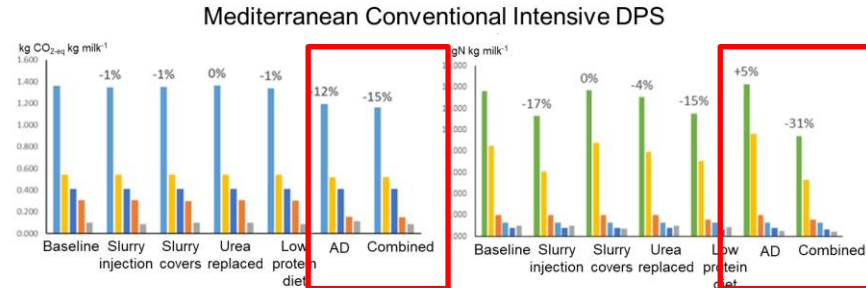
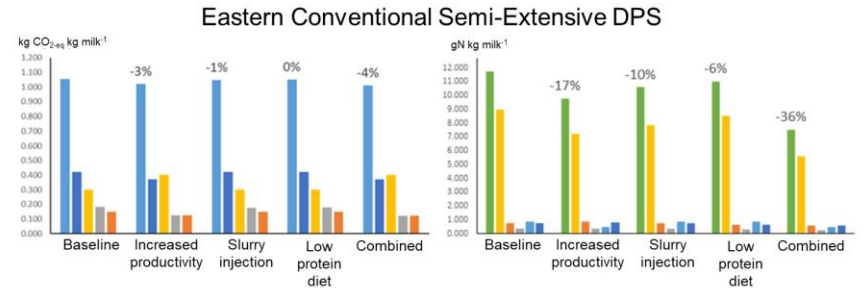
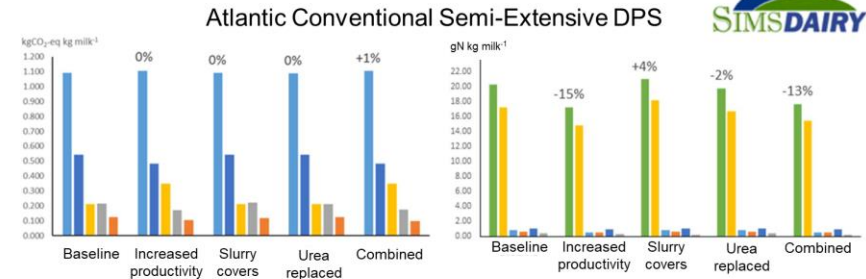


* The effect of single measures and their combination is **context-specific!**

Example: Increased productivity reduces GHG emission in semi-extensive systems in Eastern Europe, but not in the Atlantic.

* **Context-adapted combinations** of mitigation measures lead to a substantial emission reduction, while single measures often show trade-offs between GHG and N.

Example: In the Mediterranean, anaerobic digestion (AD) reduces GHG emissions, but as a single measure it can increase N losses. Combined measures reduce both.



■ Total GHGint ■ Enteric ■ Other sources ■ Manure ■ Fields

■ Total Nint ■ Fields ■ Housing ■ Silage ■ Yards ■ Storage

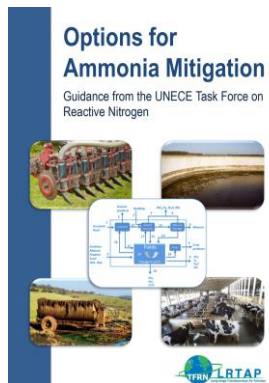
Stakeholder interaction and policy support



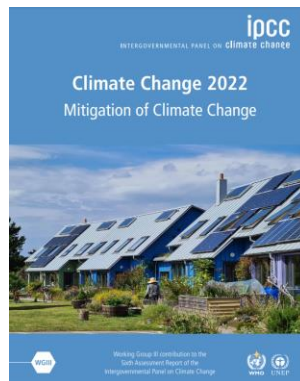
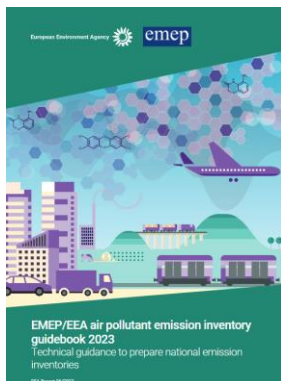
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



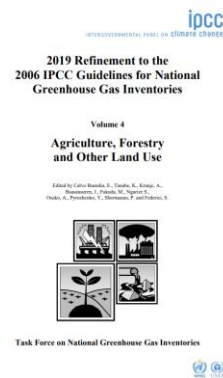
LIVESTOCK ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE PARTNERSHIP



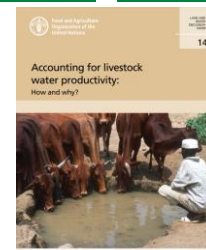
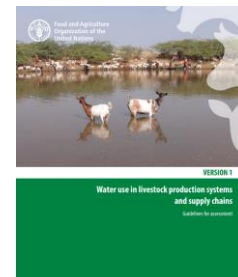
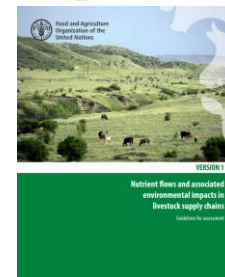
Co-chair of ammonia Guidance Document revision process



IPCC WG3 “Mitigation of Climate Change” Review Editor to the 6th Assessment Report



Lead Author of 2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories



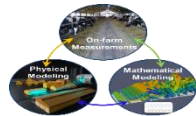
Research-impact cycle



Research



Research needs



Policy / Stakeholder interaction

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



UNECE

ipcc

INTERNATIONAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE



Source: <http://animaltaskforce.eu/>

