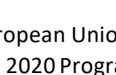




UNISECO



European Union's  
Horizon 2020 Programme  
GA N° 773901



Photo: CREA

## Understanding & improving the sustainability of agro-ecological farming systems in the EU

### This is the 3rd newsletter of the UNISECO project WHERE YOU CAN:

- 🔗 Find out what UNISECO is all about
- 🔗 Read about the latest developments of the project
- 🔗 Know more about networking with other EU projects
- 🔗 Get information on upcoming events
- 🔗 Find information about how to join us

### What is UNISECO ?

UNISECO is an EC funded 3-year Horizon 2020 research and innovation action aiming at strengthening the sustainability of EU farming systems through co-constructing improved and practice validated strategies and incentives for the promotion of improved agro-ecological approaches.

[Read more](#) | [Download the project flyer](#)

### Latest news from UNISECO



4th Project Meeting & Stakeholder Workshop  
Basel, 12-15 November 2019

#### 4th PROJECT MEETING & STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

The 4th project meeting and workshop with members of the UNISECO Multi-Actor Platforms and Project Advisory Group was hosted by FiBL between 12 and 15 November 2019 and took place at the Bildungszentrum 21 in Basel, Switzerland.

[Read more](#)



#### POLICY WORKSHOPS

Workshop with participants from the Czech Multi-actor Platform and local stakeholders took place on 9 December 2019 in Vysočina region, the Czech Republic.

[Read more](#)

Workshop was held in San Casciano Val di Pesa (Florence) with local stakeholders to discuss the policy and market incentives for the agroecological transition in Chianti area, Italy.

[Read more](#)



#### SNA WORKSHOP IN GERMANY

A workshop was held with local actors at the Landwirtschaftskammer in Nienburg / Weser to identify and discuss governance networks and processes that do (or could) influence agro-ecological transitions of arable farming systems.

[Read more](#)



#### WORKSHOP IN LITHUANIA

A fruitful workshop has been organised in Lithuania in order to discuss the case study dilemma how to maintain and encourage extensive management (grazing) of grassland habitats and how to become (or remain) competitive in the market without intensifying the farming practice.

[Read more](#)



#### EIP-AGRI WORKSHOP 'SMALL IS SMART' INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR SMALL AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY HOLDINGS

UNISECO was represented by WWF Romania at the workshop held in October in Bucharest. The aim of the workshop was to promote networking among people and projects dealing with innovation and adoption of new technologies in small farm and forestry holdings.

[Read more](#)



#### UNISECO IN EIP-AGRI BROCHURE: SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT FARMING: INSPIRATION FROM AGRO-ECOLOGY

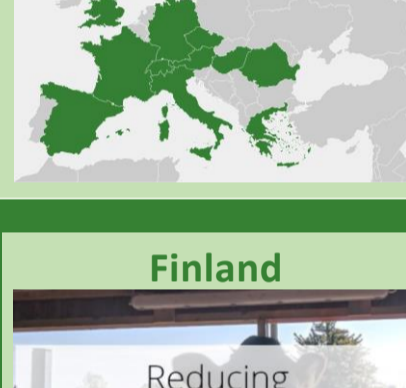
EIP-AGRI has published a new brochure on 'Sustainable and resilient farming: inspiration from agro-ecology', which offers inspiration from agro-ecology, and other innovative projects such as UNISECO and LIFT that create solutions adapted to local needs and adjusted to on-farm conditions.

[Read more](#)

### UNISECO story maps

Get to know the central issues of agro-ecological transition and the results of the assessment of socio-ecological systems (SES) in the UNISECO case studies through our multimedia story maps.

The SES provides an understanding how these systems interact when farmers manage particular resources (e.g. soil, grasslands, and permanent crops). The main purpose of studying the farming systems in UNISECO with the SES approach was to increase the understanding why some systems succeed or fail in their transition from conventional to agro-ecological farming systems.



#### Austria

Mitigation of climate change by humus formation in arable farming

Changing crop rotation

Kaindorf

#### Czech Republic

Improvement of the soil properties on the arable land

Improvement of the soil properties on the arable land by crop rotation change and other soil conservation measures can be a cost-effective solution for organic farms

#### Finland

Reducing environmental impact of milk

Making Finnish dairy production more sustainable in Tavastia

#### France

Viticulture and agroecology (France)

Cooperation between farmers to foster agroecological practices in viticulture

#### Germany

Improving biodiversity and water quality without generating significant negative impacts on the economic viability of farms

The Nienburg study in eastern Saxony, Germany

#### Greece

The transition of peach growers to agro-ecology and sustainability

#### Hungary

Taking steps towards sustainable natural resource management to increase economic viability

Improved soil quality for crop production in Hungary

#### Italy

Diversifying specialised winegrowing areas

Increasing the sustainability of viticulture for winegrowing areas

#### Latvia

Improving the sustainability of grassland-based organic dairy farming in Latvia

Increasing the production and consumption of organic dairy products

#### Lithuania

Keeping it small and extensive: the way to a sustainable future in Lithuanian dairy sector

Finding a way how to sustain small dairy farms, while producing quality products and good jobs for the society

#### Romania

Small-scale farming in Transylvania

Ensuring the high farm-level productivity and farm-level economic viability

#### Spain

Agro-ecological farming systems in northern Spain

Empowering small-scale, local and organic farmers

#### Sweden

More food from ruminant farms

Diversifying livestock and mixed farming: incorporating more crops for on-farm human consumption

#### Switzerland

Strategies for reducing stocking densities

In the context of structural paths dependencies, important economic, political, and policy drivers have been identified in the agro-ecological transition process in Switzerland

#### United Kingdom

Delivering Public Goods

Transitions to Agro-Ecological Farming Systems in North East Scotland, UK

### Latest deliverables in UNISECO

- D3.1 – [Report on Sustainable Economic and Social Performance of Current AEFS](#)
- D3.2 – [Database on the Performance of Current AEFS](#)
- D5.2 – [Governance Networks Supporting AEFS](#)
- D5.2 – [Annex: Case studies](#)
- D6.1 – [Report on the Prototype of the Spatially Explicit Interactive Online Tool and Functions](#)
- D8.3 – [Interim Report on Communication, Dissemination and Impact of Project Activities](#)

### NETWORKING



UNISECO was presented at several events, for example:

- 🔗 01/2020: [Networking with the LANDSUPPORT H2020 project](#)
- 🔗 12/2019: [ODT Forum: AGROECOLOGY: Multiple Transitions of territories, Lausanne, Switzerland](#)
- 🔗 12/2019: [South Africa-Italy workshop, Pretoria, South-Africa](#)
- 🔗 11/2019: [Soil Health Conference, Budapest, Hungary](#)
- 🔗 10/2019: [ESP 10 World Conference, Hannover, Germany](#)
- 🔗 09/2019: [2nd Agroecology Europe Forum, Heraklion, Crete, Greece](#)

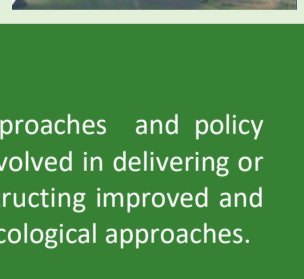
### Upcoming events in UNISECO

- 🔗 03/2020: [14th European Farming Systems Conference \(IFSA – European Group\), Évora, Portugal](#)
- 🔗 04/2020: [Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, Denver, USA](#)
- 🔗 05/2020: [5th Project Meeting, Braşov, Romania](#)
- 🔗 08/2020: [XVI EAAE Congress, Prague, Czech Republic](#)

### DID YOU KNOW...

UNISECO is also included and published in the EIP-Agri projects database.

[Read more](#)



### JOIN US!

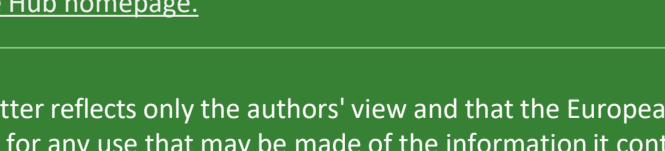
Your active engagement is important to ensure that the innovative tools, approaches and policy recommendations that we develop reflect the views of those who are directly involved in delivering or seeking to strengthen the sustainability of EU farming systems through co-constructing improved and practice validated strategies and incentives for the promotion of improved agro-ecological approaches.

### THERE ARE MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED IN UNISECO:

- 🔗 Participate in national workshops
- 🔗 Contribute to our virtual Multi-Actor Platform online community (MAP-NEF)
- 🔗 Take part in the case studies

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More information will be sent in our next UNISECO newsletter, scheduled for summer 2020. Thank you for signing up to the UNISECO newsletter. Further information can be found on the [UNISECO project website](#) & [Agro-ecological Knowledge Hub homepage](#).



This newsletter reflects only the authors' view and that the European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.

### PARTNERS



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