

## RESOURCE USE (ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION)

Plant Protection / Animal Health and Welfare

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

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### CHALLENGES

The introduction to the session “resource use – adaptation and mitigation” followed 3 main points that can be considered the most important constraints and challenges in the area of plant protection/ animal health and welfare:

- Globalization;
- Food security and food safety;
- Knowledge and innovation.

### PRESENTATION

For the first point, the discussion was encouraged with some key topics that bring together the themes of the projects. In fact, the action of the decision makers is restricted by regulation, by resources management and economic and environmental models, considering the social development and economic growth and environmental impacts namely those related with climate change. In this area should be considered the risks of new pests and diseases of plants and zoonotic diseases in the animal health. This reality brings a lot of friction into the systems and requires a continuous search for new solutions. The key conclusion for the first point is that the global decisions should be supported and structured by knowledge, particularly by fundamental knowledge. More information about biology, epidemiology, agro ecological elements, natural regulators and “big data” are the base to better obtain risk models and risk maps.

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A special consideration to the second point: in fact, the world need to ensure food safety to the population, especially regarding population growth to the near future. This question is central, since it should be estimated at what cost. Furthermore, food safety and nutritional quality have to be added to the equation, besides the impact of overproduction and food waste. This is a very current and hot issue and is strongly linked to plant protection problems as a consequence of the intensification production systems. For further information, it is advisable to consult the FAO reports.

To support the third point, is important to refer the Cork 2.0 Declaration, particularly the seven item about “boosting knowledge and innovation”. The way to give answers and build solutions will be the one that the society wants. Rural communities must participate and utilize the advances in research and development. Stronger policy focus on learning, education, particularly vocational training is essential for developing the skills needed. The needs and contributions of rural areas should be clearly reflected in the research agenda. Industry, researchers, practitioners, knowledge providers, civil society and public authorities must work together to better exploit and share opportunities.



## MAIN OUTCOMES FROM THE DISCUSSIONS

The poster presentation and the discussion groups improved enormously the session. In the session eleven posters were presented by project members on plant protection and animal health subjects.

The contributors answered to the first question about what stands out as more innovative in the projects presented and for the second question about the opportunities for digitization identified in relation to the theme of the session.

The answers could be synthetized in two ideas for the first question. Participants referred

- alternative methods to pesticides using natural resources cutting the paradigm of conventional pest disease control (management/control) and
- scientists, farmers and consumers and new players and innovation should be closer to the farmers while developing adaptive solutions.

Considering the second question, the members answered that they want an optimization of the knowledge transfer to the farmer using “big data” (sensors and cameras, weather data collection) for decision making based on modeling for web platforms and the improvement of the communication and data sharing to develop tailored and user friendly solutions.

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## INNOVATION PROJECTS

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At this thematic session, each participant assisted to the presentation of 3 of the following posters:

- **+PrevCRP** - Development of integrated strategies for the prevention of pine pitch canker
- Alternative methods for wireworm control in potatoes
- **Automated behavioural enrichment for poultry** – development of an innovative system to improve animal welfare
- **BioPest** - Integrated strategies to fight against key pests in nut species
- Development of a learning network to continuously improve health management in pig production to reduce antibiotics
- **Efficiency Check**
- **Live Lambs** - Improving lamb survival and farm profitability
- **PIGS+CARE** - Production optimization of heavier pig carcasses by natural and zealous means without castration, aiming for new meat products without residues and high added value
- **PROFRUTA** - Characterisation of portuguese propolis and evaluation of its potential in the control of plant diseases
- **QUALITOMATE** - the complexity of being simply RED
- **UNDERCORK** - Integrated management of the flathead oak borer *Coroebus undatus*

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