

# MANAGEMENT OF FARMING. FOOD AND FORESTRY SYSTEMS & VALORIZATION OF THE TERRITORY

Sustainable management

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Andrés Montero Aparicio, is currently working for the development of the digitisation process in the agrifood sector in Spain. Is coordinating the Focus Group launched by the Spanish ministry of agriculture, fisheries, food and environment. With over 15 years of experience in the research and innovation management in the agrifood sector in public and private organisations. He has been Co-Chair of the SCAR SWG AKIS and Spanish FP7 and H2020 NCP Bio for 8 years. He is member of the International Advisory Board of AGRILINK project. Dr Montero Aparicio holds a PhD in Agricultural Engineering (sp. Agricultural economics) (Technical University of Madrid).



## **CHALLENGES**

The policy framework within the agrifood sector have to operate is influenced by different policies: Sustainable development goals, with 17 goals all connected to the sustainable management of agriculture, at EU level the Common Agricultural Policy that for the next period if there is something distinctive for the CAP will be more green. And we have as well two other initiatives at EU level affecting the sustainable management in agriculture: The Circular economy and the Digital single market.

#### **PRESENTATION**

At the time we should also consider regulations, as these are one of the main factors allowing farmers to innovate and within this framework we have: the water framework directive (WFD), the Nitrates Directive and the sustainable use of pesticides Directive that can briefly present the policy and regulatory framework affecting the sustainable management in the EU agriculture.

At the time the society and the agrifood sector in particular must face a series of challenges related to food safety and nutrition, to sustainable use of resources mainly

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soil (nutrients), water and energy (produce more and better with less resources), and to the conservation of nature. Even though the traditional disciplines linked to the life sciences by themselves cannot face successfully, it is necessary to involve other new disciplines to boost the sector: robotics and automation, space and TIC's (precision agriculture); behavioural economics and psychology (to identify consumer trends and address diseases linked to food); Biotechnology and nanotechnology (efficiency of use of resources and valorisation and use of by-products) ...

But it also becomes necessary to increase the interactions between the different actors of the agrifood value chain, because today more and more data flows are considered as important as economic and product flows.

In this sense, it is necessary to value the information and data flows coming from the

agrarian practice. In any case, recently thanks to the empowerment of the role of farmers in the processes of knowledge transfer and innovation in agrifood the sector through the interactive model of innovation that is being implemented on the agrifood systems in



Europe through the EIP-Agri, farmers see themselves in a unique moment. Therefore, it is necessary not only to increase the interactions along the chain, but also between the different actors in the same segment. To create a more efficient system that retains all the value of the flows that can occur, it is necessary to combine a chain approach with a network approach. This is due to the fact that agrifood value chains are multidimensional.

## MAIN OUTCOMES FROM THE DISCUSSIONS

Within this context in the Session 6: sustainable management of the AIS Lisbon 2017 it was stand out from the projects presented that farmers need understandable easy useable& interpretable tools for rethinking agriculture production, especially for improving production by improving biodiversity and using unprofitable land. It was also noticed the need of evidence based examples on sustainability related to specific contexts and options for real solutions.

The opportunities identified for digitization were mainly on the Integration of data systems and knowledge to provide useful information to stakeholders to allow a better communication with consumers and society and the development of useable Decision Support Systems.

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### INNOVATION PROJECTS

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

- TOMRES A novel and integrated approach to increase multiple and combined stress tolerance in plants using tomato as a model
- Arbonovateurs for resilience in fruit growing and fruits growers take pride in their
- Software to improve land management among several livestock cooperatives.
- GreenVitis Soil management effects on the productivity and sustainability of the Douro wine region system
- Integrated monitoring and control of water, nutrients and plant protection products towards a sustainable agricultural sector
- ModelMeat A model for the optimisation of environmental and nutritional performance in extensive animal production
- The decline of cork oak forest (montado) in Alentejo
- Yellow Corn Intensive agriculture and biodiversity
- Zero herbicides in Mediterranean perennial crops II-D
- Ok-Net Arable
- **AFINET** Agroforestry Innovation Networks































