

Numbers

4 YEARS

RESEARCH&INNOVATION ACTION

3,4 M

EC contribution under the
framework of Horizon
2020

25

Organizations (Academia +
SME + Advisory Services +
Farmers) from 9 European
Countries

20

European local pig breeds
involved

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SUPPORT

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researcher?

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We'll be glad to find a way to
colloborate together.


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Diversity of local pig breeds and production systems for
high quality traditional products and sustainable pork chains

Summary

Project proposes research and development activities for the benefit of sustainable pork chains based on European local pig breeds and their production systems.

Work program is planned to respond to consumer demands for quality and healthiness of pork products with regional identity and societal demands for environment preservation and development of local agro-economy.



Description and evaluation of local pig breeds, with an emphasis on untapped ones will be performed using novel genomic tools. Performance of local pig breeds will be evaluated in contrasted agro-geo-climatic conditions and production systems (indoor, outdoor, organic).

Focus will be on pig feeding and management strategies and on the use of locally available feeding resources. Intrinsic quality of traditional and new regional high quality pork products and attitudes of consumers from various market areas will be assessed; in particular the motives for the choice and willingness to pay such products.

All activities will be driven from the perspective of sustainability (environmental impact, animal welfare, product quality, consumer acceptability and market potential). The activities will engage innovative approaches to answer socio-economic demands of regional pork chains involving partners from different sectors.

The ambition is to enhance existing and create new networks between academia and non-academia partners, within and between regions and to tackle the value chain for regional high quality pork products, focusing on diverse and so far untapped pig breeds, their production systems and pork products.

Work Packages

WP1 Phenotypic and genetic characterization of regional autochthonous pig populations in Europe

- Describing the singularity of local pig breeds at phenotypic, genomic and functional level
- Evaluate the adaptation of local pig populations to agro-climatic conditions

WP2 Management and performance of local pig breeds in their production systems

- Evaluating productivity held in production systems with varying intensity and geo-climatic conditions
- Study innovative feeding and management practices in view of productivity and product quality

WP3 Traditional and new high quality pork products with regional identity

- Characterizing intrinsic quality, health benefits of a variety of pork products
- Introducing innovations in traditional pork products

WP4 Consumer preferences and market research for sustainable pork chains

- Analysing costs and benefits of production systems along the food chain
- Evaluating consumer attitudes and preferences, motives, willingness to pay for pork products

WP5 Measures to maximise impact

- Transfer of knowledge and expertise along the chain partners, general public and policy makers
- Development of new collective trade mark

Expected Results

Improved in-situ management and evaluation of genetic resources by the farming sector

Promotion of traditional and/or underutilised breeds

Economic benefits for farmers, other types of SMEs and regional economies through the expansion or creation of new products and markets

Increased transfer of genetic into breeding programmes; material into breeding programs

Partners

