



Multi-actor and transdisciplinary development of efficient and resilient MIXED farming and agroforestry-systems

The Institute of Agricultural Economics of the Romanian Academy is a partner in the international consortium implementing MIXED project.

MIXED: “Multi-actor and transdisciplinary development of efficient and resilient MIXED farming and agroforestry-systems” (research and innovation project)

Short description: Agricultural systems in Europe face challenges in terms of economic, ecological and societal performance. Faced with climate change and increasing weather extremes, there is a need to strengthen the resilience of European agricultural production systems and at the same time ensure efficiency of production in terms of the use of resources such as water, nutrients, land and ecosystem services – thus creating balance and synergy between efficiency and resilience. It is hypothesised that more mixed farming and agroforestry systems (MiFAS) have increased resilience and climate adaptation potential, with a more integral coupling of nutrients and carbon cycles, a diversified ecosystems service delivery and a better 3-dimensional utilization of resources, which could be part of the solution and therefore should be explored. Adopting a holistic perspective, we define efficiency as the ability to simultaneously increase production, decrease input use, and reduce negative environmental and social impacts, including greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The overall project objective is to support the development of European Mixed Farming and Agroforestry Systems (MiFAS) that optimize efficiency and resource use, reduce GHG emissions, and show greater resilience to climate change by considering agronomic, technical, environmental, economic, institutional, infrastructure and social advantages and constraints.

Research will help evaluate economic and environmental benefits of the mixed farming and agroforestry systems, improve them in terms of resource and technical efficiency, profitability, practical implementation, as well as of strategies for transition to MiFAS at regional scale.

Funding: MIXED project has received funds from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No. 862357.

Duration: 48 months (October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2024).

Coordinator: Aarhus University, Denmark

Consortium: 20 partners (universities, research institutes and network /farmer organisations) from 10 European countries: AU (Denmark), FiBL (Switzerland), ABER (United Kingdom), WUR (The Netherlands), SRUC (United Kingdom), INRAE (France), BOKU (Austria), IUNG-PIB (Poland), IEA-AR (Romania), OrganicDenmark (Denmark), AGROOF (France), CONSULAI (Portugal), ISA/ULisboa (Portugal), SAOS (United Kingdom), IfLS (Germany), KST JUCHOW (Poland), ARGE Donaumoos (Germany), HS (Switzerland), GAL-TP (Romania), ICOEL (Denmark).

For more info: <https://projects.au.dk/mixed/>