

## TOOLS4CAP

The Institute of Agricultural Economics – Romanian Academy (IEA-AR) is a partner in the EU Horizon Europe research project “*Innovative Toolbox empowering effective CAP governance towards EU ambitions*” (Tools4CAP), together with other 19 partners from 18 EU member states, under the coordination of Ecorys Brussels NV, in the period 2023-2026. IEA-AR local coordinator is Dan-Marius Voicilaş.

Tools4CAP, Grant Agreement no. 101086311, aims to build up a flexible and participatory system through coordination and support actions, in order to enhance the learning process, exchange and adoption of innovative solutions and good practices for the design, monitoring and evaluation of the National Strategic Plans (NSP) from CAP.

The project is structured into **7 work packages**:

- 1: Conceptualization, inventory and evaluation;
- 2: Radiography and development of innovative quantitative tools;
- 3: Co-design of multi-level participatory governance decision tools;
- 4: Integration and interoperability of new data, technology and digitalisation;
- 5: Replication laboratory: demonstration, adaptation and takeover support;
- 6: Capacity building centre: Participation, Communication and Exploitation;
- 7: Coordination and project management.

The project will pursue **five specific objectives**, meeting the needs of end users:

1. Provide a shared knowledge base and assessment of methods and tools used for the design and implementation of NSP;
2. Identify and adapt innovative methods and tools for the design and implementation of NSP, by taking stock of relevant and replicable solutions developed in recent and ongoing research projects and other EU initiatives;
3. Enable end users to adopt innovative solutions for the design and implementation of NSP, providing them with methodological guidance on choosing the best solutions, their operationalisation and associated good practices;
4. Set up a replication laboratory to support practical demonstration and adoption of innovative solutions for the design and implementation of NSP, through the operationalisation and testing of methods and tools in the EU based on case studies;
5. Set up a capacity building centre to enable pooling of knowledge and transfer operational capacities to end users, for the design and implementation of NSP, enhancing mutual learning, participation and science-policy dialogue.

The project will provide a comprehensive **inventory** of methods and tools used in the 27 member states, methodological guidelines on the innovative solutions adopted and a **handbook of good practices**. The results will be integrated into a **toolkit** designed to improve the science-policy interface. The innovative governance models used in certain member states are all-important to enable the design of result-based policies to provide the best policy pathways so as to facilitate the green transition.

Tools4CAP will use an **interactive platform** for the involvement of stakeholders, with a bottom-up approach. Through this project, a **replication laboratory** of good practices will be established, in order to demonstrate their usefulness in 10 member states, to be next promoted in all 27 member states. The project will also establish a **technical and methodological capacity building centre**, to support end users (ministries, different authorities, payment agencies and other stakeholders) to maximise their capacity to use innovative tools, through the models used by the European Commission inclusively. Thus, the “Tools4CAP” project will:

- (1) *support the implementation of National Strategic Plans 2023-2027;*
- (2) *establish the foundation for a thorough preparation of post-2027 National Strategic Plans.*

