

01C0239 - RobinFood PR2

Building an Innovative and Sustainable Regional Agrifood Sector

Reporting period 01/09/2023 to 29/02/2024

	Organisation	Country	Current report
LP01	Ministry of Agriculture Republic of Latvia	LV	29,655.36 €
PP02	Development Agency of Asturias	ES	17,664.58 €
PP03	Dubrovnik-Neretva County	HR	14,856.24 €
PP04	Regional Council of South Ostrobothnia	FI	21,884.71 €
PP05	Lake Balaton Development Agency	HU	11,806.29 €
PP06	Carlow County Council	IE	19,652.67 €
		Total	115,519.85 €

1. Summary of project activities

1.1 Overview of project outputs

Code	Title	Target (AF)	Achieved
RC087	N° of organisations cooperating across borders	56	-
RC084	N° of pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects	0	-
OI4	N° of policy instruments addressed	6	-
OI5	N° of interregional policy learning events organised	12	2
OI6	N° of good practices identified	24	3

1.2 Activities of the current reporting period

Exchange of experience

Activities as originally planned.

During the second semester, the second face to face interregional meeting will be organised in South Ostrobothnia (FI). PP2 will be responsible for preparing the agenda. Each partner will select 2 stakeholders that will participate in this meeting. The meeting will focus on the topic of supporting programmes for the agrifood sector. The study visit will include two field visits: first, a field visit to the Food Lab Incubator; second, a field visit to the Agrifood Cluster.

N° of interregional learning events organised	1
N° of good practices identified	3

Activities completed during the reporting period.

Please describe in detail the activities related to the exchange of experience process. For each interregional event, details such as place, date, number of participants and topic addressed should be provided.

The second interregional learning meeting was organised in South Ostrobothnia (FI), the policy learning process has been a key focus. The main topic of the meeting was "Supporting programmes for the agrifood sector". The partners learnt from each other, and 3 good practices were selected and validated by the programme. The 3 good practices have been published in the project website and one has been selected for the PLP database. A study visit to the Food Lab Incubator was also organised. In addition, several stakeholders attended the interregional event.

Please indicate the number of interregional policy learning events organised during the period (in line with the above description of the completed activities)

N° of interregional policy learning events organised	2
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Did all partners (incl. discovery partners) participate in the main interregional policy learning events? **NO**

Please explain which partner(s) could not join and provide a justification?

PP3 could not attend the second interregional learning meeting.

Please indicate the number of good practices identified during the reporting period.

N° of good practices identified	3
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OI5	N° of interregional policy learning events organised	12	1
OI6	N° of good practices identified	24	3

1.2 Activities of the current reporting period

Exchange of experience

Activities as originally planned.

During the second semester, the second face to face interregional meeting will be organised in South Ostrobothnia (FI). PP2 will be responsible for preparing the agenda. Each partner will select 2 stakeholders that will participate in this meeting. The meeting will focus on the topic of supporting programmes for the agrifood sector. The study visit will include two field visits: first, a field visit to the Food Lab Incubator; second, a field visit to the Agrifood Cluster.

N° of interregional learning events organised	1
N° of good practices identified	3

Activities completed during the reporting period.

Please describe in detail the activities related to the exchange of experience process. For each interregional event, details such as place, date, number of participants and topic addressed should be provided.

The second interregional learning meeting was organised in South Ostrobothnia (FI) with 23 participants (14 staff and 9 stakeholders), the policy learning process has been a key focus. The main topic of the meeting was on 22-23 November 2023. On the first day, each partner (except PP3) presented a brief 'challenge', or a good practice related to supporting programmes for the agrifood sector. The partners learnt from each other, Participants were invited to ask questions and give advice on the challenges and 3 good practices were selected and validated by the programme: First, the Smart Food Initiative (ES) to support cooperation among 30 entrepreneurs of the agrifood sector (Champions) presented by PP02. Second, the triple-helix cooperation scheme to use waste of one company to develop a new food product for another company (waste circuits) by PP05 and third, the diagnostic tool to advise local SMEs about the best available support programme based on factors such as size, manufacturing process and export potential presented by LP01.

The second day a study visit to the Food Lab Incubator was also organised, a 5,000 square-meters plant-based food processing and product development facility located on the Seinäjoki Technology Park. This pilot-scale facility will serve as a catalyst for food research and food manufacturing that will support the regional sector. Participants had the opportunity to learn about the branding and quality schemes for agrifood products and the underlying cooperation of Finnish entrepreneurs. In addition, several stakeholders attended the interregional event.

Please indicate the number of interregional policy learning events organised during the period (in line with the above description of the completed activities)

N° of interregional policy learning events organised	1
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Did all partners participate in the main interregional policy learning events? **NO**

Please explain which partner(s) could not join and provide a justification?

PP3 could not attend the second interregional learning meeting because the person in question was on sick leave on that day. However, LP and PP3 had a quick online bilateral meeting afterwards to review the main points of the event.

Please indicate the number of good practices identified during the reporting period.

N° of good practices identified	3
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Communication

Activities as originally planned.

In the second semester, the target groups are informed about the project through updates of the project website with links to social media (Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn), the second newsletter and articles in press and media. All communication activities will be coordinated by the CM with the input of all partners.

Activities completed during the reporting period.

Please describe in detail the activities related to communication.

In the second semester, the target groups were informed about the project through updates of the project website with links to social media (Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn). All communication activities were coordinated by the CM with the input of all partners.

1.3 Changes from the original plans

Please describe and justify any changes from the original work plan. In case of delays, please explain the measure envisaged to catch up with the original time plan.

No articles were finally published in press and media during the reporting semester.

Communication

Activities as originally planned.

In the second semester, the target groups are informed about the project through updates of the project website with links to social media (Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn), the second newsletter and articles in press and media. All communication activities will be coordinated by the CM with the input of all partners.

Activities completed during the reporting period.

Please describe in detail the activities related to communication.

~~In the second semester, the target groups were informed about the project through updates of the project website with links to social media (Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn). All communication activities were coordinated by the CM with the input of all partners.~~ The website has been constantly refreshed with news from partner regions. New items were added to the structure of the website, like a section dedicated to the promotion of upcoming events of international interest related to the topics of the project. The 3 good practices selected during the meeting in South Ostrobothnia (FI) have been published in the project website and one has been selected for the PLP database (Smart Food Initiative). After the interregional meeting in South Ostrobothnia each partner prepared a press release (6).

1.3 Changes from the original plans

Please describe and justify any changes from the original work plan. In case of delays, please explain the measure envisaged to catch up with the original time plan.

The issuing of the second newsletter has been postponed to the beginning of sem3 to include the results from the 2nd Interregional meeting organised in November in South Ostrobothnia (FI).

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