

FOODPathS Festival

STREAM STARTING SOON



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Funded by
the European Union

FOODPathS Festival

20 May 2025
14:00 – 19:00

WELCOME

Celebrating the Sustainable Food Systems Partnership

food|paths



Funded by
the European Union

20.05.2025

A Sustainable Food Systems Partnership: the FOODPathS' way



Hugo De Vries
INRAE &
FOODPathS Coordinator

Welcome and opening

What is a Partnership on SFS?



- **Partnership:** *'a relationship usually involving close cooperation between parties having specified & joint rights & responsibilities'* (Merriam-Webster). What is new?*
- **Sustainability:** *'meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.'* ('Brundtland report; WCED, 1987)
- **Food:** *'any nutritious substance that people or animals eat or drink in order to maintain life and growth'* (Oxford English Dictionary).
- **System:** *'a regularly interacting or interdependent group of items forming a unified whole'* (Merriam-Webster)

➤ *Thus nothing new?*

Why did the ?

UN define a Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 17 'Partnerships for the goals'?



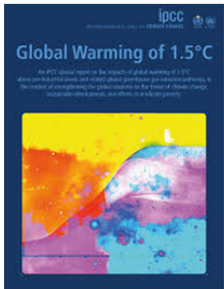
EC- HorizonEurope initiate co-funded, co-programmed and institutionalized partnerships ([https://research-and-](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/european-partnerships-horizon-europe_en)

[innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/european-partnerships-horizon-europe_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/european-partnerships-horizon-europe_en))

Has this something to do with the notions that a diversity of actors providing higher resilience; value being in nature's diverse resources (not only economies of scale); planetary challenges asking for teams with complementary skills; our children's future starting now??

*In [Plato's Laws](#), the would-be lawgiver suggests that any man who was not married by age 35 should be punished with a loss of [civil rights](#) and with financial consequences. He proposes that when choosing a wife, men should always consider the interests of the state over their own desires (Smith, William; Anthon, Charles (1843). [A Dictionary of Greek and Roman Antiquities](#). Harper & Brothers.)

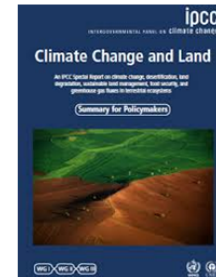
Why? Or, what do our children face?



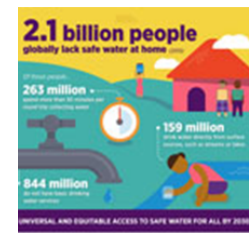
- A 'hot' planet with more than 2 °C increase in 2050, a new ice age, a flooded garden or house?
- 30% of their playing fields being deteriorated soils?
- 1 out of 8 species never to be seen again (~ 1 million species starving out)?



- 66% of their fiends facing shortages of water?
2 billion of them drinking contaminated water?
- 11% of their neighbors having hunger or facing malnutrition; 33% being overweight, 20% finding an early dead due to malnutrition?



- All of them using more than 2 planets for basic needs (today: 1.7); but, **where is this extra planet?**





OR: being inspired by P-SFS initiatives?

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Osservatorio
Smart AgriFood

CIRCULAR ECONOMY
FOR FOOD: city government
self-assessment



MED
Platform



THE BENEFITS OF ORGANIC PRODUCTS IN SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

FOODPathS case studies ++

Or by other narratives about ... ?



Sustainability & caring for generations

One planet, one system, numerous sub-systems

A regenerative, fair, & democratic economy

Food as commodity & commons & right

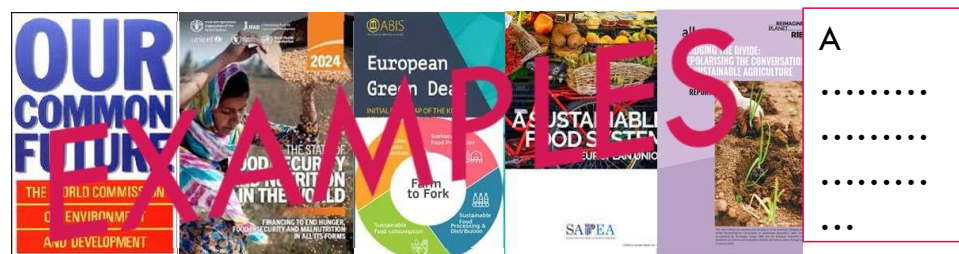
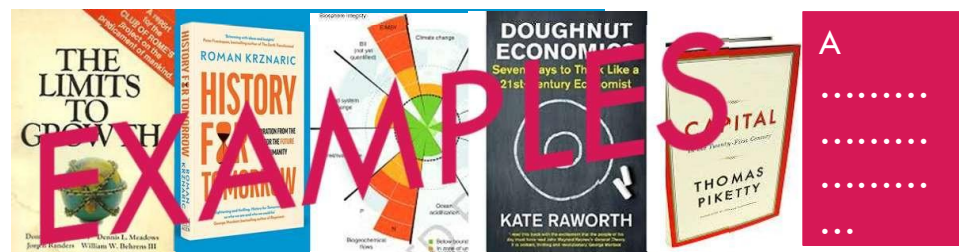
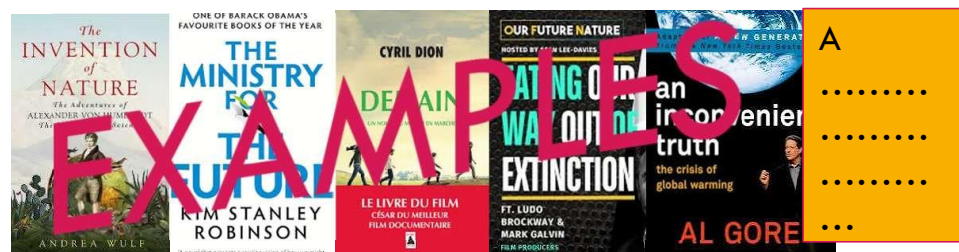
A new ethical food foundation

Depolarising approaches, dialogues & trust

Everything connected again in nature & society

No exclusion & collective actions & partnerships

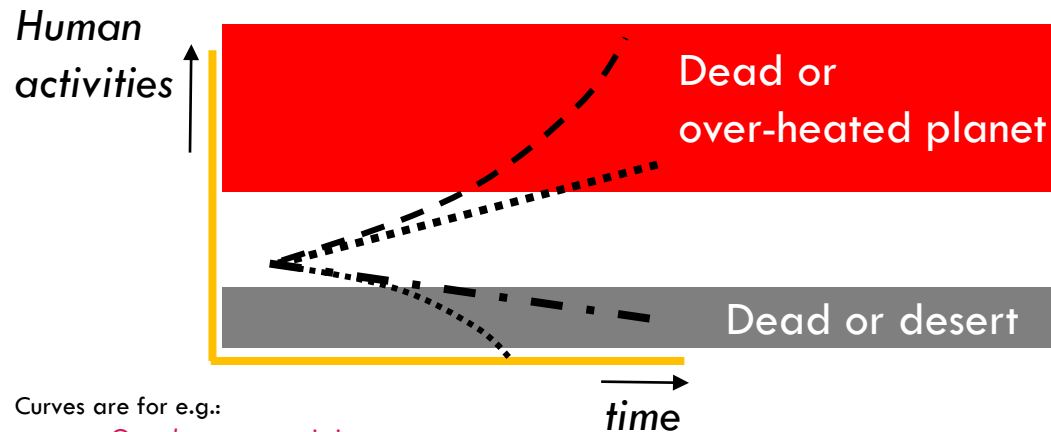
.....



With so many different actor groups involved, FOODPathS created its own narrative (I)



*Since our children deserve a future, we need to **act (play)**
between planetary & societal boundaries; WHY?*



Curves are for e.g.:

- Greenhouse gas emissions,
- Biodiversity loss,
- Overweight rates, over-consumption, waste
- Debts of states
- Gaps in revenues to buy food+
- Non-peacefulness index? / intolerance index?
-



©author

*Only musical waves that don't die out,
can be listened by our next generations*

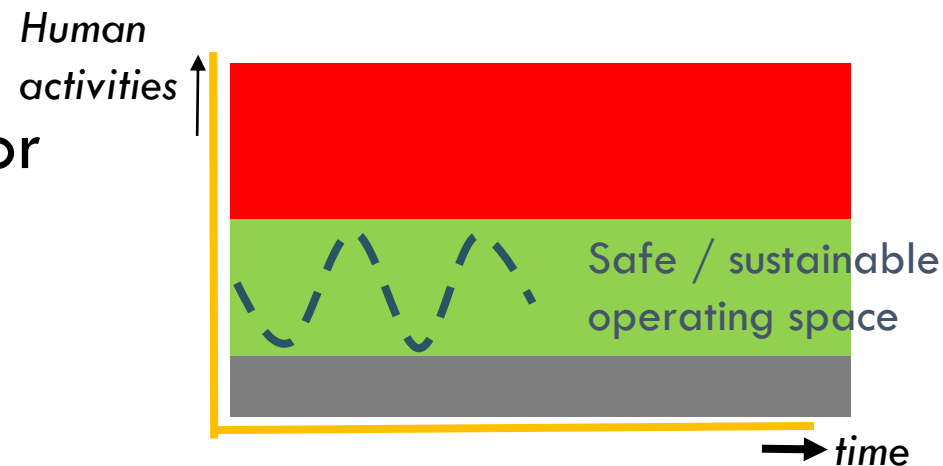
Ref. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10806-021-09850-7>

FOODPathS created its own narrative (II)

There is not a single musician, food system or game, but multiple inter-connected ones, globally.

➤ this requires **joint orchestration** and collective (inter-)actions as partnerships

➤ If one plays out-of-tune



- <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10806-021-09850-7>;

And; <https://doi.org/10.1007/s43621-024-00648-x>

©author

Our lessons learned shared here



In the past three years, we have experienced that creative and constructive, multi-actor partnerships exist which contribute to the sustainability of food systems.

We have better understood how they function and our lessons are summarized in a Manual.

We like to share these lessons and our narrative with you, get your feedback and inputs.

Most of all, we hope that these two days help your partnerships / activities to also positively contribute to future needs and perceptions of our (grand)children.

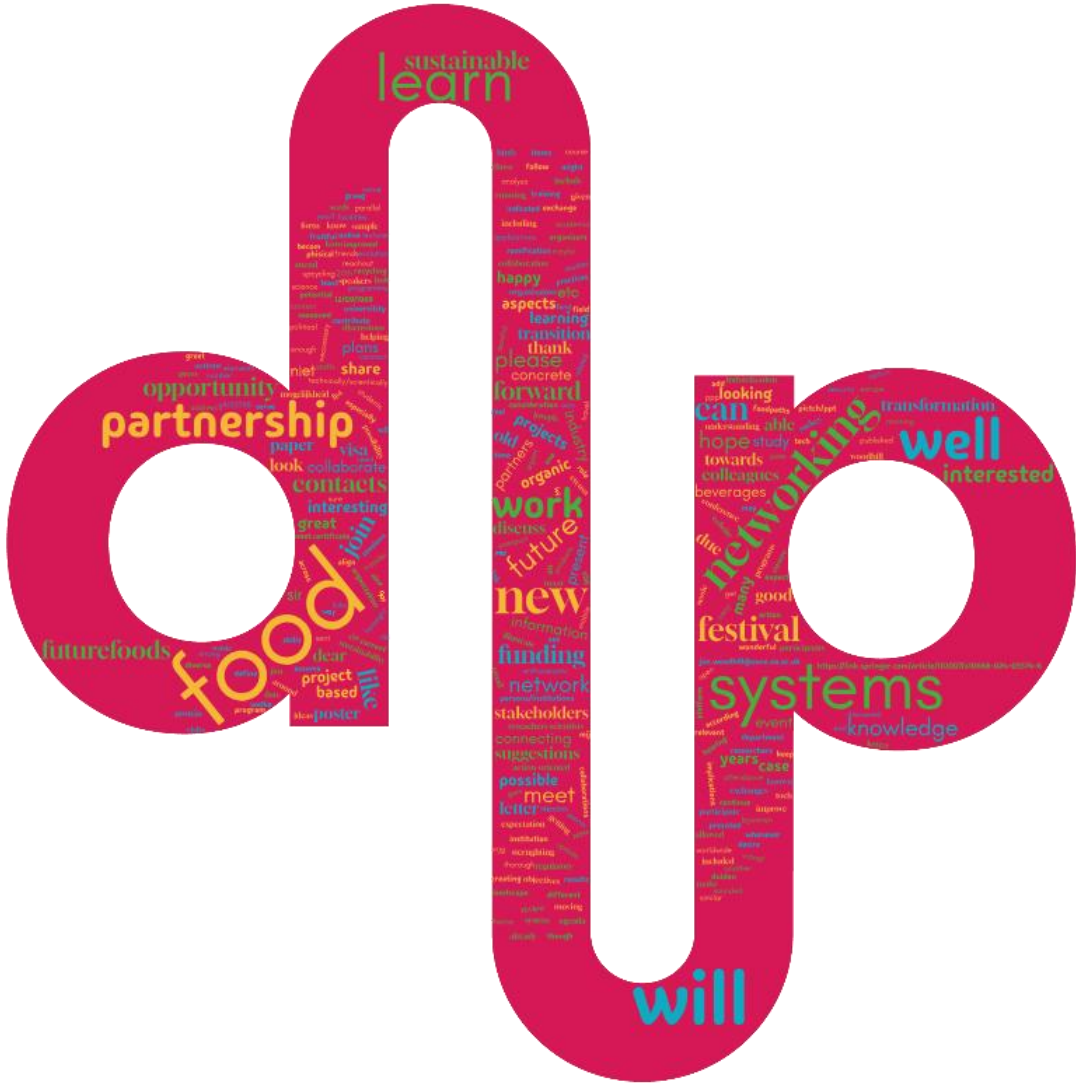
Thank you for your attention & feedback, **food**paths
on behalf of our 'mini-partnership'



and **enjoy the Festival !**

hugo.de-vries@inrae.fr
www.foodpaths.eu

What are the expectations?



- “Wonderful to align FOODPathS and FutureFoodS”
- “I hope the discussions will be action-oriented and concrete, and that due consideration will be given to the current political context and the implications it has for the transition to more sustainable food systems (what role for the partnership?).”
- “Meet old and new colleagues, make contacts”
- “Fruitful exchanges with stakeholders and networking and collaboration, learning about the R&I funding landscape, improved understanding of the knowledge hub and different elements of partnership.”
- “Looking forward to it!”

FOODPathS Festival

20 May 2025
14:10 - 14:40

The Partnership “puzzle pieces”: short presentation of the “RIPE” elements

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Send your questions!



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Give us your feedback!



- Fill in the paper on your seat with:
 - A striking issue you can use in your work
 - An issue don't relevant for your work
 - A key question about the presented topics
- Do it for each elements of the partnership (or for the most relevant for you)
- Leave the paper in the box in the registration desk



Listen to the presentations and write about the 3 following points:

Points	Symbol
A striking issue that you can use in your work	+
An issue that you don't consider relevant for your work	-
A key question (in one sentence) regarding a presented topic	?

1. SRIA & Observatory for the SFS Partnership – Niels Halberg	
+	
-	
?	
2. A funding mechanism and strategies for impactful food systems R&I – Nikola Hassan	
+	
-	
?	
3. The Knowledge Hub: Empowering Food Systems for sustainable innovation – Ariane Voyatzakis	
+	
-	
?	

20.05.2025

The Partnership “puzzle pieces”: short presentation of the “RIPE” elements



Niels Halberg
Aarhus
University

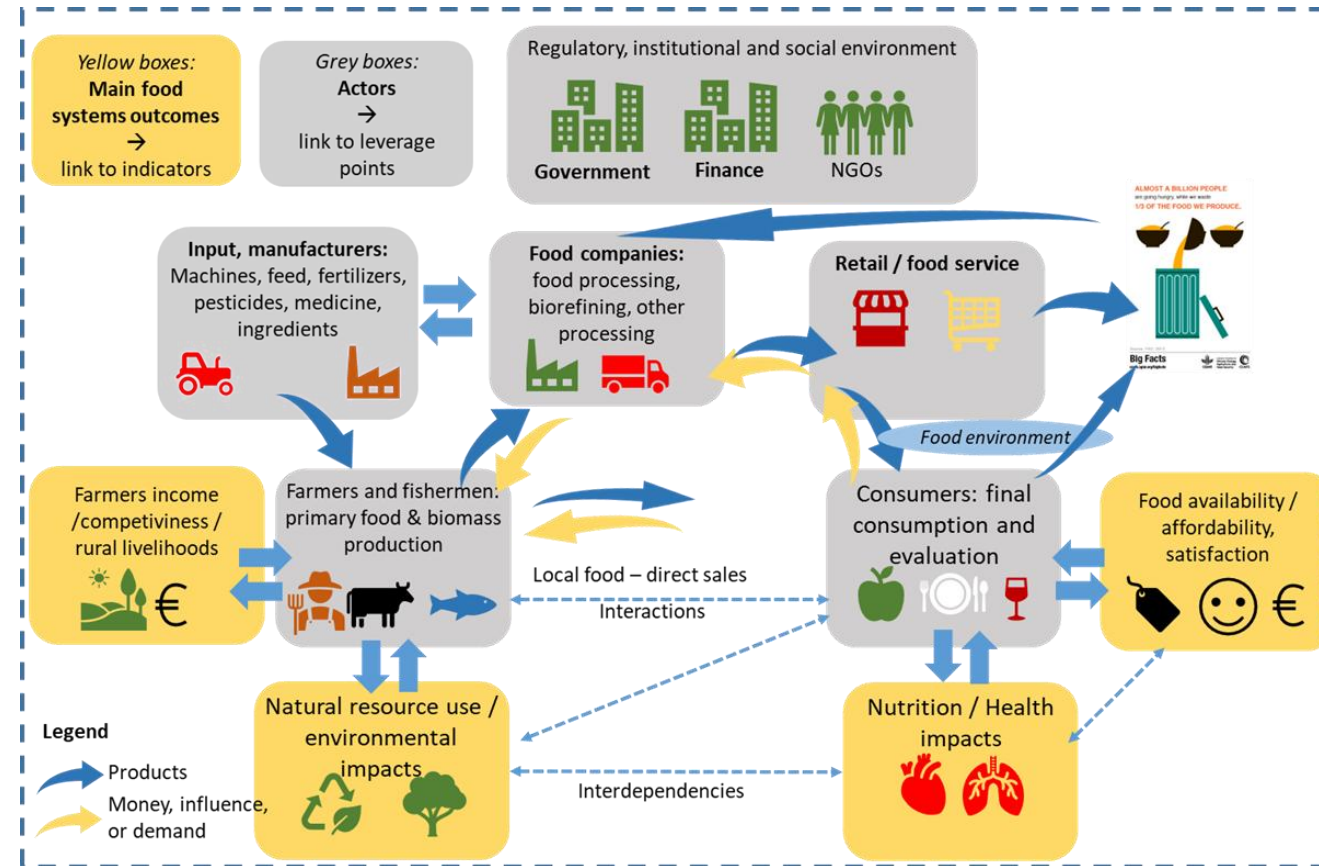
SRIA & Observatory for the SFS Partnership

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The challenge: How to design a food systems observatory (FSO)



- Complexities of Food Systems challenges the ambitions of "sustainable food systems transition"
- Many interdependent outcomes with separately formulated criteria and targets
- FS Policies call for holistic, systems approach
- Need for continuous monitoring and assessment – for whom and by whom..?
- Which food systems (delineation, inclusion, focus, ...)?
- FSO as a tool/observatory/accelerator?



What constitutes a Food Systems observatory?

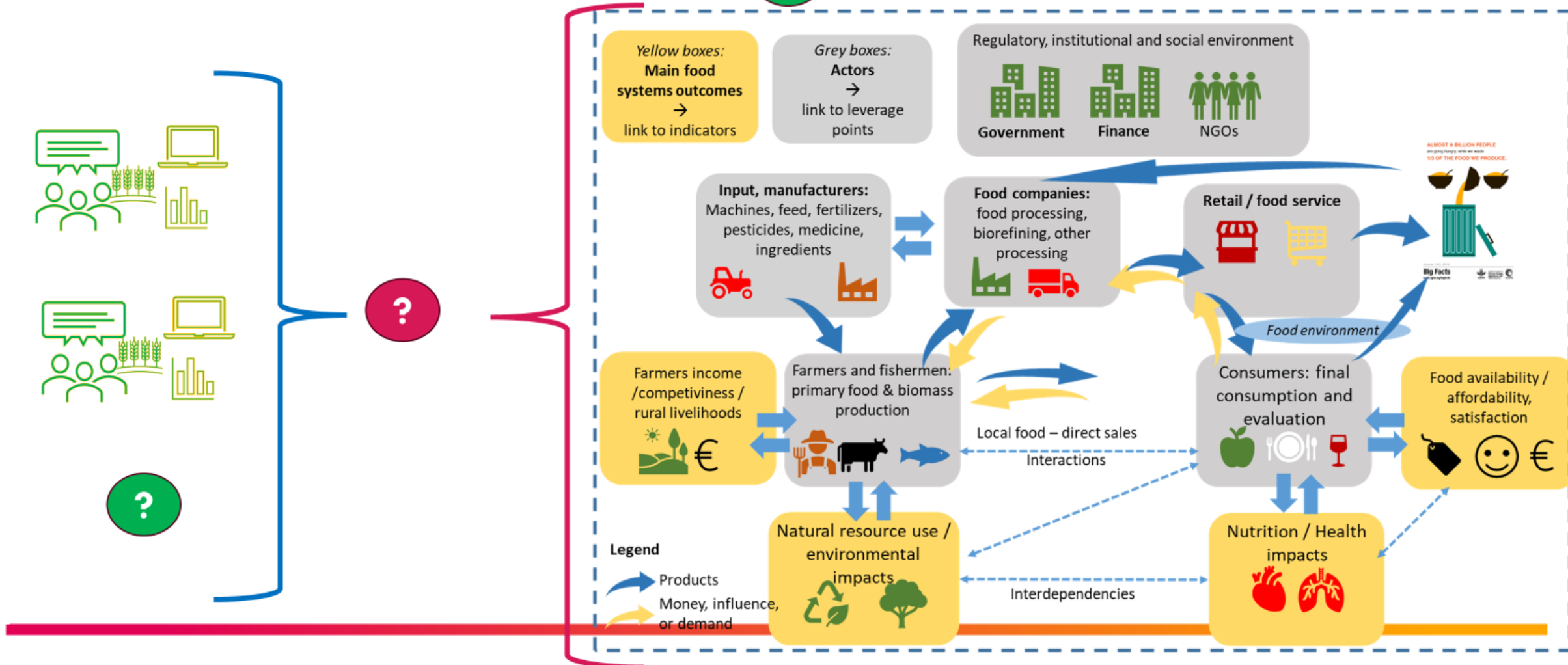


How to observe **FS transition** across **actors, activities, outcomes** in a coherent set-up?

How to account for **interactions, feed-back loops** and **interdependencies**?



Which users are interested in what (type of) information?



16 food science observatories



Indicators for systems approach:

- **FSCI:** Global monitoring of food systems across five thematic areas tracking the progress towards the conclusion of the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- (Food Systems Countdown Initiative)

- **SUSFANS:** EU MS, visualizing and benchmarking diets against policy and sustainability goals.

- **FAO database:** Global with data on 16 thematic areas including agriculture, nutrition and sustainability

- **CRFS:** City Region Food Systems, Urban Food Practices

- **EUROSTAT (FSDN):** EU database on agriculture, health, socioeconomics, economics
- (Farm Sustainability Data Network)

- **EU-FSMD (JRC):** EU monitoring dashboard tool to monitor the sustainability of the EU food system based on environmental, economic and social indicators
- (Food System Monitoring Dashboard)

Proposal for a concept FSO



Key purpose: Facilitate monitoring of Food Systems transition towards policy goals for dietary health and sustainable food systems

Inventorize the current FSO initiatives, and identify areas with added value:

- Highlight relations between activities, actors, and outcomes (e.g. processing, diets, food-safety, and climate emissions) in FS approach for trans-disciplinary assessments
- Build in data-fed conceptual and statistical FS models to demonstrate such inter-relationships
- Include a governance providing consolidated reports on specific policy relevant topics
- Optimize interfaces for the research community, to facilitate and encourage interdisciplinary research
- Include indicators that allow assessment of food policies at different scales, EU, national, region, City
- Include well-defined “boundary conditions” for the EU-Food system: import/export including economics/LCA
- Include capital-investments, concentration and influence in the food systems by the private sector



Want you know more?



**Read the
deliverable here!**



- The analysis and ideas for a FSObs concept has been shared with FutureFoodS WP5 (FS OBS)
- The Deliverable will be converted to a science paper prepared by Niels Halberg, Hubert De Jonge, Susanne Hansen (AU), Sofia Reis (Iseki-food Association), Hugo De Vries (INRAE)

20.05.2025

The Partnership “puzzle pieces”: short presentation of the “RIPE” elements



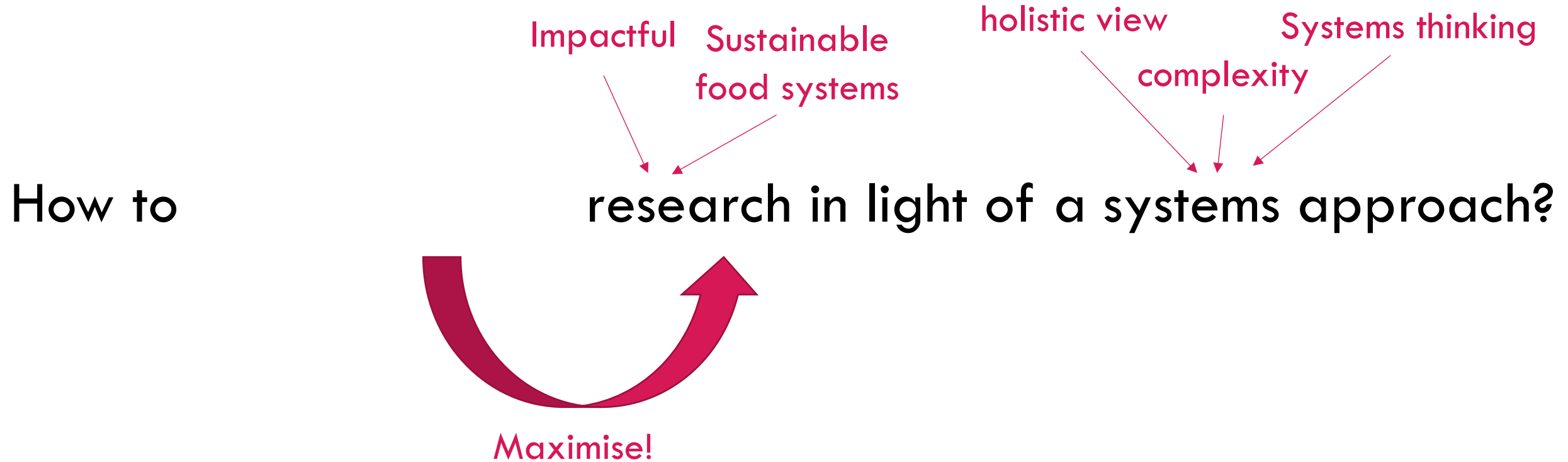
Nikola Hassan

Research
Center Juelich

**A funding mechanism and
strategies for impactful
food systems R&I**

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The challenge

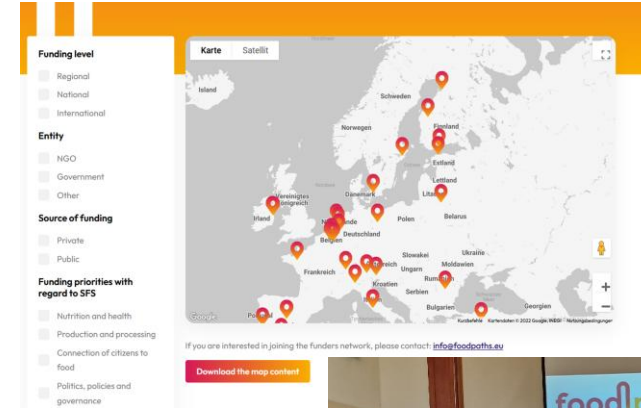


The FOODPathS way



Towards transforming our funding systems

- ✓ Map the funding landscape
- ✓ Get in dialogue with different actors
 - Interviews
 - Funders Forum events
 - Public and private funders, project partners, stakeholders
- ✓ Analysis of good practice examples of funding programmes/calls and concrete recommendations
- ✓ Project perspective: how to support capacities in line with systems approaches



The added value/unique selling point



- Inspiring interactions and co-creating future Food Systems oriented funding modes
- The team brought together a great diversity of people from funding agencies, ministries, philanthropy, researchers AND their networks to gain and extrapolate knowledge from different perspectives
- Valuable recommendations, already taken up by FutureFoodS PS



Closing remarks



- **JOIN THE DIALOGUE ON SYSTEMS APPROACH FUNDING!**
- **Come to our Session 1.2** — Transforming funding approaches for transformative food systems R&I (Gamay Room): *Lessons learnt from the Funders Forum events and findings and ideas on how to plan, design, evaluate, fund and perform R&I to transform our food systems.*
- **Visit our poster** showcasing the **analysis on systems approaches** in a variety of EU calls and the gained recommendations

20.05.2025

The Partnership “puzzle pieces”: short presentation of the “RIPE” elements



Ariane Voyatzakis
ANIA

**The Knowledge Hub:
Empowering Food Systems
for sustainable innovation**

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Food System Labs

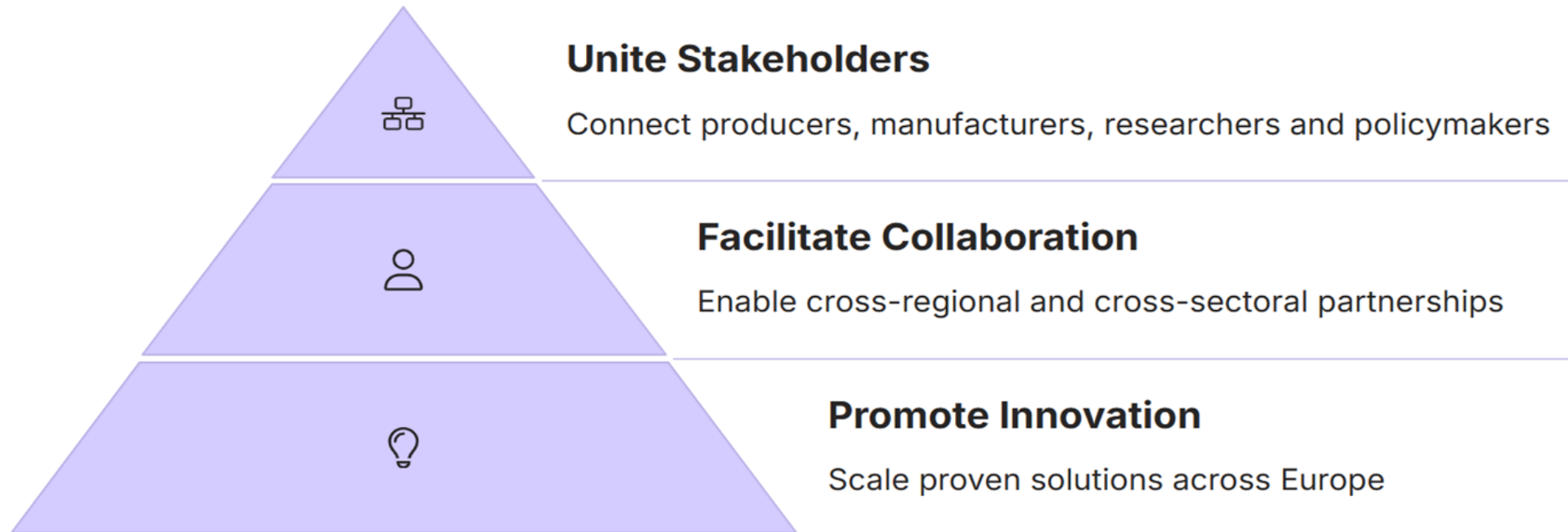


Objective : Foster European partnerships in a network of Food Systems Labs.
Illustrate and exchange best practices

- 55 Living Labs : groups of diverse actors active in R&I co-creation processes
 - Innovation
 - Research
 - Education & Training
 - Policy
 - Networking
 - Observatory
 - Citizen Movement
- [Web platform](#)



The European Knowledge Hub Vision



The Knowledge Hub serves as a centralized platform where stakeholders across the food system can exchange knowledge, foster innovation, and build capacity to address current challenges.

Features for the Knowledge Hub



- **Data repositories** : living labs, European projects, Solution and Education providers, Training modules, Guides and tools, IP/ Regulatory and financing framework,...
- **Contributing knowledge share and experiences** : online exchange platform of best practices, interactive platforms, virtual collaboration spaces, interactive webinars and online workshops, AI matchmaking interface between University/Research (solution providers) and Industry/Farmers (expression of needs). One annual meeting.
- **Foodtech scientific and market watch**
- Develop **specific guidelines and methodology** to replicate successful concepts locally.
- Foster **public consultations**. Link with EC policy, connect with SCAR.

Flagship initiative : Living lab award



Recognition

Annual awards for groundbreaking food system innovations



Connection

Linking innovators with key stakeholders and investors



Scaling

Resources to expand region-specific innovations across Europe

We value your feedback !



➤ **Complete the survey :**

➤ **Join us tomorrow :
workshop 09:15–10:45**



20.05.2025

The Partnership “puzzle pieces”: short presentation of the “RIPE” elements



Gabriela Versteeg
EFFoST

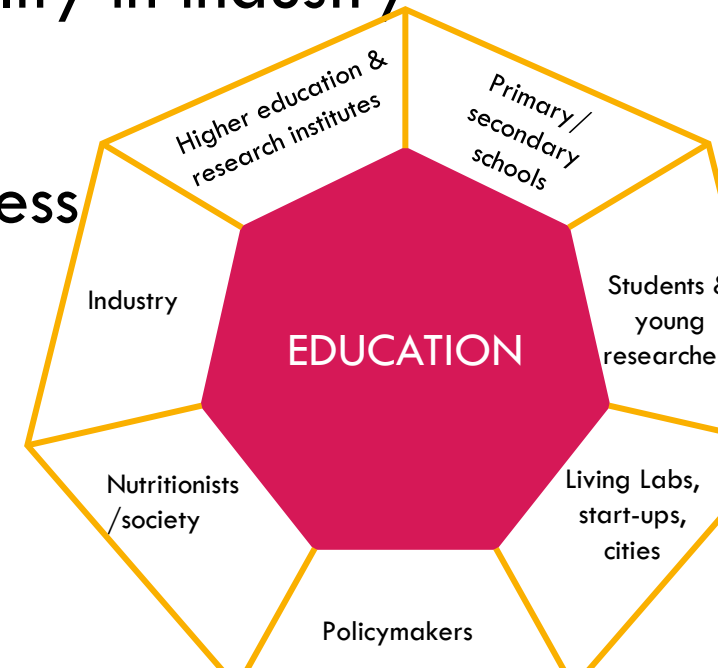
**Creating the food systems
sustainability knowledge
through education**

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SFS Education Challenges



- Gap between academic knowledge and industry expectations
- Silos within and between universities for transdisciplinary education
- Governmental support and legislation to drive sustainability in industry
- Heterogeneity and slow processing of accreditation process



Towards a University driven Collaboration



- Branded collaboration was seen as a more practical than creating a new formal, legal-based network, given the abundance of existing network.
- Mapping of exemplary European Universities that can act as SFS actors in the branded network and Community of Practice.
- The shared European Sustainability Charter and SFS education code of conduct were identified as key binding factor for the network.

– what's behind the name?

A large, stylized 'e' logo on the left side of the text, composed of three horizontal wavy lines in pink, orange, and yellow.

european network
for food sustainability
education
powered by foodpaths

Community of Practice

Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

✓ Collaborative Networks within Universities

- University of Natural Resources and Life Sci...
- Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
- Hohenheim University
- Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (C...
- ... Nog 20 meer

✓ ACCREDITATION BODIES

- ENQA Secretariat
- ECA headquarter
- EHEA Secretariat until 2027
- Eurydice Network

✓ PARCS

- Grand Tour Italia



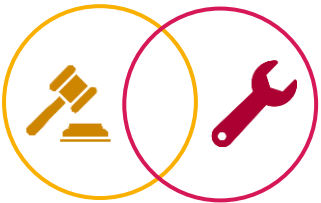
The Food Systems Sustainability Charter



What is Food Systems Sustainability Charter?

A food systems sustainability charter serves for the branded network of EU university-driven local ecosystems as a precursor to executing a joint initiatives and actions fostering improved Food Systems education and training programs across MS.

Why it matters: ensures all activities are aligned with our strategic goals, facilitating seamless integration of actions across different areas of the partnership.



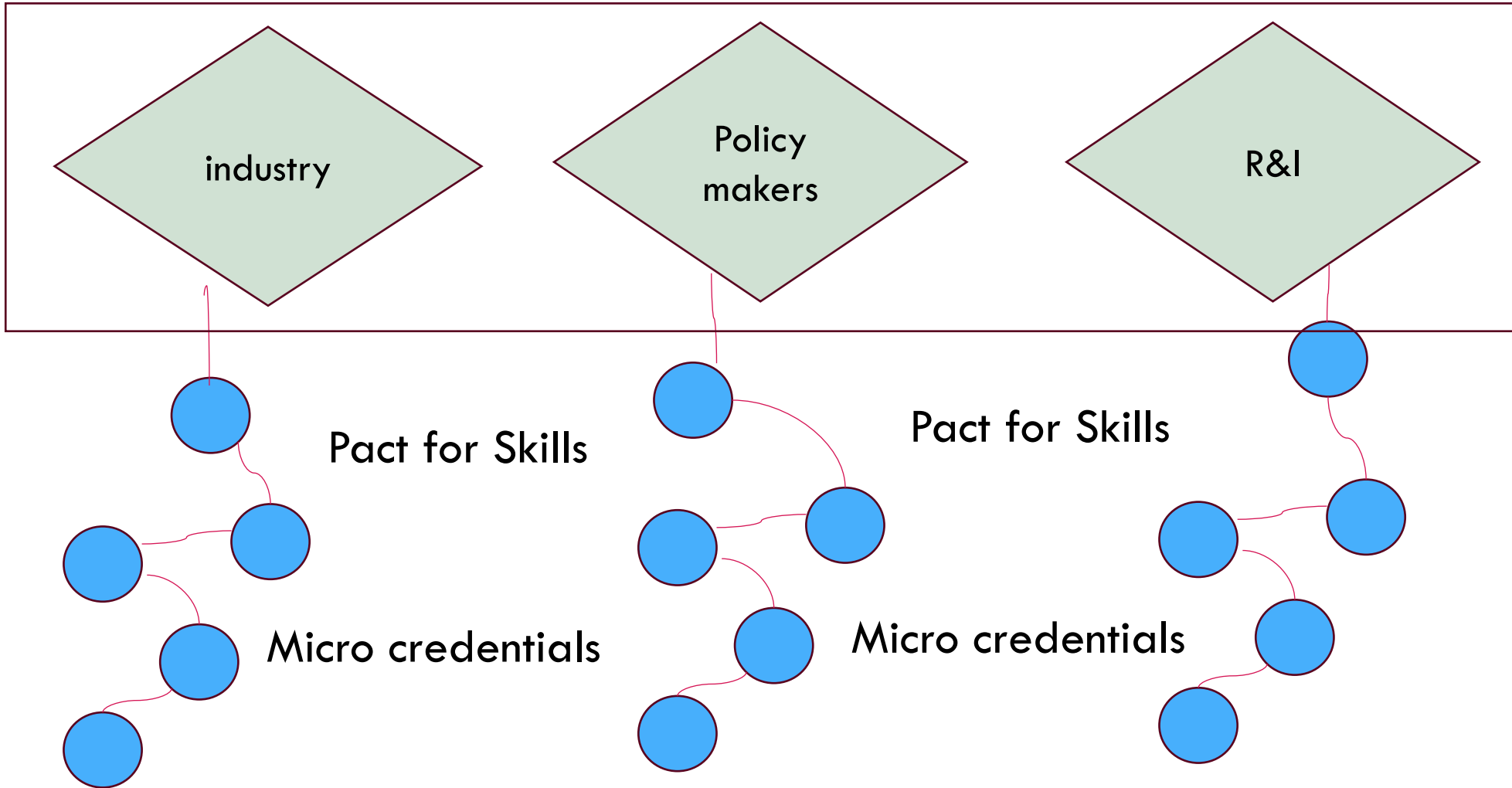
Governance vs. Charter: Governance focuses on decision-making and power distribution – food systems sustainability charter helps to improve FS-oriented education and training programs across MS.

„A charter helps the branded network to know how to act .”

Branded Network of Universities as SFS catalysor



- Aligning education, research, and community engagement through shared SFS principle while respecting diverse approach of each university.
- Educators and University Leaders benefit from a model that fosters mutual learning and connects education, innovation, and community engagement
- Dynamic platform for universities, policymakers, and regional stakeholders to co-develop SFS and SFS education solutions.



Next Steps



- Setting the network in action through building a Community of Practice
- Co-creation of the Sustainable Charter with SFS experts
- Develop SFS standard criteria for certification and quality assurance

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The Partnership “puzzle pieces”: short presentation of the “RIPE” elements



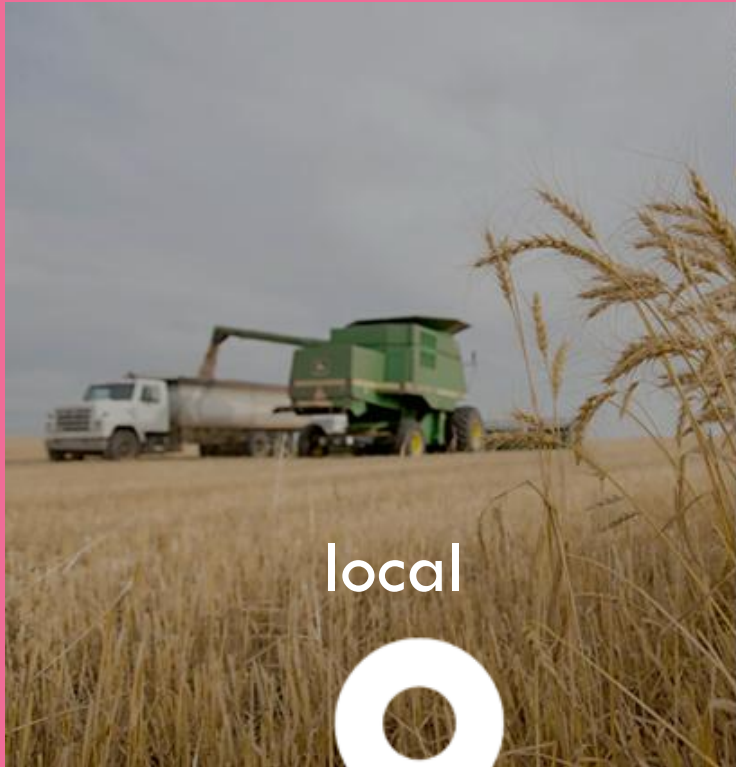
Anna Bruen
ICLEI

Local to global and back again: including everyone in food systems transition

Slido.com
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The challenge:

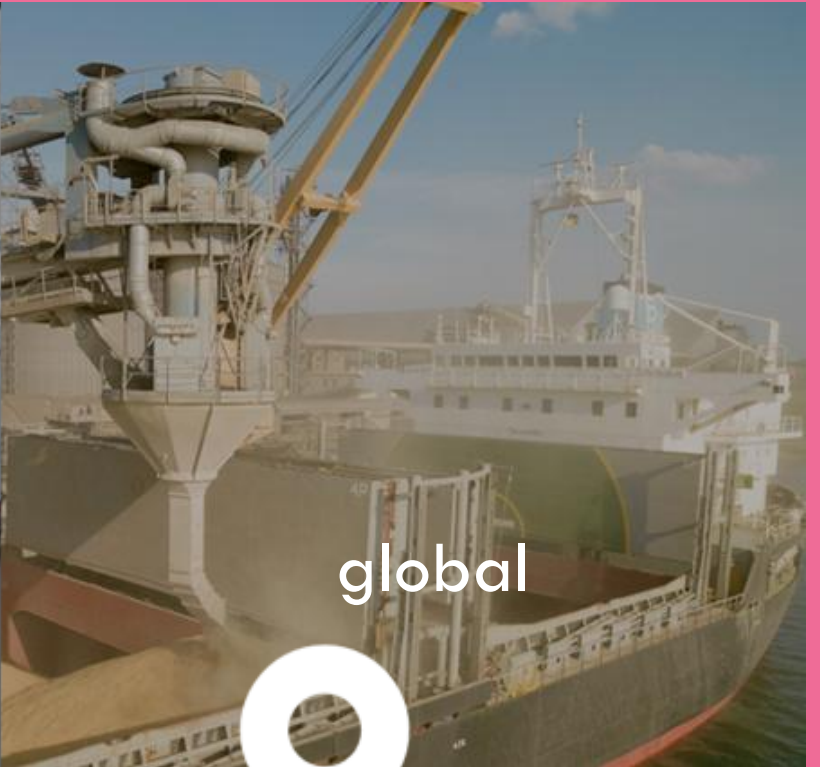
...ensure the future SFS Partnership is inclusive and creates strong collaboration within Europe and with partners around the world by learning from existing networks and partnerships.



local



regional / national



global



The FOODPathS Way



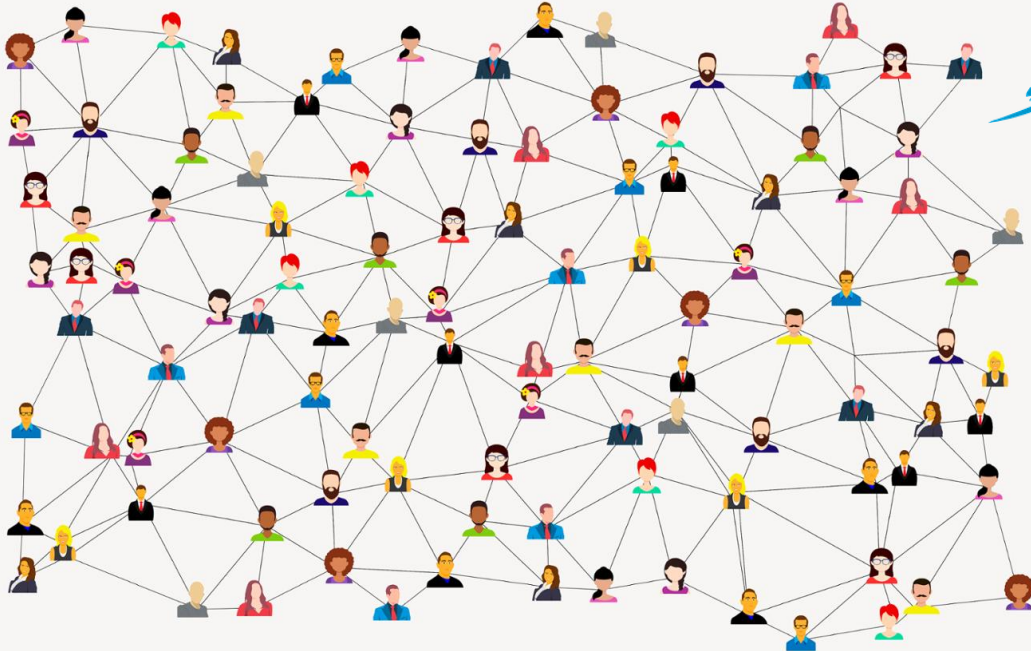
Inclusive

Develop Synergies

Learn

Exchange and cooperate

Global



The FOODPathS way



Governance and Decision making

- Co-design, inclusive and participatory processes
- Adopt a common working definition of SFS
- Bottom-up decisions (work in small, inclusive, groups first)
- Transparency builds trust and goodwill

Interviews and small group discussions

Partnership elements (funding, PPP, Edu.)

- Enable place-based activities and adaptability for continuous learning
- Consider how reporting requirements impact different entities
- Indicators should reflect the requirements of 'right to food' and human rights principles (beyond technical environmental considerations)

Mirror Groups

Modus Operandi (operations)

- Multiple communication pathways are needed (in person, online, webinars, surveys workshops)
- Use accessible language

Workshops

Other

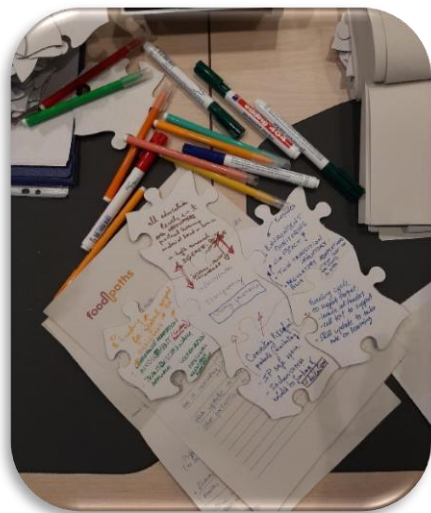
- What inspires us, moves us forward. Meet in interesting places. Communicate in attractive ways to all FS stakeholders
- More work is needed to understand governmental competence around food systems
- There is a need to balance theory and practice

Toolkit

Why does this matter?

food|paths

Because YOU matter....



Closing remarks



- TOMORROW, 11:15 IN THIS ROOM discuss experiences and opinions about inclusivity in partnerships, networks, and coalitions
 - Look at our leaflet to learn more about what we learned about trade-offs and co-benefits:
 - Browse the Tools to help you set up a partnership:



20.05.2025

The Partnership “puzzle pieces”: short presentation of the “RIPE” elements



Sofia Mendes
EUFIC

**The role of communication
to ease the food systems
actors' collaboration**

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The challenge



- Ensure that stakeholders interact and exchange
- Onboard stakeholders on food systems sustainability topics
- Create a favourable environment for the food systems partnerships establishment
- Communicate around food systems topics

Many roads, one goal: impact



Webinars co-organised with other networks: 6 events, + 500 participants

+70 events, +50 meetings & networking activities, +120 presentations, +9.000 people reached



Promote events & results with +2.600 stakeholders



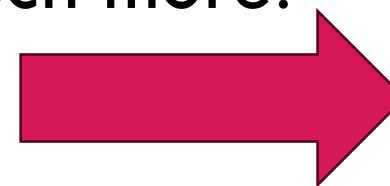
Shorts



ISEKI - Drivers and barriers at all educational levels...
Water's Crucial Role: Bridging FutureFoodS and Water4All...
Exploring the Future of Aquaculture with David...

Short videos & social media campaigns

...and much more!



Learn from our experience & reuse our outcomes!

Addressing stakeholders' needs



A SFS Partnership should communicate via:

1. Regular online **newsletters** – 30%
2. **Social media campaigns** – 25%
3. Organisation of **dedicated meetings/events with my members/entities** I represent – 22%
4. Participation in **conferences** – 20%
5. Participation in **large fairs and events** – 20%

**Have a look at the
survey results!**



...it's not over!

food|paths

The first episode is OUT NOW!



Listen to it on Spotify!