



What 20 years mean for Agricultural and organic research

Copenhagen

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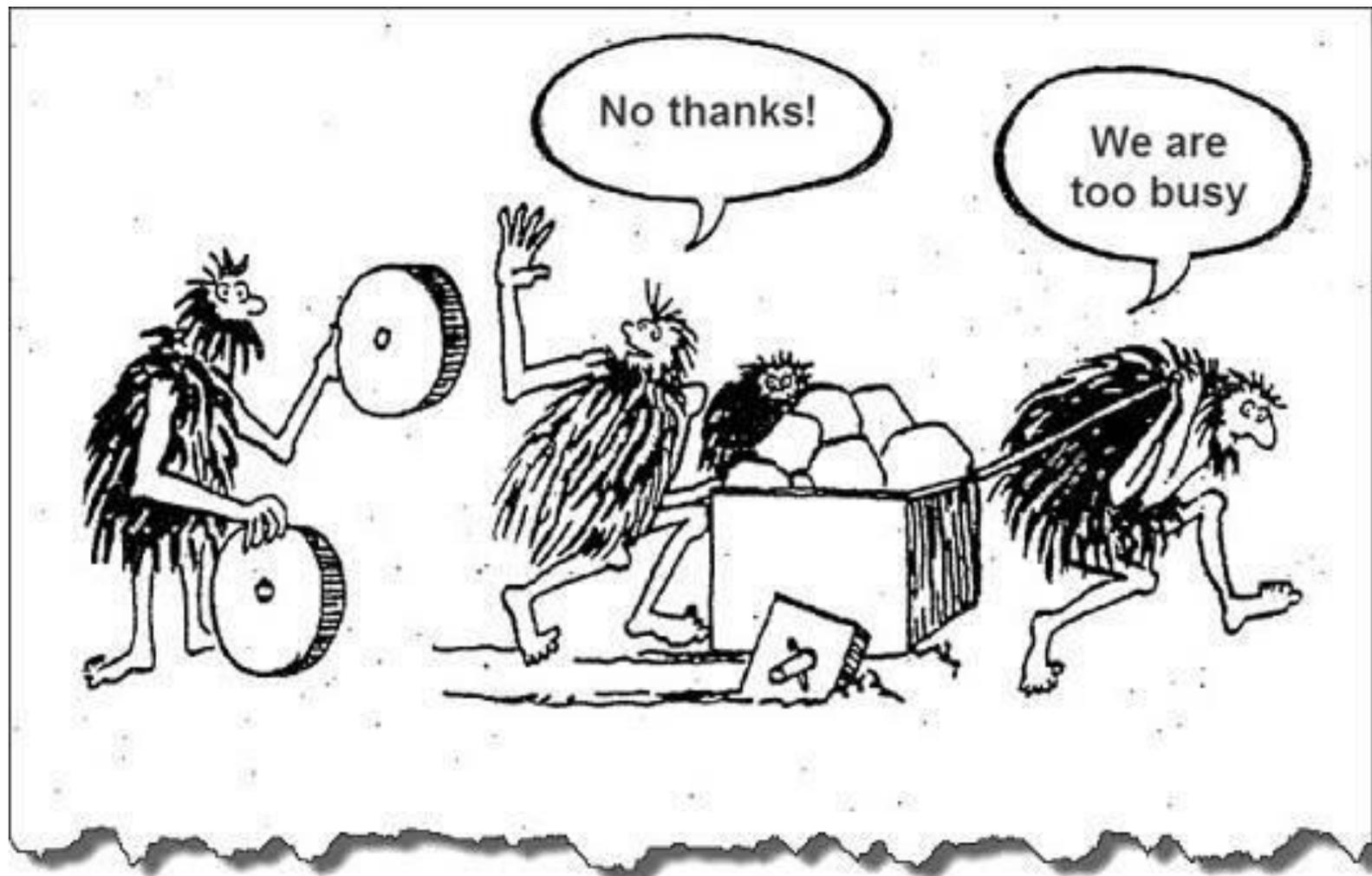
Agriculture
and Rural
Development



**It never hurts to
have a break ...**

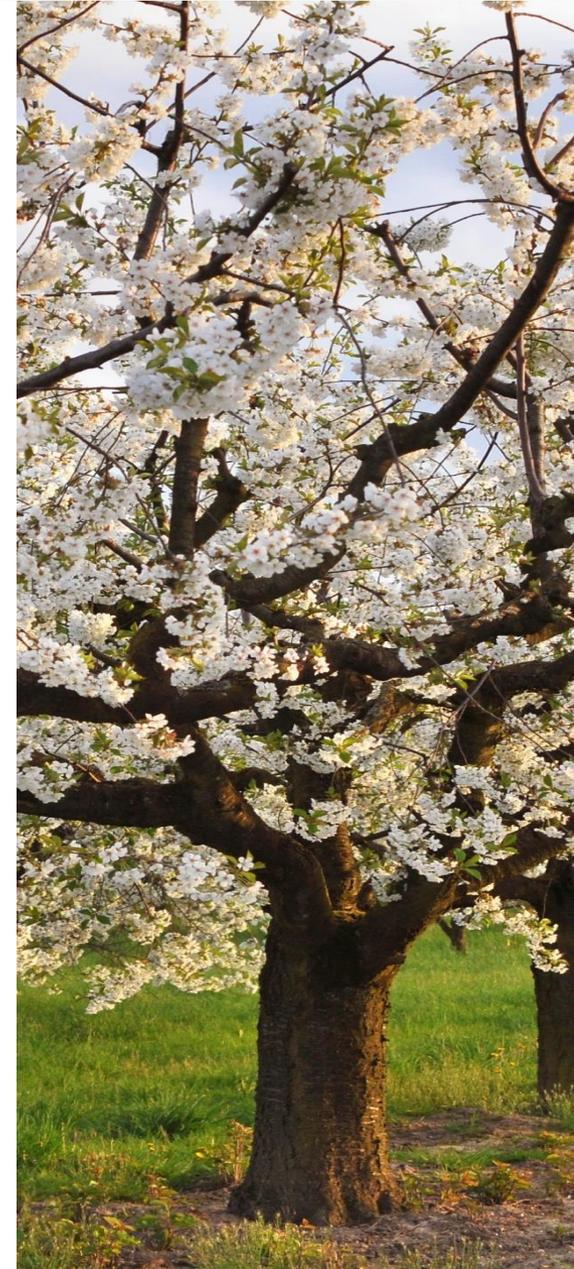


**... and think a
bit!**



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1. Key facts about (European) agricultural research
2. European Commission's strategic approach to research and innovation
3. Doing better among Member States – CORE Organic and beyond – joint work

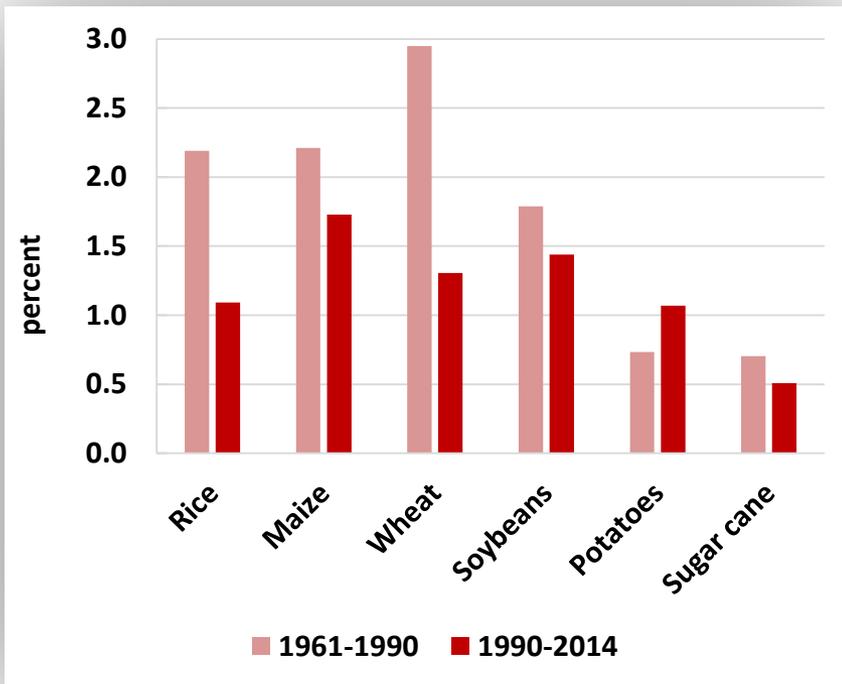


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No reason for complacency on agricultural research ...



Average global rate of growth of crop yields

Source: Pardey (2016) on the basis of FAO data

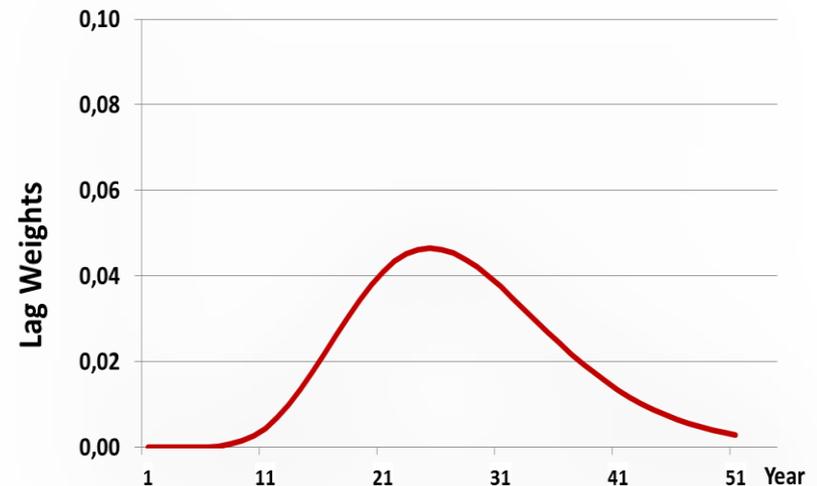
+

- Climate change
- Biodiversity losses
- Resource scarcities
- Food and nutrition security
- ...

Generating impact takes time

- *Many studies suggest lags of 15-25 years before peak impacts are reached and with continuing effects for decades afterwards.*
- *Hybrid corn:*
 - 1906-1908 corn heterosis (Shull)
 - 1918: double cross hybrid suggested (Jones)
 - 1921: first release hybrid seeds
 - 1930s: seeds widely available
 - 1960s: 85% of US acreage hybrid reached
- *ASIRPA study of INRA (2014): average lag between initiation of research and impact is **20 years**.*

Time lag between research and impact on farm productivity growth

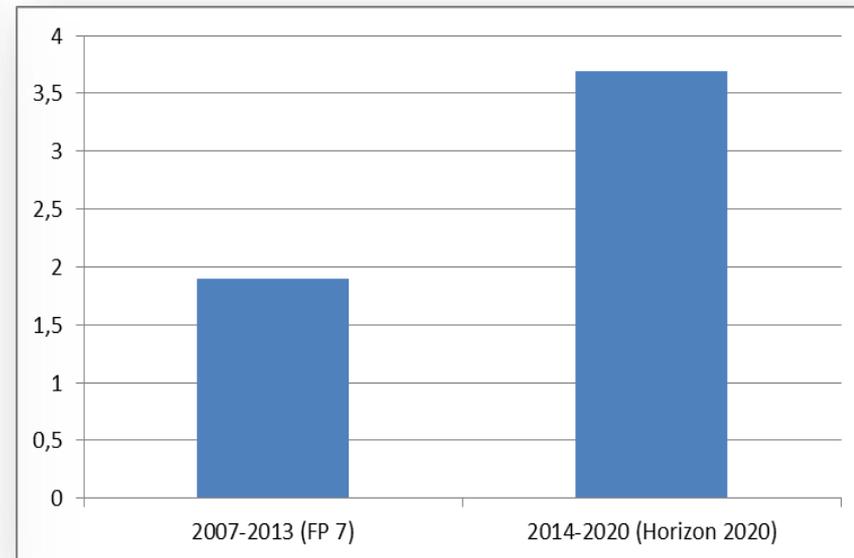
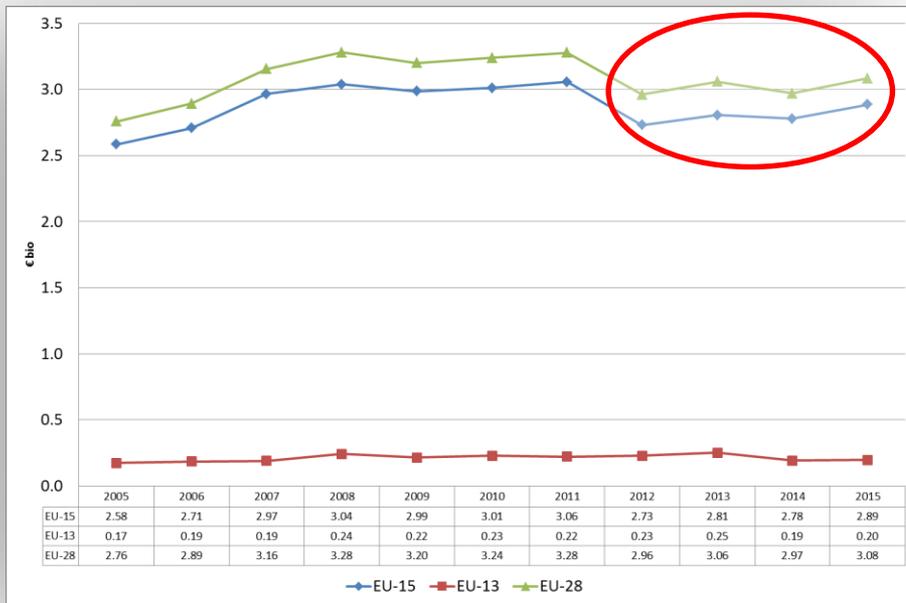


Source: Alston, Anderson, James and Pardey (2010, 2011)

Recent evolutions in agricultural research public investment

Decreasing Member State spending (billion €) (GBAORD) - Eurostat

... Not compensated by increasing EU spending (billion €) in the Framework Programme (figures for the whole bioeconomy)



- Budget cuts in several Member States (but increases in some)
- Recurrent down, competitive up

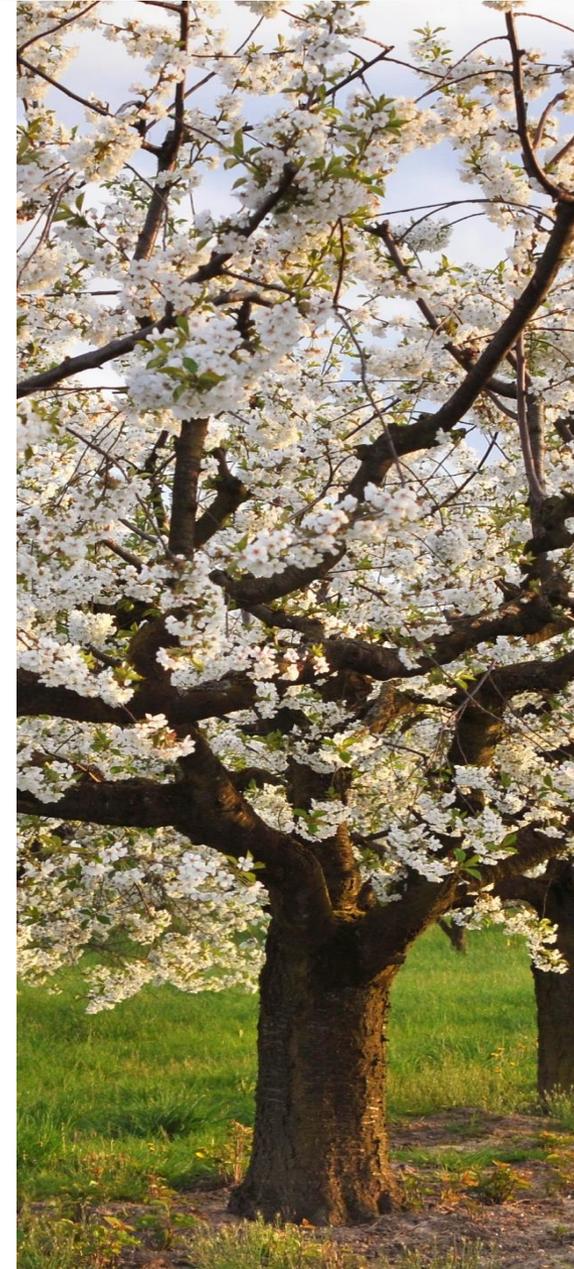
EU Framework programme: **about 10%** of MS investments in research



The FP needs to be strategic

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Horizon 2020



1. Health, demographic change and wellbeing

2. Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research and the bio-economy (€3.8 billion 2014-2020)

3. Secure, clean and efficient energy

4. Smart, green and integrated transport

5. Climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials

6. Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies

7. Secure societies

A strategic approach to EU agricultural research and innovation



19/06
AGRI
workshop
on the
future of
agriculture
R&I

15/10 EU
Scient.
committee
event on
Global Food
Security

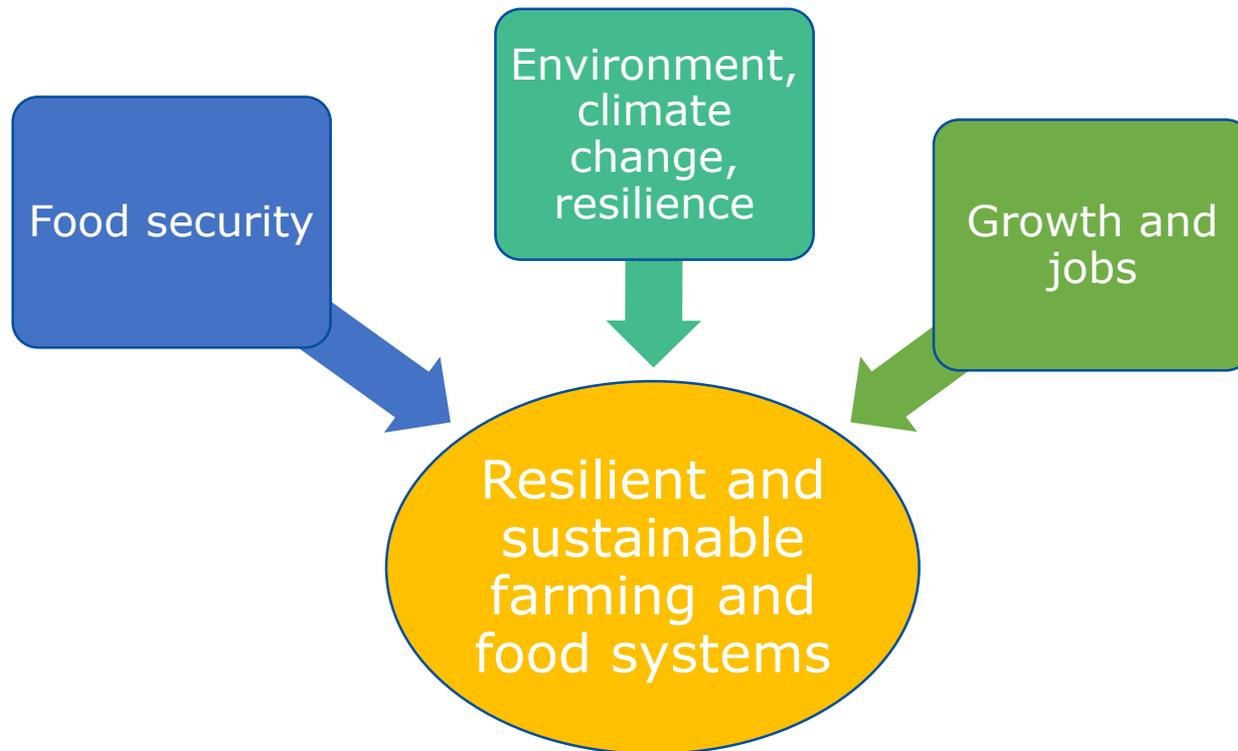
*Strategic
programming
2016/2017:
expert
workshops*

08/10
SCAR
Foresight
conference

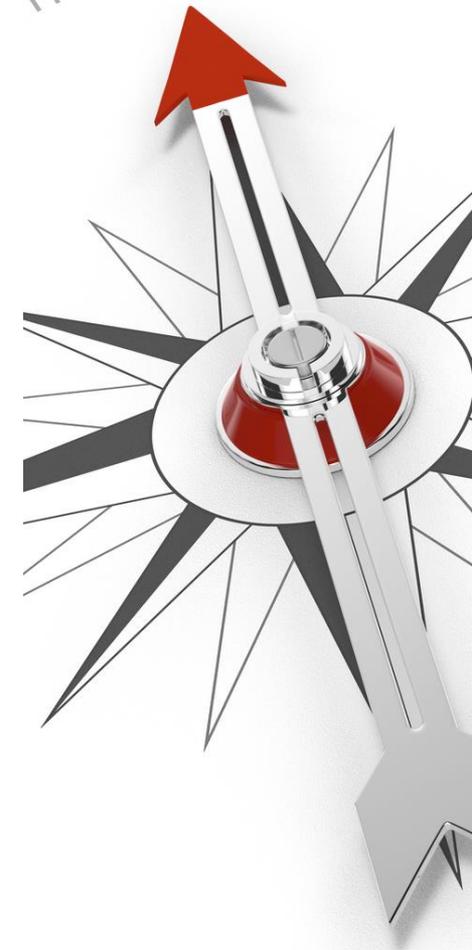
**26-
28/01/16:**
conference
on
agriculture
R&I



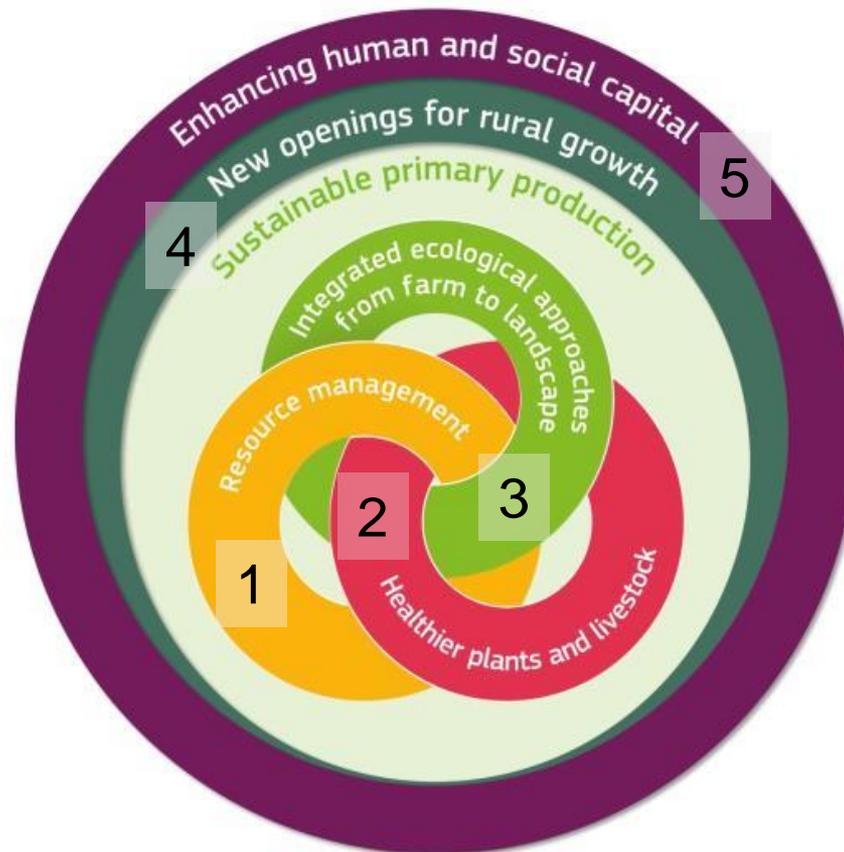
Challenges are long-term



ALLENGE



Five building blocks



Cross-cutting issues



Societal
engagement



Systems-based
approach,
interdisciplinarity and
transdisciplinarity



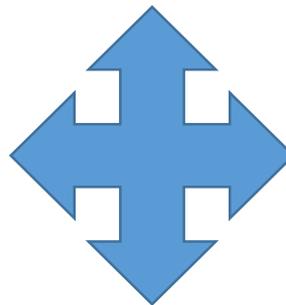
Enabling sciences
and infrastructures



ICT as an enabling
technology for
research and
innovation



Socioeconomic
research and
support for EU
policies

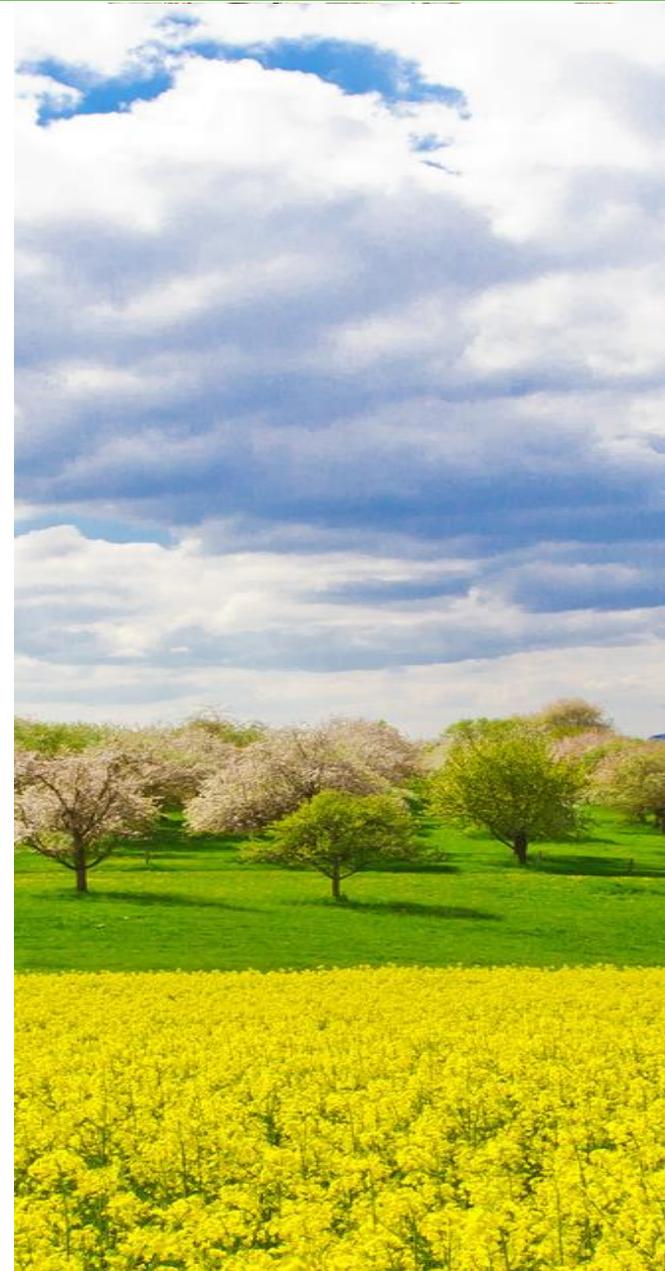


Implementation

- Rests on the use of various instruments
- Example: **animal health**
 - Collaborative projects
 - ERANET
 - International Research Consortium (IRC) for global cooperation (€2 bio commitment so far)
 - European Joint Programme (EJP) One-Health
- **Soil and climate change**: similar route in the making
- After 2020: need to do more like this

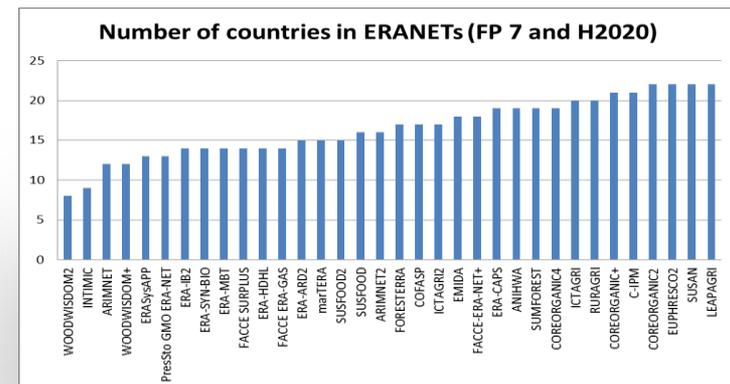
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Organic research in Europe

- The Framework Programme has played an important role to foster research in the organic sector in the last 20 years
- "Mainstreaming" of organic research – from organic to agro-ecology?
- Member States have been active at European level with CORE Organic for quite some time
 - CORE Organic: 2004
 - CORE Organic 2: 2009
 - CORE Organic +: 2012
 - CORE Organic Cofund: 2016



CORE Organic has contributed to set the tone in organic research in Europe

- **Strategic approach** towards research and innovation
- Going beyond sectors / problems to **systems approach**
- Link **research with practice**
- Has supported the creation of a **research community** within Europe from a previously fragmented landscape
- Innovative approach towards **knowledge exchange** (Organic ePrints)

Concluding remarks

- **Long-term perspective** of agricultural research is essential – progress necessary to be more strategic and effective
- **CORE organic** has been around for about 15 years and fostered European capacity in research in the organic sector
- Need to think **beyond current approaches** at European level to achieve more

*"The best time to plant a tree was **20 years** ago.
The second best time is now."*

Chinese Proverb



European
Commission



Many thanks for your attention!

Innovation in action

<http://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/>

