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For immediate use



Beef farmers are willing agents of change to drive sustainability of the sector confirms BovINE

For its final dissemination conference in Brussels (1st December 2022), BovINE partners welcomed online over 250 delegates from across Europe in the morning, and key EU policy-players including from DG Agri, DG Sante, Copa-Cogeca and EUFRAS to an in-person presentation in the afternoon.

Maeve Henchion, Co-ordinator of BovINE at the network project’s final dissemination project meeting in Brussels, says:

“The BovINE network project has clearly shown that farmers are a significant source of innovation in their own right, and thus play an important part in finding and implementing solutions to the sustainability challenges they face.”

Presentations by partners focused on sharing good practices and solutions from research based on the project’s four themes of animal health & welfare, socioeconomic resilience, production efficiency & meat quality and environmental sustainability.

Solutions were identified by project partners to address the grass roots needs of farmers, and collated by the project’s thematic leaders and Network Managers across the nine European countries represented in BovINE. 340 good practices are now freely available for all to access on the BovINE Knowledge Hub (BKH).

DG AGRI’s **Diego Canga Fano**, newly appointed lead on Research, Outreach and Geographical Indications and BovINE’s opening guest speaker for the policy session said:

“DG AGRI recognises and appreciates the valuable work of BovINE in providing evidence-based knowledge to create solutions for farmers as well as insights for policymakers and all stakeholders. BovINE’s innovations will contribute to ensuring that livestock production plays its part in securing a sustainable and circular food system.”

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Markus Rombach, Deputy Group Leader (Animal Production) of Agridea, Switzerland, BovINE Advisory Board Member and active member of EUFRAS, European Forum for Agricultural and Rural Advisory Services, attended both morning and afternoon sessions and said:

“The transnational BovINE network has collected and validated a lot of very useful knowledge. Agridea, our agricultural advisory services in Switzerland, are already taking this knowledge and translating it into formats that work for our farmers. I expect that other EUFRAS member organizations will now also use the generated insights and take advantage of the extensive knowledge that BovINE has provided and make it widely available to their farming networks.”

The three-year EU funded BovINE network project ends on 31st December 2022. Information on the research innovations and good practices generated by the network and the ‘on farm’ demonstrations arranged by partners are available to access on the BovINE Knowledge Hub (BKH). The project’s website provides links to a wealth of additional resources including animations, webinars and multi-language materials accessed via the country flags of the nine partner countries.

BovINE’s Project Manager **Richard Lynch** concludes:

“With targeted policy interventions, and support from farm and specialist advisors, the solutions identified by the BovINE network, and freely available on the BovINE Knowledge Hub, are ready for implementation throughout Europe.”

Ends/Notes follow

Notes

1. Recording of the morning session of the dissemination conference is available via this link: Note that 9 multi-language versions are available via this link:
<https://avp-be.zoom.us/rec/share/IIPI0iCczwzG3jQsOd6t-hUv2aVqeHC-NTNM3PEG6ncOMKutLnBZahga8IGuJdX.jW5Lc4D6qC5tQ5fq>
2. Further information regarding the project including requests for interviews with the Co-ordinator, Theme Leaders, Project Manager, Network Managers or other project team members, and/or audio-visual content (photos/videos) please contact Rhonda Smith in the UK at bovine@minervacomms.net
+44 (0) 1264-400520 +44(0)7887-714957
3. BovINE has a Network Manager (NM) based in each of the 9 member states (Belgium, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal & Spain) building networks across their beef

farming communities. Contact information for each NM can be found on the BovINE website:

<http://www.bovine-eu.net/network-managers/>

4. Click on the flags on the Home Page of the BovINE website to access all translated materials for each of the 9 countries.
5. This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 rural renaissance programme. Project No: 862590 under call H2020-RUR-2019-15. Further information is available at <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/862590>

6. BovINE Project Partners

No. *	Participant organisation name	Country	Partner type
1	Teagasc - Agriculture and Food Development Authority Project Coordinator – Prof. Maeve Henchion maeve.henchion@teagasc.ie ; Project Manager – Richard Lynch: richard.lynch@teagasc.ie	Ireland	Applied research/ extension
2	Feirmeoiri Aontuithe na h-Eireann Iontaobiathe Teoranta LBG	Ireland	Farmers association
3	Centro Ricerche Produzioni Animali - C.R.P.A. s.p.a.	Italy	Applied research
4	Unicarve - Associazione Produttori Carni Bovine	Italy	Farmers association
5	Institut de l'Élevage	France	Applied research/advisory
6	Fédération Nationale Bovine	France	Beef farmers association.
7	Universidad de Zaragoza	Spain	Research
8	Instituto Navarro de Tecnologías e Infraestructuras Agroalimentarias SA	Spain	Applied research/advisory
9	Szkola Główna Gospodarstwa Wiejskiego	Poland	Research
10	Polish Beef Association	Poland	Beef farmers association
11	Faculdade de Medicina Veterinária	Portugal	Research
12	ACBM- Associação de Criadores de Bovinos Mertolengos	Portugal	Beef breeders’ association
13	Eigen Vermogen van het Instituut voor Landbouw- en Visserijonderzoek	Belgium	Applied research
14	Boerenbond	Belgium	Farmers association
15	Friedrich Loeffler Institut - Bundesforschungsinstitut für Tiergesundheit	Germany	Research
16	Bundesverband Rind und Schwein e.V	Germany	Farmers association
17	Minerva HCC Ltd	UK	SME – communications
18	NPO Liivimaa Lihaveis	Estonia	Non-Profit Organisation