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LIFE15 CCM/IT/000123



Environmental actions for the EU sheep sector

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Regione Autonoma della Sardegna Rond Point Schuman, 14 – Brussels















The meeting *Environmental actions for the EU sheep sector* is part of the Communication and Networking strategy of the **SheepToShip LIFE project** (LIFE15 CCM/IT/00123).

SheepToShip LIFE — "Looking for an eco-sustainable sheep supply chain: environmental benefits and implications" is a 4-year project (from July 2016 to June 2020) aimed at identifying and applying innovative solutions for the reduction of GHG of the Sardinian sheep-dairy production chain and to improve the environmental sustainability of the sector. SheepToShip LIFE is co-funded (total budget equal to € 2,610,043) by the EU LIFE Programme 2014-2020. The overall objective of the project is reducing by 20% in 10 years the GHG emissions from the Sardinian dairy sheep supply chain by promoting efficient and eco-sustainable production models.

The end goal of the project is to transfer the knowledge generated into an Environmental Action Program for the sheep sector of Sardinia, which harmonizes the project's intervention strategy with regional policies to mitigate climate change. The inclusion of policy makers involved in environmental, climate and rural development sectors at regional, national, and European levels is essential for guaranteeing the project's sustainability and replicability. To achieve this ambitious goal the project cannot ignore the importance of involving EU policy makers and key stakeholders to ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation is fully accepted and integrated as part of the regional development strategies for the sheep sector. In a context of structural economic crisis of the EU sheep sector, it should be avoided the high risk that an effort to improve environmental performance would be perceived by farmers as a threat to their livelihood.



This meeting is meant to be the first step towards a collaborative process for integrating new environmental measures for the sheep sector into the Rural Development Plan, based on the results of European projects for the ecoinnovation of the livestock sector. The main goal of the meeting is to promote the inclusion of environmental strategies for the sheep sector into rural development plans, focusing on i) efficiency of production systems and ii) valorisation of the ecosystem services provided by grassbased farms. In particular, the specific goal of this networking activity is to establish a preliminary roadmap for defining agroenvironmental measures within the next Rural Development Plan, aimed at mitigating the GHG from the sheep sector. Improving the environmental performance of sheep farming could not only help combat climate change by reducing GHG and maximising ecosystem services, but also enhance socioeconomic sustainability of local supply chains.





09.00 – 09.15	Opening Remarks	<i>Pierpaolo Duce</i> (CNR Ibimet)
09.15 - 09.30	Integrating environmental considerations in the agricultural policy process: from local to European strategies	Donatella Spano (Councillor for the Environment - Region of Sardinia)
09.30 – 10.15	Main results, sustainability and replicability of EU projects for innovating the livestock sector	Giovanni Molle (SheepToShip LIFE), Alberto Atzori (LIFE Forage4Climate), Antonello Carta (SheepNet - H2020), Françoise Lessire (DairyClimLIFE), Antonello Franca (Inno4Grass - H2020)
10.15 – 10.30	Environmental and climate targets to bolster bio-economy in Europe	Christine Müller (DG CLIMA)
10.30 – 10.45	Coffee break	
10.45 – 11.15	The new CAP. Opportunities for the greening of the livestock sector	Nicola Di Virgilio (DG AGRI) Flavio Conti (European Network for Rural Development)
11.15 – 12.45	Open debate: From projects to policies: The eco-innovation of the sheep sector trough effective agro-environmental RDP measures	Chairperson Donatella Spano Open debate on EU policies with invited guests
12.45 – 13.00	Conclusions and next steps	Pierpaolo Duce (CNR Ibimet)
13.00 – 14.00	Light lunch	





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