



Project's Partners



Sharing Expertise and Experience towards sheep Productivity through NETworking

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European sheep production

Sheep meat and milk production are very important farm enterprises in Europe and neighbouring countries. In Europe there are 85 million animals on 830 000 farms. However the industry has been in decline and since 2000 the numbers of producers in the EU have declined by 50%. SheepNet will provide many opportunities to improve productivity and thus profitability.



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SheepNet project

Start

November 2016

Duration

3 years

SheepNet is a European wide network involving partners from the six main EU sheep producing countries and Turkey, and is open to all EU countries stakeholders and sheep producers.

SheepNet is about practice-driven innovation to improve the 3 key factors involved in sheep productivity, namely, efficient reproduction, efficient gestation and reduced lamb mortality.

The SheepNet project will establish durable exchange of scientific and practical knowledge among researchers, farmers and advisors/consultants across Europe in order to improve sheep productivity.



SheepNet objectives

- ▶ **Produce a reservoir of scientific, technical and practical information** through a combined 'top-down and bottom-up' approach.
- ▶ **Foster cross-fertilization** through multi-actor workshops at national and international levels, and a broad and interactive participation of the «sheep community».
- ▶ **Develop an easily understandable support package** of communication and learning material, web-based tools, interactive platform, designed to **help scientists, farmers and advisors/consultants**.



SheepNet implementation

In each of the 7 partner countries, a Network Facilitator will foster the multi-actor approach and ensure the flow of information at national and EU level.

They will get support from a Scientific and Technical Working Group and from stakeholders through a Sheep-AKIS (Agriculture Knowledge Innovation System).



SheepNet is organised around 5 steps

STEP
1

Define specific and common end-users' needs/country

STEP
2

Identify a pool of existing solutions and skills to answer end-users' needs

STEP
3

Determine key solutions to match with end-users' needs

STEP
4

Identify a pool of communication/training materials

STEP
5

Dissemination/transfer
New research to meet end-users' needs

Knowledge reservoir
(scientific/practical)

Key solutions with specific recommendations

Communication and training materials

Scientific/practical pool of experts

Pool of "innovative farms"

Future research/network agenda