

QUESTIONS FOR DAVID YÁÑEZ, PROJECT COORDINATOR

-Introduce yourself, your professional background and your role within the Re-Livestock Project

I am a vet by training and Senior Scientist at the Spanish Research Council working in animal nutrition and the environmental impact of livestock farming.

-Describe Re-livestock in 1 sentence

Re-Livestock is an international project that will facilitate the implementation of a wide range of innovations in the cattle and pig sectors to reduce emissions and improve adaptation to climate change.

-Re-Livestock is made up of 37 partners from 13 countries. Describe this consortium and the role played by international partnerships for the development of the project

The international consortium in Re-Livestock encompasses farmers associations, international companies leading innovation in livestock feeding, seed development, animal breeding, digital technology and precision livestock farming and advisors, who will work closely with fourteen universities and nine applied research and technology institutes. This combination of expertise will ensure optimal uptake of the innovations addressed in the project.

-Why this project is relevant: what challenges is Re-Livestock aiming to respond to?

The project is very relevant because for the first time a single initiative addresses both mitigation of GHG emissions and adaptation to climate change in ruminants and monogastric sectors simultaneously and also integrating different types of technologies (feeding, breeding, digital technologies, etc...). The impact of implementing these technologies within different climate change scenarios in the future will provide very useful information on priorities for different regions in Europe.

-The project is facilitating innovations for resilient livestock farming systems. Describe the project's approach, the type of solutions the project is working on, the disciplines involved...

Re-Livestock will use different approaches: i) using examples of successful innovations through 14 'case studies' to understand together with farmers the process of

implementing such practices in a range of systems and regions, **ii**) advance in the research to develop new practices in animal feeding (using feeds with lower C footprint, improve grasslands utilizations, new additives), breeding (with special attention to local breeds) and digital technologies and housing to improve the management in the farm (precision feeding, sensors for heat stress...) and **iii**) evaluate the socio-economic and environmental impacts, including animal welfare, of applying the above innovations across different regions, systems and climate change potential scenarios.

-Re-Livestock was kicked-off in September 2022. Could you share an overview of the progress made since then?

The main activities so far have focused on i) developing the 13 case studies in 8 countries with approximately 60 cattle and pig farmers, ii) starting the animal trials and iii) coordinating the exchange of information between animal scientists and modelers.

-What are the outcomes and results you expect to obtain by the end of this project (August 2027)? (these can be technical or other type of innovations, advance in methods and knowledge, recommendations for practices or policies, insights to what may happen in the future so as to guide policies...)

We expect to provide a range of outcomes:

- Novel feeding practices that include feeds with low C footprint, local legumes to replace imported soya, better management of grasslands and diets to adapt to climate change, new additives to reduce enteric methane emissions
- New animal breeding programs for mitigation and adaptation to climate change, giving special focus to the use of local breeds
- Describe and understand the drivers and barriers to implement the most promising innovations to enhance their adoption
- Optimized housing and outdoors (grazing, agroforestry)
- systems managements
- Proven efficacy of reduced footprint of selected innovations
- Identified roadmaps and action-based priorities across regions and EU scale

-What may be the project's benefits for the sector and for society in general? (linking to the challenges mentioned before)

Provide more knowledge and ready-to-use practical tools to develop more resilient and sustainable livestock farming systems in a range of regions in Europe under a context of increasing societal pressure to reduce environmental impact and a clear need to adapt to climate change, specially heat stress in animals.

Re-Livestock will provide more insights in the process of knowledge exchange and learning from experiences within the livestock sector

We will have a better understanding on how farming systems can evolve considering the specificities of different regions and climate change scenarios.