Re-Livestock
Interviews – Web content

QUESTIONS FOR MICHELE MORETTI, WP LEADER, WP 7

WP7 – Re-Map a roadmap for transition

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

I am Associate Professor at the Department of Agriculture, Food and Environment of the University of Pisa with about 8 years of experience in international and multidisciplinary projects. I hold a PhD in 'Agri-Food Economics' obtained from the University of Bari. After obtaining my PhD, I continued my academic journey in Belgium, working at the interface between agriculture and environmental economics within research groups and the University of Hasselt, Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech and finally at the University of Antwerp. I have been involved in several EU-funded projects on the sustainable production of food and biomass, agricultural climate science economics, sustainable technologies, and circular economy.

In Re-Livestock, I am leading Work Package 7 "*Re-Map a roadmap for transition*" which is looking ahead at the future of EU livestock farming and the path to achieve the desired outlook as it is set by the Green Deal and Farm2Fork strategy.

-Describe Re-livestock in 1 sentence

Tacking action for a sustainable and resilient European livestock sector

-What are the main activities being carried out within your work package?

WP7 adopts a systemic approach to describe potential adaptation and mitigation scenarios for the European livestock farming systems. We are exploring how the EU livestock system will potentially look-like considering trajectories of drivers – either indirect (e.g., socio-political, economic, and technological factors) or direct (e.g., climate change). Capitalizing on the output of the other WPs, we are engaging farmers and stakeholders eliciting their preferences with respect to innovative feeding, breading and livestock management techniques and practice which could foster the desired transformation of animal production systems. Finally, the effort Is directed towards co-define actions-based socio-economic, governance and institutional priorities and roadmaps in support of the transition towards a fair, healthy and resilient European livestock farming system in support of the Farm2Fork strategy.

-Can you explain what tools will you use in your WP? What are "scenarios" and Choice experiments and for what you will use them?

''Scenarios'' are representations of possible futures for one or more components of a system, particularly, in Re-Livestock, for animal feeding, breeding, herd management innovations in relation to climate change. Scenarios can examine a range of plausible futures, based on potential trajectories of direct (e.g., climate change) and indirect (e.g., policies, technological

innovations, socio-economic) drivers; or describe a specific desirable (or undesirable), achievable (or avoidable) future which can be accomplished only through certain actions.

Discrete Choice Experiments are survey-based methods used to analyze people's preferences for goods/services, especially those which cannot be traded on the market. In neo-classical economic theory, DCEs belong to the category of "*stated preferences method"* which are based on the creation of a hypothetical market that defines the good/service at issue, the institutional context in which it would be provided, and how it could be financed.

-You are proposing pathways towards resilience according to the European Green Deal and the Farm to Fork Strategy. How do you expect this transition to be developed over the project's remaining years?

As we navigate the implementation of pathways towards resilience of the livestock sector in alignment with the European Green Deal and the Farm2Fork Strategy, our approach involves a targeted strategy for the remaining years of the project. The expected transition will be developed considering the unique challenges and opportunities livestock farmers and industrial stakeholders are and will be facing. This includes a focus on breeding, feeding, and farming practices, efficient resource management, and the integration of innovative technologies to enhance productivity and reduce GHG emissions. Through participatory approaches with stakeholders', including farmers, industry experts and policymakers, we will assess the potential for wide-scale adoption of new practices and technologies and identify the "actions" – at the policy, system governance, and farming system level - to be taken to achieve a desirable future aligned with the targets of the European Green Deal and the Farm2Fork strategy.

-In particular, what are the stakes/barriers you consider are the main ones hampering the adoption by farmers of practices for resilience?

Barriers for farmers' adoption of climate change mitigation strategies are costs of investment and implementation, uncertainty the effects of large-scale adoption of such practices/technologies on farm efficiency and productivity, and unclear understanding possible (if any) compensatory measures.

-What will be the outcomes and results you expect to obtain from your WP? (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…).

A series of actions that must be implemented sequentially or simultaneously to transition towards the desired future scenario. Such actions might relate to the policy, technological and socio-economic domains and can be translated into recommendations for framers, feeding and breeding companies, and policy decision-makers.

-What do you think may be the main benefits of Re-Livestock for the sector and for society in general (linking to the WP challenge/s)

Re-Livestock will deliver innovations tested and assessed for their effectiveness, sustainability and potential to be adopted at large scale which will enrich the basket of possible tools and strategies available to the European livestock sector to meet the imposed targets. Moreover, the Re-Livestock will provide guidance on the implementation strategies of these innovations

generated through co-creation processes and based on a systemic approach that considers their effects on the broader social and economic system.