



# Short Food Supply Chains Advisor Network

Building an EU learning ecosystem  
through multi-level collaborations  
for sustainable, robust and  
regenerative food systems



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# Short Food Supply Chains

Strategies and actions taken to accelerate Short Food Supply Chains on a regional, interregional, and European level, focusing on the importance of qualified advice as a catalyser.

**From SMARCHAIN + SKIN sister projects to EU4Advice + COREnet twin projects**



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# Why support SFSC?

Choices  
Empowerment  
Trust  
Resilience



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## EU4Advice + COREnet: background



H2020 SMARTCHAIN + SKIN projects and other relevant projects (COFRESH, FOODRUS) focusing on value chains and advisory systems:

**need for SFSC-specific advice and capacity building to enhance practitioners' empowerment and viability and SFSC sustainability.**

# EU4Advice + COREnet

## The network of SFSC advisors across Europe

Advisory networks  
are a **new tool**  
**introduced** under  
Horizon Europe.



**First advisory networks** funded under Horizon Europe that will provide innovative solutions for farmers to improve sustainability of the short food supply chains.

**Topic:** Developing EU advisory networks on consumer-producer chains (HORIZON-CL6-2021-GOVERNANCE-01-27)

**Coordinators:** Innogestiona Ambiental (EU4Advice), University of Foggia (COREnet)

**General objective:** settle the foundations and structures required to ensure effective capacity building of SFSC actors through fluent knowledge transfer

# EU4Advice + COREnet

## Network of SFSC advisors across Europe



# EU4Advice

## Objectives



- ✓ **Identify and characterize SFSC advisors across Europe**
  - Connect SFSC advisors from the 27 MS in a European network
  - Improve the understanding of the main issues and challenges of European AKIS
  - Integrate SFSC advisors and contents into national AKIS
  - Interact with relevant national/regional/local policy-makers
  - Replicate and disseminate innovations on SFSC

## Mapping methodology

### # Common framework

- Shared concepts and definitions:
- Short food supply chains
- AKIS
- Innovation and support services

### # Formal + informal advisors

### # Top-down + bottom-up approach

### # Country context Analysis

## Submitted in June 2023:

- ✓ **Growing database of private and public SFSC (over 700 SFSC advisors)**



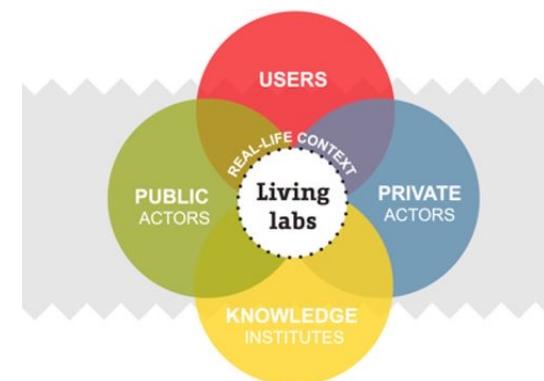
## Next steps

- **Participant information and consent form**
- **Onboarding and activation of the network**
  - **LinkedIn Community**
  - **SFS Innovation Platform**
  - **i2connect**
  - **ModernAKIS + Attractiss**
  - **EU Farm Book**
  - **Other EU-funded projects**
- **Interoperability**
  - **SFS Innovation Platform**
  - **I2connect, modernAKIS, AttractiS**
  - **EU Farm Book**

# EU4Advice

## Methodological pillars

- Comprehensive analysis of the national AKIS, SFSC ecosystems and regulatory frameworks
- **Living labs** in Spain, Hungary, the Netherlands and Ireland
- Networking: cross visits, thematic workshops, peer2peer learning, twinning activities, etc.
- Guidelines and advisory contents



### THEORETICAL METHODOLOGY



## Challenges

- **Lack of data**
- **Little availability of knowledge and formal structures**
- **Current configuration of AKIS**
- **Accreditation of advisors**
- **Policy barriers (public procurement, health and safety issues)**
- **Specific contents needed**
- **Professionalization of the sector**

## Opportunities

- **PAC**
- **AKIS**
- **Increasing demand from consumers**
- **New rural trends**
- **Digital tools and solutions**

## What is still needed

- **Clear support to formal/informal impartial advisors**
- **In depth knowledge of**
  - **psychological and sociological aspects of SFSC as an option**
  - **SFSC and transition (digi and green)**
  - **SFSC keys to mainstreaming and upscalling**

# Contact

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