

## **AF4EU: a European project to connect the innovation in agroforestry**

The Horizon Europe funded project aims at wider the benefits of agroforestry in 11 european regions.

Agroforestry is the perfect combination among agriculture, forestry and even livestock. The art of mixing what once was already combined to obtain sustainable production of food and raw materials. And the purpose of the AF4EU is project is to interconnect different european regions to share knowledge, innovations and work on business plans to create and consolidate agroforestry farms all over Europe.

With 12 partners involved - including universities and research institutes - the AF4EU team has already started working with its Regional Agroforestry Innovation Networks (RAINs), in 10 different countries: Spain (Galicia and Andalusia), Portugal, France, Italy, Germany, Ireland, Slovakia, Greece, Belgium and Finland. It is possible to check more information in the website of the project: <https://af4eu.eu/>

All RAINs are composed of local stakeholders: farmers, agricultural advisors, public authorities, researchers, consumers, etc. And although the first face-to-face meetings have already been held in each of the regions, there is always the possibility of adding new members to the RAINs. It is as simple as writing an email to [af4eu@usc.es](mailto:af4eu@usc.es) or to any of the project's social media, and an AF4EU member will provide more information.

In addition to providing knowledge on good practices and innovation in agroforestry, the project's promise includes the development of business plans based on participating farms, and modules on specific soft skills topics to train new agroforestry advisors and upgrade the skills of existing ones.

Coordinated by the University of Santiago de Compostela, AF4EU will provide free-access innovation factsheets, practice abstracts and tutorials in its Knowledge Platform, to be launched in the first half of 2024. However, while the partners of the project work hard to quality check all these new materials, it is possible to consult those created by the previous project from which AF4EU was born: AFINET. For more information visit <https://agroforestrynet.eu/>

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