



Looking for an eco-sustainable sheep supply chain: environmental benefits and implications

The project at a glance	
Duration	4 years, from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2020
Total budget	2,610,043.00 €
EU contribution	1,533,561.00 €
Partnership composition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating beneficiary: CNR Ibimet - Istituto di Biometeorologia del Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Italy • CNR ISPAAM - Istituto per il Sistema Produzione Animale in Ambiente Mediterraneo del Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Italy; • Agris Sardegna, Italy • Regione Autonoma della Sardegna - Assessorato della Difesa dell'Ambiente, Italy; • Laore – Agenzia Regionale per lo Sviluppo in Agricoltura, Italy; • Università di Sassari - Dipartimento di Agraria Dipartimento di Scienze Economiche e Aziendali, Italy.
Project location	Sardinia (Italy)
Themes	Climate change Mitigation - GHG reduction in non EU ETS sectors



SheepToShip LIFE seeks to contribute in a practical way to EU climate change objectives by helping to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases from the sheep farming sector and dairy supply chain in Sardinia. The main objective of the project is to reduce by 20% in 10 years greenhouse gas emissions (N₂O, CH₄, CO₂) from the Sardinian sheep dairy supply chain.

Objectives

- ✓ Encouraging environmental improvements of production systems in the sheep sector and demonstrating the environmental, economic and social benefits deriving from eco-innovation;
- ✓ Promoting the implementation of environmental policies and rural development, guided by the life-cycle approach, and aimed at enhancing the environmental quality of local sheep's milk and cheese supply chains;
- ✓ Increasing the level of knowledge and awareness of stakeholders and the general public regarding the environmental sustainability of products made from sheep's milk and their contribution to the mitigation of climate change.

Solutions

- ✓ Demonstrating the benefits of eco-innovation;
- ✓ Promoting environmental policies guided by a Life Cycle Thinking approach;
- ✓ Engagement with stakeholders to drive eco-innovation and environmental improvement of sheep farming techniques and industrial cheesemaking processes;
- ✓ Interactions between research centers, local authorities and the private sector in the implementation and development of strategies for climate change mitigation in agriculture and the food industry.

Key actions

- ✓ Development of a common methodology for analyzing the life-cycle of sheep's milk supply chains. This will be used to determine the environmental implications of the sheep's milk business in Sardinia, including the impacts and the environmental hotspots of the life-cycle of Sardinian PDO (Protected Designation of Origin) sheep's cheese;
- ✓ Identification, for each type of production system, of the optimal management strategies needed to reduce environmental impacts;
- ✓ Identification of good practices for sheep farming and dairy businesses for the mitigation of the sector's environmental impact;
- ✓ Demonstrative actions at sheep farms and dairy plant case study introducing low-input techniques compatible with maintaining quality standards of products;
- ✓ Communication and disseminations of project's results
- ✓ Development and implementation of an Environmental Action Plan for the sheep sector.



With the contribution of the LIFE financial instrument of the European Union