



Newsletter - April 2026

Mark your calendar: CODECS Conference is coming!

CODECS
Final
Conference

 **15-16 September 2026**
 **Fondation Universitaire in Brussels, Belgium.**



The CODECS project will hold its Final Conference on **15-16 September 2026 at the Fondation Universitaire in Brussels, Belgium.**

This concluding event will bring together policymakers, researchers, practitioners, and stakeholders to reflect on the project's key results, insights, and contributions to data-driven and digital transformation in agriculture and food systems.

Further details on the programme and registration will be shared soon.

More information!



CODECS Science-policy interface meeting



19 May 2026 (10:00 - 13:00 CET)

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101060174

Register to the upcoming CODECS Science-policy interface meeting!

On 19 May at 10:00, the CODECS project will host its third science-policy interface meeting at a key moment for the EU's agricultural digital transformation under the Green Deal and the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). Despite the promise of precision farming and AI, gaps in policy and implementation persist. CODECS will present and validate practical, evidence-based tools with policymakers, helping move them towards policy-ready solutions aligned with current legislative processes.

REGISTER NOW!

CORDIALL Conference showcases CODECS contributions to advancing digital agriculture in Europe

On 16 April, the CODECS project took part in the CORDIALL – Convergence of Research in Digital Agriculture Leading Labs – conference, organised by INRAE in Montpellier. The event brought together leading research initiatives to explore how digitalisation is reshaping agriculture across Europe, from farm-level practices to governance and policy frameworks.

Read more!



Co-benefits & costs of digitalisation in agriculture: evidence from Europe



CODECS Digital Platform: Empowering Agricultural Innovation Through Integration and Accesibility

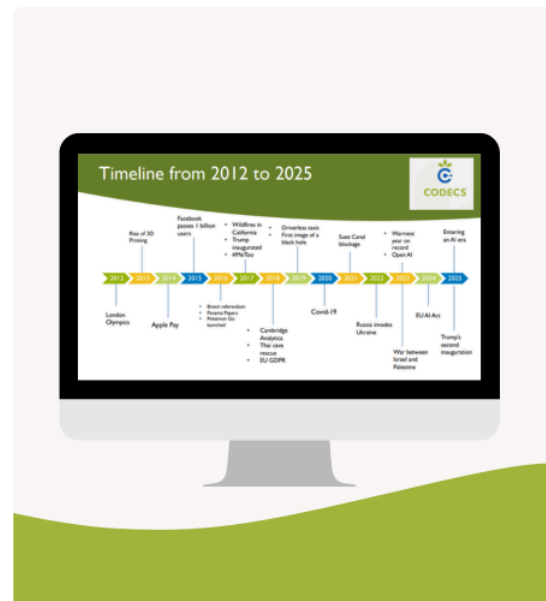
Digital tools are often promoted as a cure-all for Europe's agricultural challenges. But what do they actually deliver on farms? And do the benefits outweigh the costs for farmers? These questions were at the heart of the CODECS Knowledge Accelerator webinar on Co-benefits and costs of digitalisation in agriculture: evidence from Europe, held in February.

Read the highlight report!

What will digital farming look like in 2040? Insights from CODECS policy foresight workshops

The CODECS project concluded policy foresight workshops on 30 and 31 March 2026. Organised by the James Hutton Institute and supported by the European Association for Innovation in Local Development (AEIDL), the event gathered policymakers, researchers, and EU representatives to map out a sustainable and equitable digital transition for European agriculture.

Find out!



Read CODECS new Policy Briefs



The gender dimension of farm digitalisation

The CODECS project has released a policy brief addressing “The Gender Dimension of Farm Digitalisation“. Developed by Barbra Comfort Akello and Gianluca Brunori from the University of Pisa, this document offers a critical look at how the digital transition in agriculture can either bridge or widen existing gender inequalities.

[Find out!](#)

Understanding what drives and deters farmers in the digital transition

The CODECS project has released a policy brief on “Analysing farmers’ motivations regarding digitalisation“. This brief, authored by experts from the Hellenic Agricultural Organisation ELGO-DIMITRA and the University of Pisa, provides a roadmap for making digitalisation economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally effective.

[Check it out!](#)



Building digital ecosystems for sustainable farming

The policy brief, authored by Rosa María Heredia Hortigüela and Cynthia Giagnocavo from the University of Almería, draws on a comprehensive analysis of 19 CODECS Living Labs (LLs) across Europe. The document provides a strategic roadmap for improving the collective capacity of European agriculture to adopt transformative digital technologies.

[Read more!](#)



The role of AKIS in Digital ecosystems of agriculture

The CODECS project is pleased to announce the release of its policy brief on “The Role of AKIS in Digital Ecosystems.” This document was developed by a team led by Pierre Labarthe (INRAE) and involves contributors from across the consortium. This brief provides critical evidence for the project’s goal of building digital ecosystems that maximise the net benefits of technology.

[Find out!](#)



CODECS LIVING LABS & DEMO FARMS

Discover our CODECS Demo Farms - watch the video!



The Digital Harvest: Sustaining North Tipperary's Online Food Hub

Can a local digital marketplace bridge the gap between small-scale Irish food producers and the modern consumer? And just how feasible is this model? A long-term study of the North Tipperary Online Farmers Market (NTOFM) has provided data on the scalability and financial viability of community-led food hubs, raising urgent questions about their long-term sustainability.

[Find out!](#)



Final Workshop of the CODECS Spanish Agroecology Living Lab

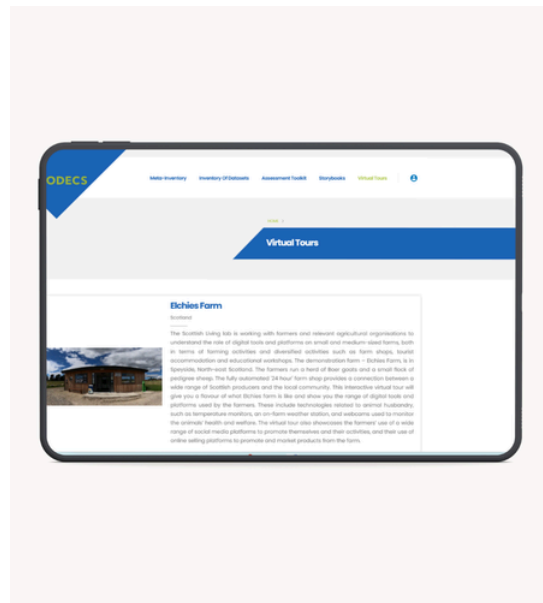
On 20 March 2026, the Agroecology Living Lab in Almería hosted its final CODECS workshop at CIT COEXPHAL, bringing together key actors from across the agri-food system to reflect on the role of digital ecosystems in enabling the transition towards more sustainable and resilient agriculture.

[Check it out!](#)

Explore our CODECS Virtual Tours!

Take a tour of our CODECS Virtual Farms and see how digital tools are being used in real agricultural settings across Europe. Through short videos and interactive content, you can explore how farmers apply technologies like sensors, monitoring systems and digital platforms in their daily work. It's a simple and engaging way to discover how innovation is supporting more efficient and sustainable farming.

[Start the tour!](#)



Explore Latvian-Estonian grasslands through a new CODECS virtual tour

The CODECS Latvian-Estonian grasslands Living Lab has launched a new virtual tour of its demonstration farm, Bekas. In this Lab, the remote sensing team from the Estonian University of Life Sciences is working with Latvian farmers to explore the potential of mapping drones for grassland management and semi-natural habitat restoration.

[Check it out!](#)

Digital Farmers' Markets: The Hard Work of Building Fair Food Systems for the Future

Digital technology is transforming how we access food, but not always for the better. As part of its work in CODECS, Cultivate organised a webinar called "Where now for Digital Farmers' Markets?". Oliver Moore from Cultivate opened the discussion with an overview of the downsides of the major tech companies' "growth at all costs" model: an approach that risks power and undermining local food systems.



[Read more!](#)

UPDATES FROM THE NETWORK



Join BEATLES Final event!

How can behavioural insights help shape more effective policies for sustainable and Climate-Smart Agriculture? After four years of research and collaboration, the BEATLES Horizon Europe project invites you to its final event on 2 June 2026, from 9:00 to 13:00 CEST, at Fondation Universitaire in Brussels, Belgium, to share its findings and explore new perspectives.

[Register NOW!](#)



Final National Training Session of the Digital Innovation Academy

On 19 February 2026, the final National Training Session of the Digital Innovation Academy (DIA) under the Quantifarm project was held in Skarinou, Larnaca, Cyprus. Organised by Filagrotiki Symvouleftiki Ltd, the three-hour session brought together farmers and advisors from Orini Larnaka.

[Find out!](#)



The FUTURAL project invites you to the 2nd EU-RIF

The FUTURAL project, funded by Horizon Europe, organizes the 2nd EU Rural Innovation Forum (EU-RIF #2) on 5th & 6th of May 2026 at the Jonava Cultural Centre in Jonava, Lithuania, convening policymakers, practitioners, EU projects and rural innovators from across Europe.

[Join the event!](#)

EUROPEAN NEWS

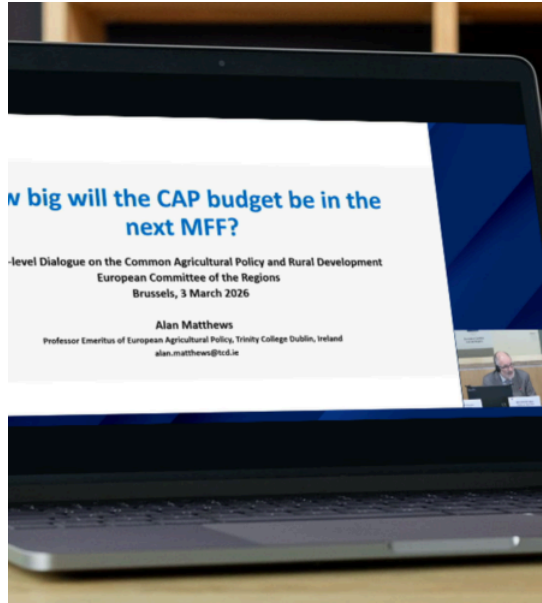
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Five EU-funded projects shed light on advancing gender equality in agriculture and rural areas

The policy brief spotlights the findings and recommendations of the FLIARA, GRASS CEILING, SWIFT, CODECS and QuantiFarm. These projects, funded under the Horizon Europe programme, address gender-related challenges in rural and agricultural contexts and provide solutions to help build an inclusive and resilient future.

[Find out!](#)



Highlights from the high-level dialogue on the CAP: budget outlook and strategic implications

The High-level Dialogue on the Common Agricultural Policy and Rural Development, held on 3 March 2026, brought together EU institutions, regional representatives and policy experts to assess the budgetary outlook for the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), review the performance of the current programming period and reflect on the evolving role of regions in the governance of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

[Read more!](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

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[CODECS 3rd Science-Policy interface meeting](#)

19 May 2026

Online

[CODECS Cross-visit in Germany](#)

27 May 2026

Ihinger Hof, Germany

[SafeHabitat Webinar | Farmer health: the missing condition for farm safety](#)

28 May 2026

Online

Rural Pact Policy Lab – Anchoring rural areas in the National and Regional Partnership Plans

3 June 2026

Brussels, Belgium

European Green Week 2026

3 June 2026

Online

RUSTIK & GRANULAR Final Conference

24-25 June 2026

Online

CODECS Final Conference

15-16 September 2026

Online

Follow us online!



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