



Newsletter - September 2026

Can Europe achieve sustainable and inclusive digital agriculture? Insights from CODECS Final Conference



More than 120 participants signed up to come to the Fondation Universitaire in Brussels on 15 and 16 September 2026 for the CODECS Final Conference, bringing four years of research on agricultural digitalisation into discussion with future EU policy. Organised by the European Association for Innovation in Local Development (AEIDL), the event brought together EU representatives, researchers, farm advisors, technology developers and real -life case studies: our Living Labs. Over two half-days, participants explored how digital innovation and policy can work together to support more sustainable, fair and resilient European agriculture.

[READ THE NEWS!](#)

[CHECK THE MATERIAL!](#)

New Open-Access Book Explores Rural Innovation and Agricultural Transitions

A new open-access book, *Rural Innovation Ecosystems and Agricultural Transition: Empirical Insights, Theoretical Approaches and Governance Challenges*, has been published by Palgrave Macmillan. The volume is co-edited by Gianluca Brunori, coordinator of the CODECS project and Professor at the University of Pisa, together with Teresa Del Giudice, Marcello De Rosa and Chiara Mignani.

[Read more!](#)



New CODECS Policy Tools for Agricultural Digitalisation

CODECS project has released a new policy brief, *Policy Tools for Agricultural Digitalisation*, authored by European Association for Innovation in Local Development (AEIDL) colleagues. The brief presents three complementary tools developed to support policymakers and public authorities in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural digitalisation initiatives: guidelines for local digitalisation strategies, a checklist for public investments in digitalisation, and a framework for using indicators and evidence to support policymaking.

[Check it out!](#)



Policy Brief: Supporting demonstrations for the uptake of digital technologies in agriculture

The CODECS project is pleased to announce the release of its policy brief on demonstrations: “Supporting demonstrations for the uptake of digital technologies in agriculture”. Developed by ACTA, the brief draws on the findings of the final synthesis report on demonstrations and the experience of 64 demonstration events across 20 Living Labs and 28 Demo Farms.

[Read more!](#)



Demonstrations of Digital Technologies: Key Findings from the CODECS Final Synthesis Report

As the CODECS project nears the end of its four-year journey, the team coordinating its demonstration activities, led by ACTA, is bringing together the lessons learnt from across Europe. Building on the Handbook of Demonstration of Digital Technologies, the project now presents the Final Synthesis Report on Demonstration and Assessment of Digital Technologies.

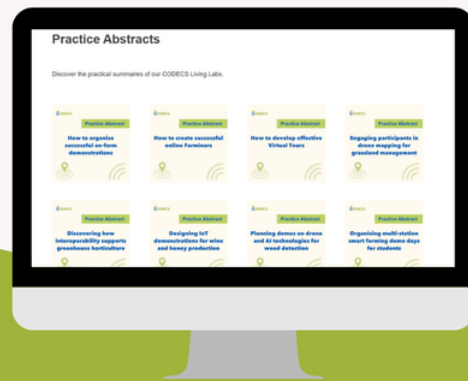
[Read the report!](#)

Explore the CODECS Practice Abstracts!

CODECS has developed a series of Practice Abstracts sharing practical insights from its Living Labs. These short and accessible summaries bring together experiences and knowledge from across the project, making key lessons from the CODECS Living Labs easier to discover and share.

[Discover it!](#)

Practice Abstracts



CODECS at the IFAMA 2026 World Conference

The AGRERI team from CODECS participated in the IFAMA 2026 World Conference, hosted by University College Cork and the UCC Business School in Cork, Ireland, from 15–19 June 2026. The conference brought together researchers, practitioners, and stakeholders from across the agrifood sector to exchange perspectives on the future of food and agricultural systems.

[Find out!](#)

More than 2.000 Digital Technologies in CODECS Inventory: Find and Assess the Right Solution for Your Needs

The Inventory covers all major agricultural production sectors and allows users to explore digital technologies through nine common application scenarios, including Livestock, Nutrient Management, Pest Management, Water Management, Biodiversity, and several others. This user-oriented approach makes it easier to identify technologies that address specific agricultural challenges.

[Check it out!](#)





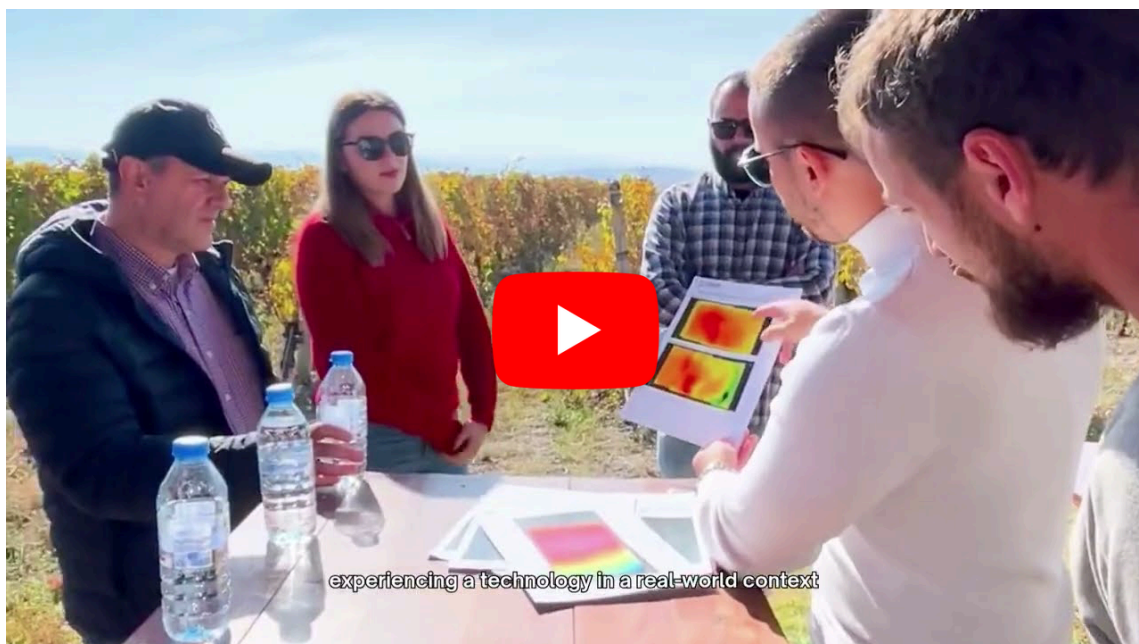
Transforming European agriculture: Highlights from the 3rd CODECS Science-Policy Workshop

On 19 May 2026, the CODECS project hosted its third science-policy interface meeting, bringing together researchers, policymakers, and stakeholders to bridge the gap between scientific evidence and actionable policy for the digital transformation of agriculture.

[Read more!](#)

CODECS LIVING LABS & DEMO FARMS

Seeing is Believing: How Farm Demonstrations Drive Digital Innovation



Discover the CODECS Living Labs through 20 visual stories

CODECS has created 20 visual stories to showcase the work of its Living Labs. Each story presents what is happening in the Living Lab, the main challenges it faces, and the impact of digitalisation in its specific context. Together, they offer a simple and visual way to discover the different experiences and lessons emerging from the CODECS Living Labs across Europe.

[Watch the videos!](#)



APPETIT System Appraisal: Evaluating Sustainable Digitalisation in Local Food Systems

A major challenge for sustainable digitalisation research is moving beyond technology adoption metrics towards understanding how digitalisation influences economic, environmental and organisational outcomes. The APPETIT Living Lab has addressed this challenge through the development of the APPETIT System Appraisal Mapping, a methodology that links data from the operational platform powered by the APPETIT platform with the CODECS Sustainable Digitalisation framework.

[Check it out!](#)

UPDATES FROM THE NETWORK

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Building the future CAP: lessons from Tools4CAP Focus Groups across Europe

Between July and June 2026, Tools4CAP carried out its second round of Focus Groups, bringing together stakeholders across Europe to explore what will be needed, including specific tools, to design and implement the future Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) within the proposed National and Regional Partnership Plans (NRPPs).

[Check it out!](#)



Farmtopia Leaves a Lasting Legacy for Digital Farming Across Europe: Final Press Release

After more than three years of collaboration, innovation, and hands-on testing, the **Farmtopia** project is concluding with a clear message: digital farming can be accessible, affordable, and practical for small and medium scale farms.

[Find out!](#)



modernAKIS at IFSA 2026: Advancing Capacity Development for Transformative AKIS

The IFSA 2026 Conference in Montpellier brought together more than 300 researchers, practitioners, advisors, and policymakers from around the world to exchange ideas on the future of sustainable agriculture and food systems.

[Read more!](#)



The Commission just chartered the next Research and Competitiveness Funding for agriculture and rural development

The European Commission has just unveiled its new Strategic Approach to Research and Innovation for Agriculture, Forestry, and Rural Areas. As negotiations for the post-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) heat up, this document outlines a clear roadmap for where the future of rural development and agri-food funding is heading to.

[Find out!](#)

Eurobarometer survey shows overwhelming public support for European agriculture and EU support for farmers and rural areas

According to the latest Eurobarometer survey, 95% of Europeans consider agriculture and rural areas important for Europe's future, while 93% say that securing a stable food supply for the EU is crucial. An even larger share of Europeans believe that the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is delivering on its priorities.

[Read more!](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

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[EU Agri-Hackathon](#)

16-18 October 2026

[ICA CCR Research Conference 2026](#)

3-6 November 2026

Valencia, Spain

[Tools4CAP Final Conference](#)

17-18 November 2026

Fondation Universitaire in Brussels, Belgium

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