Month 16
Deliverable 3.3

SEARCHABLE GEO-REFERENCED DATABASE

WP3: Geo-referenced inventory and map

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DOCUMENT SUMMARY

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INTRODUCTION

The H2020 PLAID and AgriDemo-F2F projects have collaborated to produce a comprehensive geo-referenced inventory of farms that engage in demonstration activities in Europe. The aim of the inventory is to enable farmers, advisors and others interested in hosting or participating in on-farm demonstrations to identify possible contacts. Researchers within the two projects are also utilising the data collected in the initial phase to better understand types of providers and gaps in access to demonstration across Europe (see Deliverable 3.4: WP3 Synthesis report with supra-regional summaries). The focus of the inventory is on demonstrations which occur on commercial farms, although other forms of on-farm demonstration (e.g. on research farms) have also been included. Commercial demonstration (undertaken primarily for the purpose of product sales) have specifically excluded from the inventory, at the request of DG Agri.

AgriDemo-F2F partner University of Santiago de Compostela (USC) have lead responsibility for developing the on-line web interface with the inventory, including map and search function. This was agreed as a practical solution during grant agreement negotiations, to reduce duplication between the two projects. In the AgriDemo-F2F project, the searchable map is part of a on-line FarmDemo Hub, which is not due for final completion until June 2019. Delivery of the initial map was thus somewhat delayed (in relation to the deadline for this deliverable in the PLAID grant agreement). The final version of the map and Farm Demo Hub are continuing to be developed.

As the inventory is a joint output for PLAID and AgriDemo-F2F, the inventory is branded under the name FarmDemo. The FarmDemo inventory will enable farmers and demonstration providers to identify and access information on past and present on-farm demonstrations, through a clickable map and search functions.

PRODUCING THE DATABASE

The database was achieved through 4 main steps.

1) PLAID developed a conceptual framework (D2.1), aiming to assess how demonstration farms can promote peer-to-peer learning. Similarly, AgriDemo-F2F developed an analytical framework (D2.1), aiming to provide an in-depth analysis of the structural and functional characteristics of farmer-to-farmer learning approaches.

2) Based on these documents, the two project teams collaborated to develop a procedural guide and tool for data collection (PLAID D3.1; AgriDemo-F2F D2.2).

3) The data was collected and compiled into a dataset by project members and nine subcontractors.

4) A set of three 'supra-regional workshops' were held with PLAID and AgriDemo-F2F consortium members and members of the International Advisory Board to validate the inventory findings. These workshops were held in Leuven, Belgium; Venice, Italy; and Krakow Poland.

5) AgriDemo-F2F consortium member USC, in consultation with the associated workpackage leaders and coordination teams of both projects, developed the on-line interface.

By combining the efforts of both projects, we have been able to develop an EU-wide inventory (including the EU 28, Norway, Serbia and Switzerland). In the countries not covered by the two projects (nine in total) subcontractors were sought to deliver the inventory. A tender specification was developed and the subcontracts were put out to tender. A rigorous process was used to screen the tenders received to ensure the most appropriate organisation to deliver in the Inventory in these Countries was selected. Where a decision could not be made purely on the submitted document the contact for the Tender was interviewed to gain further information. The selected organisations were offered a webinar to introduce them to the project and to help explain the methodology for Inventory collection. The subcontracted partners collected the inventory for their countries and submitted 3 outputs: a Country report, a practice abstract in both English and their native language and a poster that was presented at one of the three supra-regional meetings.
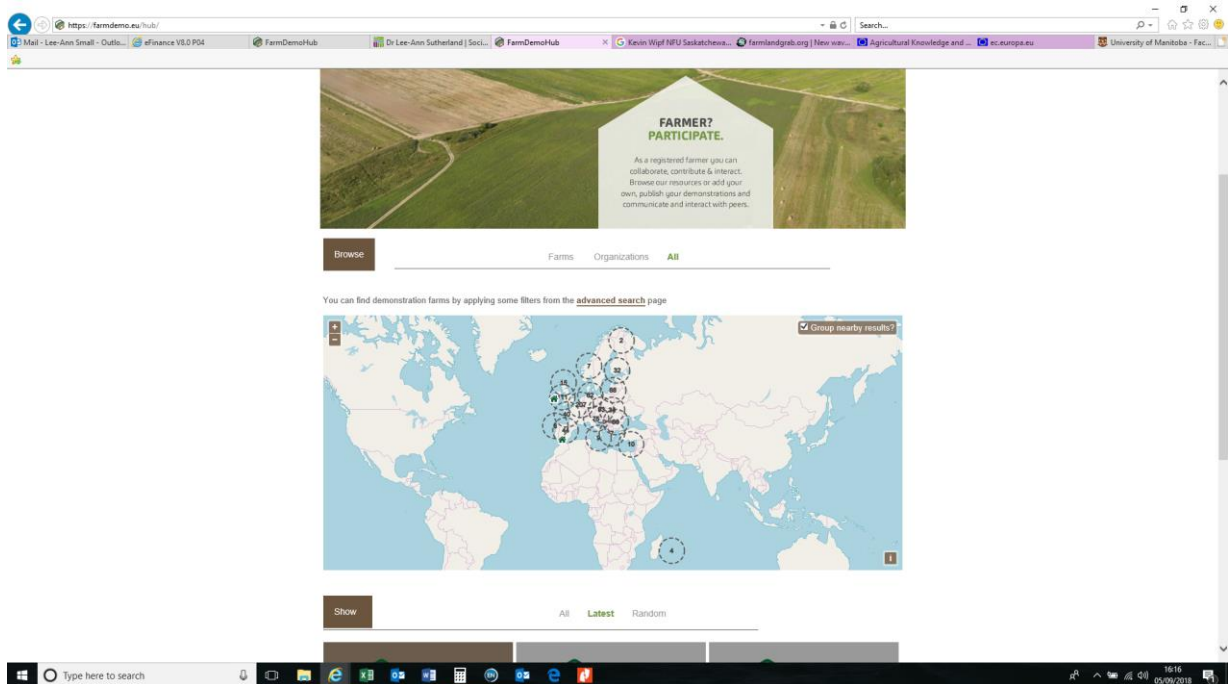
THE SEARCHABLE GEO-REFERENCED DATABASE

The clickable map is available through the 'FarmDemo Hub', which will also host videos and other public outputs from the two projects: www.farmdemo.eu

Searchable map on the FarmDemo Hub

The search function enables the identification of specific types of farm, farm management type (e.g. research farm, charitable, commercial farm), country of demonstration, language of demonstration and demonstration topic.

Search Functions of the FarmDemo Map

The initial FarmDemo inventory contains over 1200 entries, the majority entered by farmers about the demonstrations held on their farms. The inventory specifically excludes demonstrations organised by commercial companies for the primary purpose of selling products (e.g. pesticides, farm machinery). It is important to note that the inventory is not necessarily representative of demonstration farms across Europe. It provides a useful starting point for visualising the types of demonstration occurring across Europe.

Table 1: Initial entries in the FarmDemo Inventory

Country	Farmer Entries	Organisation Entries
Austria	6	6
Belgium	23	11
Bulgaria	75	0
Croatia	15	0
Cyprus	0	2
Czech Republic	17	13
Denmark	3	10
Estonia	23	13
Finland	23	7
France	45	29
Germany	60	12
Greece	0	7
Hungary	38	6
Ireland	57	20
Italy	1	31
Latvia	8	3
Lithuania	21	9
Malta	2	3
Netherlands	27	33
Norway	4	8
Poland	101	68
Portugal	1	10
Romania	34	6
Serbia	2	4
Slovakia	15	21
Slovenia	8	7
Spain	34	27
Sweden	48	0
Switzerland	0	22
United Kingdom	78	18
Total	769	406

The searchable map represents Part A of the on-line data entry point. An optional Part B was included in the original on-line entry system, with more detailed questions (e.g. regarding the specific aims, dissemination and evaluation approaches of the organisers). Part B was collected for research purposes only. Permission has been given by all database participants for Part A to be made public. Part B is restricted to use of the PLAID and AgriDemoF2F consortiums. It is not possible to make Part B open access, because the data is impossible to anonymise. For further information, see PLAID Deliverable 3.4 WP3 Synthesis Report and Supraregional Summaries (https://www.plaid-h2020.eu/deliverables)

PLAID

NEXT STEPS

Consortium members and sub-contractors noted a degree of reluctance amongst farmers and organisations to enter their data into the new inventory. We anticipate that this will change once the utility of the map is more publicly evident, and the data entry process streamlined. Extensive negotiations have been undertaken with H2020 NEFERTITI and AgriDemoF2F to refine part A of the web-questionnaire utilised to compile the inventory, in order to ensure that it meets the needs of all three projects. H2020 NEFERTITI is specifically designed to utilise the FarmDemo inventory to develop 10 networks of demonstration farms across Europe (see http://nefertiti-h2020.eu/)

The shorter version of the on-line questionnaire has been agreed with AgriDemoF2F and NEFERTITI, and is being circulated widely by consortium members and associated networks (e.g. the SCAR-AKIS Strategic Working Group).

PLAID

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