



**PRACTICE ABSTRACT NR. 5**

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**What is a living lab in the AgriLink project?**

One of AgriLink's objectives is to develop innovation services for a sustainable agriculture by making use of Living Labs. A living lab is an inquiry process. At the base is a challenge articulated by end users (e.g. farmers, advisors, consumers) involved in a problematic situation. This challenge is addressed by developing a "test product" (e.g. support services or advice products) through the design thinking process - problem analysis, generating ideas, concept development. This process is characterised by the end-users being actively involved in the development of the test product, multiple stakeholders are also involved in a process of co-creation, using different methods. Within AgriLink, two people are assigned to specific roles in each living lab. One has the role of a facilitator and is responsible for the progress of the process. The other has the role of monitor and is responsible for the quality of the process. This means that the monitor considers the process itself as an investigation and reports on it. Furthermore, the monitor is responsible for evaluating the process against agreed criteria. Living Labs face various challenges within AgriLink. One of them is limited funding, as a result of which the living labs are often linked to other, existing projects with their own objectives. Another challenge is maintaining engagement and participation of busy farmers and other stakeholders. A third challenge is to keep the needs of end users in sight.

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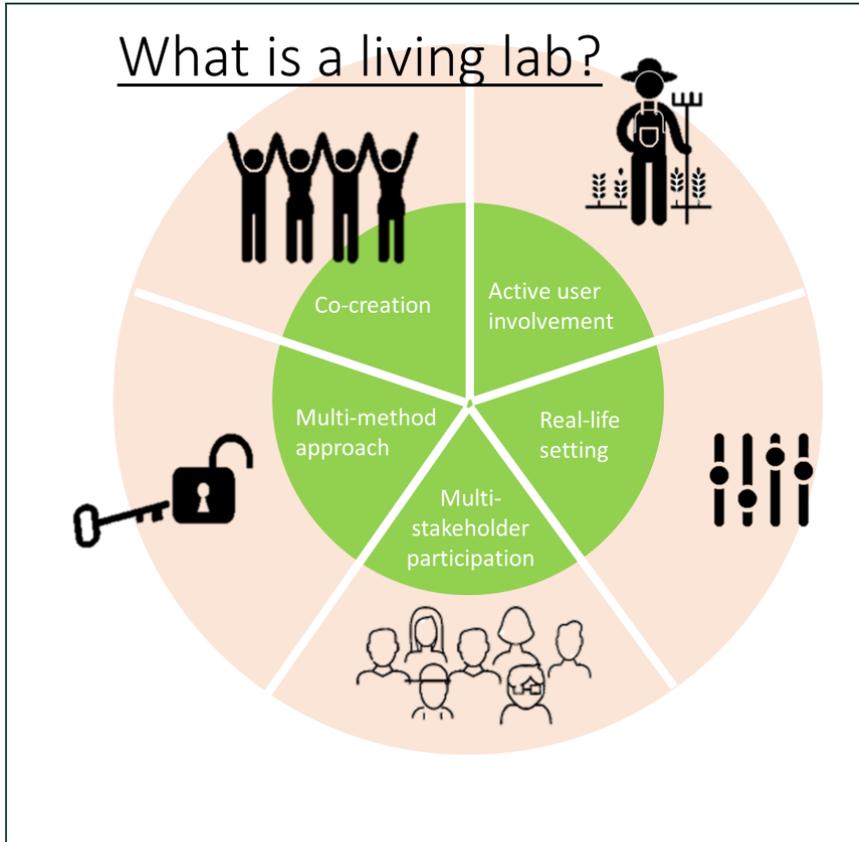
COUNTRY/REGION:

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KEY WORDS:

#advisory system for cooperative support, #multi-stakeholder, #participatory process, #financial, #co-creation

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



ABOUT AGRILINK

AgriLink is a multi-actor project funded by the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. It brings together 16 partners from 13 countries, including universities, applied research institutes, advisors and consultants from public organisations, private SMEs, a farmer-based organisation and specialists in communication and distance learning.

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All the Practice Abstracts prepared by the AgriLink project in the EIP-AGRI common format can be found here:  
<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/find-connect/projects/agrilink-agricultural-knowledge-linking-farmers>