



LANDCARE in EUROPE

Recommendations for EU agricultural politics

Dr. Sylvie Rockel

Landcare Europe Network Coordinator

***The network that brings together agriculture, nature conservation and politics
for biodiversity, resilient ecosystems and quality of life in our European cultural heritage landscapes.***



How LANDCARE Associations operate

- Cooperatively
- Voluntarily
- Regionally
- Interdisciplinary
- Independently



Working areas of **LANDCARE** Associations

- 1 Supporting & advising farmers
- 2 Fostering new ways to create income
- 3 Regenerating biodiverse & resilient ecosystems
- 4 Advising politicians & administration on regulatory frameworks
- 5 Raising public awareness



The farmers we work with...

- ... cultivate grasslands, farmland, wetlands and special crops
- ... in a conventional or non-conventional manner
- ... on farms stretching from <1 ha to >3.000 ha
- ... on private, public and communal land
- ... as family or agri-businesses
- ... total of > 100,000!



The LANDCARE approach

- Collaborating with farmers
- Finding economically viable solutions
- Planning and implementing together
- Communicating & connecting
- Exchanging knowledge
- Environmental education & public outreach



Our objectives

Exchange 

On key factors for
successful cooperative nature conservation

Engage 

With EU politics

Expand 

To all European countries



LANDCARE EUROPE activities

 **Promoting Landcare** as effective and necessary cooperative link between nature conservation, agriculture and politics.

 **Exchanging knowledge & best practices** beyond borders to better implement EU environmental targets within an agricultural context.

 **Supporting the foundation** of Landcare Associations and Landcare umbrella organisations as well as their activities.

 **Consulting** policy makers and supporting the implementation of EU policies & strategies at national level.



We contribute to EU objectives

● Habitats, Birds & Water Framework Directives

● European Green Deal 2050

- EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030
- EU Soil Strategy 2030
- Nature Restoration Law
- Farm-to-Fork Strategy
- EU Climate Adaptation Strategy

**Common
Agricultural
Policy (CAP)**



LANDCARE EUROPE – History

First exchanges

2007-2017

Scotland, Poland,
Spain, Italy,
Romania, Ireland,
...



Josef Göppel
(1950-2022)



EU Support
2021



April 2022
Italy



July 2022
Romania



Sept/Nov 2022
Online



March 2023
Spain

EU Conference



7 June
2023
Brussels



Seminal
Conference
2017

Presentation of
network idea at EU
level



Workshops & Webinars
2022/2023

Exchange on key factors for successful
cooperation

4 workshops
100 participants
30 countries



April 2023
Lithuania



Celebrating
Official
foundation



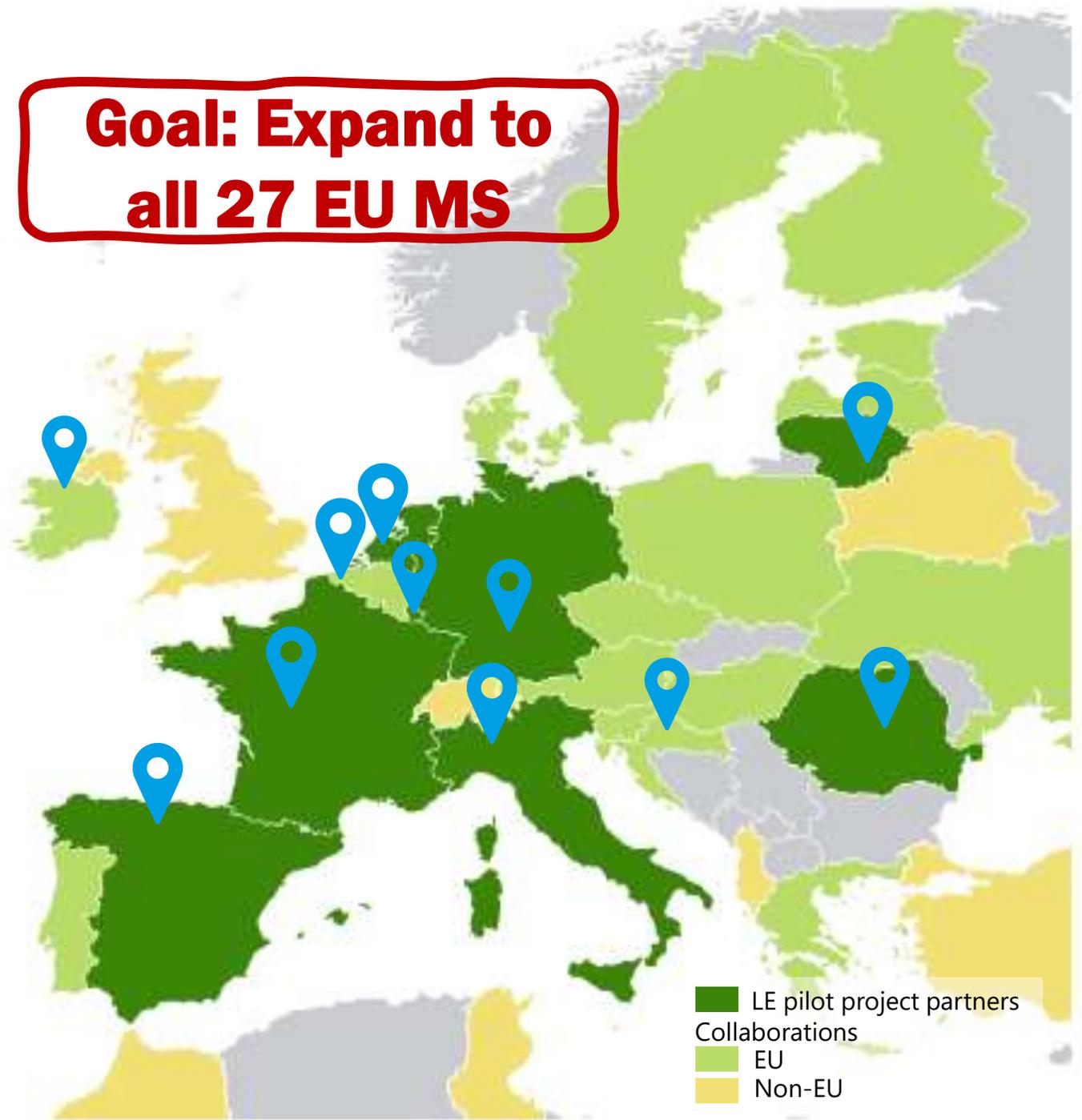
11 Partners

...and growing 😊

Goal: Expand to all 27 EU MS



BOEREN NATUUR



■ LE pilot project partners Collaborations
■ EU
■ Non-EU

A close-up photograph of a field of daisies. In the foreground, a rolled-up banknote is visible, partially obscured by the flowers. The background is a soft-focus green field. A semi-transparent grey box with the word "Recommendations" in green text is overlaid on the center of the image.

Recommendations

How can the EU better support Landcare

- Focus on CAP environmental targets
- Oblige EU Member States
- Public money for public goods – meaningful incentives
- Simplify regulations



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CAP recommendations

- Analyse regional context
- Evaluate & review CAP Strategic Plans
- Incorporate project findings in regulations
- Include audits on CAP in/effectiveness in programming
- Provide funding for training & consulting



Photo credit: Baltic Environmental Forum (BEF) Lithuania





CAP support for

- ...traditional farming
- ...small farms
- ...collective approaches
- ...result-based payment schemes
- ...funding of permanent grassland

What do LANDCARE Associations need

- Support for foundation of new LCAs & umbrella organisations
- Funding of maintenance & staff costs
- Adapted funding programmes
- No co-financing needs
- Perception of LCAs as “active farmers” in the CAP



LANDCARE EUROPE

Secretariat

Dr. Sylvie Rockel

Network Coordinator

+49 179 425 5590

info@landcare-europe.org

Promenade 9 | D-91522 Ansbach



www.landcare-europe.org



Supported by

European
Commission



Recommendations - Summary



CAP programming

- Environmental focus
- National binding targets
- Simplify regulations
- Public money → public goods

CAP – Financial support for

- Traditional, small farming, permanent grassland
- RBPS, collectives
- Farmers' training & LCA advice

Support for LCAs

- Funding for new & umbrella LCAs
- Maintenance & staff costs
- Adapted funding programmes without co-financing needs
- LCAs as “active farmers” in the CAP

