



European project on assuring food security and biodiversity in times of climate change

Topics of Eco-Ready and related activities

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1. Eco-Ready workshop July 2-3, 2026 in Rome



ENEA and Confagricoltura are organising an Eco-Ready Workshop July 2–3, 2026 in Rome. The event will be hosted at the Confagricoltura headquarters, Palazzo della Valle, in Sala Serpieri, Corso Vittorio Emanuele II, 101, 00186 Rome.

The workshop will be organised around three key pillars:

- Living Labs networking,
- the Eco-Ready Observatory, and
- the development of Portfolio Policy Recommendations.



The event will also involve the participation of relevant stakeholders, to foster discussion, exchange experiences, and discuss future opportunities. For information about the meeting agenda and suggested hotels you may contact [ENEA](#).

In support of the organization, interested groups are asked to fill in the following Google Form accessible through the link below.

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[Registration for event](#)

2. 2nd Eco-Ready matchmaking meeting for stakeholders with interest in using and supporting the *Observatory*, June 03 in London, UK



Project partner Prof. Bourlakis and Dr. Vu from Cranfield University will organize the second matchmaking event June 03, 2026 in London. This meeting aims at the presentation of the project's advanced knowledge platform *Observatory* related to climate, food security and biodiversity to stakeholders in the UK.

The meeting allows the identification and discussion of potential collaborations and further integration opportunities in pursuing participants' mutual interests.

It will conclude with a view into the future envisaging a suitable business plan supporting the platforms long-term sustainability. For more information [contact Dr. Vu](#).

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3. ECO-READY partner IUCN presents at the EU Green Week, June 17, registration open



Eco-Ready will be featured at this year's EU Green Week. Our lead policy partner, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), will showcase the project at an online event titled *Investing in Nature Through Farming*, which is taking place on 17 June. This event will focus on using scenarios and models for policymaking in the context of the Common Agricultural Policy reform. Results from ECO-READY and the LAMASUS projects will be presented, and a policy discussion will be held with the European Commission's DG AGRI.

A policy session will address how such modelling evidence could inform the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy beyond 2027. The event will facilitate dialogue between researchers, policymakers and stakeholders regarding how agricultural policies can better invest in nature, ensuring a resilient farming sector and maintaining food security.

Registration for the **June 17 online** event is open, join us to explore the policy pathways for the future CAP and contribute to the discussion. For program and registration use the link below.

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[More on meeting](#)

4. Report on 1st Eco-Ready matchmaking meeting for stakeholders with interest in supporting the *Observatory*, May 05 in Bonn, Germany



Eco-Ready organized its first matchmaking event May 05, 2026 in the conference facility of the University Club in Bonn, Germany, the country's UN city with the United Nations Secretariat on Climate Change. It aimed at the presentation of the project's advanced knowledge platform *Observatory* related to climate, food security and biodiversity.

The meeting was attended by representatives of United Nation and other international and national organizations, by members of ministries, and by representatives of companies with interest in climate and food security issues.

It was opened by a representative of the European Union in Germany, followed by a broad outline and discussion of the functionalities of the *Observatory* and its unique design presented by Dr. van Meer from Wageningen Research. The *Observatory* is a powerful "platform of platforms" as it integrates a majority of available data platforms and databases from different countries and organizations.

Karen Hamann, president of IFAU/Denmark, represented the Danish Living Lab and outlined the fruitful interaction between the *Observatory* and Living Labs through delivering and use of data. The meeting concluded with a lively discussion by Prof. Bourlakis and Dr. Vu from Cranfield University of ideas about the future organization of business models that could manage the *Observatory* beyond the duration of the project.



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5. Eco-Ready webinar series available on Youtube



Eco-Ready has successfully finished its first webinar series that took place from March to April 2026. It was widely communicated and attracted between 25 and 45 participants.

The various webinars focused on the following issues:

1. Earth observation and remote sensing.
2. The Magnet model and agricultural scenarios.
3. Life Cycle Assessment in climate resilient food systems.
4. Artificial Intelligence for food security under climate and biodiversity stress.
5. Forecasting tool for decision support.
6. Planning for contingencies in food systems.
7. Scenario development for climate resilient food futures.

All webinars can be viewed on youtube and are accessible through the project's website (see the link below).

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[Webinar link](#)

6. 2nd Eco-Ready hybrid conference on *From Data to Impact – Delivering the Eco-Ready Observatory*, April 14

Eco-Ready partner Wageningen Research was organizing the 2nd Eco-Ready conference *From Data to Impact – Delivering the Eco-Ready Observatory*, April 14 in Wageningen.



Building on earlier events around AI-powered solutions, this hybrid conference presented outcomes of the Eco-Ready project, including the Observatory platform. Speakers shared lessons learned, highlighted similar initiatives, and discussed how such tools can be adopted to strengthen resilience in European agri-food systems. More information through contacting the link below.

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7. Second Eco-Ready *Exploitation Pathways Workshop*, May 11, online



The Eco-Ready 2nd Exploitation Pathways Workshop, held online on 11 May 2026, marked the second phase of project's sustainability pathway process supporting the transition of Eco-Ready Living Labs (LLs) towards long-term sustainability and post-project continuity. Building on the foundations established during the 1st Exploitation Pathways Workshop in 2025, this second session focused on peer learning, roadmap consolidation, and the stress-testing of sustainability strategies

developed by the Living Labs. The workshop brought together representatives from the Eco-Ready LLs, consortium partners and external experts to exchange insights on sustainability planning, governance structures, funding strategies, stakeholder engagement and long-term integration with the Eco-Ready Observatory.



A central component of the workshop was the presentation of the Living Labs' Sustainability Roadmaps, developed following the completion of the Business Model Canvases (BMCs). While each roadmap reflected regional priorities and operational realities, several common patterns emerged, including the importance of multi-actor collaboration, stakeholder engagement, climate resilience, digital tools, and integration with wider knowledge ecosystems.



A follow-up interactive stress-testing exercise aimed at identifying key sustainability risks, comparing strategic approaches across LLs, and exploring opportunities for collaboration beyond the project lifetime. Contributions from ENoLL and Cranfield University provided practical guidance on designing Living Labs for continuity and strengthening the long-term relationship between the LLs and the Eco-Ready Observatory.

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[Link to LLs](#)

8. EcoReadyMasuria LL organized conference on *The Future of Agriculture in Masuria: Resilience – Biodiversity – Security*

On April 17, the Living Lab EcoReadyMasuria organized a conference on the *Future of Agriculture in Masuria*. About 60 experts and practitioners discussed the key challenges and directions for the development of climate-resilient agriculture.

The *Research and Innovation Centre Pro-Akademia* (co-organiser of the event), presented and discussed research findings on the role of water, soil and biodiversity in the Masuria region. The *EcoReadyMasuria Living Lab* demonstrated the natural and social potential of the region for developing a more resilient model of agriculture.



The conference demonstrated that the future of the region's agriculture depends on the effective combination of scientific knowledge, farmers' experience and well-designed public policies for dealing with the most significant challenges relating to water management, soil quality and the stability of the food system. Particular emphasis was placed on the importance of biodiversity as a factor strengthening the stability and adaptive capacity of farms.

Participants included representatives from, amongst others, the Agency for Restructuring and Modernisation of Agriculture, the National Centre for Agricultural Support, KRUS, the Warmia-Masuria Agricultural Advisory Centre, the University of Warsaw, the University of Warmia and Mazury, the Warsaw University of Life Sciences, as well as research institutes and civil society organisations.

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9. SECO-Collab Living Lab concludes its engagement with Eco-Ready



At the heart of Stockholm, the SECO-Collab Living Lab at Fotografiska has spent the past two years turning urban farming into a living, working demonstration of sustainable food systems. Led by SweGreen together with Mälardalen University and Fotografiska, the project has embedded vertical farming directly into a Green Michelin-starred restaurant, proving that food production can happen exactly where it is consumed.

Across its implementation, the Living Lab has consistently delivered strong results: more than 57,500 plants harvested, a total of 243 harvests, and an AI-driven optimisation model designed to reduce lighting energy use by up to 15%. Beyond production, 14 new crop varieties were successfully integrated into the system, demonstrating both resilience and scalability of controlled environment agriculture in real urban conditions. The farm also deployed a multi-sensor monitoring setup combining RGB and multispectral imaging to enable early detection of crop stress and improve decision-making in real time.



The project recently concluded one of its final international dissemination activities through a transatlantic collaboration with Southern Methodist University, Texas McCombs School of Business, and the American Chamber of Commerce, highlighting Stockholm as a leading example of innovation in sustainable food systems and circular economy solutions.

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10. THALLA Closing Conference on Climate Crisis, Food Security & Agroecology

The closing conference of the THALLA LL (*Thriving Agroecology Living Lab*) project was successfully held on Saturday, April 4th, 2026, at Larissa Imperial Grecotel, titled: *Addressing the Challenges of Climate Crisis and Food Security: Real-Life Stories from Beekeeping, Aquaculture, and Livestock Farming*.



THALLA, coordinated by the Agricultural University of Athens (ORIMAS Lab) in collaboration with EEKE, EETAA and FARMERS UNION, operates within the ECO-READY European Living Labs network. Through agroecological practices and Living Labs co-design methodologies, the project developed contingency plans and policy recommendations for alternative agri-food crisis scenarios in the Regions of Sterea Ellada and Thessaly.

The conference brought together researchers, policy makers, producers, consumers and representatives of the agri-food sector, reinforcing THALLA's Community of Practice and its mission to foster participatory dialogue and knowledge exchange. It highlighted the project's key outcomes and promoted dialogue around climate crisis, biodiversity and food security challenges with a focus on strengthening the resilience of agri-food systems in Greece.

Scientific presentations focused on climate resilience in aquaculture, beekeeping, livestock farming, sustainable food systems, consumer behaviour and crisis preparedness, while producers shared real-life experiences from recent climate-related crises, highlighting the importance of adaptive and inclusive policy approaches.

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[More on Thalla LL](#)

11. Workshop on Sustainable Wheat Nutrition Management (Aidemec LL)



On March 31, a well-attended workshop on sustainable wheat nutrition management took place within the AIDEMEC project, part of the Eco-Ready project. The event gathered around 30 participants, including researchers, technicians, advisors, and farmers, confirming the strong interest in these increasingly important topics for the agricultural sector.

The workshop was introduced by the project partners ALSIA, OP Agorà and SMASP (with Alberto Arenillas joining remotely), and enriched by the scientific contributions of Stella Lovelli (UNIBA) and Vincenzo Montesano (CNR-IPSP), who provided valuable technical and practical insights.

Scientific presentations focused on climate resilience in aquaculture, beekeeping, livestock farming, sustainable food systems, consumer behaviour and crisis preparedness, while producers shared real-life experiences from recent climate-related crises, highlighting the importance of adaptive and inclusive policy approaches. The discussion sparked strong engagement, offering concrete ideas, practical answers, and useful recommendations to address wheat nutrition challenges under increasingly variable climate conditions.



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12. Workshop *Artificial Intelligence for Plant Phenotyping & Precision Agriculture*



On April 28–29, the workshop *Artificial Intelligence for Plant Phenotyping and Precision Agriculture* took place at ALSIA Basilicata, organized within the AIDEMEC project, part of the European Eco-Ready initiative.

Two intensive days of theoretical and hands-on activities explored the role of AI in plant phenotyping analysis, enabling early detection of biotic and abiotic stresses and supporting the development of innovative solutions for Mediterranean agriculture. Special thanks to the speakers from CNR – STIIMA and IPSP, the University of Basilicata, and colleagues from ALSIA for their scientific and operational contributions.

Several topics were addressed, including:

- ✓ high-throughput phenotyping platforms (HTP)
- ✓ proximal sensors, robotics, and image analysis
- ✓ smart data annotation and AI models
- ✓ use of Large Language Models (LLMs) for agronomic workflows
- ✓ development of Python-based pipelines for real-world applications



Great added value came from the active participation of technicians, researchers, professionals, and stakeholders from the agricultural sector, representing research centers, universities, institutions, and companies. The BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) format encouraged a practical and collaborative approach, turning the workshop into a true technology transfer experience.

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13. IUFOST World Food Congress 2026 (2nd information)



The International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFOST), a country-membership organisation, is the global voice of food science and technology.

The IUFOST World Food Congress is a global platform for transdisciplinary and cross-sector collaboration, fostering critical thinking, and technological and application innovation. It will be organized October 25-29, 2026 in Hong Kong. Over five days of discovery and dialogue, the programme will address the critical themes shaping the future of global food systems including functional foods and human health, innovative ingredients and processing technologies, the revitalisation of traditional food knowledge, as well as food safety, regulatory science, and measurement technologies.

Scientists with interest in participation may subscribe for information by IUFOST on registration opening on the website of the conference (see below).

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14. Eco-Ready's software tool for contingency planning ready for use

Contingency planning is one of the most complex planning tasks as it deals with a possible future one knows little about and has to function without delay in a future contingency situation which is usually different from the one anticipated. Eco-Ready has taken up the challenge for contingency planning related to food security and biodiversity.

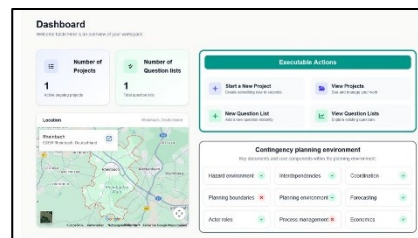
For dealing with the complexity, the tool encompasses two parts, a knowledge base that covers the most relevant issues one needs to deal with in a planning situation and a functional part which guides users towards developing a contingency plan.

As planning situations differ widely between planning needs, the functional part of the tool has been kept very flexible, allowing users to adapt it to their specific needs. In providing further support, users may activate links to external databases or Artificial Intelligence programs that could be called up during the planning process.

The tool is an internet-based tool which allows the personalization by any registered user. It can be accessed through the link below, through the [Eco-Ready web site](#) or through the Eco-Ready observatory.

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[Access to tool](#)



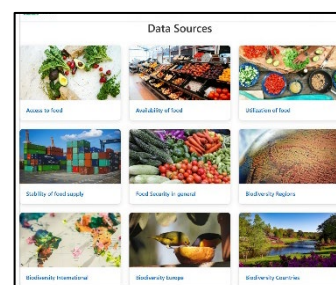
15. Eco-Ready's software tool for forecasting support receives update



Futures thinking is a cornerstone of management science and agricultural economics because strategic decisions and long-term investments depend on credible expectations about what lies ahead.

The Eco-Ready software tool for forecasting addresses this problem by providing IT-based decision support that guides users toward fit-for-purpose forecasting methodologies and relevant datasets. A first draft version has been accessible through the Eco-Ready web site since early 2025. It is presently being updated and ready to use with exciting new features by the end of July 2026.

The tool is built around a structured matrix linking approximately 40 forecasting models (ranging from quantitative extrapolation to qualitative scenario development and hybrid approaches) to roughly 36 selection criteria. It is linked to a database of about 400 internet-accessible datasets, with a focus on food security and biodiversity.



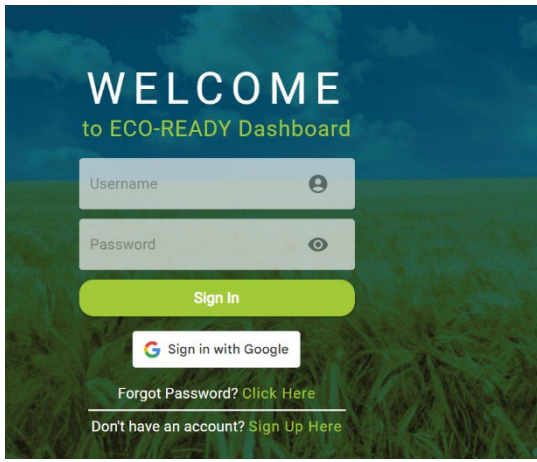
In the updated version, the tool is employing *Google NotebookLM* as a front end to help users identify suitable forecasting tools and navigate linked sources more effectively. The intended value is twofold: (1) reducing search and “orientation” time for users facing unfamiliar method choices, and (2) offering guidance that can adapt to differing competence levels.

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16. Long-term sustainability of Eco-Ready's Observatory

The Eco-Ready observatory is a core output of the Eco-Ready project and is presently being presented to stakeholders in various European countries for assuring continuous support beyond the duration of the project. Stakeholders with interest in using the observatory in the future or in providing support through data delivery or the provision of resources of any kind are encouraged to [get in contact](#).



The Observatory aims at the monitoring of drivers of change, including climate, and their impacts on agriculture. It will enable decision makers to anticipate those impacts and to derive recommendations for tackling long term challenges. It will be targeted to specific end-users including 1) farmers, 2) citizens, 3) policy-makers, and 4) the agri-food industry.

The observatory has been developed jointly by partners of Eco-Ready and the 10 Living Labs which contributed with own data to the observatory's comprehensive data source providing coordinated access to many data bases from within Europe and beyond. While the observatory is still under development it can be accessed through the link below.

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[Access observatory](#)

More information

For more information on the project and its development during the coming years you may subscribe to the newsletter through the newsletter link on its website. Previous newsletters are accessible on the website www.Eco-Ready.eu



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