



What is SUSTAvianFEED

SUSTAvianFEED project represents a tangible approach for a more sustainable livestock sector based on circular economy principles.

Considering that the livestock sector represents about 14.5% of all human-induced emissions and it consumes about 6 billion tons of feed material in dry matter annually, including one third of global cereal production (<http://www.fao.org/gleam/results/en/>), there is a need to provide viable and concrete alternatives to current production models.

New feeding approaches are requested to improve sustainability of animal farm in terms of soybean meal and cereals reduction. Feed production and processing account for the majority of emissions of the sector due to the great amount of resource's consumption, the vast energy and water consumption of the process, the enormous amount of land-use change and deforestation problems.

In the holistic view of agricultural systems policy, incentives should be addressed to those breeding programmes able to improve biodiversity, environmental sustainability, food quality and animal welfare.

Launched in 2021, the project SUSTAvianFEED, which sees the collaboration of the project coordinator Sociedad Agraria de Transformacion, ALIA, the Entomo Consulting S.L. and the University of Murcia in Spain, the Slow Food Foundation for Biodiversity and the University of Turin in Italy, the Institut Superieur Agronomique de Chott Mariem and the Rayhana NGO in Tunisia, and the EGE University in Turkey, presents tangible approaches for a more sustainable livestock sector by focusing on **innovative and sustainable poultry feedings programs**.

The project aims to demonstrate, in particular, innovative poultry farming systems by the inclusion of sustainable animal feeding, using food chains that must be environmentally friendly, foster local economies and consider social aspects. The use of insects in feeding will also play a key role and will lead to innovative poultry farming approach by implementing local insects' farms.

Through **five pilot programs in Italy, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey**, a **Living Lab (LL) methodology** and a **multi-actor and interdisciplinary approach**, all partners try to develop sustainable poultry feeds as an alternative in the livestock farming sector. The alternative feed is more environmentally friendly than the regular sources and has a close relationship with local agriculture and agri-food sector, while accomplishing with feed safety regulations.

In order to develop a sustainable feed, two main approaches are followed, the use of insects as source of protein and the formulation and development of a targeted and sustainable diet including agri-food byproducts, considering the product of poultry farming (meat and eggs) and production phase.

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Partners of the activities are ALIA – Sociedad Agraria de Transformacion (Spain) – UMU – University of Murcia (Spain) – UNITO – University of Turin (Italy) – ISA-CM – Institut Superieur Agronomique de Chott Mariem (Tunisia) – Rayhana Ngo (Tunisia) – Entomo Consulting S.L. (Spain) – EGE University (Turkey) – Fondazione Slow Food per la Biodiversità Onlus (Italy).

SUSTAvianFEED has five main work packages (WP) which structure the activities to be developed during the 48 months of project implementation. Starting from the overall management, the project runs through the analysis of each area potentials, the scheduling of pilot activities till the promotion of the replication of these activities and the dissemination of results.

Find out more info@sustavianfeed.eu

Email Coordinator - Juan Carlos JC Segura <jcsegura@alia.es>



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