

D6.1 Roadmap and report on collaborative actions with EU entities (1)

WP6. Promotion of a network of knowledge and EU partnership on PPP optimization and post-project sustainability plan

Emilio Gil and Javier Campos, UPC

December 2025



DELIVERABLE INFORMATION

Status (F: final; D: draft; RD: revised draft: RD)	F
Planned delivery date	31 October 2025
Actual delivery date	13 March 2026
Dissemination level (*)	PU
Type: Report, Website, Other	Report

(*) PU = Public; PP = Restricted to other programme participants; RE = Restricted to a group specified by the consortium; CO = Confidential, only for members of the consortium

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version	Date (DD/MM/YYYY)	Created/Amended by	Changes
01	19/12/2025	UPC	NA
02	07/03/2026	UPC	New version including comments in accordance with the EC's review of the report.

QUALITY CHECK REVIEW

Reviewer (s)	Main changes
UNITO	None
INRAE	
INHORT	

DISCLAIMER AND COPYRIGHT

© 2024, **RENOVATE** CONSORTIUM. All rights reserved.

This document and its content are protected by copyright. Unauthorized reproduction, distribution, or use of any part of this document without the express written consent of RENO VATE Consortium is strictly prohibited.

This publication has been provided by members of the **RENOVATE** consortium. The content of the publication has been reviewed by the **RENOVATE** consortium members but does not necessarily represent the views held or expressed by any individual member of the consortium.

While the information contained in the document is believed to be accurate, **RENOVATE** members make no warranty of any kind regarding this material, including, but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. None of the **RENOVATE** members, their officers, employees, or agents shall be responsible or liable in negligence, or otherwise, in respect of any inaccuracy or omission herein. Without derogating from the generality of the foregoing, neither the **RENOVATE** members, their officers, employees, nor agents shall be liable for any direct, indirect, or consequential loss or damage caused by or arising from any information, advice, or inaccuracy or omission herein.

For permissions or any inquiries regarding this document, please contact RENO VATE Consortium partners.

RENOVATE has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and Innovation programme under grant agreement No 101134024. The same disclaimers as they apply to the consortium members equally apply to the European Union employees, officers, and organizations.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive summary	4
1. Introduction	5
2. Scope and Strategic Role of Task 6.1	5
3. Strategic Networking Framework for the Remaining Project Duration	7
4. Roadmap for Collaborative Actions During the Remaining Project Period	9
5. Planned Networking Actions and Strategic Partnerships	11
6. Organisation of the work within the consortium	14
7. Strategic positioning of RENOVATE within the European Policy and Innovation Landscape	15
8. Concluding Perspective	16
9. Networking activities carried out during the first review period	17
Engagement with AKIS Structures and National Authorities	17
Integration into European Knowledge Platforms and AKIS Initiatives.....	18
Collaboration with Horizon Europe Projects and IPM Innovation Communities.....	19
Engagement with Training Systems, Advisory Networks and Behavioural Innovation Communities	20
Sectoral and Multi-Actor Networking Activities	23
Engagement with EUPAF and ENTAM 2.0	25
10. Advisory Board Constitution	27
11. Conclusions	28

Executive summary

This deliverable presents an overview of the networking and stakeholder engagement activities carried out during the first 18 months of the RENOVATE Project, together with a strengthened strategic framework for collaboration covering the remaining project period. Networking actions are a central component of the project's dissemination and impact strategy, ensuring that RENOVATE becomes effectively integrated within the European Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS) and supporting the long-term uptake and sustainability of the project's results.

During the first implementation phase, RENOVATE has established a solid network of institutional and technical collaborations. Strong links have been developed with national authorities responsible for agricultural innovation, particularly the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPA), whose AKIS coordination unit has actively engaged with the project regarding training needs, digital advisory tools and opportunities to integrate RENOVATE outputs within national innovation strategies. At the European level, the project has strengthened its interaction with knowledge platforms and AKIS initiatives such as EU-FarmBook and modernAKIS, contributing to discussions on digital repositories, advisory systems and knowledge exchange infrastructures. RENOVATE has also developed synergies with several Horizon Europe projects and innovation initiatives working on sustainable crop protection, advisory systems and behavioural innovation. Participation in major events such as the IPM Conference 2024, the AKIS Clustering Event and the Green Nudges in Agriculture and Forestry Conference has reinforced the project's visibility and facilitated exchanges with researchers, policymakers, advisors and practitioners across Europe. These interactions have also enabled initial dialogue with forestry-related innovation communities, highlighting the potential transferability of RENOVATE methodologies beyond conventional agricultural advisory contexts.

In parallel, RENOVATE has actively engaged with sectoral stakeholders including cooperatives, farmers, machinery manufacturers, Digital Innovation Hubs and technology developers through participation in innovation and sector events such as Synergy Days, SITEVI and Euro-TechDay. Collaboration with European technical networks such as EUPAF and ENTAM 2.0 has further ensured alignment between the project's training approaches and ongoing technological, regulatory and professional developments related to pesticide application technologies.

Beyond reporting the activities already implemented, this deliverable introduces a clearer networking strategy for the remainder of the project. It includes a structured collaboration map identifying key European institutions, knowledge platforms, Horizon Europe projects and stakeholder communities, as well as a phased roadmap for networking actions until the end of the project. These elements strengthen the strategic positioning of RENOVATE within the

European agricultural innovation ecosystem and support the long-term dissemination and adoption of its training tools and methodologies.

This revised deliverable therefore complements the description of networking activities already carried out with a more structured roadmap for future collaboration, addressing the observations raised during the review process and reinforcing the role of RENOVATE within European knowledge exchange and training innovation initiatives.

1. Introduction

This document contains a comprehensive roadmap for collaboration, covering the full duration of the project and identifying the main European institutions, platforms, projects and stakeholder communities with which RENOVATE has already established or will establish structured interaction. As stated in the current deliverable, networking actions are a central component of the project's dissemination, exploitation and impact strategy, since they are intended to strengthen links with EU-funded projects, national and European AKIS authorities, institutional stakeholders and innovation communities, while also increasing the visibility and uptake of project results within the wider European agricultural innovation ecosystem.

This need for a structured roadmap is also fully consistent with the original Description of Action. In the proposal, WP6 is explicitly defined as the work package responsible for the promotion of a network of knowledge and EU partnerships on PPP optimisation and post-project sustainability, while Task 6.1 is described as the establishment of networking actions among EU institutions, official responsible authorities of training and relevant identified stakeholders for a maximised implementation of results. The proposal further specifies that this task should define a collaboration map with European institutions, services and platforms, including DG SANTE, DG AGRI, DG EAC, EIP-AGRI, AKIS structures, dissemination infrastructures such as EU-FarmBook, and agencies involved in training initiatives such as HADEA and BTSF.

For this reason, the present roadmap is not conceived merely as a list of networking actions, but as a strategic framework to organise the remaining work of Task 6.1 in a coherent and operational way. Its purpose is to explain with greater precision what types of collaboration RENOVATE will pursue, with whom these actions will be undertaken, how the work will be organised within the consortium, and how these actions will contribute to the uptake, transferability and sustainability of project outputs until the end of the project and beyond.

2. Scope and Strategic Role of Task 6.1

Task 6.1 constitutes the strategic core of WP6 and provides the foundation for RENOVATE's institutional collaboration, stakeholder engagement and



networking activities. As already stated in the current deliverable, its purpose is to ensure that RENOVATE builds strong and durable links with European institutions, national and regional authorities, training systems and relevant stakeholder networks, so as to maximise the visibility, uptake and sustainability of project results. The current D6.1 also makes clear that Task 6.1 should lead to the development of a collaboration map identifying key actors across Europe and to the establishment of a roadmap for collaborative actions.

The proposal confirms this interpretation by specifying that WP6 is the phase in which the network of practical knowledge generated through EU partnerships is to be consolidated, together with the sustainability strategy required to maximise the uptake of the platform and training tools developed in the project. In the overall project logic, this phase comes after the baseline analysis and co-creation activities of WP1, the platform development and integration work carried out in WP2 and WP3, the generation of training tools in WP4, and the implementation of AKTAs and advanced training packages in WP5. In other words, WP6 is the stage where RENOVATE must transform technical and methodological developments into a recognisable European network of actors, channels and institutional relationships capable of supporting real uptake and continuity.

In this revised perspective, Task 6.1 is therefore understood as pursuing four closely interrelated goals. The first is **to establish a structured collaboration map of the European organisations, platforms and authorities** that are relevant for the dissemination, recognition and long-term use of RENOVATE results. The second is to **organise and prioritise future networking actions** across the remaining implementation period of the project. The third is **to connect RENOVATE more explicitly with training systems, advisory structures, thematic innovation projects and technical stakeholder communities**. The fourth is to ensure that **networking actions are not treated as isolated dissemination activities**, but as a mechanism to support adoption, policy dialogue, sustainability and post-project legacy.

3. Strategic Networking Framework for the Remaining Project Duration

The networking strategy for the remainder of the project is structured around a clear European collaboration framework. This framework positions RENOVATE as a connecting node within five complementary stakeholder domains.

The first domain is composed of **European institutions and policy bodies**. This includes, in particular, DG AGRI, DG SANTE and DG EAC, together with agencies and structures linked to training, such as HaDEA, policy implementation and innovation governance. These actors are essential because they provide the policy and regulatory environment within which crop protection training, advisory systems and sustainable pesticide use are framed. The proposal explicitly identified these institutions as core components of the collaboration map to be established under Task 6.1.

The second domain consists of European knowledge platforms and AKIS-related infrastructures. The current D6.1 already documents the strategic relevance of EU-FarmBook and modernAKIS and presents RENOVATE's engagement with AKIS structures and national authorities as one of its main lines of action. The intention moving forward is to consolidate these links so that RENOVATE outputs are not only disseminated through project-owned channels but also embedded in long-term European knowledge exchange infrastructures.

The third domain includes Horizon Europe projects and thematic project clusters. The current deliverable already shows that RENOVATE has developed synergies with projects and initiatives such as PREMIERE, IPMworks, IPM-Decisions, modernAKIS and AdvisoryNetPEST, and has participated in clustering events and thematic exchanges linked to advisory systems, sustainable plant protection and behavioural innovation. These actions provide a strong basis for more systematic collaboration during the remaining project period.

The fourth domain corresponds to training systems, advisory structures and educational organisations. This includes official training authorities, vocational education and training organisations, advisory bodies, farmers' schools and EU-level training initiatives such as BTSF. This domain is particularly important because the original proposal makes explicit reference to the intention to provide training packages to public authorities, training centres, advisory organisations and European training programmes.

Finally, the fifth domain comprises sectoral and multi-actor stakeholder ecosystems, including farmers' cooperatives, producer organisations, sprayer manufacturers, PPP-related industry actors, Digital Innovation Hubs, technology developers and demonstration-oriented technical communities. The current deliverable already shows that RENOVATE has built visibility and contacts in these ecosystems through sectoral events such as Synergy Days,



RENOVATE

SITEVI, Euro-TechDay and cooperative congresses, as well as through its active involvement in EUPAF and ENTAM 2.0.

Taken together, these five domains form the basis of the revised collaboration map. Rather than treating networking as a sequence of unrelated contacts, this approach presents RENOvATE as a structured actor operating at the intersection of policy, knowledge exchange, research, training and practical application.

4. Roadmap for Collaborative Actions During the Remaining Project Period

The collaborative roadmap for the remaining period of the project is organised in three successive but partly overlapping phases. This phased structure is fully coherent with the 48-month implementation logic of the project and with the timing of WP6, which runs from M7 to M48, while Task 6.1 itself is defined for M7 to M42.

During the first phase, corresponding broadly to the period from M18 to M24, the priority is to formalise and complete the collaboration map. Although a number of relevant contacts have already been established during the first reporting period, the remaining work now requires that these contacts be organised into a more explicit strategic structure. This means identifying the institutions, platforms, projects and sectoral communities that are most relevant for RENOVATE's expected outputs, distinguishing between those actors that are primarily relevant for dissemination, those that are critical for training uptake, and those that are important for long-term sustainability and policy dialogue. In this phase, the work will focus not only on maintaining existing relationships but also on clarifying the functional purpose of each relationship in connection with project outputs such as the platform, the gamified tools, the AKTA-based evidence and the training packages.

The second phase, extending approximately from M24 to M36, will be the period of structured expansion and operational collaboration. By this stage, the project will have a more mature set of outputs to present and validate, including the integrated platform environment, training tools, AKTA results and the early versions of the advanced training packages. This will make it possible to move from visibility-oriented networking towards more targeted forms of collaboration, such as technical exchange with EU projects, interaction with training authorities, testing of dissemination and transfer channels through AKIS-related structures, and more focused engagement with sectoral actors interested in practical uptake. During this period, RENOVATE should strengthen its role within project clusters, increase its presence in relevant European and sectoral events, and begin more explicit dialogue with those institutions and bodies that could contribute to the mainstreaming of the project's outputs.

The third phase, corresponding roughly to M36 to M48, will focus on consolidation, policy articulation and sustainability. This phase is especially important because it coincides with the preparation of policy briefs and the final stages of the project's sustainability and exploitation work. The emphasis here will be on ensuring that RENOVATE outputs are connected to stable dissemination and adoption channels beyond the lifetime of the project. This will include deeper integration of project materials into European knowledge platforms, stronger engagement with training systems that may adopt the outputs, and more explicit policy-oriented communication with institutions and authorities relevant to agricultural training, advisory services and sustainable pesticide use. It is also in this phase that the final dissemination



RENOVATE

event and the broader communication of the project legacy should serve not merely to close the project, but to anchor RENOVATE within a longer-term European network of practice and training.

This phased roadmap therefore provides strategic continuity for the networking activities and clarifies how actions evolve from mapping and positioning to active collaboration, validation and long-term sustainability.



5. Planned Networking Actions and Strategic Partnerships

To translate the roadmap into a more operational planning instrument, the project will organise future networking activities around a set of priority actors and collaboration channels. The table below (table 1) synthesises the main stakeholders to be addressed, the purpose of the interaction, the type of action foreseen and the expected contribution of each line of engagement.

Table 1. Planned Networking Actions and Strategic Partnerships

Stakeholder / Network	Type of Actor	Objective of Collaboration	Planned Actions	Expected Contribution to Project Impact
DG AGRI	European Commission service	Align RENOVATE outcomes with EU agricultural innovation and AKIS priorities	Participation in AKIS events and policy workshops; presentation of RENOVATE results	Increased visibility and alignment with EU agricultural policy priorities
DG SANTE	European Commission service	Ensure relevance for EU pesticide safety and regulatory developments	Dialogue with regulatory stakeholders and participation in technical discussions	Better policy relevance of RENOVATE training outputs
DG EAC	European Commission service	Link RENOVATE methodologies with European education and training initiatives	Monitoring and participation in education-related forums when relevant	Improved positioning of RENOVATE as a training innovation initiative
HADEA	EU executive agency	Explore links with EU training and dissemination initiatives	Targeted exchanges with programme and training coordinators	Greater institutional visibility and potential uptake of training outputs
EU CAP Network	European knowledge network	Disseminate RENOVATE results within EU advisory and innovation communities	Participation in thematic seminars, workshops and networking events	Wider outreach to advisors and AKIS stakeholders
EU-FarmBook	European knowledge repository	Ensure long-term accessibility of RENOVATE	Preparation and integration of project	Long-term accessibility and reuse of



		knowledge objects	outputs within the repository	RENOVATE results
modernAKIS	HE project	Exchange methodologies related to advisory systems and AKIS development	Participation in clustering activities and knowledge exchange	Stronger integration of RENOVATE within AKIS discussions
AdvisoryNetPEST	HE projects	Collaborate on advisory networks for sustainable crop protection	Joint events and knowledge exchange activities	Cross-project learning and dissemination
IPMworks / IPM-Decisions	HE projects	Link RENOVATE outputs with IPM advisory and demonstration networks	Participation in conferences, workshops and technical exchanges	Improved integration with IPM innovation communities
PREMIERE	HE project	Strengthen collaboration on advisory innovation and behavioural approaches	Clustering activities and joint dissemination actions	Greater coherence within the EU project landscape
National AKIS platforms	National policy networks	Facilitate national adoption of RENOVATE training outputs	Engagement with national authorities and advisory organisations	Integration of outputs within national innovation systems
BTSF (Better Training for Safer Food)	EU training initiative	Explore the integration of RENOVATE training methodologies	Participation in training sessions and interaction with organisers	Potential EU-wide dissemination of training approaches
EUPAF	European Task Force	Exchange expertise on pesticide application technologies	Participation in technical meetings and expert discussions	Alignment with technological and regulatory developments
ENTAM 2.0	European technical network	Link training approaches with machinery testing standards	Technical exchanges with testing stations and experts	Compatibility with EU machinery evaluation frameworks
Digital Innovation Hubs	Innovation ecosystem	Promote RENOVATE	Participation in innovation	Broader uptake



		tools within digital agriculture communities	events and networking activities	among digital innovation intermediaries
Farmers' cooperatives and producer organisations	End-user stakeholders	Validate training tools and identify practical needs	Workshops, presentations and participation in sector events	Improved relevance and practical adoption of outputs
Universities and VET centres	Education and training organisations	Encourage integration of RENOVATE training materials in curricula	Dialogue with educational institutions and pilot dissemination	Long-term adoption within agricultural training systems

This table is intended to clarify that the networking strategy is not only outward-looking, but also selective and purpose-driven. The aim is not to multiply contacts indiscriminately, but to prioritise interactions that create real added value for dissemination, validation, training uptake, policy positioning and sustainability.

6. Organisation of the work within the consortium

The implementation of this roadmap requires an internal organisation that is sufficiently structured to ensure continuity, complementarity and accountability. In line with the original allocation of responsibilities, UPC, as Task 6.1 lead, will coordinate the overall implementation of the networking roadmap, while the partners directly involved in the task will contribute according to their thematic expertise, institutional links and national networks. The current deliverable and the proposal both identify UNITO, INRAE, DATERRA, PCFRUIT, INHORT, MOA and CPS as core partners in Task 6.1.

The practical organisation of the work will follow three principles. First, networking actions will be linked to actual project outputs and milestones, rather than planned independently from technical progress. This is particularly important because the platform, training tools, AKTA results and advanced training packages will become progressively available over time, and the nature of external interactions must evolve accordingly. The proposal clearly shows that WP2 and WP3 deliver the platform architecture and integration, WP4 develops the training tools, and WP5 provides the AKTA-based evidence and the four advanced training packages that are expected to be presented to both focus groups and policymakers.

Second, each partner will mobilise its own institutional and sectoral channels in a targeted way. Partners with stronger links to advisory systems, national authorities, farmers' networks, cooperatives, innovation actors or technical communities will play a particularly relevant role in opening channels, facilitating participation in events, identifying suitable dissemination and training bodies, and supporting follow-up interactions after first contact has been established.

Third, Task 6.1 will be implemented in close articulation with the communication and dissemination activities of WP7 and WP8, as well as with the broader coordination structures of WP9. This is essential to ensure coherence between strategic networking, public communication, targeted dissemination and institutional liaison. The project proposal already foresees regular coordination mechanisms, project management tools and structured internal communication channels, which provide an adequate operational basis for this integrated approach.

The Advisory Board should also be considered an enabling element in this process, since its members provide strategic expertise and can reinforce RENOVATE's credibility and access to relevant communities. The current deliverable has already highlighted the value of this structure and its relevance for connecting regulatory, academic and end-user perspectives.

7. Strategic positioning of RENOVATE within the European Policy and Innovation Landscape

The revised roadmap also makes it possible to articulate more clearly the strategic positioning of RENOVATE within the European policy and innovation landscape. The project is not only producing digital tools and training materials; it is also contributing to broader European efforts aimed at modernising advisory systems, improving the quality and attractiveness of farmer training, supporting safer and more sustainable crop protection practices, and increasing the accessibility of knowledge-ready-for-practice.

This strategic positioning is already implicit in both the proposal and the current deliverable. The proposal describes RENOVATE as a thematic network that compiles and shares knowledge ready for practice, strengthens innovation uptake, connects to EU-FarmBook and modernAKIS, supports improved training and advisory services, and contributes to sustainable crop management in line with major EU priorities. It also places strong emphasis on training innovation, AKIS collaboration, policy briefs and the need to connect practical knowledge with public authorities and European initiatives.

The current D6.1, for its part, shows that RENOVATE has already built a meaningful presence within the European agricultural innovation landscape through engagement with AKIS-related authorities, knowledge platforms, project clusters, EUPAF, ENTAM 2.0, BTSF-related contexts and multi-actor sector events. These actions have already strengthened visibility and established a credible basis for the next phase of work.

The added value of the present roadmap is that it transforms this initial positioning into a forward-looking strategy. RENOVATE is thus framed not only as a project that participates in events and networks, but as a project that deliberately seeks to connect policy, advisory systems, digital knowledge infrastructures, training communities and practical farming actors. In doing so, it reinforces its potential to contribute to the long-term uptake of project results and to the post-project sustainability of its legacy.

8. Concluding Perspective

This roadmap clarifies the strategic architecture of Task 6.1 and extends its scope beyond a retrospective description of actions already performed. It defines a collaboration map structured around five stakeholder domains, proposes a phased roadmap for the remaining implementation period, identifies priority actors and strategic partnerships, and explains how the consortium will organise the work required to support these actions.

This approach is fully consistent with the strategic role assigned to WP6 and Task 6.1 in the original Description of Action and with the objectives already stated in the current deliverable. By moving from a descriptive account of networking activities to a more structured roadmap for future collaboration, RENOVATE strengthens its capacity to demonstrate coherence, ambition and operational clarity in relation to stakeholder engagement, institutional dialogue and long-term impact

9. Networking activities carried out during the first review period

This chapter reports on the collaborative, networking and stakeholder engagement activities carried out during the first 18 months of the RENOVATE project. Networking actions constitute a central component of the project's dissemination, exploitation and impact strategy, as they are essential to foster synergies, exchange knowledge, align methodologies with existing European frameworks, and ensure long-term visibility and uptake of project results.

Engagement with AKIS Structures and National Authorities

A core priority from the outset has been establishing close cooperation with national AKIS authorities, particularly in Spain. Even prior to the project's start, the coordinator engaged directly with the *Subdirección General de Innovación y Digitalización* of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPA), the body responsible for Spain's AKIS governance.

MAPA's active participation in the RENOVATE Kick-Off Meeting provided early institutional validation of the project. The representative, Cristina Simón Palacios, emphasised that RENOVATE is "*totally aligned with the initiatives we want to promote*" and expressed MAPA's commitment to continued collaboration. This engagement sent a strong message to the consortium and demonstrated the strategic relevance of RENOVATE for national training and innovation policies.

Following the Kick-Off Meeting, ongoing contact with MAPA has resulted in:

- Alignment with the Spanish AKIS Advisor Platform.
- Identification of opportunities for integration of RENOVATE training materials into national structures.
- Participation of the Coordinator in MAPA-related international events.
- Strengthened positioning of RENOVATE within Spanish innovation and training strategies.

The coordinator was formally invited by MAPA to participate in the international event "AKIS in Action – Digital Repositories: Bridging Research and Practice" (Figure 1), where RENOVATE interacted with EU-FarmBook, Innovarurale, RD-Agri, Ecophytopic and national advisory platforms. This strengthened RENOVATE's visibility within EU-wide digital knowledge infrastructures.

In parallel, the project engaged in AKIS-related workshops at national and regional levels, including participation in the event "AKIS, design thinking e sperimentazione" in Cagliari (Figure 1), discussing innovation validation and co-creation methodologies.



Figure 1: AKIS in Action (left) and AKIS, design thinking e sperimentazione (right).

These interactions ensure RENOVATE’s outputs are compatible with national policy needs and embedded within evolving AKIS architectures.

Integration into European Knowledge Platforms and AKIS Initiatives

A strategic priority has been ensuring RENOVATE’s alignment with the digital and organisational evolution of European agricultural knowledge exchange systems.

Early and direct communication has been established with **EU-FarmBook**, the long-term repository for agricultural Knowledge Objects in Europe. RENOVATE has ensured metadata compatibility, synchronised learning-object structuring principles, coordinated with platform administrators for future integration of RENOVATE outputs. This guarantees long-term visibility and accessibility of RENOVATE’s resources beyond the project’s lifespan.

Participation in **modernAKIS** events and clustering activities allowed RENOVATE to interact with national AKIS coordinators, understand cross-country advisory needs, contribute to EU-level discussions on digital repositories and innovation flows, and connect with related platforms in France, Belgium, Italy and Spain. RENOVATE’s presence in these events has reinforced its position as a project contributing both content and methodological innovation to AKIS development.

An example of this networking outcome is the inclusion of RENOVATE in Spain’s AKIS Platform, which was presented during the “AKIS in Action – Digital Repositories: Bridging Research and Practice” event. The platform, where RENOVATE is currently featured, acts as a national hub for agricultural innovation and knowledge exchange, fostering interaction among AKIS professionals, advisory services and policy actors (Figure 2).

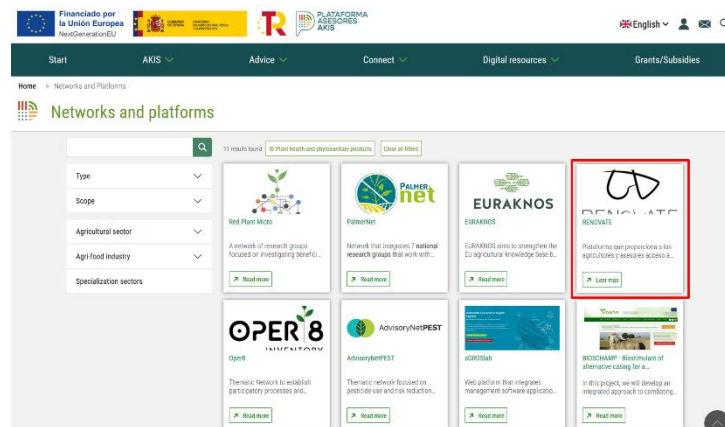


Figure 2: Integration of RENOVATE into the Spanish AKIS Platform

Collaboration with Horizon Europe Projects and IPM Innovation Communities

RENOVATE has deeply engaged with other EU-funded projects to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication.


IPM Conference 2024 (IPMworks & IPM-Decisions)

One week before the official project start, RENOVATE's Coordinator was invited to the IPM Conference 2024 in Brussels (Figure 3), a high-level event gathering 200 stakeholders (farmers, advisors, cooperatives, researchers, policymakers). This was the final conference of IPMworks and IPM-Decisions, focusing on holistic IPM approaches, demonstration networks, e-learning and behavioural change.

This early exposure positioned RENOVATE within the EU IPM innovation community, facilitated contacts with multiple advisors and demonstration farms, and revealed synergies for future co-creation and dissemination.

12 February 2025 (Day 2, morning session)

**Research, Innovation and Knowledge Exchange on
Integrated Pest Management**



10:00 – 10:20
Welcome & Introduction
Graeme JONES - Deputy Head of Unit DG SANTE F3 - Plants
Orla NI CHUILLEANAIN - DG SANTE F3 - Plants

Overview of the EU-funded R&I on plant health and crop protection
Gisela QUAGLIA - DG AGRI F2 - Research and Innovation

10:20 – 11:25
Session 1: Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe projects on Integrated Pest Management

- **IPMWORKS** - An EU-wide farm network demonstrating and promoting cost-effective IPM strategies
Nicolas Manier- Jolain - INRAE
- **IPM Decisions** - Decision support for Integrated Pest Management in Europe
Mark Ramsden - ADAS RSK Environment
- **RENOVATE** - Development of an easy-to-use interactive platform to renovate training experiences and networking for farmers in the field of sustainable crop management
Emilio Gil Moya - Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya
- **AdvisoryNetPest** - EU ADVISORY NETWORKS to reduce the use and risks of PESTicides
Francisca Viveiros - Consulhai

Presentations and Q&A

Development of an easy-to-use interactive platform to RENOVATE training experiences and networking for farmers in the field of sustainable crop management
Horizon Europe project

RENOVATE

Funded by the European Union

Figure 3: RENOVATE participation in the EU IPM community.

PREMIERE Project Collaboration

RENOVATE has established an active collaboration with PREMIERE, participating in working meetings and exchanging methodologies on advisory system strengthening, training innovations, and co-creation and knowledge flows. This partnership has already yielded joint dissemination actions and will expand into the co-organisation of future events and exchanges.

Further participation in EU clustering events

RENOVATE contributed to the AKIS Clustering Event (DG AGRI & REA) in Brussels, connecting with projects such as: ADVISORYNETPEST (<https://advisorynetpest.eu/>), IPMworks (<https://ipmworks.net/>), IPM-Decisions (<https://www.ipmdecisions.net/>), modernAKIS (<https://modernakis.eu/>) and ATTRACTISS (<https://attractiss.eu/>).

This positioned RENOVATE as a key initiative in agricultural training, innovation transfer and behavioural change.

Engagement with Training Systems, Advisory Networks and Behavioural Innovation Communities

RENOVATE has increasing visibility in communities focusing on human factors, behavioural drivers and training methodologies.

Inclusion in BTSF Training courses

RENOVATE has been incorporated as a novel element into Better Training for Safer Food (BTSF) courses on Pesticide Application Equipment, an exceptional recognition demonstrating the relevance and future potential of the project's outputs (Figure 4).



Figure 4: RENOVAATE presentation at the BTSF course (Skierniewice, Poland).

Green Nudges in Agriculture and Forestry Conference

RENOVAATE was invited to present at this high-level event organised by the European Economic and Social Committee, contributing insights on immersive learning environments as behavioural drivers, digital tools for safer pesticide use, and the role of training in fostering sustainable decision-making (Figure 5).

Although RENOVAATE is primarily focused on crop protection training and advisory systems in agriculture, the project also recognises the relevance of its methodologies and training approaches for the forestry sector, particularly in relation to sustainable plant protection practices, technology adoption and behavioural change in professional decision-making. In this context, RENOVAATE has actively engaged with initiatives addressing innovation and behavioural approaches in forestry through its participation in networking activities organised by the GreenNudge Project (<https://greennudge.eu>). The project has already contributed to the Green Nudges in Agriculture and Forestry Conference, where RENOVAATE presented its work on innovative training tools (figure 6), digital learning environments and behavioural drivers supporting safer and more sustainable plant protection practices. This collaboration has facilitated exchanges with researchers, policymakers and practitioners working in both agricultural and forestry contexts, highlighting the potential applicability of RENOVAATE methodologies beyond conventional agricultural advisory systems. RENOVAATE will continue to participate in future networking initiatives organised by GreenNudge during the remaining project period, ensuring that the project maintains dialogue with forestry-related innovation communities and explores opportunities for knowledge transfer between agricultural and forest management contexts.



Green Nudges in Agriculture and Forestry Conference 2025

<p>10:10 - 11.10</p>	<p>Green Nudges in action Examples of how nudges can be applied - examples from recent/ongoing projects on the current use of nudges in EU Projects</p> <p>Farmers' Acceptability and Perceived Efficacy of Green Nudges: A Best-Worst Scaling experiment in Europe</p> <p>Behaviourally informed interventions to maximize environmental delivery under the new CAP green architecture - evidence from a field experiment in four European countries</p>	<p>Moderator: Alun Jones Head of Projects, CIHEAM Zaragoza</p> <p>Sophie Thoyer CEE-M - INRAE, France</p> <p>Gregory Valatin Principal Economist at Forestry Economics Research Unit</p> <p>Prof. Emilio Gil Polytechnic University of Catalonia</p> <p>Simone Cerroni Associate Professor of Agricultural and Environmental Economics at the University of Trento, Italy</p>
-----------------------------	---	---

Figure 5: RENOVATE participation in Green Nudges in Agriculture and Forestry Conference.



Green Nudges In Agriculture & Forestry Conference 2025



Figure 6: RENOVATE participation in Green Nudges in Agriculture and Forestry Conference (May 2025, Brussels). Video available at: <https://greennudge.eu/green-nudges-in-agriculture-and-forestry-conference-2025/>

AKIS Clustering Event

Participation strengthened RENOVATE's relationships with thematic and advisory networks, consolidating its role in EU knowledge exchange strategies.

Sectoral and Multi-Actor Networking Activities

RENOVATE actively engaged with a wide variety of actors across Europe through exhibitions, workshops, innovation forums and sector-specific events.

Czech Agricultural Exhibition Workshop

An informal workshop introduced RENOVATE to sprayer manufacturers, distributors, advisors and farmers (Figure 7). The discussion provided valuable practical insights into training needs.



Figure 7: RENOVATE networking action in Czech Agricultural Exhibition Workshop

SITEVI 2025 (Montpellier)

RENOVATE was presented at SITEVI to vine growers, educators and advisors. Interest was strong, particularly regarding digital tools and harmonised training for pesticide application in viticulture (Figure 8).

Euro-TechDay (Oporto)

At this event focused on digital agriculture and drone technologies, RENOVATE engaged national authorities discussing UAV pesticide application regulation, interacted with manufacturers and drone operators, addressed the need for specialised, harmonised training frameworks.



Figure 8: RENOvATE networking advertisement in SITEVI (Montpellier)

Synergy Days 2024 (SmartAgriHubs)

RENOVATE had a highly visible presence at the event (Figure 9), which included a formal project presentation, active participation in several round-table discussions, and the operation of an information stand throughout the two-day programme. This comprehensive involvement facilitated direct connections with Digital Innovation Hubs, SMEs developing agricultural technologies, other Horizon Europe projects, as well as advisory organisations and professional trainers. The interactions generated during the event have already led to subsequent collaboration actions and the establishment of new synergies.



Figure 9: RENOvATE participation in Synergy Days (Barcelona, Spain).

Agro-Food Cooperatives Congress (Valencian Region)

Participation in this major Spanish cooperative congress allowed RENOVATE to engage with more than 300 cooperative leaders, identify training needs specific to the cooperative sector, and build partnerships that will support future dissemination and validation activities.

Engagement with EUPAF and ENTAM 2.0

A major achievement during the reporting period has been RENOVATE's active involvement in EUPAF and ENTAM 2.0, two recently strengthened European initiatives that play an increasingly central role in the development, assessment and responsible use of pesticide application technologies. Both platforms bring together leading research institutions, industry representatives, regulators and technical experts at EU level, and they constitute key ecosystems for innovation transfer, standardisation and training, areas that lie at the heart of RENOVATE's mission.

RENOVATE has established a particularly fruitful relationship with EUPAF (European Precise Application Task Force). This forum has emerged as one of the most relevant spaces in Europe for discussing the evolution of pesticide application technologies, the regulatory challenges linked to their use, and the need for improved training and knowledge dissemination. Through its participation in EUPAF activities, RENOVATE has contributed to ongoing conversations on technological innovation, user safety, regulatory adaptation and professional development. The presence of Dr. Anne Alix, Regulatory and European Affairs Manager at Corteva Agriscience and Coordinator of the EUPAF Steering Committee, in the RENOVATE Advisory Board has further strengthened this connection, ensuring a continuous exchange of perspectives between the project and an influential EU-level platform. This collaboration reinforces the alignment between RENOVATE's training objectives and the regulatory and technological developments shaping the future of pesticide application.

In parallel, RENOVATE has actively engaged with ENTAM 2.0, the renewed European Network for Testing of Agricultural Machines. ENTAM 2.0 brings together the principal testing stations and certification bodies responsible for evaluating the performance and safety of agricultural machinery, including pesticide application equipment. By participating in ENTAM 2.0 discussions and activities, RENOVATE has gained direct access to European expertise in equipment testing, certification protocols, performance evaluation methods and emerging technical standards. This engagement ensures that the training materials, methodologies and recommendations developed within RENOVATE are consistent with the technical benchmarks applied in machinery evaluation across the EU. At the same time, RENOVATE contributes to ENTAM 2.0 by highlighting the human, behavioural and educational dimensions that



RENOVATE

accompany equipment innovation and certification, an aspect often overlooked in purely technical evaluations.

The combined collaboration with EUPAF and ENTAM 2.0 strengthens RENOVATE's position within the European ecosystem dealing with the sustainability, safety and innovation of pesticide application technologies. These relationships provide the project with access to expert knowledge, regulatory trends, industrial perspectives and technical developments that are essential for shaping relevant, modern and future-proof training tools. They also significantly enhance RENOVATE's credibility and potential impact among manufacturers, advisory services, testing authorities and policymakers. In the longer term, the integration of RENOVATE into these two influential platforms will facilitate the dissemination, adoption and sustainability of the project's outputs across Europe.

10. Advisory Board Constitution

Although the Grant Agreement proposed an initial list of candidates, none were ultimately able to participate. The consortium conducted a new selection process, resulting in a highly qualified and internationally recognised Advisory Board:

- **Dr Anne Alix** (Corteva Agriscience) – Regulatory and European Affairs expert, global authority in PPP regulation, EUPAF Steering Committee Coordinator.
- **Prof Spyros Fountas** (Agricultural University of Athens) – internationally recognised leader in precision and smart farming, expert in training and EU project coordination.
- **Dr Juan Sagarna** (Cooperativas Agroalimentarias de España) – expert in cooperative innovation and representative of agricultural producers.

This Advisory Board ensures strategic guidance that reflects regulatory, academic and end-user perspectives.

11. Conclusions

During the first 18 months of implementation, RENOVATE has established a solid and diversified network of institutional partners, advisory bodies, Horizon Europe projects, technological innovators, cooperatives, researchers and practitioners.

Networking activities conducted under Task 6.1 have positioned RENOVATE within key AKIS and European innovation ecosystems, reinforced its alignment with national and EU policy priorities, facilitated the integration of its outputs into long-term platforms such as EU-FarmBook and BTSF, enabled collaboration with leading European projects in IPM, advisory innovation and behavioural change, fostered connections with equipment manufacturers, Digital Innovation Hubs, cooperatives and farmers, and secured a world-class Advisory Board that will guide and support the strategic development of the project.

These achievements create favourable conditions for the co-creation, validation, dissemination and long-term uptake of RENOVATE's training tools, ultimately contributing to EU objectives for sustainable pesticide use, training modernisation and agricultural digitalisation.

These results confirm the strategic relevance of RENOVATE within the European ecosystem of agricultural innovation, training modernisation and sustainable plant protection practices.

To maintain and expand the networking momentum achieved so far, RENOVATE will continue to strengthen collaboration with key actors across advisory systems, policy bodies, knowledge platforms and farming communities. Future activities should prioritise targeted engagement around the progressive release of project outputs—particularly the platform, training tools and advanced training packages—by organising thematic workshops, policy dialogues and joint events with relevant European and national initiatives. The consortium partners will further mobilise their institutional networks to facilitate uptake by advisory services, training organisations and innovation actors, while reinforcing links with AKIS structures and related EU projects. This approach will help ensure that RENOVATE results are effectively integrated into existing knowledge infrastructures and continue to support sustainable crop protection practices beyond the project's lifetime.