MountainHER:

Empowering women associations as drivers for agroecological transformation to generate income for Mountain farming communities

Topic 1.2.1-2021 (IA) Increasing the environmental and socio-economic performance of small scale farming systems through improvements in organisational aspects and new value chain governance models.

## PRIMA SECTION 1 2021 FARMING IA

July 18th-19th 2022 – Kick off meeting

Project's Objectives

MountainHER sets the ground-breaking objective of changing the social and economic status of remote mountain communities through agroecological interventions and revision of governances of rural cooperatives.

1. Implement a holistic intervention in six pilot mountain communities to revise the continuum from farm-to-fork by promoting agroecological production solutions and income opportunities via short-value chains and circular economies.

2. Utilize **living labs** to pilot and assess the validity of technologies and practices together with mountain farming communities in Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, Croatia, and Italy

3. Include these communities in participatory research to identify the best durum wheat and barley varieties derived from ancient grains adapted to agroecological production

4. Establish community-based seed enterprises to create employment for women and returning youth

5. Define agroecological practices for a sustainable increase in productivity of grains and straw to be used as fodder

6. Promote circular economy opportunities for local businesses to produce non-synthetic organic fertilizers starting from farm waste

7. Revise the governance of female cooperatives to enable decent work and improve their roles as income generators for the community

8. Production of traditional foods and malt products to enhance consumer-perceived value

9. Create market opportunities for these cooperatives via digital innovations and retail assessments

10. Generate road maps for scaling MountainHER interventions across countries and communities

Key objectives, partners, and word cloud of the MountainHER project
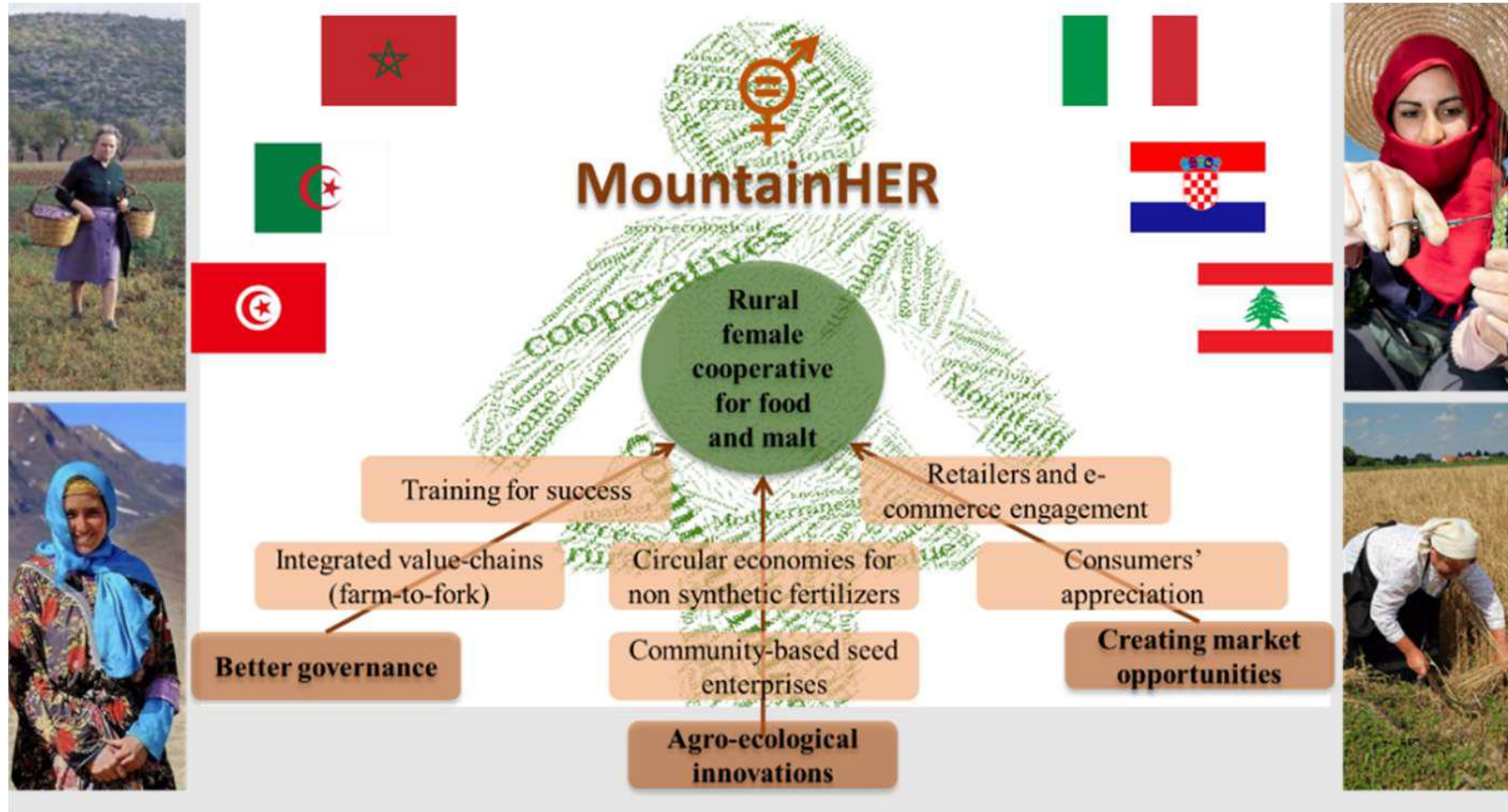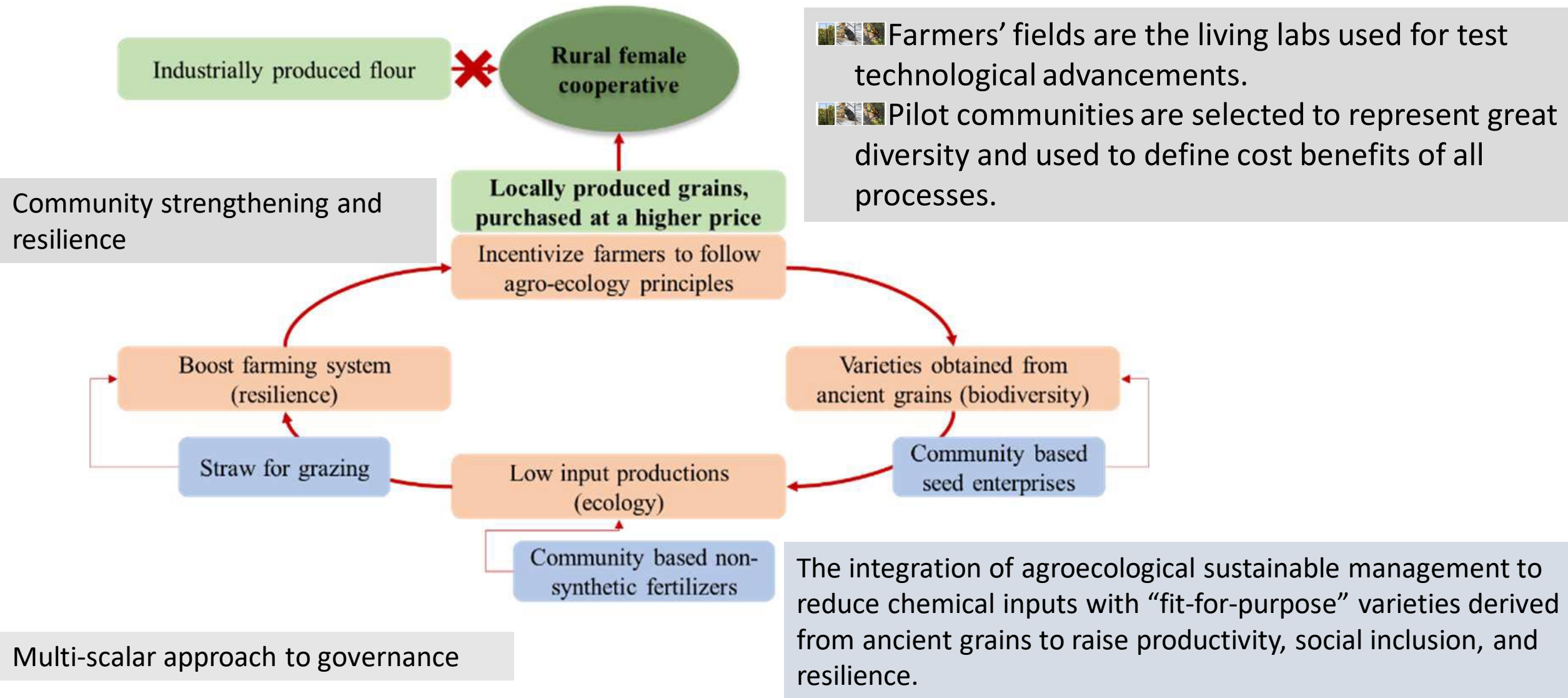

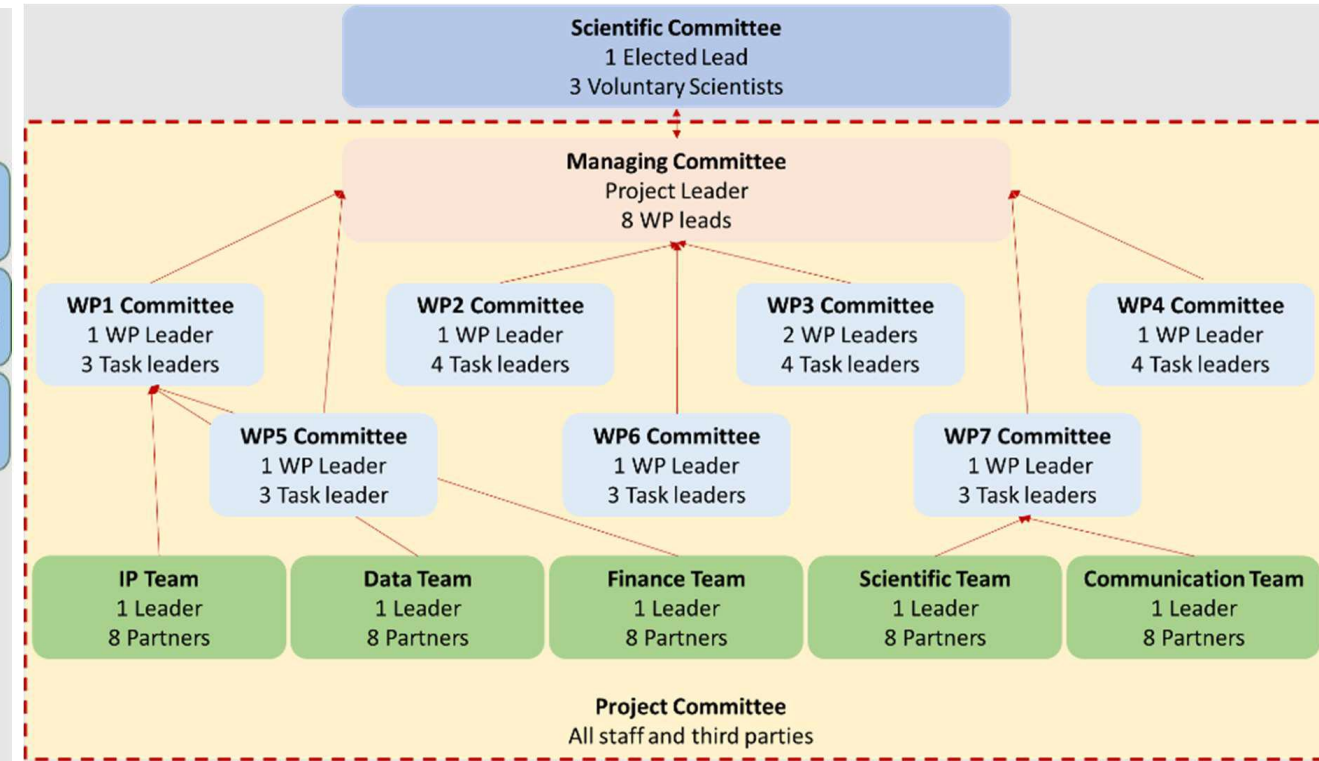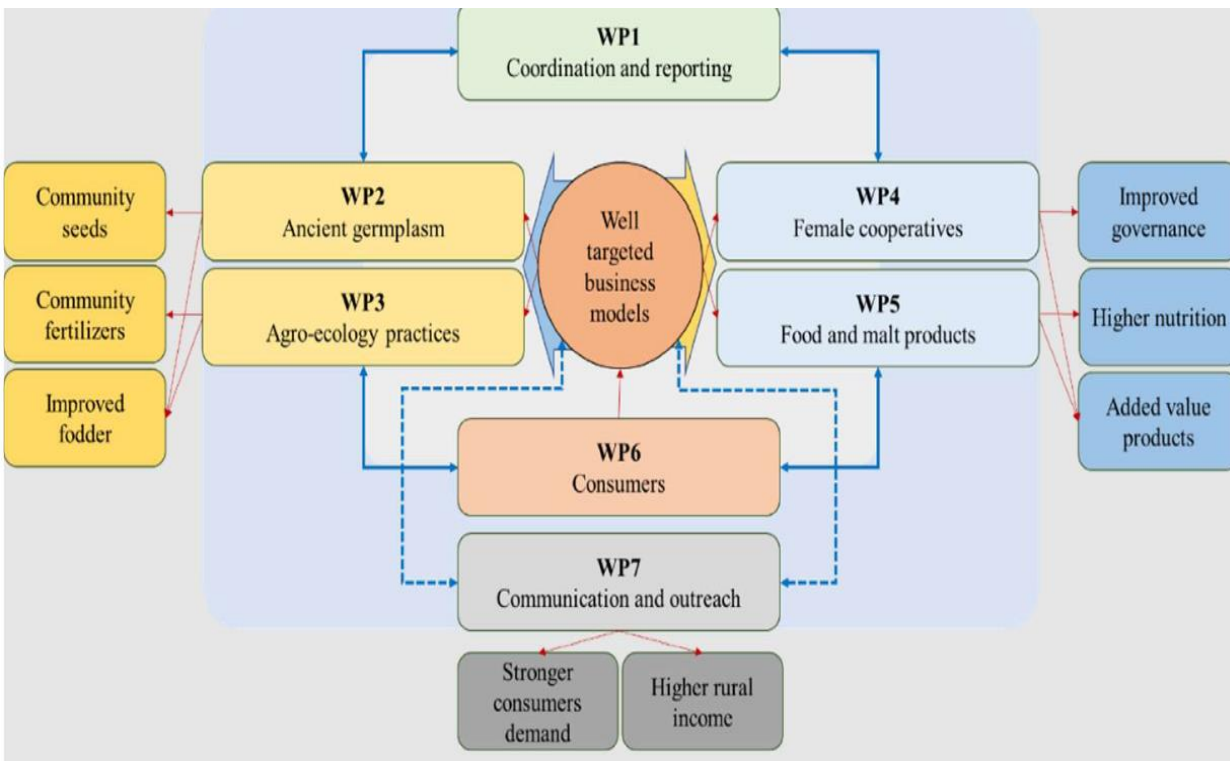MountainHER targets female rural cooperatives as the central transformative opportunity to raise farm profitability.

MountainHER follows a participatory and gender responsive Approach.

MountainHER develop competitiveness to gain market shares

Circular economies via agroecology innovations

Farmers' fields are the living labs used for test technological advancements.

Pilot communities are selected to represent great diversity and used to define cost benefits of all processes.

Community strengthening and resilience

Multi-scalar approach to governance

The integration of agroecological sustainable management to reduce chemical inputs with "fit-for-purpose" varieties derived from ancient grains to raise productivity, social inclusion, and resilience.

Industrially produced flour

Rural female cooperative

Locally produced grains, purchased at a higher price

Incentivize farmers to follow agro-ecology principles

Boost farming system (resilience)

Varieties obtained from ancient grains (biodiversity)

Straw for grazing

Low input productions (ecology)

Community based seed enterprises

Community based non-synthetic fertilizers

Project's Structure and Governance

Meetings of Committees:

Managing committee: Each two months
WP Committee: Each month
Project Committee: Each 6 months
Scientific Committee: Each Year

Selection of SC members
Nomination of task leaders
Define timing of PC and SC meetings

Expected impacts

- Enable access to markets providing the general population with healthy and sustainable products.

- Increase the income of the farmers and ensure fair pricing structure along the value chain.

- Promote access to work of young farmers and women.

- Promote sustainable food production systems and eco-friendly processes.

- Reduce food losses, including post-harvest losses and valorizing the waste left.

Short plan action

- Project graphical identity

- Stakeholder Mapping

- Website dedicated to the project.

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WP1: Project management and scientific coordination

Lead : Rachid Mrabet (INRA)

Co-Lead: to be defined

July 18th-19th 2022 – Kick off meeting

Objectives

ID	Description
O1.1	Ensure smooth and transparent interactions between partners
O1.2	Timely delivery of project reports
O1.3	Keep informed on "good practices" developed under other projects

44 measurable deliverables are required to meet the project goals,

17 communication events to reach all target audience,

7 milestones (MS) spaced 6 months apart

Tasks

ID	Lead	Description
T1.1	OxFam	Deployment of project portals and databases
T1.2	INRA	Reporting and financial management
T1.3	Open Fields	Ensure linkage to good practices and solutions developed under other projects

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Deliverables and Milestones

ID	Due	Lead	Description
D1.1.1	M6, 12, 18, 24, 39, 36	OxFam	Project portal established on MEL and BMS and kept updated: Pilot on Open Research Data (FAIR)
D1.1.2	M11, 23, 35	INRA	Annual technical meeting held virtually or physically
D1.2.1	M9, 21, 33	OxFam	Project technical 9 months report is uploaded onto MEL
D1.2.2	M13, 25, 37	INRA	Project technical annual report is provided to PRIMA
D1.2.3	M10, 22, 34	OxFam	Project financial 9 months report is uploaded onto MEL
D1.2.4	M14, 26, 38	INRA	Project financial annual report is provided to PRIMA
D1.3.1	M11, 23, 35	Open Fields	Reports on other project's "good practices"

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Deliverables and Milestones

Year							2022						2023													2024												2025								
Quarter							Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3
							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	+1	+2	+3
Month							Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep

WP 1 - Coordination

- 1.1 Deployment of project portals and databases — 1.1.1; 1.1.2; 1.1.1; 1.1.1; 1.1.2; 1.1.1; 1.1.1; 1.1.2; 1.1.1; 1.1.2
- 1.2 Reporting and financial management — MS1; 1.2.1; 1.2.3; 1.2.2; 1.2.4; 1.2.1; 1.2.3; 1.2.2; 1.2.4; 1.2.1; 1.2.3; 1.2.3
- 1.3 Ensure linkage to good practices and solutions developed under other projects — 1.3.1; 1.3.1; 1.3.1; 1.3.1

ID	Due	Lead	Description
MS01	M1	INRA	Project kick-off meeting ➔ Minute of two-days meeting

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WP partners

Participant N°	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Short name of participant	INRA	ICARDA	LARI	INRA-T	ITGC	PINS	OxFam	Open Fields	Birr. Emiliano
Person months	36.0	8.5	15.0	37.0	21.0	3.0	28.0	12.0	1.0
Start month	01				End month			36	

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Short term plan

T1.1. Each partner institution should identify a staff responsible for data manager and will trained on MEL.
During the first six months a MEL (Link) dedicated project page will be set up.
Data Management Plan for making data findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable (FAIR) will be developed within the first 6 months of the project (Deliverable D1.1.1).

T1.2. Each institution identify a finance officer dedicate to the project.
Task 1.2 lead organize annual training during Q1 to ensure that all finance officers follow the same principles in purchasing, spending, and reporting ➔ PRIMA.
Templates for financial reporting against each WP will then be provided.

T1.3. Task lead conduct a survey to identify previous and ongoing projects

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Monitor Evaluation and Learning data approach

- Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)

- PRIMA office will be giving a short presentation tomorrow

- Lecture and tutorial webinars are available.