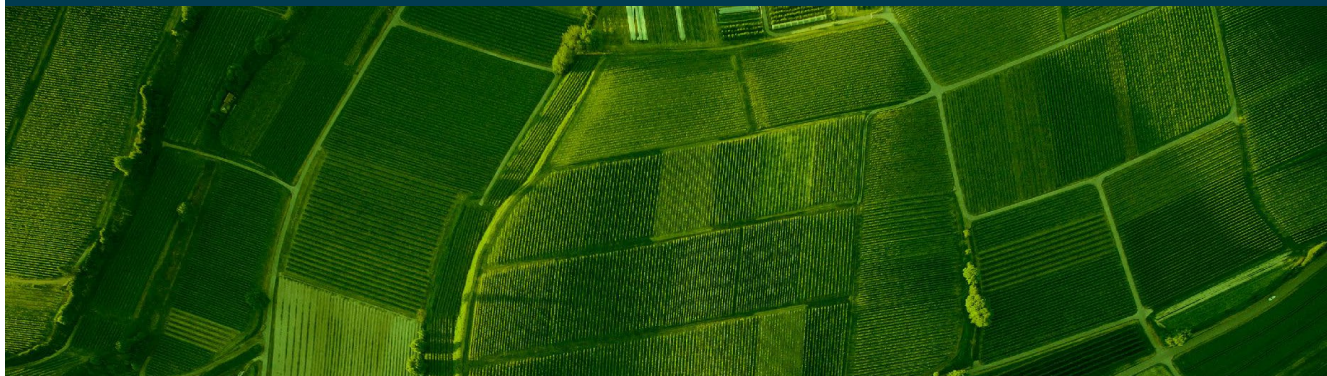


Practice Abstract No 29

Evaluation of Sustainable Innovations in Fruits and vegetables' Value Chains



Description

Agri-food companies need innovations to compete in new markets as consumers demand sustainable products, considering environmental, social, and economic aspects. The CO-FRESH project aims to provide techniques, tools, and insights for making agri-food value chains more environmentally sustainable, socio-economically balanced, and economically competitive. Both technological and non-technological innovations are being tested in pilot cases involving companies such as La Terre di Zoe, Florette, Foodvalley, Porc fermier de la Sarthe, Ekoowoc, Plize, and Coexphal.

The study employs "Socio-economic Life Cycle Assessment" (S-LCA) methodology to assess socio-economic aspects of products and their potential impacts along the value chain, including production, processing, distribution, and consumption. Impact categories and quantitative indicators cover social and economic sustainability dimensions, involving stakeholders like managers, farmers, workers, consumers, local communities, and society.

Baseline results reveal reasonably good performance, but highlight areas for improvement, such as economic security, bargaining power, waste valorization, traceability systems, and feedback mechanisms with consumers. By addressing these areas, the project aims to make agri-food value chains more sustainable, equitable, and competitive, meeting the demands of today's conscious consumers.

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Stakeholders

All stakeholders in the Food Supply Chain

Country/Region

Seven Case Studies

Keywords

Technological and Non-Technological Innovations, Social LCA, Stakeholders Analysis, Sustainability



About CO-FRESH

The CO-FRESH project aims to provide techniques, tools and insights on how to make agri-food value chains more environmentally sustainable, socio-economically balanced and economically competitive. The project pilots several agri-food value chain innovations to see how they, in combination, can improve environmental and socio-economic sustainability.

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