





Increase sustainability in the grapevine sector by introducing payments for ecosystem services provision

Carbon Credits remuneration for vineyard management – Italy

Sustainable Innovation Pilot 10 (SIP10) aims at establishing sustainable vineyard management practices by promoting the payment of ecosystem services, which are the benefits to humans provided by the natural environment and healthy ecosystems. The Carbon Credits (CCs) calculation, by using the Decision Support System (DSS) vite.net® for the vineyard management, provides strong incentives to apply sustainable farming practices, as CCs can be valorised on the voluntary market. Moreover, a parametric insurance mechanism is introduced addressing environmental conditions particularly favourable for grape disease development.

-  **Outcomes:** The application of sustainable vineyard management, following the DSS outputs, results in increased carbon sequestration and decrease direct emission of CO₂, if compared to the usual practice. Carbon savings can be calculated by using the DSS, in compliance with the protocol developed according to the ISO14064 standard and can be valorised as CC in the voluntary market after their validation. The parametric insurance safeguards the farmer in case weather conditions are extremely favourable for pathogen development.
-  **Practical Recommendations:** Effective and clear communication towards farmers and the actors engaged across the entire value chain, as they need to understand the value of the innovation to implement it.
-  **Problems:** Less technological farmers may require to be helped in the use of the DSS as the base for sustainable vineyard management and allows both the CC calculation and the access to the parametric insurance.
-  **Outlook:** The path followed for the valorisation of the CC generated through sustainable crop management can be replicated in other situations and perennial crops.

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Description of project activities

The Ploutos project will develop a Sustainable Innovation Framework that follows a systemic approach to the agri-food sector, building on three pillars: Behavioural Innovation, Sustainable Collaborative Business Model Innovation and Data-Driven Technology Innovation. The project will deploy 11 Sustainable Innovation Pilots, where using a Multi-Actor Approach, new innovative solutions and methodologies will be implemented, tested, assessed and derive practical lessons learned. A Ploutos Innovation Academy will be established as a vehicle for integrating the know-how, best practices and assessments developed across the project and derived from the Sustainable Innovation Pilots.

Objective of the project

The main objective of Ploutos project is to help rebalance the agri-food value chain and enhance its sustainability (economic, environmental and social) by establishing a Sustainable Innovation Framework that is powered by an innovative combination of behavioral change, collaborative business model innovation and data-driven technological services.

PLOUTOS CONSORTIUM



-  33 Partners
-  11 Pilots
-  10 Countries
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