



## ITC Murska Sobota is a part of Farmtopia: European Project Paving the Way for Digital Farming Accessible to All

Farmtopia, a Horizon Europe project running from **September 2023 to August 2026**, aims to democratise digital farming, focusing on small-scale farmers. With **22 partners from 12 countries**, Farmtopia addresses the limited adoption of **Agricultural Digital Solutions (ADSs)** despite substantial investments. These technological solutions hold potential **to boost the economic and environmental performance** of the agricultural sector, especially for **small farms struggling to access cost-effective digital solutions that are suitable for their needs**.

### Small Farms: Big Impact

The coordination team of the project from **NEUROPUBLIC AE PLIROFORIKIS & EPIKOINONION**, explained that Farmtopia envisioned impact includes **providing access to validated ADSs to over 64,000 small farms**.

*“The project will facilitate the co-creation of Agriculture Digital Solutions (ADSs) to ensure they will solve real problems, fit the needs of small farms, and be cost-effective. Thus, we will set up **18 Sustainable Innovation Pilots (SIPs)**. Out of these, **9 pilots have been pre-selected**, while the remaining **9 will be granted through an Open Call process**. These SIPs primarily focus on crops and livestock, addressing the underdeveloped and insufficient existing Agricultural Digital Solutions (ADSs) while also spotlighting regionally important crops. The ADSs will be validated in various countries across Europe.”*

**Dionisis Solomos and Nikolaos Marianos**

**NEUROPUBLIC AE PLIROFORIKIS & EPIKOINONION**

Farmtopia will also develop reusable software modules, business and governance models, and scalable infrastructure for ADSs, which will reduce costs for both farmers and ADS providers.

### Farmtopia’s Open Call for Innovation

The upcoming Open Call will enable the co-creation and testing of smart solutions for small farms by **9 new Sustainable Innovation Pilots (SIPs)**. These farms will benefit from Farmtopia's reusable software modules. A total of **€900,000, equating to €100,000 per SIP** will be distributed.

*“ITC is leading Sustainable Innovation Pilot 5 that aims to enhance the existing Farm Manager application used by farming advisors and leverage the Farmtopia software components to provide a sophisticated SF/DSS solution under My Farm module. Our aim is to minimize environmental impacts of farming and promote long-term improvements in soil quality”*

**Denis Topolnik, Director of ITC Murska Sobota**

### EU Project Cultivating Community

Farmtopia's collaborative approach will bring together a diverse spectrum of stakeholders spanning the entire agricultural value chain, including farmers, ADS providers, farm advisors, scientists, policy makers, AKIS (Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems) actors, and other key stakeholders who will collectively contribute to its mission.



The Farmtopia project has received funding by the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme. All the information is available on the project's [website](#), as well as [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#) and [Youtube](#).

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