



**Connecting research  
centres in Flanders**

# Mission

- Consortium of Flemish knowledge centres
- Broad range of competencies in fundamental and applied agricultural research and advice
- Reinforce synergy & collaboration between members
- Promote and reinforce national & international activities



# Agrolink Flanders Platform

16 knowledge & research institutions with a broad range of competencies in fundamental and applied agri- and horticultural research



# Facts and figures

- 16 members in Flanders
- 3,500 employees
- 136 M€ turnover
- 1,700 running projects
- 3,000 publications per year
- 2 top-10 universities in European rankings
- 555 ha experimental fields
- 8.5 ha experimental greenhouses
- 32,000 m<sup>2</sup> stable facilities
- Numerous quality labels and accreditations
- ...



# From knowledge to innovation

Fundamental  
research

Applied  
research

Practical  
research

Demonstration  
& advice

End user



Knowledge

Innovation



# Agrolink Flanders in EIP-AGRI



- **20 OGs**
- **10 TNs:** NUTRIMAN, EURAKNOS, NEWBIE, FERTINNOWA, SUWANU, AGRIFORVALOR, AFINET, EURODAIRY, 4D4F, DISARM, INNOSETA)
- **18 H2020 MAA projects:** FAIRshare, NEFERTITI, OPTIMA, LIAISON, IOF2020, WATERPROTECT, Nutri2Cycle, DIVERIMPACTS, MYCOKEY, VIROPLANT, SuperPests, MUSA, AgriDemo F2F, XF-actors, nEUROSTRESSPEP, GoodBerry, AGROCYCLE, EUFRUIT
- **22 Focusgroups:** Agroforestry, Animal husbandry, Benchmarking farm performance, Carbon storage in arable farming, Circular horticulture, Dairy production systems, Ecological focus areas, Fertilizer efficiency, Frost damage, Genetic resources, IPM for Brassica, New feed for pigs and poultry, New entrants into farming, Water and Agriculture, Livestock emissions, New feed for pigs and poultry, Non chemical weed management, Permanent grassland, Nutrient recycling, Precision farming, Reducing loss on the farm, Soil-born diseases



# Strategy for the next Agrolink phase

- Contribute to **SDGs** at regional, European and international level
- **Cross-sectoral themes** in agriculture: water, soil, health, biological resources, climate change, energy, biobased innovation and the circular economy
- Contribute to the implementation of the **CAP (AKIS)** (Art. 102, 113)



# 4th SCAR Foresight: AKIS

- **Challenge-oriented** in addition to curiosity-driven
- **Transdisciplinary** = transcending pre-existing disciplines and methodologies
- **Socially distributed** = knowledge creation in diverse forms, in diverse places and by diverse actors → socially inclusive
- **Reflexive** = research as dialogic process and co-creation between all actors ('multi-actor')
- **New rewarding and assessment systems** = quality control transcending classical peer review, old taxonomies in science + multi-actor means multi-quality
- **Competencies** for researchers, extensionists, policymakers, end-users → important role for education + resources to be invested by actors