

## Chair and co-chair:

**Chair:** Monique AXELOS (INRA, FR)

**Co-chair:** Minna HUTTUNEN (MMM, FI)

## Mandate

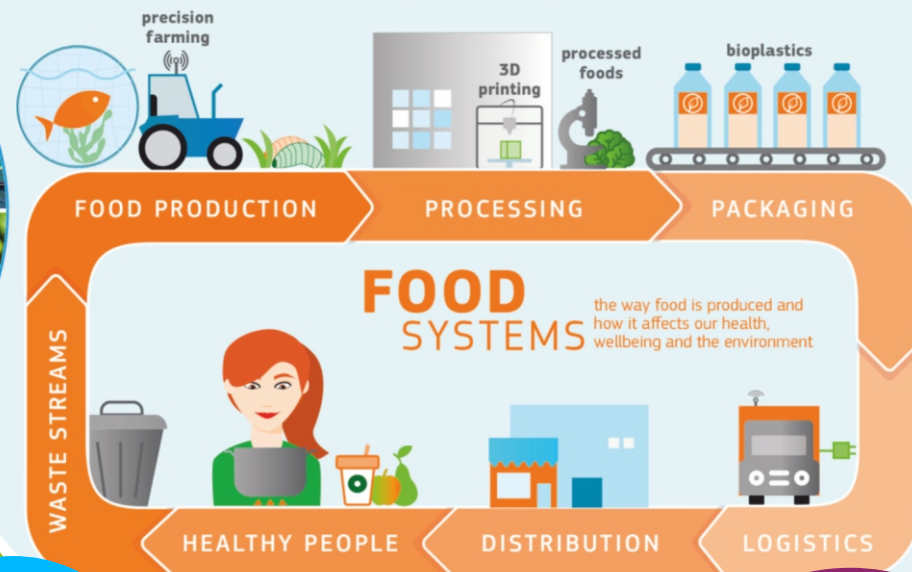
Launched in December 2016 until December 2019, the SCAR FOOD SYSTEMS SWG involves 21 Members States or Associated countries:

AT, BE, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, MT, NL, NO, PO, RO, SE, TR, UK.

The SCAR FOOD SYSTEMS SWG is open to all SCAR participating countries and they can join the group at a later stage.



## R&I for future-proofing food systems



## Contacts

[www.scar-europe.org](http://www.scar-europe.org)

If you would like to get in contact with the SCAR FOOD SYSTEMS (Strategic Working Group), please send an e-mail to:

[monique.axelos@inra.fr](mailto:monique.axelos@inra.fr)

[minna.huttunen@mmm.fi](mailto:minna.huttunen@mmm.fi)



**SCAR**  
Standing Committee  
on Agricultural Research



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## Terms of Reference (ToRs)

- ✓ The SCAR FOOD SYSTEMS SWG provides strategic advice and support to the EU Research & Innovation (R&I) policy framework FOOD 2030, to the Bioeconomy Strategy review in which food plays a central role given the 'food comes first' principle, as well as to the International Bioeconomy Forum (IBF) and to the Member States.
- ✓ The main vision of SCAR FOOD SYSTEM is that food systems should not only deliver food security but also the nutrition security.
- ✓ In this sense, the SCAR FOOD SYSTEMS SWG contributes to move towards better Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) and Research and Innovation (R&I) policy coherence as well as FNS R&I strategic orientation by integrating and analyzing the different regional, national, European and international initiatives and strategies in place.

## Objectives

In order to help EU to face global challenges such as climate changes, migration, a growing world population, urbanization, resource scarcity, triple burden of malnutrition and to find out a solution, SCAR FOOD SYSTEMS SWG provides strategic intelligence and contributes to better R&I policy coherence taking into account the national situations. The aim is to make the food systems more sustainable, resilient, responsible, diverse, competitive, and inclusive.

During its February workshop in 2017, the SCAR FOOD SYSTEMS SWG identified two impactful cross-cutting issues for food systems that are in progress:

- ✓ Monitoring Food Systems: outcome in light of governance and future proofing;
- ✓ Increasing diversity among food systems November during the workshop in The Hague.

## Core-activities

- ✓ To have an overview of the reality of food system approach, the group's main task in 2017 and the first half of 2018 was to provide a mapping of past five years of policy and R&I funding at national level and how it fits with FOOD 2030 key areas.
- ✓ Mapping results across member states reveal that investments are focused on primary production and food processing. This reflects the fragmented and unbalanced nature of R&I investments in food systems, as well as the limited interest in food systems shown by non-primary production stakeholders.
- ✓ The report on the mapping, named: "Assessment of Research and Innovation on Food Systems by European Member States. Policy and Funding Analysis" is available at: <https://scar-europe.org/index.php/food-main-actions/mapping>
- ✓ To better coordinate, connect, structure and scale-up R&I for future-proofing food systems, the FOOD SYSTEMS SWG is carrying out a study on: "Overview and synthesis of existing Food System studies and research projects in Europe".

- ✓ To achieve its objectives, the SCAR FOOD SYSTEMS SWG collaborates with all relevant SCAR SWG/CWG. Several joint workshops have been organised:

- In October 2017, the SCAR FOOD SYSTEMS SWG took part in a common workshop with SCAR AKIS SWG, organized by the European Commission on "Agri-food SMEs collaborating for innovation along the supply chain – What, Why, How?" The report can be found at: <https://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=events&eventcode=36A76C00-99D3-52DE-5D0E57981288B8EA>
- In April 2018, a joint workshop on "Programming Research and Innovation for Improved Impact" was held between SWGs: AKIS, ARCH and FOOD SYSTEMS, with the support of CASA. A policy brief provides specific recommendations and guidelines on how to better programme research and innovation activities to reach tangible impact.
- In June 2018, FOOD SYSTEMS SWG and JPIs: FACCE, HDHL and OCEANS jointly organised a workshop on "Future-Proofing Food Systems" as a side event to the FOOD2030 High Level Conference held in Plovdiv (BG).

