smart 4 food

innovative microlearning for farmers

Synergy plan

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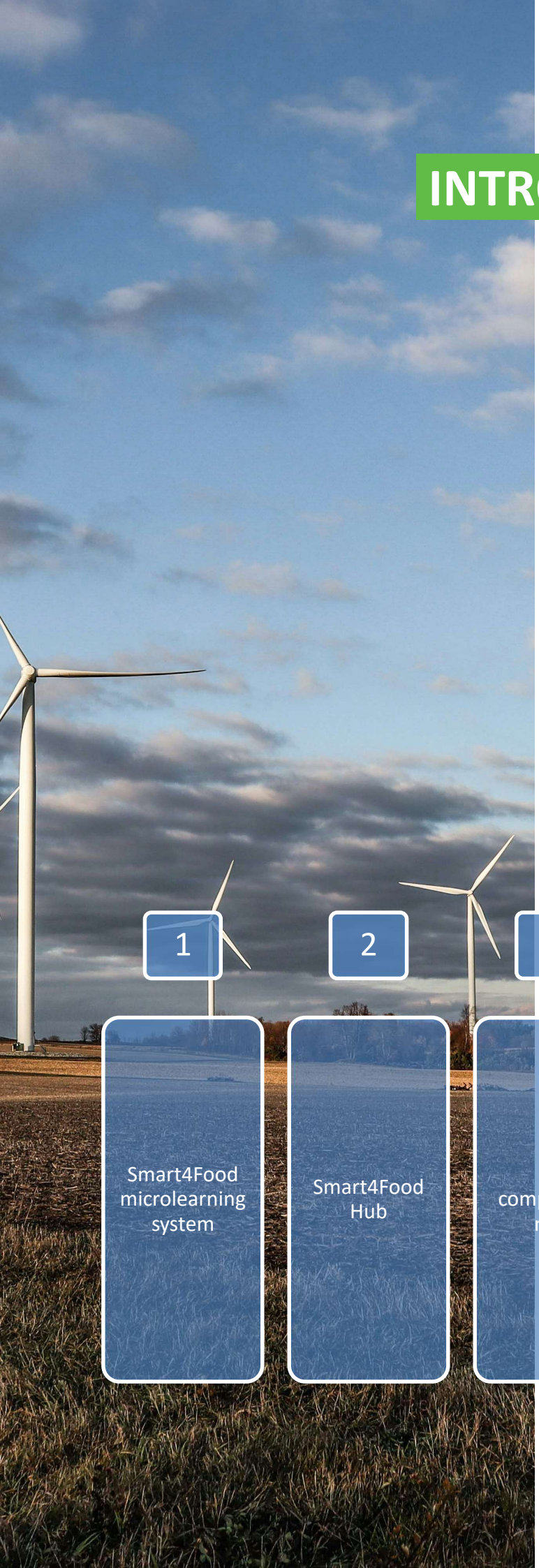


INTRODUCTION

1.Project summary

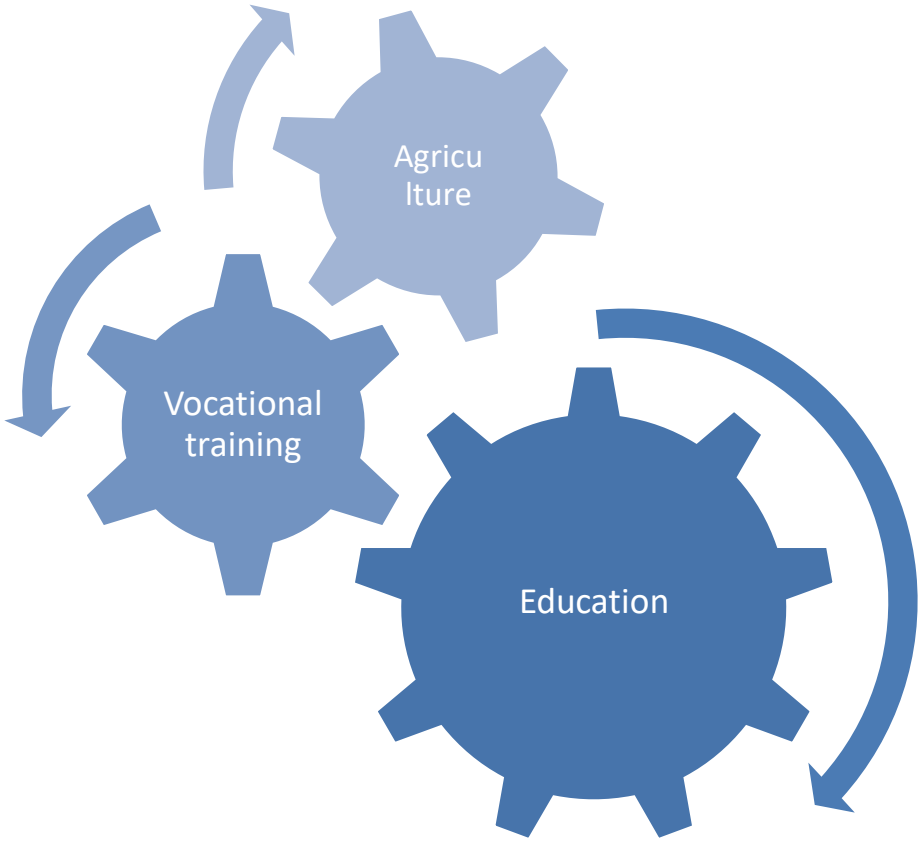
Smart4Food aims to reflect a need of partners and target groups in following:
- to create curriculum and open multimedia education resources (OER) for the smallholders' community;
- to develop the microlearning training platform - Smart4Food Hub - as a synergistic space to strengthen farmers' key competencies defined in the curricula and set of innovative multimedia educational resources based on the microlearning principles;
- roll out and exploitation of the Smart4Food result.

Expected results include:

1	2	3	4	5
Smart4Food microlearning system	Smart4Food Hub	Key competence map	Curriculum and Open Multimedia Education Resources „Smart4Food Innovation Training Program“	Roll out events and exploitation strategy for Smart4Food deliverables.

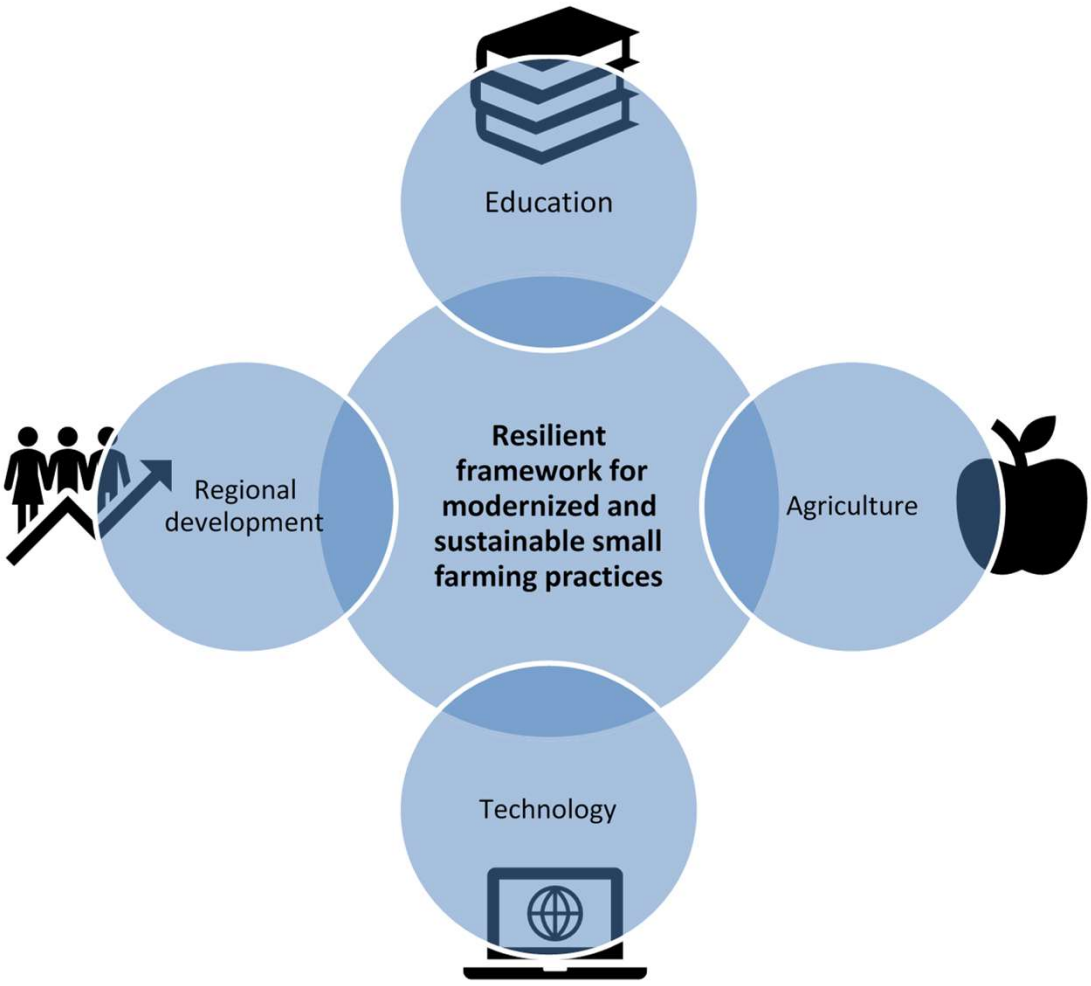
2. Synergy Plan for Smart4Food Project

The Smart4Food project seeks to foster cross-field synergies in education, vocational training, and agriculture by aligning efforts across multiple sectors. This synergy plan outlines strategies for effective knowledge transfer, collaborative learning, and exploitation of results to maximize Smart4Food's impact on sustainable agriculture and rural development.



2.1. Synergy plan objective

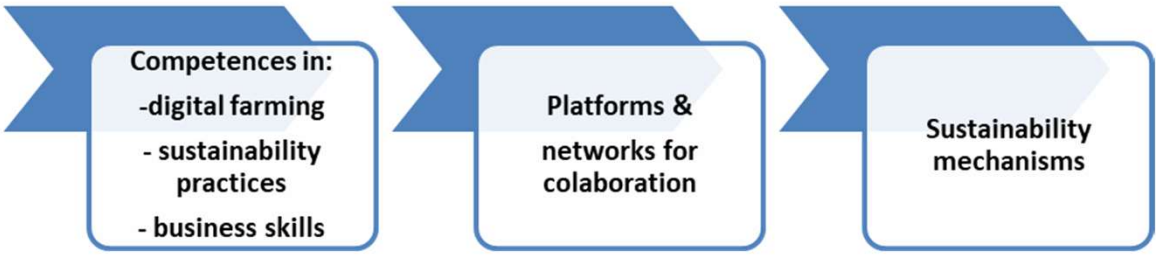
Objective of the Synergy Plan: The primary objective of the synergy plan is to connect various sectors and stakeholders—such as education, agriculture, technology, and regional development—to reinforce the reach and adoption of Smart4Food results. By leveraging the expertise and resources across fields, Smart4Food will build a resilient framework for modernized and sustainable small farming practices throughout the EU.



2.2. Synergy plan goals

To achieve this objective, Smart4Food will focus on **three interconnected goals:**

- Knowledge transfer and skill development: Equip small farmers and agricultural educators with **competencies** in digital farming, sustainable practices, and business skills.
- Cross-field collaboration and innovation: Create **platforms and networks** that encourage collaboration between educators, researchers, policymakers, and agricultural practitioners.
- Long-term exploitation and sustainability: Establish **mechanisms** that ensure the Smart4Food outcomes have a lasting impact, allowing continuous use and evolution of the training materials and methods developed.



3. Synergy Strategies and Key Actions

1. Educational synergies (collaboration with VET institutions and educators)

2. Develop and distribute microlearning modules: Build a digital training system that incorporates microlearning principles, allowing VET institutions and agricultural educators to deliver concise, practical lessons on digital farming and sustainability.

3. Capacity-building for educators: Provide training to over 60 educators to improve their ability to teach modern farming techniques. They will serve as multipliers, helping the project's impact extend across rural communities.

4. Cross-institutional knowledge sharing: Facilitate workshops and seminars that bring together educators from various disciplines to discuss cross-curricular approaches, sharing insights on agriculture, environmental science, and business education.

5. Technological and agricultural synergies (engagement with technology providers and research institutes)

6. SMART4Food Hub for cross-sector exchange: Establish the SMART4Food Hub as an interactive online space where farmers, technology providers, and researchers can share insights, case studies, and best practices.

7. Collaboration with tech companies: Partner with tech companies to introduce smallholders to digital tools like precision agriculture and farm management software. This collaboration will also help tech providers understand the needs of small farmers, shaping future tools to be more farmer-friendly.

8. Research on emerging agricultural practices: Work with agricultural research institutes to test new practices and technology in real-world settings, such as water-saving methods and carbon-reduction strategies, with findings integrated into the Smart4Food curriculum.

9. Community and policy synergies (Engagement with rural development agencies and policymakers)

3. Synergy Strategies and Key Actions

10. Promotion of results at policy levels: Share the project's insights with EU and national policymakers, advocating for supportive policies that incentivize digital adoption and sustainable practices in agriculture.

11. Support for rural development initiatives: Work with regional development agencies to incorporate Smart4Food resources into local farming programs and provide guidance on grant opportunities that support the modernization of small farms.

12. Encouraging youth involvement: Collaborate with rural youth organizations to encourage younger generations to participate in sustainable agriculture by showcasing the innovative, tech-oriented farming approaches promoted in Smart4Food.

4. Public awareness and stakeholder engagement

Roll-out events

Roll-out events and public demonstrations: Host regional roll-out events and field demonstrations to introduce farmers and other stakeholders to Smart4Food resources, helping them understand the value of adopting digital and sustainable farming practices.

Outreach programs

Engagement with rural communities through outreach programs: Conduct outreach activities to reach underserved areas, helping local farmers understand and apply new farming approaches.

Feedback channels

Community-based feedback loops: Create feedback channels where farmers and community stakeholders can provide input on the Smart4Food tools and training, allowing continuous improvement and adaptation to local needs.

5.Expected outcomes of the Synergy Plan

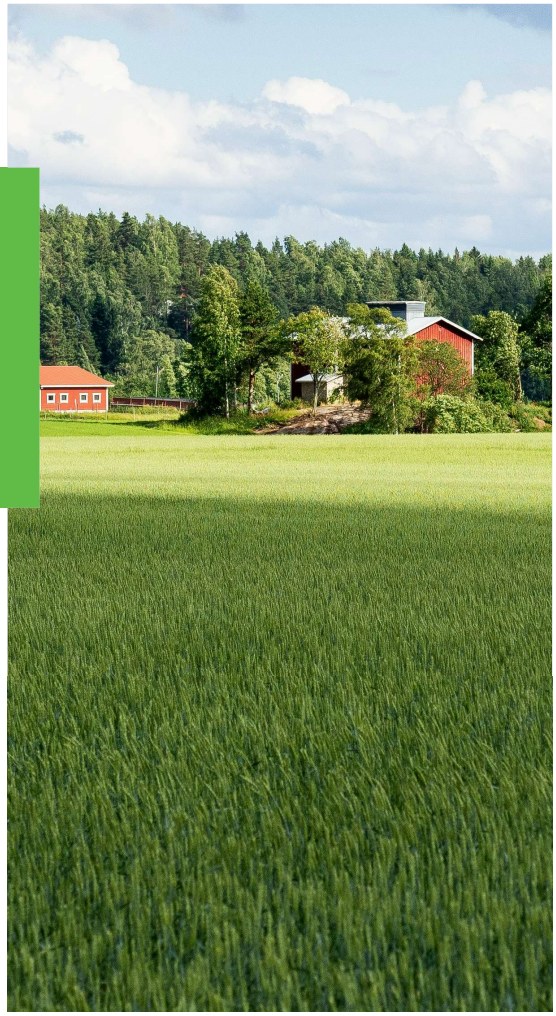
The synergy strategies will generate positive, cross-sector impacts that strengthen the project's sustainability:
- Increased competency and innovation: By training a critical mass of small farmers and educators, the project will increase agricultural competencies in rural areas, promoting technology-driven innovation.
- Enhanced community and policy support for sustainable farming: The partnerships established will build a supportive community that fosters ongoing innovation and adoption of sustainable practices.

6. Lasting impact through sustainable resources and networks

With the Smart4Food Hub and educational materials in place, Smart4Food will remain a valuable resource that educators, policymakers, and rural development agencies can continue to draw from in the future.

7. Conclusion

The Smart4Food Synergy Plan is designed to ensure that the project's results are shared, adopted, and sustained across sectors, benefiting small farmers, educators, and rural communities. By fostering robust connections between education, technology, agriculture, and policy, Smart4Food will drive meaningful progress toward a modern, resilient, and sustainable agricultural landscape throughout Europe.



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