



IPM Decisions

D6.11 List of contributions to EUFRAS

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1.0	Harm Brinks	Production of deliverable
2.0	Harm Brinks	Final version for submission
3.0	Leontine Langner/Jan Kiers	Revised version
3.1	Jan Kiers	Reviewed version

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1 Public summary

EUFRAS is the European Forum for Agricultural and Rural Advisory services. Members of EUFRAS were regularly updated about the progress made in IPM Decisions.



2 Executive summary

EUFRAS is the European Forum for Agricultural and Rural Advisory Services. EUFRAS was established in 2013 as a network of advisory organizations across Europe and has 53 members across 30 countries. EUFRAS members employ a large number of advisors, helping farmers in Europe to develop their business and support sustainable rural development. Advisors are an important target group in IPM Decisions, as they can use Decision Support Systems for Integrated Pest Management (IPM-DSS) in helping farmers to take informed decisions about crop protection and promote the direct use of IPM-DSS to farmers. Members of EUFRAS were regularly updated about the progress made in IPM Decisions. EUFRAS activities are also included in Deliverable 6.8.

3 Activities

Throughout IPM Decisions, the Project Steering Group (PSG) was chaired by Dr Tom Kelly, then Director of knowledge transfer at Teagasc, and founding Chairman of the EUFRAS Board. Dr Kelly provided training on multi-actor engagement as part of the project kick-off meeting in 2019 and attended subsequent Project Management Executive group meetings and consortium meetings. In this role, a close relationship was maintained with EUFRAS during the initial development phases of the IPM Decisions platform, supporting promotion of the three rounds of engagement workshops across Europe. Post launch, engagement with EUFRAS was promoted at the February 2024 annual meeting, EUFRAS representatives attending the IPM Conference in May 2024, and the platform was promoted to EUFRAS members through newsletters and the EUFRAS website. IPM Decisions shared information with EUFRAS members in the following ways:

- 9 September 2022: The IPM Decisions Platform launch was promoted during a EUFRAS meeting in Leuven, Belgium.
- 27-28 February 2024: Updates to the IPM Decisions Platform were demonstrated during the EUFRAS annual meeting in Helsinki/Finland.
- As part of ongoing communications between IPM Decisions and EUFRAS, updates about project and platform progress were shared with the EUFRAS project manager, including:
 - November 2022: Introduction to the platform, including a list of the DSS integrated at the launch of the platform.
 - June 2023: An update about project progress and platform developments.
 - October 2023: An update shortly after implementation of a large number of updates to the platform, with information about new functionality and available DSS.



Table 1: A summary of events at which EufRAS members were directly engaged with the IPM Decisions project.

Event title	Date / Location	Attendees	Event description
Platform launch promotion EufRAS annual meeting	9 September 2022 Leuven, Belgium	50 advisors	During the annual meeting the Platform was promoted via a banner. The banner was presented and discussed during the Informative Poster/ Networking Session.
EufRAS Annual Assembly 2024	27/28 February 2024 Helsinki, Finland	40 advisors	The IPM Decisions platform was demonstrated as part of the session on the first day of the meeting: "Presentation and discussion of ongoing Horizon Europe Cluster 6 projects relevant to rural advisory services". The full meeting agenda can be found here .
IPM Conference 2024	14 May 2024 Brussels, Belgium	150 farmers, advisors, researchers and policy actors	The IPM Conference 2024 provided a forum for stakeholders involved in the development of IPM, and was attended by a range of stakeholders including EufRAS members. The conference included demonstrations of the platform, and the closing remarks were made by Urban Hrovatic from SEASN, and a member of Young EufRAS.

Information about the IPM Decisions platform with a link to the platform was added to the EufRAS website in June 2024: <https://www.eufRAS.eu/ipm-decisions-an-innovative-platform-for-integrated-pest-management-ipm>

4 Conclusion

EufRAS members were regularly updated on project progress through the direct engagement of the EufRAS Chair Dr Tom Kelly, as Chair of the IPM Decisions PSG. Supporting promotion of the IPM Decisions platform launch, additional events and resource sharing was undertaken. Through these activities, many advisory service organizations were provided with information about the project. This facilitated outreach to 18 additional countries in Europe beyond the 12 countries represented by members of the project consortium. Further uptake of IPM DSS through EufRAS members is a good option for the coming years when more DSS might be validated for other countries in Europe.

