



*Virtual Conference 23th March 2021*  
*ReMIX and DIVERSify projects*

## **Intercropping to boost agroecology in European Agriculture**

# **Conclusion**



**ReMIX**  
Species mixtures for redesigning  
European cropping systems



THIS PROJECT HAS RECEIVED FUNDING FROM  
THE EUROPEAN UNION'S HORIZON 2020 RESEARCH  
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AGREEMENT N. 727217



# Hot topics in intercropping: *achievements and challenges*

**Speakers:** Eric Justes (Cirad, FR) and Alison Karley (JHI, UK)

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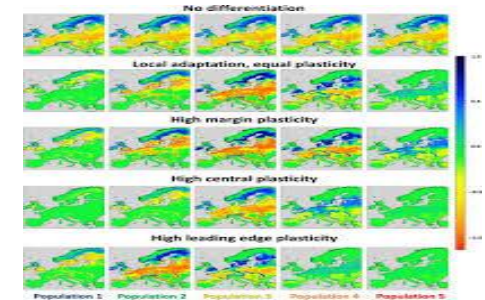
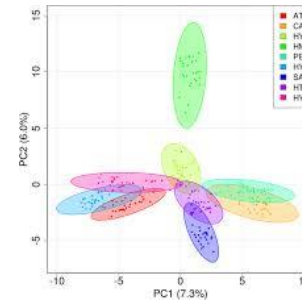
Henrik Hauggaard-Nielsen (RUC, DK)

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## Achievements on Production from intercropping

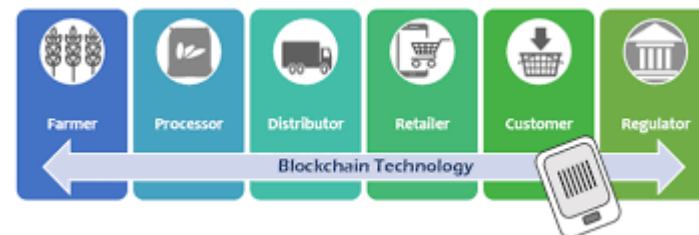
- Global understanding for local adaptation
- A reliable and secure crop production supporting EU protein plan
- Reduced dependence on agrochemicals and fertilisers compared to sole crops





## ***Achievements on Boosting adoption/knowledge exchange***

- Embracing the digital mindset - including the need for myth busting
- Widening participation - Tools for intercropping as a project legacy
- Innovation across the whole supply chain and unlocking the agri-food chain



## ***Achievements on Policy (European & National levels)***

- Delivering robust intercrops for Policy goals
  - EU Green deal
  - EU Protein plan
  - Diversification of crops



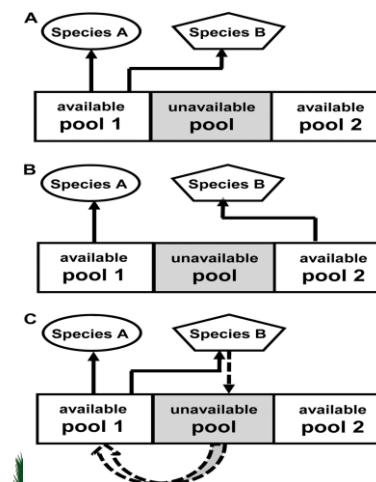
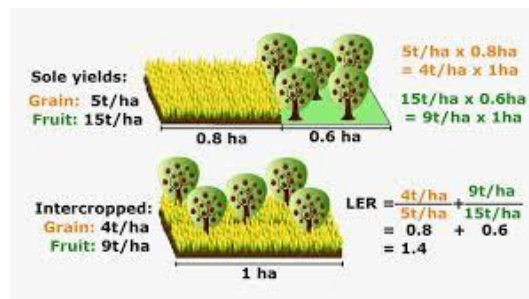
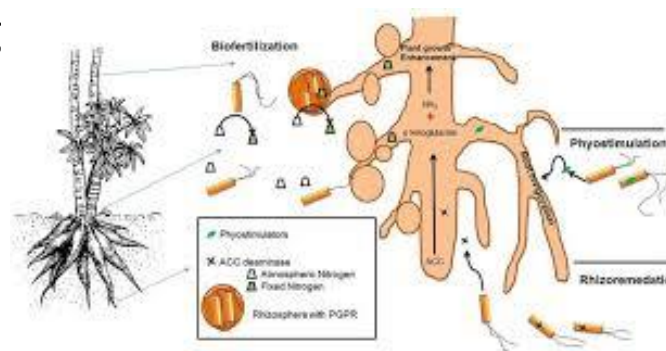
**European Conference  
on Crop Diversification**  
September 18-21, 2019  
Budapest, Hungary





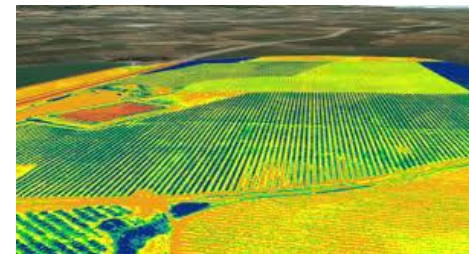
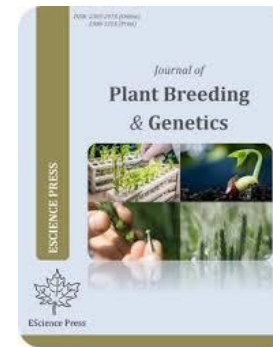
## Scientific challenges

- Understanding the intercropping microbiome
- We need more relevant metrics for **Triple I** analysis (**I**ntra-specific and **I**nter-specific **I**nteractions in intercrop)



## *Practical challenges*

- Selection of fit-for-purposes ideotypes for intercrop systems
- Precision farming and numerical agriculture for boosting intercropping development in Europe



## *Societal challenge*

- Institutional change and capacity building across services and academia
  - Shift away from “input based” to “natural-based” solutions
  - New approaches in education for farmers and agricultural advisors





## Societal challenge

- Institutional change across the supply chain “equipping different communities to change”
  - New partnership needed
  - From fork to farm paradigm?



## *In conclusion*

- Paradigm shift is needed
- Yes we can!
- Intercrop, just a brick in the wall!





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#### PARTNERS IN ReMIX

