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DairyMix: Multi-criteria assessment, decision support and management tools for sustainable circular mixed farming systems for dairy production

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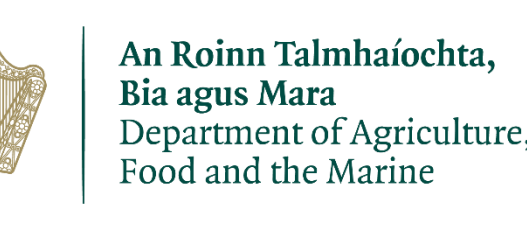
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1.Introduction

The DairyMix project aims to contribute to the development of more sustainable circular mixed farming systems for dairy production that reduce external inputs and develop decision support and management tools.

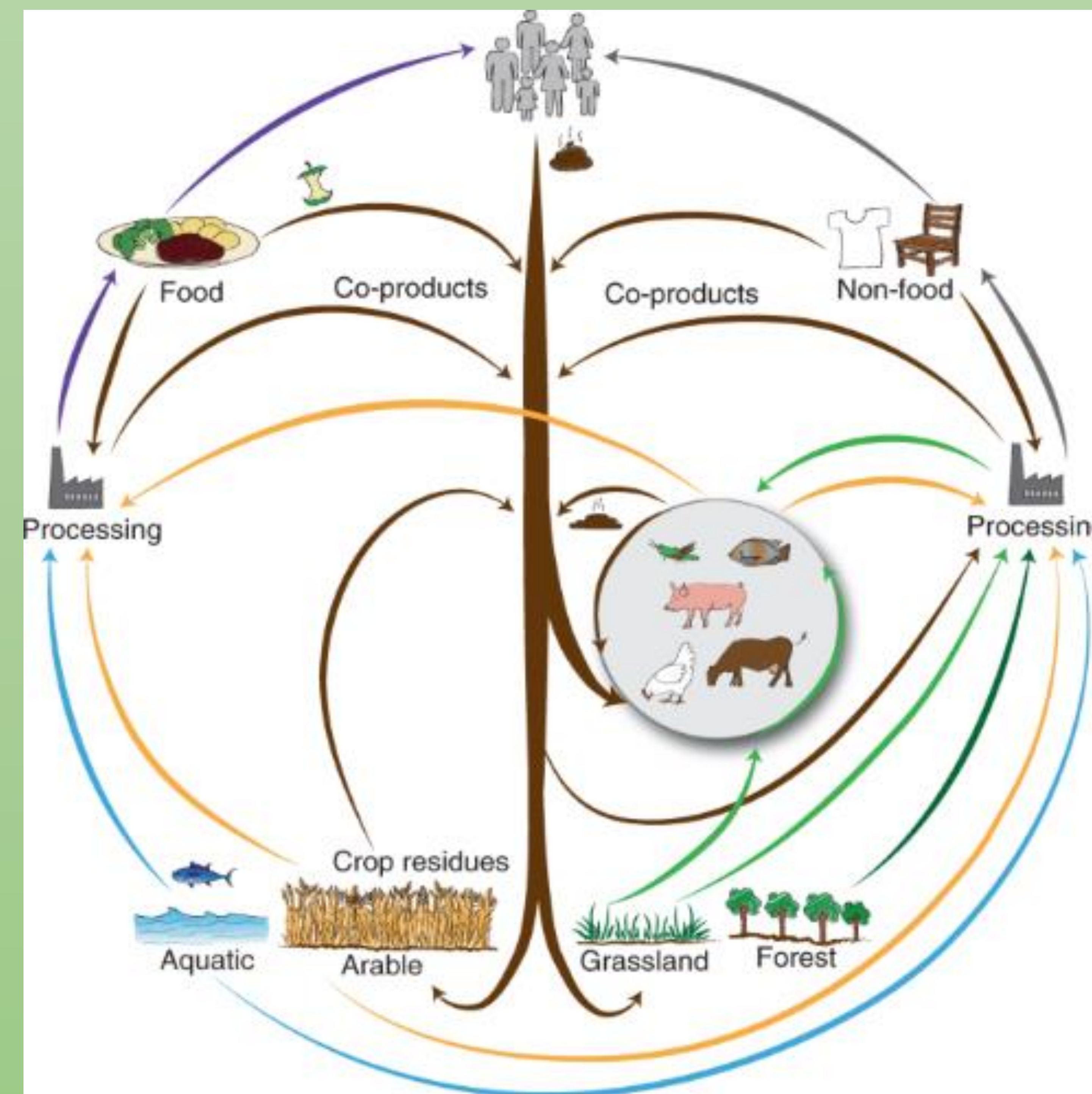
DairyMix will be a major step forward in achieving greenhouse gas mitigation and circularity between cropping systems and dairy production systems with flexible and context specific solutions being developed for key European areas and for Latin America.

2. A focus on circularity

Circularity refers to the concept of creating closed-loop systems where resources are used efficiently and waste is minimized.

Circularity assessment is important for agriculture due to its resource use and energy intensive nature.

The majority of dairy production systems rely heavily on external inputs, resulting in limited circularity.

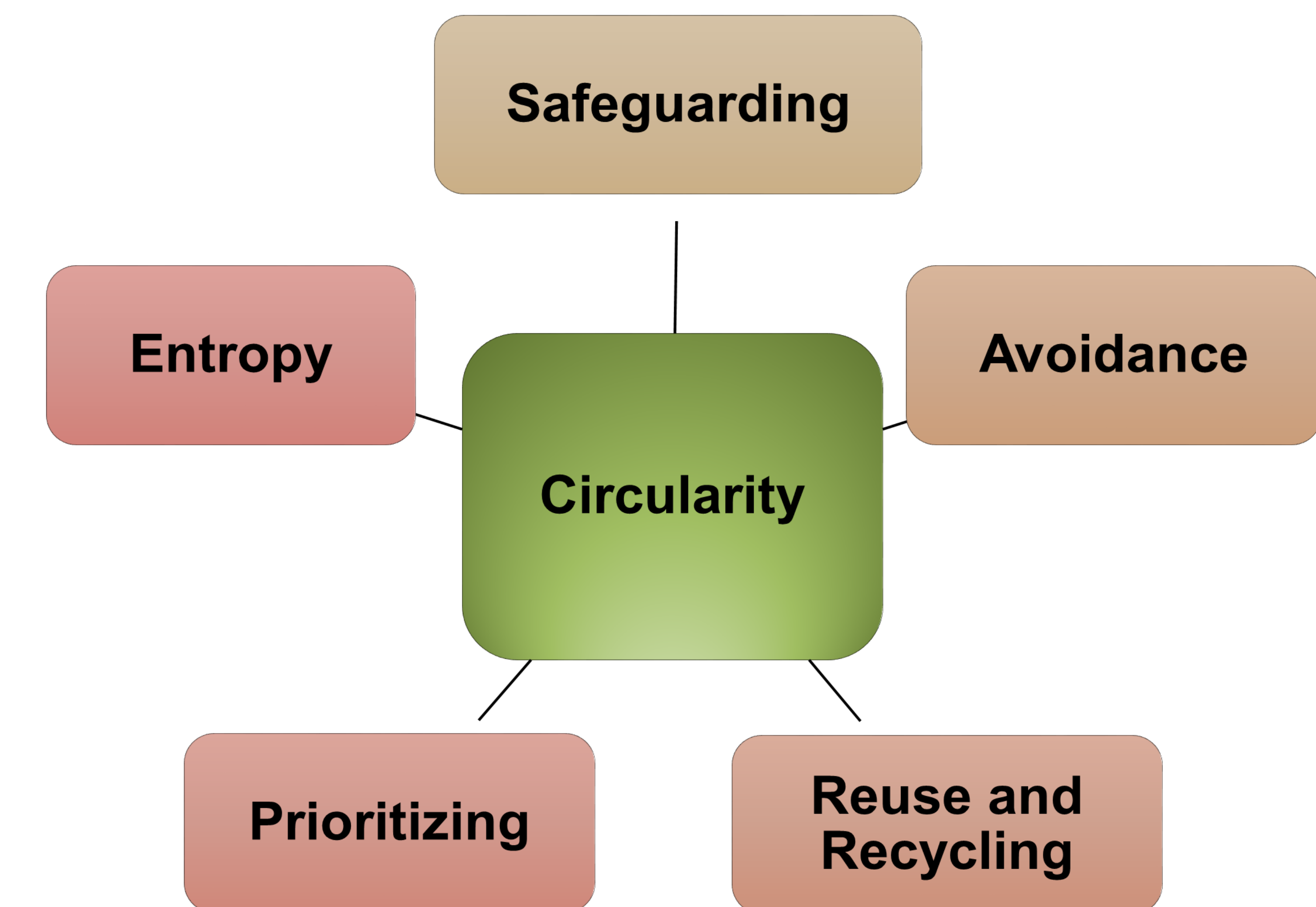


(Image courtesy of Muscat et al. (2021))**

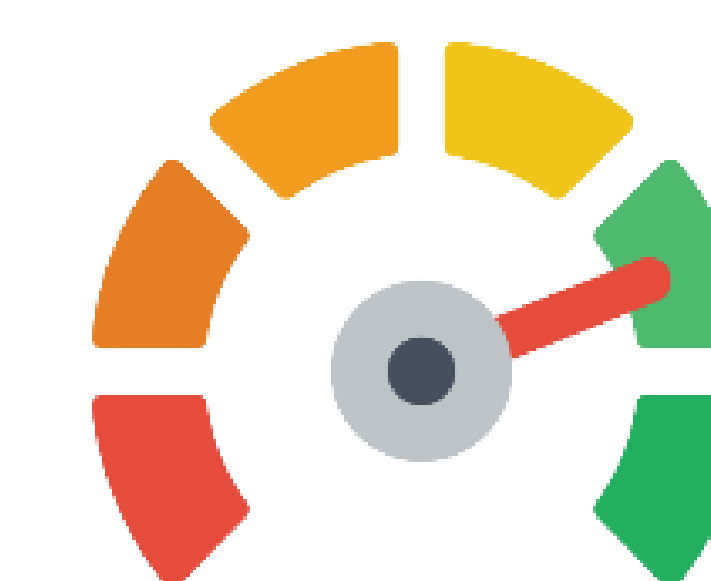
DairyMix aims to assess circularity on case study dairy farms in Europe and Argentina, with a circularity index.

3. Developing a circularity index

The circularity index will comprise indicators representative of the five principles of the circular bioeconomy, as identified by Muscat et al. (2021).**

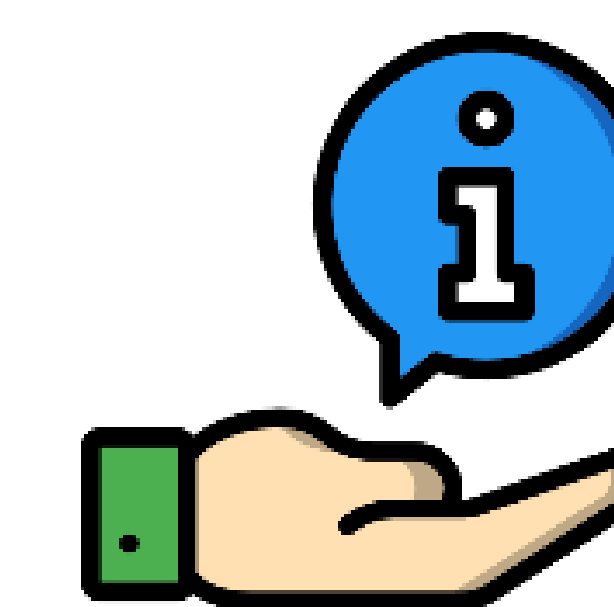


4.Next stage of research



Establish circularity performance of case study farms with circularity index.

Compare index with sustainability indicators to identify trade offs and synergies.



Incorporate results in DairyMix information platform to inform farmers and stakeholders.

Project partners

