

Information and Communication Technologies and Robotics for Sustainable Agriculture

ICT-AGRI

FP7 ERA-NET 2010-2014 -2017

Xenophon Tsilibaris

Greek Research & Technology Network
(GRNET)

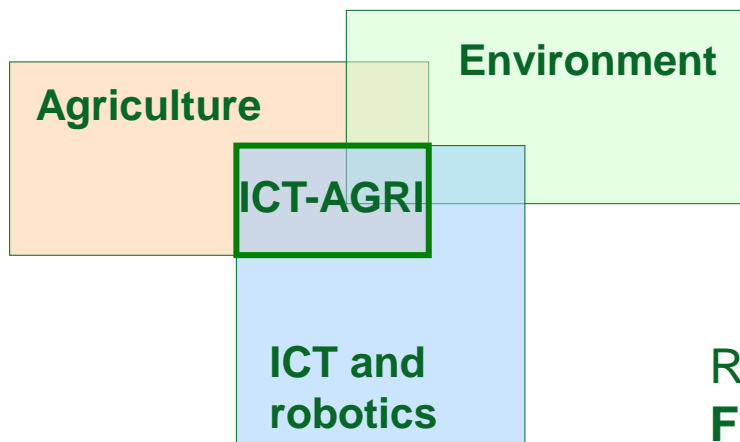


ict-agri.eu





A cross-thematic FP7 ERA-NET



ICT and robotics for a greener and competitive agriculture

Runs from May 2009 to March 2014.
Follow-up from March 2014 to March 2017

19 partners
2 associated partners
10 observers
21 countries

ict-agri.eu

Belgium
Czechia
Denmark
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Poland
Romania
Slovakia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
United Kingdom





What is an ERA-NET?

- **E**uropean **R**esearch **A**rea - **NET**work
- Participants must be a national funding agency or associated with such
- Focus on a sub-area within the ERA
- Currently 64 active networks in FP7
- Typical activities:
 - Mapping of current research and development
 - Elaboration of Strategic Research Agenda
 - Conduction of transnational joint calls





Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and robotics for sustainable agriculture - ERANET

There is a growing worldwide need to **integrate modern agricultural engineering tools** for enabling agriculture to meet the **global demand for food, feed and bio-based products**, to reduce the **environmental footprint** of agriculture, to respond to **customers demand for healthy food** and to combine **precision livestock farming** with high **animal welfare** standards.

The aim of this ERA-NET is to **link-up efficiently national research** programmes in ICT and robotics for sustainable agriculture. In consultation with relevant Technology Platforms (TP), like **Manufacture-Agricultural Engineering Technologies**, **TP Organics** and **others**, a common European research agenda based on shared priorities will be established and updated. The ERA-NET will build on previous mapping to enhance the coordination of European Research capacity.





Goals, results and expectations

	GOALS	RESULTS & EXPECTATIONS
1	A public knowledge base concerning R&D	Country Report ICT-AGRI Meta Knowledge Base
2	A widely accepted Strategic Research Agenda	Final version approved. Release 12 th December 2012
3	Three calls for trans-national projects	1 st call 2010 – 7 projects funded 2 nd call 2012 – 7 projects funded 3 rd call 2013 - considered
4	Viable networks for funders and researchers	ICT-AGRI 2 from 2014
5	Support actions for coordinated R&D	Public-Private Partnerships





ICT-AGRI Meta Knowledge Base

- By users: Input of profiles and abstracts
- For users: Search for partners and knowledge
- ICT-AGRI: Source for research agenda and call topics

Registered users	1056	😊
Organisation profiles	211	😊
Person profiles	481	😐
Research (concluded and ongoing) abstracts	243	😞
Search in external databases	2	😐
Discussion forum	9	😞
Online consultation of SRA		😊
Call: Partner search	new	
Call: Electronic Submission System		😊





ICT AGRI - PPP Action

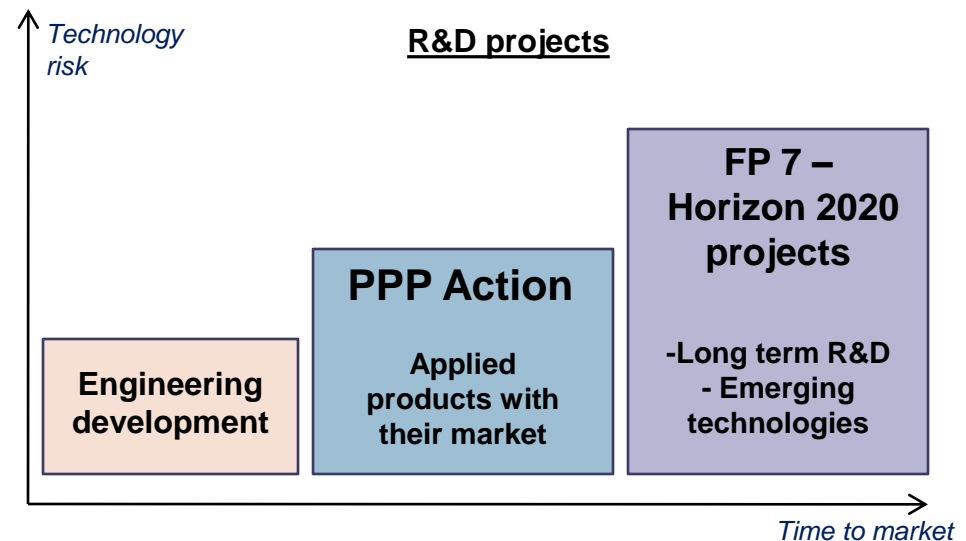
Definition: Public-Private Partnerships in the broader sense (end users, Private companies, Public research centers, etc.)

Main objective:

To develop public-private partnerships/consortia on the European level in ICT and Robotics in Agriculture.

Main idea:

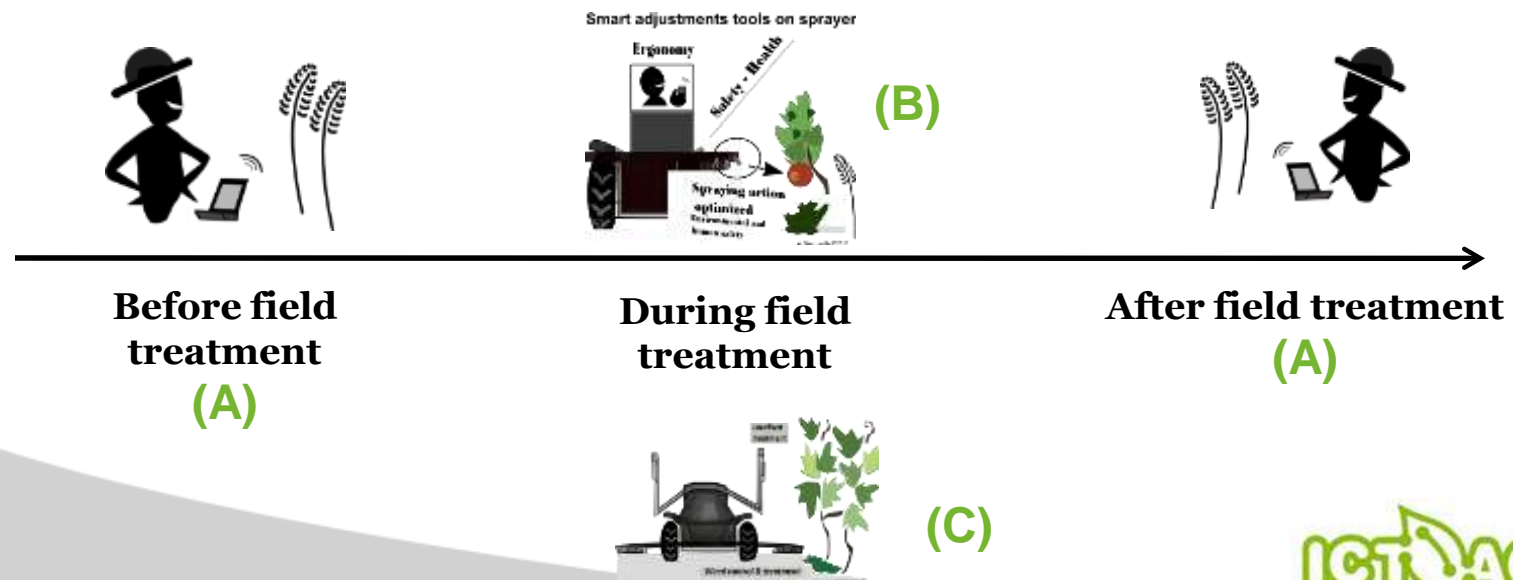
Innovation Partnerships :
“From the idea to the market” (with success!!)





Challenge & 3 products/solutions

- **Challenge** : The reduction of the use of pesticides (*European Directive 2009/128/EC*) & *the possibilities offered by ICT and robotics*
 - **A product: E-services package** (unified portal of 'e-services')
 - **B product: Smart Adjustment Tools on sprayer machines**
 - **C product : Combined Robotic Platform** (combine several actions)





ICT-AGRI Joint Calls

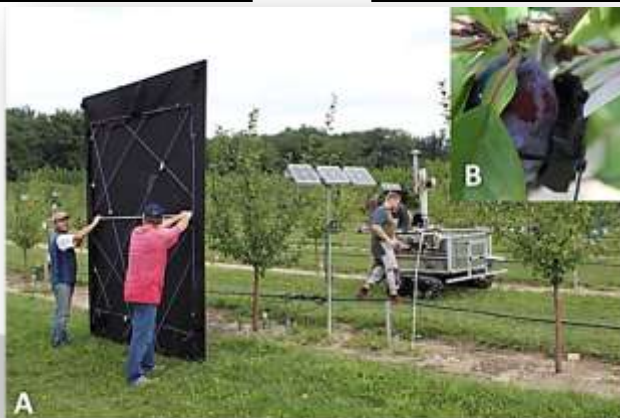
Virtual pot: National funding to national partners
Minimum 3 countries, European added value

Farm level integration of ICT, automation and robotics (2010)

7 projects funded with 4,210 k€
Started 2011, duration 2 years
Presentations in this Conference

ICT and Automation for a Greener Agriculture (2012)

8 projects funded with 5,630 k€
Starting 2013, duration 3 years.
Look up details on ict-agri.eu





Call 2010 projects

3D-Mosaic: Advanced monitoring of tree crops for optimized management

GeoWebAgri: Geospatial ICT infrastructure for agricultural machines and FMIS in planning and operation of precision farming

PIGWISE: Optimizing performance and welfare of pigs using high-frequency RFID and synergistic control on an individual level

Predictor: Preparing for the EU Soil Framework Directive by optimal use of information and communication technology across Europe

QUAD-AV: Ambient awareness for autonomous agricultural vehicles

ROBOFARM: Integrated robotic and software platform as a support system for farm-level business decisions



STRATOS: Open system for tractors' autonomous operations





Call 2012 projects

DairyICT: ICT in large and small dairy systems

FarmFUSE: Fusion of multi-source and multi-sensor information on soil and crop for optimized crop production

GrassBots: User-centric adoption of sustainable farming operations involving ICT and robotics – Case: Grassland harvesting operations for biogas and biorefinery plants

ICTGRAZINGTOOLS Use of ICT tools to capture grass data and optimize grazing management

i-LEED: Advanced cattle feeding on pasture through innovative pasture management

ITApic: Application of information technologies in precision apiculture

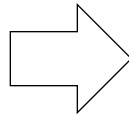
SILF: Smart Integrated Livestock Farming: integrating user-centric & ICT-based decision-support platforms

USER-PA: Usability of environmentally sound and reliable techniques in precision agriculture



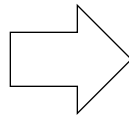
Strategic Research Agenda Recommendations

Inter-disciplinary
research



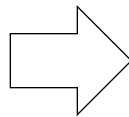
Coordinated, cross-thematic research
Researcher mobility and career
Innovative solutions for farmers

Stakeholder's
expertise



Shared farm data
Third-party products in farm ICT
Education and training of farmers

Compatible
systems



European effort on standardisation
Involve automation + ICT producers
Involve national + EU administration





ICT-AGRI-2

Principal objective:

**enhanced and
improved use of
ICT and robotics**



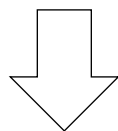
**eco-efficient,
resource-efficient
and competitive
agriculture**



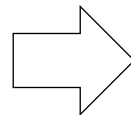


ICT-AGRI-2 SRA implementation

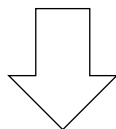
Identify needs
and solutions



**Action plan for
implementation of the
Strategic Research Agenda**



Implementation in EU
and national initiatives



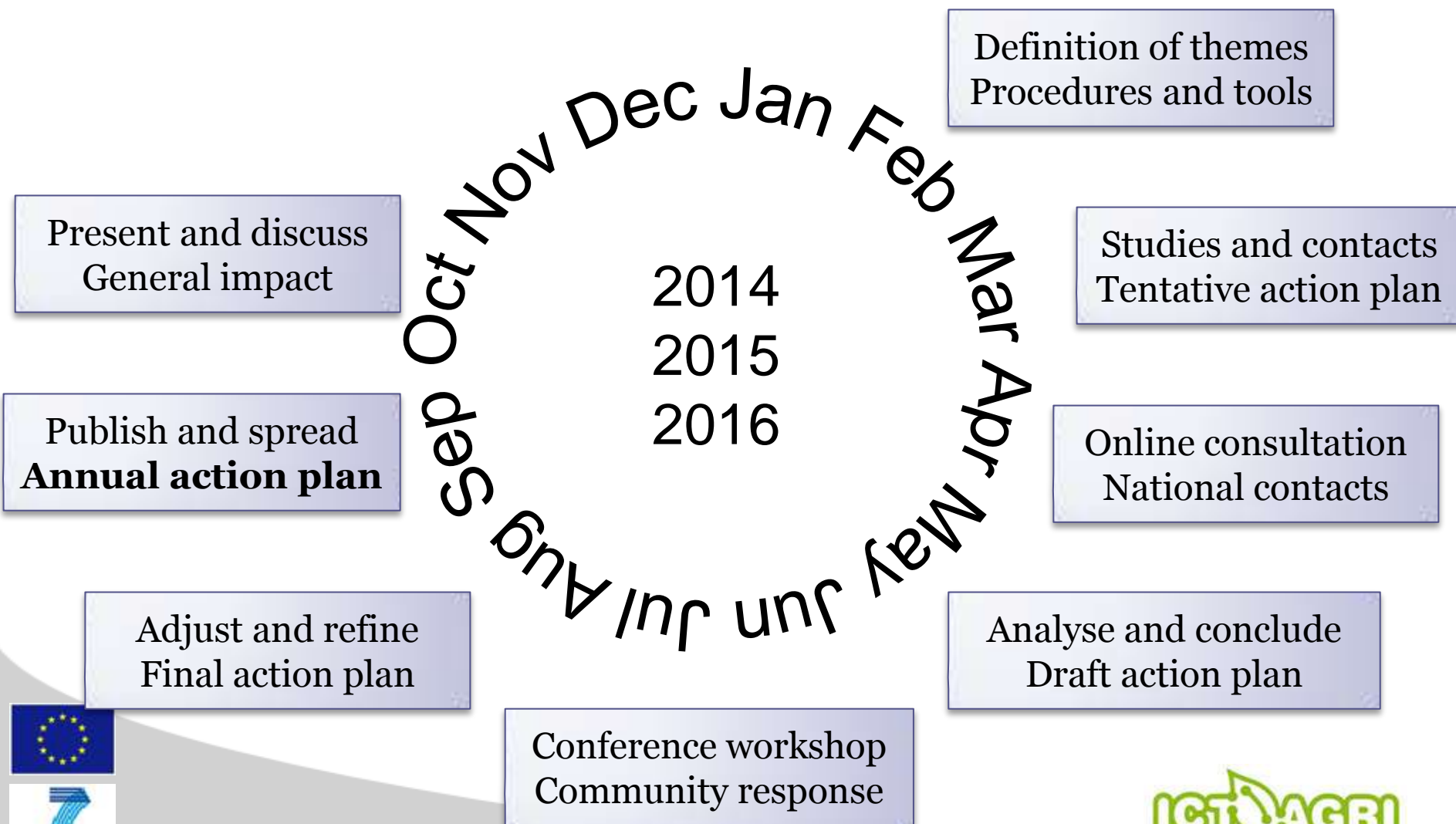
Implementation in
transnational calls

Three annual repeats





Action plans: Needs and solutions





Call preparation

Call documents
Pre-launch

Call and topics decisions
Funding commitments

Approach funders
Funding contributions

Action plan pre-view
Call themes and models

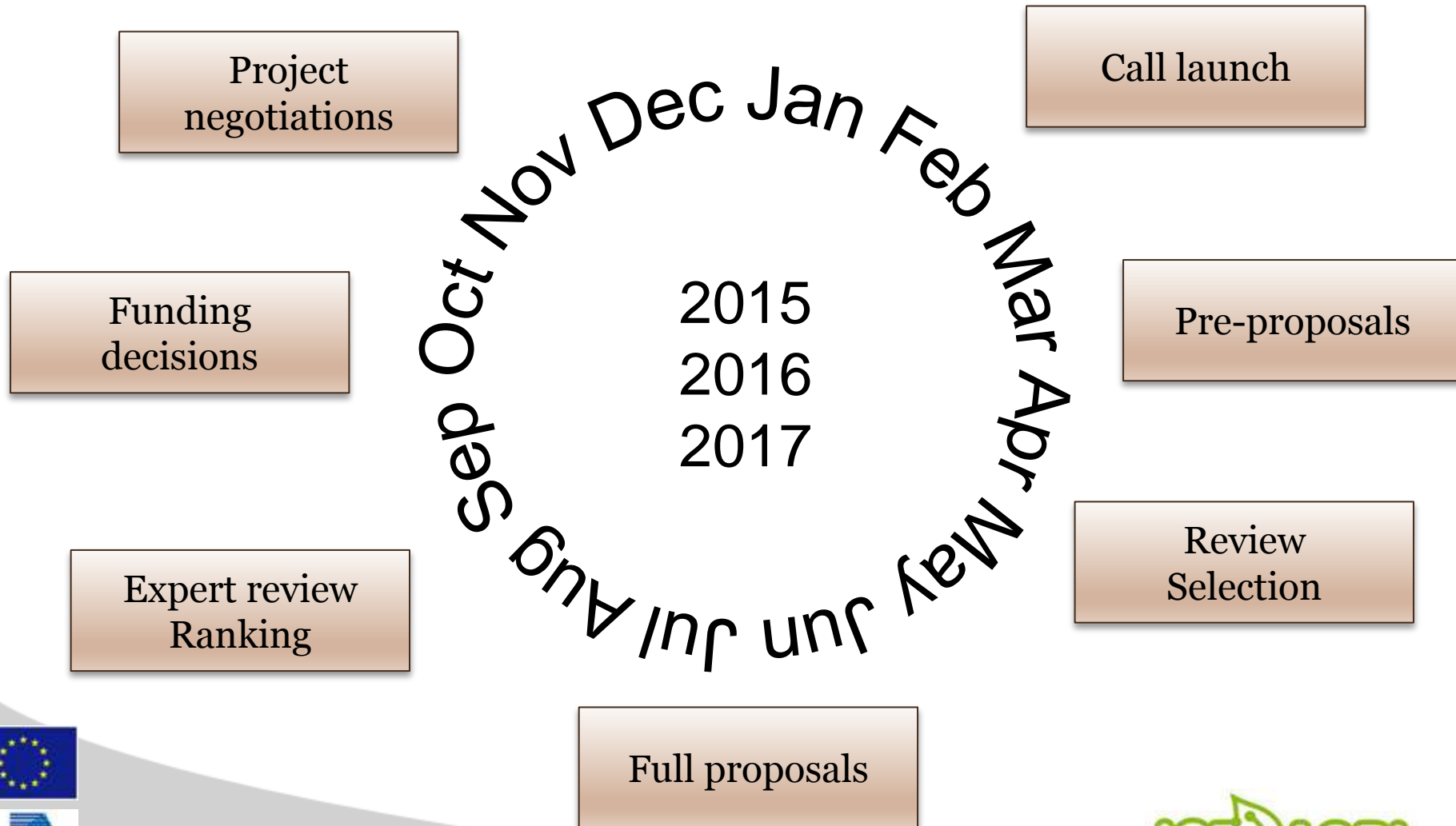
2014
2015
2016

Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul





Call implementation (RTD)





Call models

- Trans-national R&D, open topics, best proposals within available funding
- Trans-national R&D, specific topics, one project per topic, competitive or non-competitive
- Trans-national innovation, support of cross-country transfer of ICT and robotics
- Trans-national innovation, ICT-AGRI-2 funded core project and national funded application projects





Coordination within the European Research Area

- Open Access to scientific and technical information – assessment and support
- Researcher mobility and career – facilitation and support by funding activities
- Facilitation of networking activities:
 - Between ICT-AGRI-2 partners
 - With other European coordination actions
 - Amongst ICT-AGRI-2 funded researchers





Help us to achieve our goals

- Visit our website: ict-agri.eu
- Register in **Meta Knowledge Base** and news
- **Be found** for projects:
- **Find partners** for your projects:
- Post to the **Forum**
- Respond to **online consultations**
- Contact the national ICT_AGRI partner
- Send a **mail**



Thank you for your attention

