Get involved

Active engagement with stakeholders is critical to ensure that MIND STEP is developing a toolbox tailored to the research and policy questions identified in collaboration with the main stakeholders.

There will be many opportunities to get involved in MIND STEP, including

- participating in workshops,
- virtual co-creation community,
- sign up for the MIND STEP newsletter.

Follow our work

Coordinated by

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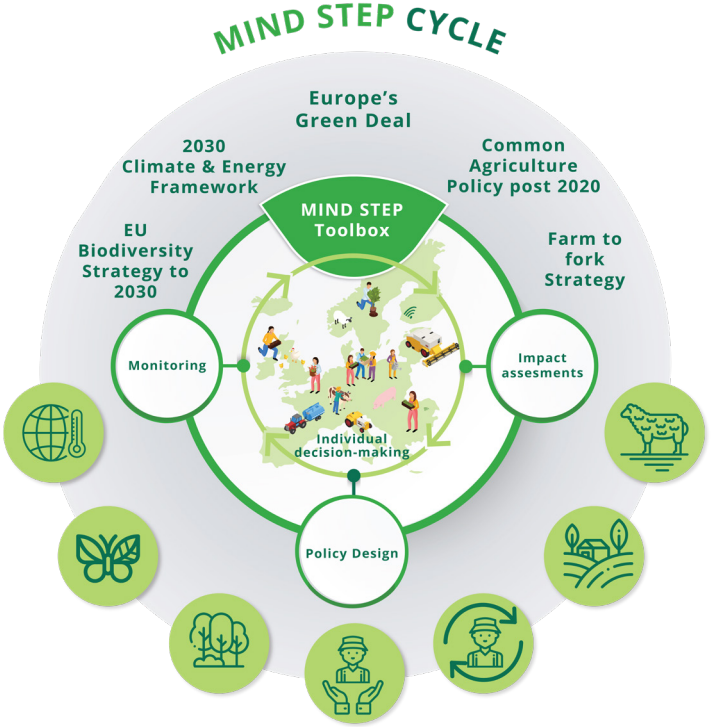
Partners

MIND STEP is part of the Agrimodels Cluster (www.agrimodels-cluster.eu) that brings together H2020 research projects which operate in countries across Europe to increase the modelling capabilities in the agriculture sector.

Also visit our fellow projects:
http://bestmap.eu/
https://agricore-project.eu/

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement N° 817566.

Modelling Individual Decissions to Support The European Policies related to agriculture



MIND STEP

Background: **Why this project?**

MIND STEP addresses the Work Programme Topic RUR-04-2018-2019, contributing to Rural Renaissance by further developing analytical tools and models to support policies related to agriculture and food. A. [2018] Developing new models supporting policies related to agriculture.

Agricultural policies like the EU CAP are widening the scope to contribute to the Paris climate agreement and the Sustainability Development Goals. From the Commission's legislative proposals (June 2018) it is expected that the European Union (EU) Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) will be redesigned in line with this. Consequences are among others a move of the CAP to farm specific measures and an improved link to environment, climate change and ecosystem services. It is proposed that Member States and regions develop their own CAP strategic plan with more attention to the regional implementation of the CAP. This wider scope and measures with a focus on individual farmers ask for a new generation of impact assessment tools. Current state-of-the-art agricultural models are not able to deliver individual farm and local effects as they are specified at higher levels of aggregation.

Website	https://mind-step.eu
Cordis project sheet	https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/223209/factsheet/en
Funding programme	H2020-RUR-04-2018-2
Start date	01.09.2019
End date	31.08.2023

What MINDSTEP is about?

The overall ambition of MIND STEP is to support public decision making in agricultural, rural, environmental and climate policies, taking into account the behaviour of individual decision-making units in agriculture and the rural society.

The MIND STEP specific objectives are

- to develop a highly modular and customisable suite of Individual Decision Making (IDM) models focussing on behaviour of individual agents in the agricultural sector to better analyse impacts of policies, working together with policymakers, farmers and other stakeholders
- to develop linkages between the new IDM models and current models used at the European Commission to improve the consistency and to broaden the scope of the analysis of policies,
- to develop an integrated data framework to support analysis and monitoring of policies related to agriculture,
- to apply the MIND STEP model toolbox to analyse regional and national policies and selected EU CAP reform options and global events affecting the IDM farming unit
- to safeguard the governance and future exploitation of the MIND STEP model toolbox.

How project objectives **will be achieved?**

Based on a common data framework MIND STEP will develop IDM models, including agent-based models, focussing on different topics in an integrated manner in different regional case studies. The IDM models will be estimated and calibrated using agricultural statistics and big datasets, drawing on established econometric and evolving machine learning techniques and using both traditional models of optimising behaviour and theories from behavioural econoamics.
MIND STEP will closely cooperate with a range of stakeholders to co-create and apply the MIND STEP model toolbox to selected regional, national and EU wide policy cases. MIND STEP cooperates with other consortia under the topic to share ideas and innovations.

What impacts are expected?

- improvement of the capacity to model policies dealing with agriculture and related natural resources, food and international trade
- improvement of policy design, impact assessments and monitoring
- strengthened transdisciplinary research and integrated scientific support for relevant EU policies and priorities.