

LIFE GAIA Sense

Newsletter #3

The smart farming journey.

How can smart farming contribute to the conservation of natural resources and inputs in agriculture?
 Is smart farming an approach that can lead to the reduction of the environmental impact of agriculture?
 Can Circular Economy models be supported by a smart farming-based production management approach?

These are some of the questions that the LIFE GAIA Sense project aims to address during the three years of its life time. The answers will come from the 13 demonstrators that the project will launch across Greece, Spain and Portugal covering 9 crops (olives, peaches, cotton, pistachio, potatoes, table tomatoes, industrial tomatoes, walnuts, kiwi) in various terrain and microclimatic conditions.

The project's results will be applied to the field and in order to measure the rate of decline of inputs on selected crops. A correlation between the gaiaSense results and the targets set as policy by EU over the Circular Economy will also take place, in order to highlight the contribution of smart farming in complying with these policies.

Stay tuned for updates!

Participation to scientific events and workshops

The LIFE GAIA Sense project was presented as a poster in the 37th International Technical Meeting on Air Pollution Modelling and its Application in Hamburg, Germany, during the period 23 - 27 September 2019. The title of the presentation was "Innovative atmospheric dispersion modelling in support of smart farming applications within the frame of the EU LIFE- GAIA SENSE project". The ITM is one of the most prominent forums for discussing the latest scientific developments and applications related to air pollution modelling, bringing together scientists and other stakeholders from the air pollution, climate change, policy, and health communities from across the globe.



LIFE GAIA Sense project was presented at "Bio-Horizon SC2 and KET-B Brokerage Event", which was organized by Bio-horizon project of the Horizon 2020. Specifically, Mr. Nikos Kalatzis, NEUROPUBLIC's Technical Project Manager, was invited to make a presentation in Session 1: Sustainable Food Security of the event. During his presentation titled "Solutions for smart farming and digital agriculture" which was the event's first presentation by an SME, Mr. Kalatzis referred to the gaiaSense smart farming systems as an efficient mean for digitizing agriculture, presented the future research objectives of the company and mentioned NEUROPUBLIC's European projects, in which gaiaSense plays an active role:

- H2020 Internet of Food & Farm 2020 (IoF2020)
- H2020 NVA - New VACS Vision in Action
- H2020 DataBio
- LIFE GAIA Sense
- H2020 SmartAgriHubs

Participation to networking events

LIFE GAIA Sense project was promoted in the context of the 6th Panhellenic Congress on the Development of Greek Agriculture, which took place on October 25th, 2019 at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC). The Congress was widely attended by more than 750 participants and the project's roll-up banner & leaflets was available in the specially designed area of the Congress for the dissemination of projects. This has provided the opportunity for extensive public information and networking of LIFE GAIA Sense with other funded projects from the European Union, such as DataBio, Polirural, IPM Decisions and Tomres. Finally, significant interaction was also achieved with the RESEARCH-CREATIVITY-INNOVATION programs: "SymbIoT: Incorporating GNSS capabilities into field telemetry stations to deliver high-quality navigation and precision farming services" and "SmartPeach: Developing Intelligent Agriculture Techniques to Optimize the Application of Inputs to Cone and Peach Culture".



On December 12th 2019, the LIFE Cyclamen project team organized a LIFE Networking Event which aimed at networking all kinds of potential beneficiaries of the LIFE Programme.

The event took place at Hall1010 in Nicosia, Cyprus, and was attended by a diverse audience consisting among others, of representatives from public authorities, research and academic organizations, private companies, NGOs and other stakeholders from various sectors. Mr. Nicos Panimeros, Climate Change Officer of the Greek LIFE Task Force, also attended the event.

Dr. Vasilis Protonotarios from NEUROPUBLIC, the coordinating body of the LIFE GAIA Sense project, was among the invited participants of the event and presented the LIFE GAIA Sense project. Through his presentation, Dr. Protonotarios introduced the audience to the concept of smart farming, listed its benefits – focusing on the environmental ones – and presented the gaiaSense smart farming system on which the project is based. The last part of the presentation focused on the LIFE GAIA Sense project and highlighted its aims and objectives, ongoing work and contribution to the mitigation of the environmental impact of agriculture.



Participation to networking events

CONFAGRI promoted the LIFE GAIA Sense project during AgroSemana, the Portuguese Northern Agricultural Fair, took place at Póvoa de Varzim, Portugal, between 29/8 and 1/9 in the Agros Space.



LIFE GAIA Sense at OVIBEJA

CONFAGRI promoted the LIFE GAIA Sense project during OVIBEJA, which is an Agricultural and Sheep Breeders Fair that took place at Beja, Portugal, between 24-25/4/2019.

LIFE GAIA Sense at Copa-Copeca's Working Party

In the context of the meeting of the ad hoc Working Party on Research and Innovation (RESI) that was held at the Copa-Copeca Secretariat, 23rd September 2019, LIFE GAIA Sense was presented. Prof. George Kormantas and Dr. Nikos Marianos, had the opportunity to present and highlight the main objectives and the expected results of LIFE GAIA Sense.



IntellCROP Workshop

CONFAGRI presented the LIFE GAIA Sense project in Évora accepting the invitation of ISQ - Welding and Quality Institute, on Thursday November 11th 2019, at Lisbon.

The presentation of the project, which CONFAGRI promotes in Portugal, was made by Eng. António Baão and was part of the IntellCROP event, promoted by that Institute.



4th Project Meeting in Velvento Kozani, 8-10 January 2020

The 4th Project Meeting took place of LIFE GAIA Sense at the Environmental Education Center of Velvento. The objectives of the meeting were the following:

- to present the progress of the project and the plan for the upcoming six months to the Project Monitor
- to work with the project monitor on financial aspects of the project
- to discuss with the partners about the work that has to be accomplished for M18-M24
- to discuss about the project's deliverables, deadlines and responsibilities

The partner organizations who participated in the meeting were NP, GAIA, AUTH, COSTEIRA, CONFAGRI and VELVENTOS.

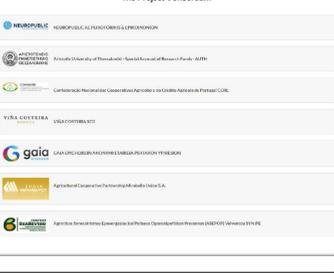


About the project

The main objective of the LIFE GAIA Sense project is to demonstrate GAIA Sense, an innovative Smart Farming solution that aims at reducing the consumption of natural resources, as a way to protect the environment and support Circular Economy (CE) models. This project will demonstrate a method on how farmers will be able to decide either to use or avoid inputs (irrigation, fertilizers, pesticides etc.) in a most efficient way, without risking their annual production.

The focus is on the resource consumption reduction side of CE, and the results will be both qualitatively and quantitatively considering the resources' efficiency in agricultural sector.

The Project Consortium



Brief Project Info

Project acronym: LIFE GAIA Sense
 Project full title: Innovative Smart Farming services supporting Circular Economy in Agriculture
 Start date: 01/07/2018
 End date: 30/06/2022
 Project Coordinator: NEUROPUBLIC S.A., PLUROFORIKIS & EPKONINONIN



The LIFE GAIA Sense project is co-funded by the LIFE Programme of the European Union under contract number LIFE17 ENV/GR/000220