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Integrating Activities for Starting Communities



**SmartCow: an integrated infrastructure for increased research capability
and innovation in the European cattle sector**



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2. Revision history

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background	H2020 Project n°730924 - SmartCow – DoA, pages 8 and 26 – 27. The participation to scientific conferences depends of task 4.3 of the project; its aim is to ensure the dissemination of SmartCow information and results to the scientific communities.
Objectives	The 2nd Report on scientific conferences aims at summarizing what has been done during the four years of the project to disseminate the information concerning the project (TNA calls for proposals, Trainings, etc.) and its first results to the scientific communities through communications in scientific conferences and congresses.
Methods	Consultation of the partners of the consortium: SmartCow outcomes are regularly presented at European and international conferences. A travel and accommodation budget for each partner has been planned so that they can participate in the most visible and important congresses.
Results & implications	<p>The outcomes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oral presentations in the frame of symposia - Organization of specific SmartCow sessions and workshops, in the frame of major animal agriculture congresses, or in tandem with other projects or partners. - Other forms of communication and dissemination actions (such as poster presentations or booths) in the frame of conferences, annual meetings in international or national contexts.

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1. Introduction

a) Description of the activity

Active participation to scientific congresses was part of SmartCow's Work Package 4: "Fostering innovation through dissemination and knowledge transfer to SmartCow stakeholders and scientific community", and more specifically of the Task 4.3 of this WP: "Dissemination to the scientific community". EAAP (European Federation of Animal Science) is the task leader. Disseminating to the scientific community has two aspects:

- Research conducted as part of SmartCow was highlighted internationally through high-quality peer review publications in open access (a budget line for each partner has been planned for that purpose);
- SmartCow outcomes were presented at European and international conferences, and a travel and accommodation budget for each partner has been planned for the participation of the consortium's scientists to these conferences.

The present deliverable report concerns only the second of these sub-tasks.

The dissemination to the scientific community through scientific conferences concerned mainly three different kind of contents:

- The information concerning the project itself: TNA calls, catalogue of trainings (on line and face to face), and the relations with the stakeholders;
- The information concerning the European research infrastructures in the cattle field (inventory of these infrastructures, and the interactive map built on them on SmartCow's website);
- The scientific results themselves: both of the Joint Research Activities and of the projects selected through SmartCow calls for proposals.

The participation to scientific conferences took several forms:

- The communication took place either in an international conference (in or out of Europe), or in a national conference (in the country of a member of the consortium);
- It took the form of a scientific session with several communications or a single communication in a session or a workshop;
- Posters were presented either in international or national conferences.

The scientific communication strategy and the broad lines of the program of the conferences to which SmartCow has decided to participate have been built up by the Executive Committee. However, the consortium partners have often seized the opportunities, which arose to them, particularly at national level.

b) Main difficulties encountered in the implementation of the activity

During the second part of the life of the project, several difficulties were encountered, due to the Covid 19 pandemics. Most of the face-to-face meetings and participation to conferences, which had been programmed by the Executive Committee, had to be postponed, or organized by videoconference. This explains why the participation to scientific conferences must clearly be divided into two different periods:

- The two first years of the project (February 2018 – January 2020) during which the participation followed the initial program

- The two last years of the project (February 2020 – April 2022), much of which coincided with the pandemic, during which the projected participation had to be reorganized.

2. Results of the participation to scientific conferences

During the last two years, SmartCow carried out the following activities:

- Participation to 4 conferences (virtual, hybrid or face to face), with 13 presentations.
- 22 Posters
- Organization of SmartCow's final conference in Brussels
- Presentations to 3 national conferences.

However, SmartCow wishes to underline that a last participation to an international conference is still in preparation:

- Organization of a SmartCow session in EAAP Annual Meeting in Porto (Portugal)

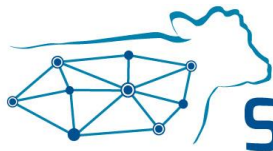
Activities	Key results
Organization of Sessions and oral presentations in international conferences	2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of SmartCow's activity on data at the virtual conference "International FAIR convergence symposium" (24/11-4/12 2020). R. Baumont presented a talk entitled: "Data management in SmartCow towards FAIR principles". • Participation to the 71st EAAP Virtual Annual Meeting (1-4 December 2020): Cantalapiedra et al: "Natural 15N abundance of animal proteins: a promising biomarker of feed efficiency in beef cattle"; invited speaker in a session organized by the GenTore project.
	2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation of K. Nichols (WUR) et al: "Effect of source and frequency of metabolizable protein supplementation on milk production and nitrogen efficiency"; 11-14 July 2021 ADSA Virtual Annual Meeting. • 72nd EAAP Annual Meeting (organized in a hybrid way) in Davos, Switzerland (30 August/4 September 2021): Organization of a SmartCow a session on 2nd September. The session entitled "Methods and technologies for research and smart nutrition management in cattle" has given an update of the project; it was chaired by René Baumont (Project Coordinator) and Gonzalo Cantalapiedra-Hijar. The session contained 9 theatre presentations, 1 invited keynote and 21 posters; presentations are available at https://www.smartcow.eu/eaap-smartcow-session-2021
	2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization of the SmartCow final conference on 6th April 2022, in Brussels, at University Foundation. The conference was held on a hybrid format, giving the possibility to attend both in presence and remotely. The conference was organized in 5 sessions with 12 presentations and one round table. The conference was recorded, and the video link for all the presentations are on the SmartCow

	<p>website (https://www.smartcow.eu/smartcow-final-conference/). It brought together a total of more than 100 participants from the European cattle sector, including research, training and development actors from public and private organizations. The aim of the conference was to present and discuss the main advances that have been made possible by the SmartCow project and to present the future perspectives of the consortium (for further details please refer to D4.6 Report on the organization of the final conference);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (In preparation): Organization of a SmartCow session at the EAAP Annual Meeting in Porto (Portugal), 5-8th September, for this session SmartCow has received 25 proposals from SmartCow scientists, TNA beneficiaries and speakers from outside SmartCow consortium. 13 oral communication have been selected yet, one invited keynote and 12 posters.
Posters in international conferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the results obtained on prediction of digestibility through faecal NIRS as a poster at EAAP 71st Virtual Annual Meeting (Andueza et al, 2020). • 21 posters at EAAP Annual conference in Davos, Switzerland (https://www.smartcow.eu/eaap-smartcow-session-2021).
Presentations at national conferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the Book of Methods at the annual meetings of the German Society of Nutrition Physiology in 2021 and 2022. • Participation of A. Vanlierde (CRAW) et al. "Firsts results about potential use of faecal NIR spectra to estimate daily CH 4 emissions of dairy cow measured with GreenFeed system"; DAIR'INNOV22, Namur 27-29 April 2022.
Booths in international conferences (with poster and different flyers on the project, on TNA calls, training courses & stakeholders' participation)	<p>Flyers will still be distributed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual meeting of the Annual Meeting of the American Dairy Science Association (June 19-22, 2022, Kansas City), • 18th International Conference on Production Diseases in Farm Animals (June 15-17, 2022 Madison). • 7th EAAP International Symposium on Energy and Protein Nutrition (Granada, September 12-15, 2022).

3. Conclusion:

During the first half of the project lifetime, the dissemination activity was focused on communication on the existence of the project, the map of the infrastructures and on the TNA calls. During the second half, it was reoriented on the project results (ex. the Book of Methods).

The pandemics has made more difficult the dissemination during the second part of the project, but despite these difficulties, the project has continued its activity of dissemination. The number of presentations has diminished, but the activity of dissemination will not finish with the end of the project. It will continue for example at a session in Porto in September 2022 at the EAAP annual meeting, and there is still a lot of content to disseminate (14 presentations are in the program of this session). It will continue also in other international conferences, and with the creation of the SmartCow ERG will help pursuing this activity, and reach new partners and stakeholders.



SmartCow

an integrated infrastructure for increased research
capability and innovation in the European cattle sector