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SUSFANS Newsletter No 4

February 2018

Introduction Note

What EU research and innovation options will have most impact on SDG?

The EU strives to have impact on the UN Sustainable Development Goals with its research & innovation (R&I) options. This also applies to the EU-funded project SUSFANS, which has joined FIT4FOOD2030, a project formed by European network organizations in food policy and research such as ETP Food for Life and three JPIs. The project will support the European Commission in establishing a learning network around responsible research & innovation in EU food systems. The platform will organize labs in European cities and capitals to generate dialogue around the FOOD2030 agenda.

Food systems

Food systems are moving more and more to the center stage of European discussions on food security, environment and health. A recent breakthrough is the launch of the report "[Food in a green light](#)" by the European Environment Agency, which defines the many challenges for sustainable food in Europe. In SUSFANS we support this debate with cutting-edge research on the interplay of EU food systems and diets. You are very welcome to view [our data](#) on how the global and EU [megatrends will alter towards 2050](#).

Save the date: Stakeholder Workshop 2018!

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The last newsletter has just been released some weeks ago, but we want to notify you of some upcoming events - and the latest three deliverables which have been published.

We will have our **fourth Stakeholder Core Group** workshop in June 2017. This two-day event will take place on June 5 and 6, 2018. It will be possible to register for each day separately. The lead organizers will be Monika Zurek (Oxford University), Pierre Dussort (ILSI Europe), Karin Zimmermann and Thom Achterbosch (Wageningen University and Research).

The *preliminary program* will deal with:

Day 1 – Placing the consumer at the heart of food systems research (in focus: fruit and vegetables innovations)

Day 2 – Towards foresight and impact with the SUSFANS stakeholder core group

Key, novel project resources for the meeting will include:

- "Innovation pathways towards more sustainable production and consumption in the fruit-vegetable supply chain and their uptake in the SUSFANS models" by Siet Sijtsema (WUR) et al.
- "The initial model to design SHARP diets: sustainable, healthier, affordable, reliable and preferred." by Marianne Geleijnse (WUR) et al.
- "The SUSFANS toolbox for assessing EU Sustainable food and nutrition security." By Marijke Kuiper (WUR) et al.

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the EU." By Petr Havlík (IIASA) et al

In memoriam Jo Wijnands

A farewell to our dear colleague Jo, who has passed away at age 64. Jo has been a leading econometrician and expert in industrial organization at LEI, the predecessor of Wageningen Economic Research, since 1977.

His research focused on the economic performance of the agri-food sector and value chains in Netherlands, EU, Africa and Asia with a particular interest for dairy and horticulture.

Based on rigorous research, he raised alarm on the competitiveness of the EU food industry, for example in his widely cited [report](#) on the EU food industry for DG Enterprise.

For SUSFANS, Jo masterminded the project's performance metrics on "Competitive EU agri-food business".

We are grateful for his intellectual legacy and will proudly continue to build on it.

Marianne Geleijnse elected vice-president of the National Health Council



We congratulate Marianne with her new post on the Health Council, which is an independent scientific advisory body that advises Dutch ministers and Parliament in the field of public health and curative care. Marianne was already a member of the council's committee that was concerned with the food-based dietary guidelines. Her new position is part-time, and Marianne will continue her work as leader of the work package on [modelling SHARP diets](#) out of her professorship on Nutrition and heart and cardiovascular diseases at Wageningen University.

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News



Enhanced modelling of sustainable food and nutrition security: Food supply and use of scarce resources

SUSFANS researchers specifically report on the long-term models' enhancements for modelling impacts on Sustainable Food and Nutrition Security regarding food supply and the use of scarce resources. Their paper describes model changes and extensions promised in the description of work and additional ones decided upon in the course of the project.

[Read more!](#)



Innovation pathways towards more sustainable production and consumption in the fruit-vegetable supply chain

Fruit and vegetable consumption in Europe is below recommended levels. It should therefore increase to get closer to a more healthy and sustainable diet in Europe. The aim of the new SUSFANS deliverable is to identify innovation pathways in the fruit and vegetable chain from a consumer's perspective.

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Quantified SUSFANS scenario drivers ready to be used by the modelling toolbox

Providing foresight on the future development of sustainable food and nutrition security (SFNS) in the EU is one of SUSFANS's core targets. This concept encompasses sustainable food systems and sustainable and balanced diets. In their new deliverable, the researchers presented a first step in the quantitative part of the foresight. Its main objective is to quantify the contextual variables to be used as input by models in the SUSFANS Toolbox.

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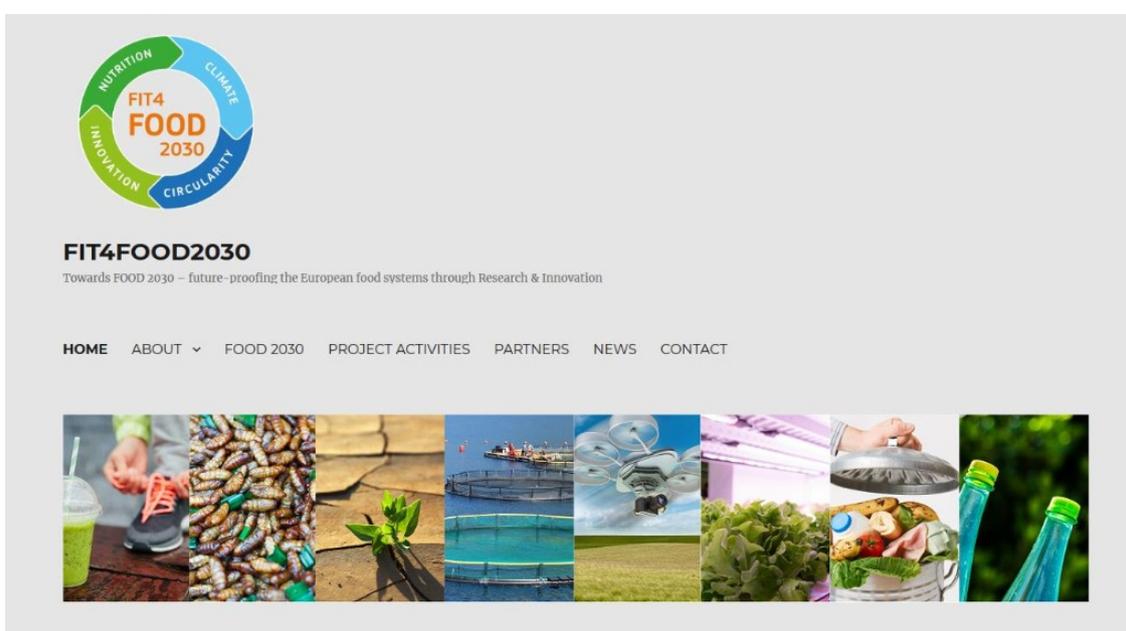
Systematic review of existing EU-wide scenarios related to the EU sustainable food and nutrition security

SUSFANS aims to develop a toolbox that can aid policy-makers in making

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food and nutrition security in the EU. An essential part of that is the use of scenarios/plausible futures, both quantitative and qualitative, to better understand the implications of decisions currently debated. Often, projects start the development of scenarios from scratch, which proves to be highly time-consuming, leaving little time for actual use of these scenarios. Therefore, SUSFANS decided to use currently available scenarios and to adapt them to the SUSFANS needs.

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FIT4FOOD-Website was released

The website of [FIT4FOOD](https://fit4food2030.eu) has just been released. FIT4FOOD supports the development and implementation of the European Commission's FOOD 2030 policy framework – to find solutions to the challenges facing our food systems, such as hunger, malnutrition, obesity, climate change, scarce resources, and waste. Have a look at: fit4food2030.eu

Research data online

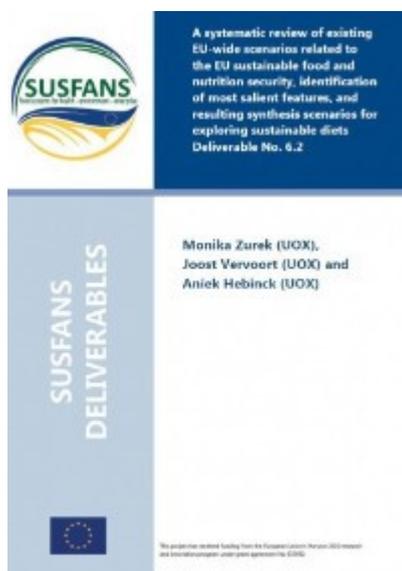
We have new research data online. You can find the SUSFANS Drivers Database and explanatory material for the scenario drivers ready to be used by the modelling toolbox in our [Research data section](#) on the SUSFANS website.

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Selected SUSFANS Researchers update

Vandevelde S., Kuijpers R., Swinnen J. 2017. Food standards and value+ chain sustainability. GlobalFood Symposium, Georg-August-Universität, Göttingen, 28-29 April 2017.

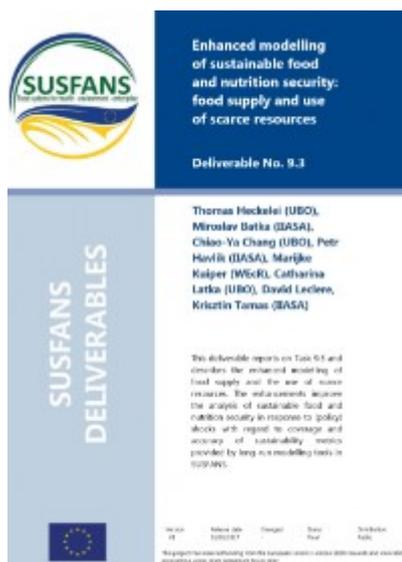
Latest SUSFANS Publications



Deliverable 5.3

Innovation pathways towards more sustainable production and consumption in the fruit - vegetable supply chain and their uptake in the SUSFANS models

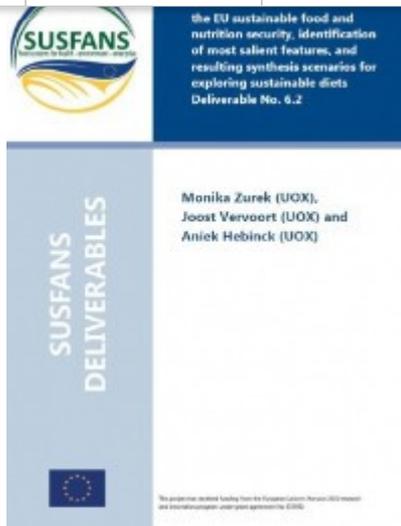
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Deliverable 9.3

Enhanced modelling of sustainable food and nutrition security: food supply and use of scarce resources

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A systematic review of existing EU-wide scenarios related to the EU sustainable food and nutrition security, identification of most salient features, and resulting synthesis scenarios for exploring sustainable diets

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Deliverable 10.1

Quantified SUSFANS scenario drivers ready to be used by the modeling toolbox

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Deliverable 2.3

Analysis of the online choice experiment on fruit and vegetables determining the importance of nutritional and environmental benefits and the level of information

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