



Focus Group 'Production of protein crops under climate change'

Berlin, Germany
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Enhancing the performance of Northern German protein value chains for plant-based meat alternatives

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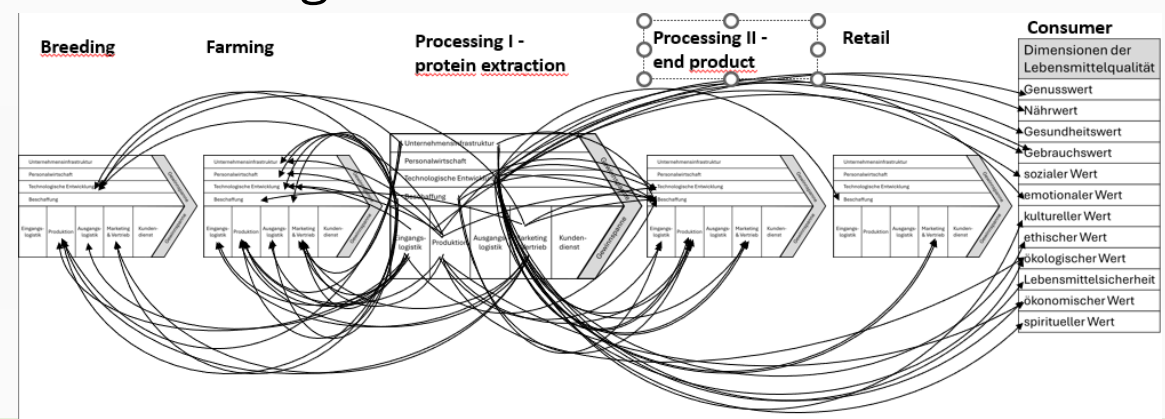


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1. Key Topics and Challenges

- **Topics**
 - Optimization of value chains for plant-based proteins
 - Intergration of side streams into a circular economy
 - Strengthening networks among agriculture, industry and science

- **Challenges**
 - Low market penetration and insufficient value chain integration
 - Underutilization of by-products, leading to economic and environmental inefficiencies
 - Gaps in knowledge transfer and collaboration across stakeholders



2. Climate Change: Direct and Indirect Impacts

- **Direct Impacts**
 - Focus on crops that enhance biodiversity and are resilient to changing climate conditions
- **Indirect Impacts:**
 - Resource-efficient practices, reducing waste and maximizing sustainability. Promoting regional value chains to minimize transportation emissions.



3. Pea, Faba Bean, and Soybean: Why These Crops?

- **Pea, Faba Bean, Soybean**
 - Adaptable to Northern German agricultural conditions
 - High potential for sustainable protein production
 - Contribute to crop diversity and soil health.
- **Selection Criteria**
 - Market potential for plant-based meat alternatives
 - Ecological benefits such as nitrogen fixation and improved biodiversity.



4. Conclusion: Our Vision for the Future

- **Strengthening Market Position:** Optimizing value chains for plant-based proteins to increase competitiveness of plant-based proteins in the market
- **Regional Value Creation:** Promoting local cultivation and processing to support regional economies and reduce dependencies
- **Sustainability and Efficiency:** Develop sustainable and efficient value chains for protein crops to enhance resource use and long-term impact
- **Collaboration:** Foster collaboration across all stakeholders - agriculture, industry, and research - to drive innovation and supply chain stability
- **Call to Action:** Unite efforts to address climate change challenges and unlock the full potential of protein crops



5. Preliminary Results: Progress and Opportunities

- **Regional Opportunities:** Pea, faba bean, and soybean strengthen local cultivation and reduce import dependency
- **Optimization Potential:** Improved breeding (higher protein content) and processing (concentrates over isolates)
- **Sustainable Side Streams:** Effective use of fibers and starch supports circular economy goals
- **Challenges:** Scaling technologies and value chain acceptance remain critical areas for development
- **Collaborations:** Strong networks between agriculture, industry, and research drive innovation and supply chain stability



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All information on the Focus Group is available on the webpage:

<https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/focus-group-production-protein-crops-under-climate-change>

