



# **Cross-visit**

## **‘Irrigation - optimising water use practices in annual (and perennial) crops’**

**7-8 May 2025 | Greece**



# Learning about participating EIP-AGRI Operational Group projects

## *Part 1 - Recap of online session and project information*

Cross-visit 'Irrigation - optimising water use practices in annual (and perennial) crops' 7-8 May 2025



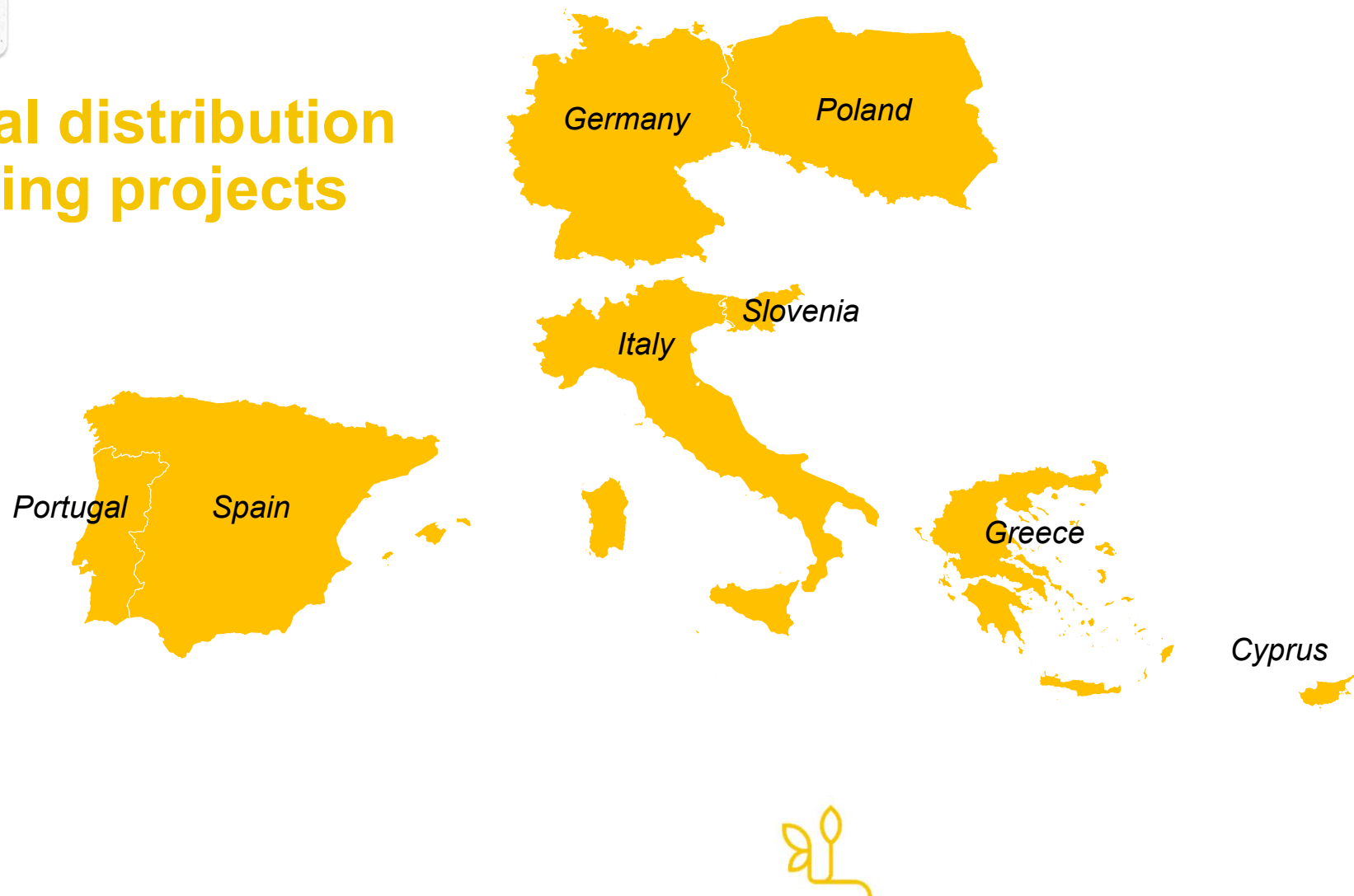


## Participants

- › 19 participants
- › From 12 operational groups
- › + 1 Managing authority of CAP Strategic Plan, Greece
- › + 1 Unit D1 'Rural areas and networks', DG AGRI, European Commission
- › + 2 EU CAP Network EIP AGRI support facility



## Geographical distribution of participating projects





# Summary of project information - Challenges

## Overall trend:

- Climate change
- Environmental pollution
- More water intensive production

## This results in decrease of:

- Water availability
- Water quality
- Biodiversity/ function of natural water systems



## Summary of project information - Challenges

### Current practice may lead to:

- Inefficient irrigation
- Nutrient leaching
- Salinisation
- Water scarcity
- Soil degradation

### Farmer's challenges:

- Adaptation of technology
- Lack of (real time) data
- Lack of decision support tools
- Economic viability of irrigation (for small and medium farmers)



# Summary of project information - Solutions

## Precision irrigation

- Smart irrigation technologies (data driven)
- Decision support systems (field, farm, water system)

## Tools

- Automated systems
- (IoT) real time sensors
- Monitoring of groundwater level and flow, salinisation,
- Big data, satellite data
- Predictive modelling
- User friendly software, platforms, apps



**Solutions, tools may be combined**





# Summary of project information - Solutions

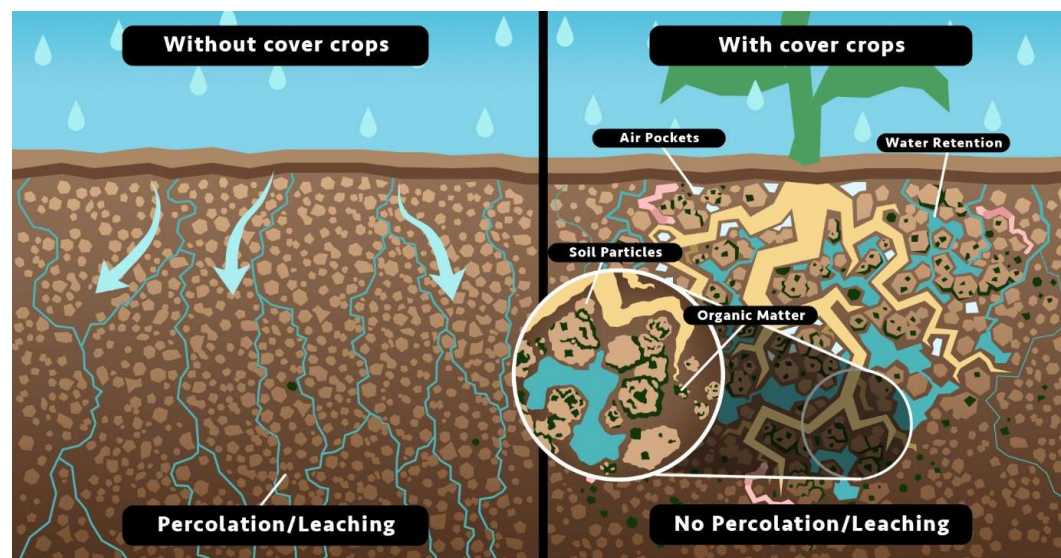
## Prevent need of irrigation

- Water storage in the soil (eco-schemes, biochar)
- Storage of (rain)water (aquifers, reservoir planning)
- Reuse of water
- LED lighting

## And

- Association and stakeholder networks
- Circular bioeconomy approach
- Efficient irrigation for better pest management

## Solutions, tools may be combined !







# Cross-visit 'Irrigation - optimising water use practices in annual (and perennial) crops'

7-8 May 2025  
Thessaloniki, Greece

All information on the cross-visit is available on the [event webpage](#).

