

The multi-actor approach in WeLASER: a final overview

Multi-actor approach as a key element

In the WeLASER project a multi-actor approach has been used to the development and assessment of our innovative technology throughout the whole process. It has been a key approach to focus on real problems or opportunities that farmers and end-users are facing and to deal with multiple effects of WeLASER technology in different domains, forecasting system behaviour and evolution, uncertainties and risks. It included environmental considerations in terms of risk and resources, but also economic or financial concerns and socio-cultural considerations.

Multi-actor approach in WeLASER

WeLASER identified, involved and engaged relevant stakeholders in the multi-actor approach. They helped in the co-design process with reciprocal communication and consensus building through several stakeholder events, focus groups or thanks to field and farm demonstrations. The managing was a continuous process to include the stakeholders in the project activities.



Some multi-actor recommendations

In addition to the recommendations included in Practice Abstract n. 30, stakeholders consider that strategies of WeLASER commercialisation can depend on socio-economic factors with leasing (small-scale farmers) and buying (large-scale farmers or organic farms) of the machine as the most viable implementation strategy. Finally, they contemplate that promoting the sustainable use of herbicides and developing viable alternatives, like organic or non-chemical methods, for farmers is really important. Also, they think that developing and financing public research and innovation for conventional and alternative methods is a key element for the future of farmers and European agriculture.

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