

XXXIII Euragri Conference



EURAGRI Conference

Joris Relaes

Monday, september 23th 2019



‘How to **CONNECT** our research with society, and society with research?’





WERKT AAN **DUURZAME** ONTWIKKELINGS
DOELSTELLINGEN

- **Flanders Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food**

- Research institute linked to the Flemish government
- Created 85 years ago
- 630 employees
- Located in Merelbeke, Melle, Ostend





ILVO obtains first SDG certificate



Internal energy and climate policy

- Recruitment of an energy coordinator
- Climate plan
- Mobility plan
- Investments in roof insulation, pv cells, steam production, window insulation



Renovations to the ILVO facilities



New research greenhouse (2010)



New food processing plant (2011)
Expansion of the Food Pilot (2018)



New dairy research barn (2014)



New "Pig Campus" (2015)



Additions to compost site (2019)

ILVO: a values-driven organization

- Working together
- Pro-activity
- Positive attitude
- Professionalism
- Being an example



ILVO Vision Statement: 2020 and beyond

- **The Systems Approach** (interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary,.....)
- **Tacit Knowledge** (link between traditional practical knowledge and newly-developed technology, co-creation, working together with 'the community', the stakeholders,)



Healthy crops, animals, and soil for healthy food and feed

Socially acceptable animal production

Rural development in urbanized Flanders

Climate

Systems thinking



ILVO

IS

KNOWLEDGE

Tacit knowledge



Bio-economy

Healthy food

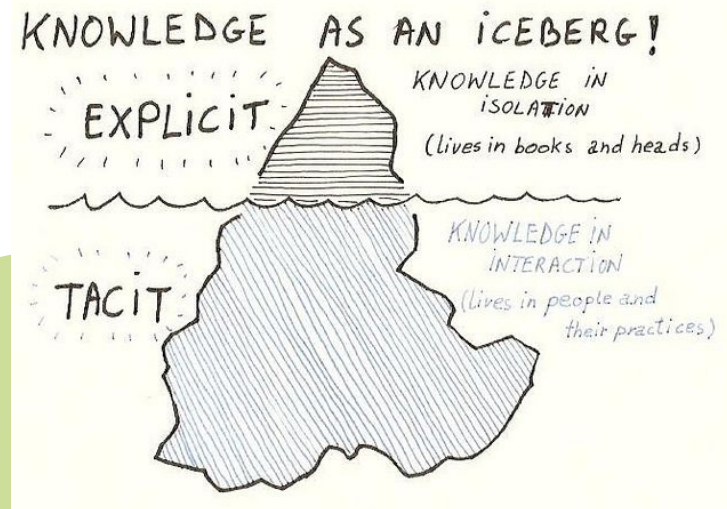
Exploitation of marine production

Profitable production and value creation



- **'Tacit Knowledge' :**

- Knowledge available within (farming) community
- Hands on expertise of ILVO's technical staff



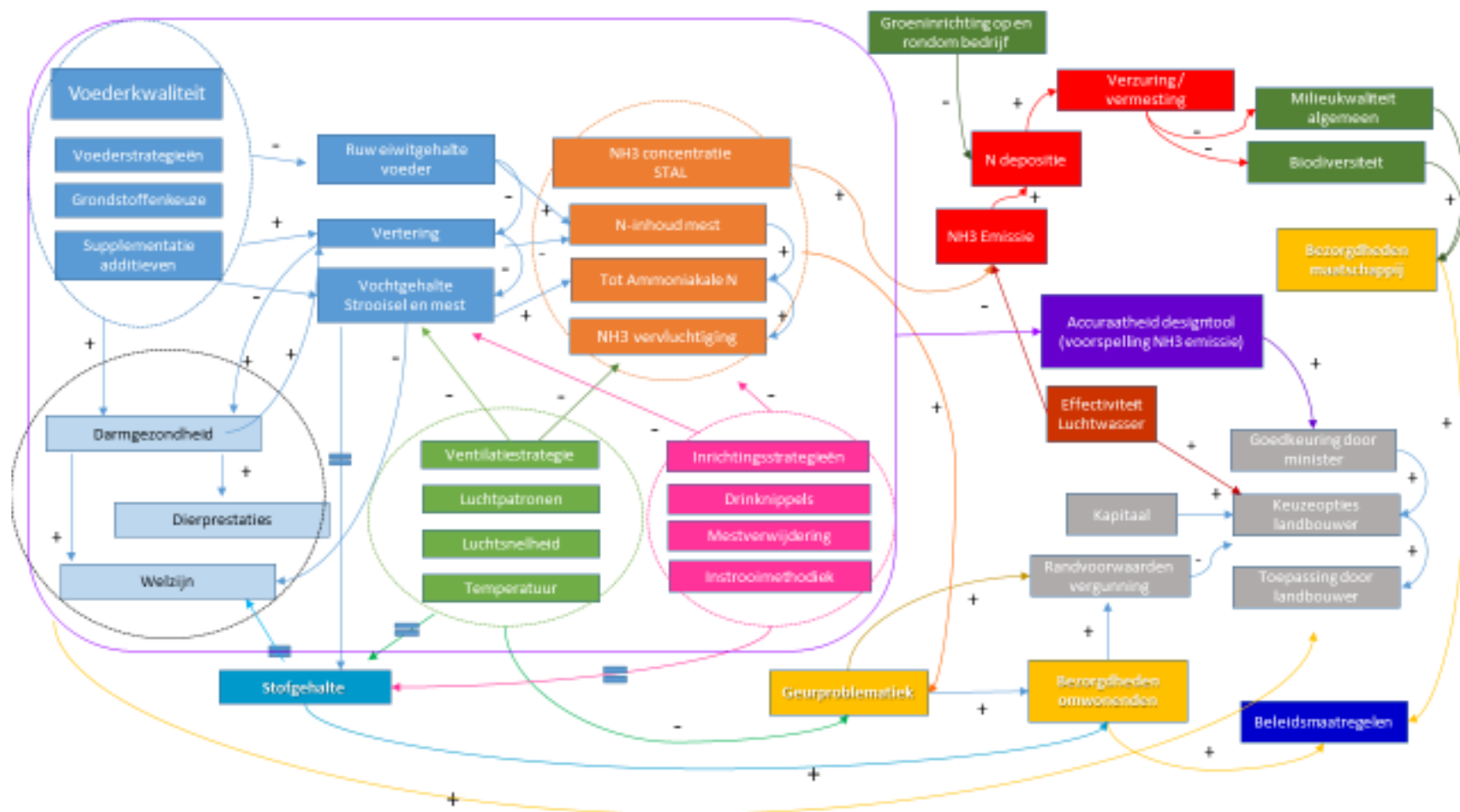
- **The systems approach**

- 'Wicked' societal problems
- Complex interactions within the agro-food ecosystem
- 'Farming en food system approach'
- Circular economy

Systems- thinking in

Emissions in the poultry sector

Marc Heyndrickx, Peter Demeyer, Jonas Van Lancker, Frederik Leen, Bert Reubens, Ellen Lambrecht, Evelyne Delezie



Integrated research @ILVO



soil → plate

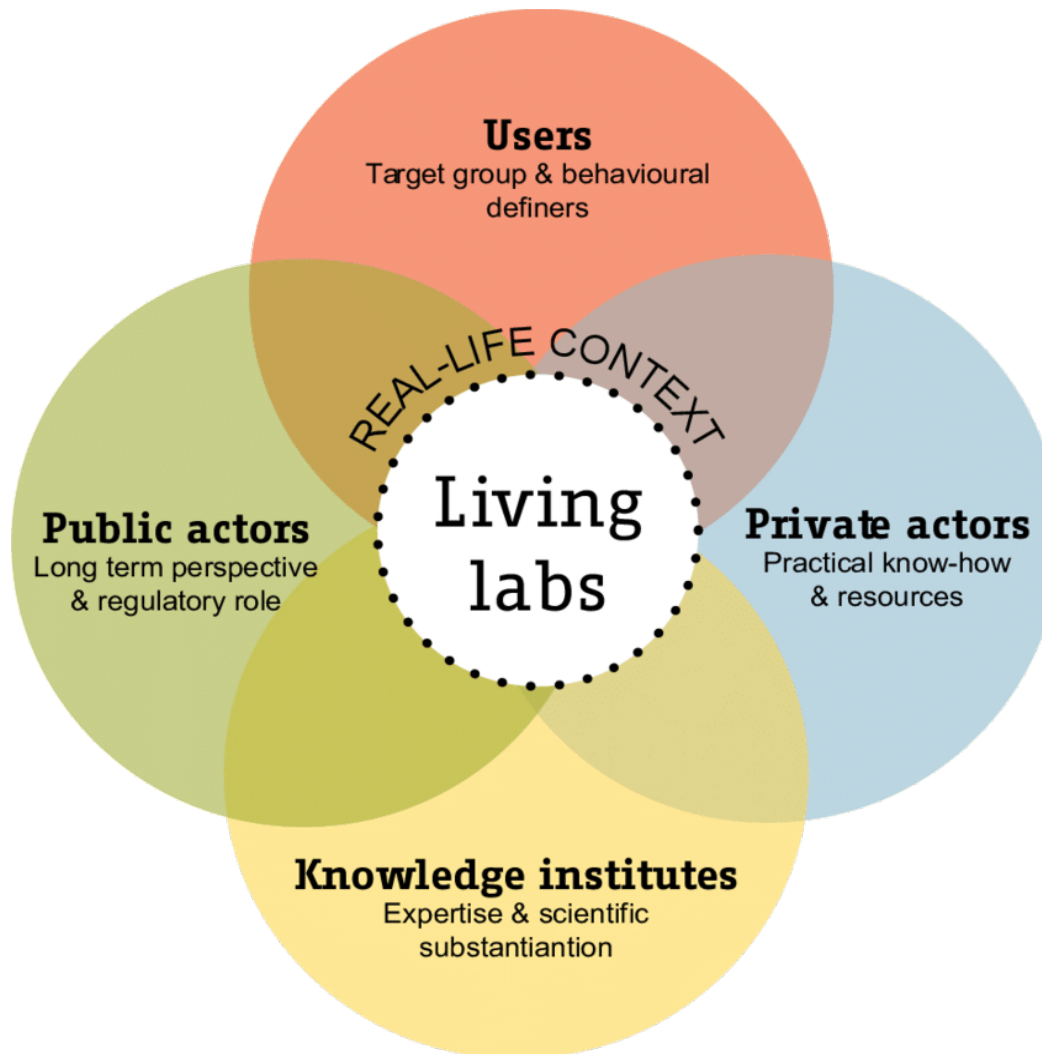


plate → soil



Living Labs

(co-creation, multi-actor approach)



- **ILVO Living Lab for Animal Production**
- **ILVO Living Lab for Precision Farming**
- **ILVO Living Lab for Agro-food**
- **ILVO Living Lab for Agro-ecology and Organic Farming**

ILVO

+

- Universities
- VIB, IMEC, VLIZ
- Extension research centers
- ...



23 NEW EU projects
in 2018



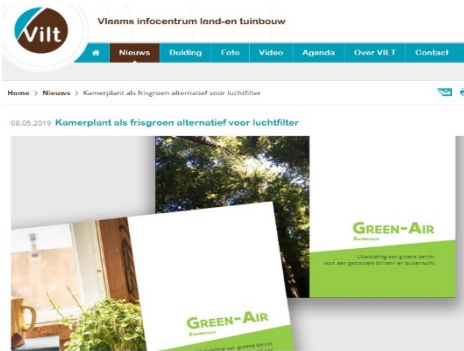
ILVO in dialogue with the world

Pro-active communication with:

- farmers, food companies, fishermen
- sector organizations: farming organizations, supplier federations, processors, NGOs, nature advocates
- the consumers
- schools
- media
- government



ILVO active in the public debate



Welk effect hebben planten op de luchtkwaliteit? Zijn kamerplanten werkelijk zo effectief als een duur filtersysteem? Voor welke plantensoorten kies je best en hoe plant je ze aan voor een optimale luchtzuivering? Twee brochures bundelen de wetenschappelijke kennis over het luchtzuiverend vermogen van planten binnen- en buitenshuis. Green-Air zijn ze genoemd, naar de operationele groep waarbinnen onderzoekers van Technopolis Sierteelt (ILVO), Proefcentrum voor Sierteelt, UGent, HogerGent, UAantwerpen en de Vlaamse Milieumaatschappij samenwerken.

“Milobel and ILVO sign collaboration agreement”
(De Standaard 7 september 2019)



“Working on the climate as a sector”
(Boer en Tuinder, 7.02.2019)

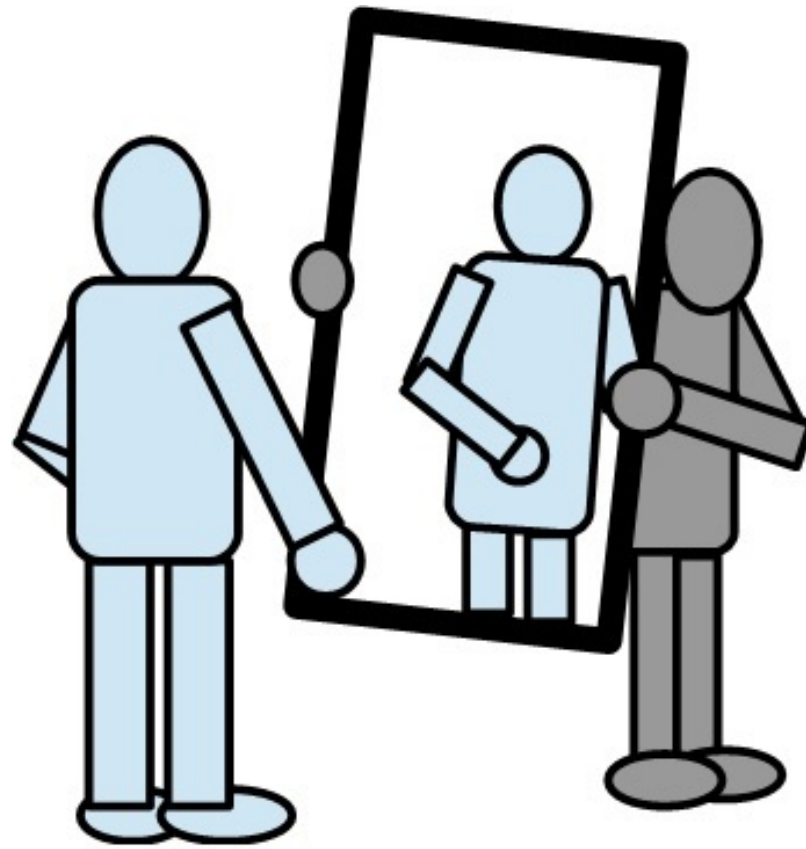


“Piétrain for dinner tonight?”
(Boerenbond, 14.06.2018)

“Methane emissions from dairy can drop by one-third” (www.vrt.be 18.09.2018)

“Less in the barn, more at pasture”
(Gazet van Antwerpen, 11.08.2018)

Our communication style: a mirror,
for researchers and of researchers



Two movements within Flemish agriculture:

- **Local model**

(short chain, “pick-your-own” farms (CSA), food subscriptions, urban agriculture,.....)

- **Smart Farming model**

(environmental- and efficiency improvements by embracing new technologies)

Connection instead of polarization

'Unmatched'
NEW YORK TIMES

'Necessary'
BOSTON GLOBE

CHARLES C. MANN

THE WIZARD AND THE PROPHET

Two Groundbreaking Scientists and their
Conflicting Visions of the Future of Our Planet

'Compelling'
WASHINGTON POST

'Indispensable'
WALL STREET JOURNAL



Thanks!



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