

STRING Communication strategy and plan(ning)



Communication goals

Share (new)
knowledge
from
interregional
learning with
project
partners

Promote agrifood innovations to policy makers and influencers

Raise
awareness of
the
consumers'
market of
agrifood
innovations

Engage
(business)
stakeholders
who deliver
agrifood
innovations

Communication activities serve: the efficiency of influencing (regional) policy instruments

"THE ENGINES FOR SUCCES"





Common language

Main message

<u>STRING</u> improves the performance of (regional) <u>policy</u> <u>instruments</u> in building strong <u>agrifood innovation systems</u> across Europe and STRING promotes <u>agrifood clusters</u> as <u>testbeds</u> of (new) co-creation and cooperation in the agrifood production chain.

Regional accents

"Promote food innovation eco-system frames, such as labs, testing grounds and clusters"

"Improve the position of agrifood innovations in regional development plans"

"Enhance cross-sectoral cooperation (design, hightech, energy, care)"

"Create added value by linking innovation to real consumer needs"





"Improve and synchronize policy instruments on a regional level to resolve the bottlenecks of clusterization and enhance the development of agri & food innovation systems."

"Better exploitation of the synergetic effects of a closer internal cohesion"

Communication objectives, target groups and evaluation

SMART communication objectives	Target groups	Measurement
 Share (new) knowledge and insights of at least 7 regional engines for succes in agrifood innovations within the partnership (11 project partners) via thematic expert assemblies, study visits / staff exchanges, intra-organizational meetings and online discussions by June 2019. 	 Project partners Regional public authorities 	Questionnaire (after each project phase) to monitor progress individual learning plans (resulting in 10 new regional project proposals).
 Promote the fruits of strong agrifood innovations and clusters to policy makers and influencers devoted to stimulate (new) policy instruments relevant for innovations in agrifood via events, press articles (x8) and media appearances (x30), besides promoting STRING results at the Policy Learning Platform before June 2019. 	 Regional public authorities Thematic associations (f.i. European cluster organisations) Political interest groups 	N° of media appearances N° of (international and regional) event visitors N° of pageviews on project website
 Raise awareness of the consumers' market of agrifood innovations (opinion leaders and promoters) assessing consumers' needs and adaptation of smart and healthy food innovations through product insights at regional product sites, social media channels and media appearances by December 2018. 	 Food innovation promoters Foodies (consumers) Food providers Dietary professionals (and associations) Healthy foodies 	N° of media appearances N° of promoters and foodies at product websites No of followers social media channels
 Engage local, regional (business) stakeholders who deliver agrifood innovations and stimulate regional food clusters/industries spreading lessons learnt and engines for succes in dissemination meetings and social media presence due to June 2019. 	 Local / regional stakeholders (innovation agencies, SME's/mid-CAP agrifood, research institutes, etc.) 	Augmented by social media dashboard with names and influences of STRING stakeholders

Communication target groups, messages and channels

Target group	Messages	Channels
Project partners	Together we resolve bottlenecks of clusterization enhancing the development of strong regional agrifood innovation clusters. Together we better exploit the synergetic effects of a closer internal cohesion on agrifood innovation clusters.	 E-mail Google Drive & Dropbox Project website Meetings Field visits Social discussion fora Presentations Newsletters
Regional public authorities	STRING improves the performance of (regional) policy instruments in building strong agrifood innovation systclusters across Europe. STRING improves the position of agrifood innovation clusters in regional development plans. STRING boosts agrifood innovation clusters in new regional project proposals. Question: communication managers PP's to add more (regional) messages over here!	 Posters General brochure Media appearances Press articles Presentations Online discussion fora Partner websites Partner staff Project video EU Policy learning platform
Thematic associations (f.i. European cluster organisations)	STRING promotes agrifood innovation clusters as testbeds of (new) co-creation and cooperation within the agrifood production chain. STRING improves the position of agrifood innovations in regional development plans.	 Press articles Posters Presentations Project website Newsletters Project video EU Policy learning platform
Food innovators (prmoters, professionals and providers)	STRING creates added value by linking (new) agrifood innovations to real consumer needs. STRING enables effective interregional good practices collection and dissemination to ensure food innovators benefit from knowledge gained in the other European regions.	 Leaflets Project video Online discussion fora Partner websites (also product websites)
Healthy foodies (consumers and dietary associations)	STRING helps improving the quality of food in your region bringing added value to the table (by cross-sectoral cooperation with design, hightech and health)	LeafletsOnline discussion foraPartner websites (also product websites)
Local and/or regional stakeholders (innovation agencies, SME's/mid-CAP agrifood, research institutes, etc.)	STRING builds strong agrifood cluters by cross-sectoral cooperation (with design, hightech and health). STRING promotes agrifood clusters as testbeds of (new) co-creation and cooperation within the agrifood production chain.	 Meetings Field visits Presentations Social discussion fora Partner westies Project video

Communication work plan(ning)

Communication activity	Timing		Results	Responsible partner
Communication strategy with knowledge sharing plan and suite of basic communication materials	Due to 12/2017	 x1 general communication strategy (with x1 knowledge sharing plan). Living document. Updated every reporting period (6 months) x11 obligatory posters (1 per partner) x7 regional posters engines for change analysis 		LP + ZLTO
Press articles and conferences to promote project STRING (related to project meetings)	Due to 06/2019	x8 press relea x30 no. of ap	pearances in media (regional & general)	ZLTO + PP
Stay in touch with consumers communicating via product information at PP product sites	Due to 12/2018	x3 briefing leaflets on implementation in English and regional languages		PP + ZLTO
Share knowledge on the making and implementation of regional action plans on partner websites	Due to 06/2019	x3 newsletters (English)x1 project video 'The making of' (English)x121 No. of professionals reached		PP + ZLTO
Reach out to stakeholders beyond STRING in dissemination meetings and (social) media presence	Due to 06/2019	x21 dissemination meetings (3 per region) >2000 No. of sessions project website (per reporting period 6 months)		PP + ZLTO
Organise online meetings and discussion fora (knowledge authority) at our website(s)	Due to 12/2018	>2000 No. of 6 months)	sessions project website (per reporting period COMMUNICATION (totals)	ASIMCOV + ZLTO





Staff costs: 220.026,-

External expertise: 121.550,-

Travel and accomodation: 33.000,-



Communication task division (1)

Results	Milestone	Tasks (who does what?)
x1 general communication strategy (incl. x1 knowledge sharing plan)	Due to 12/2017	Communication manager (PP ZLTO) coordinates roll out of the communication strategy. Feedback and comments from communication team (all PP's writes and produces their own derivated strategy with task devision and budget tables). Ratification by PSC. PP ARIA Alsace works on the intra-organizational knowledge sharing plan (internal communications plan).
x11 obligatory posters (1 per partner)	Due to 12/2017	Communication manager (PP ZLTO) designs and creates x1 obligatory poster in English (together with JS Interreg Europe). All PP to pinpoint x1 obligatory poster in their home offices and shoot a picture. All PP – whenever needed - to translate into their own language.
x7 regional posters engines for change analysis	Due to 12/2017	All PP to collect texts and images for x1 regional poster. Communication manager (PP ZLTO) to design and provide x1 general template for all 7 regional posters, where those texts and images fit in. All PP to translate (when needed) in their own language and cirulat it to their main target groups.
x20 press releases, from which 5 project level press releases and 20 regional press releases (resulting in x30 no. of appearances in media)	Due to 06/2019	Communication manager (PP ZLTO) writes and circulates the project level press releases (in English) to EU-wide network of project partners and thematic networks. A total number of 5 project level press releases will be circulated connected with 1 kick-off meeting, 3 TEA-meetings and 1 final meeting. Regional PP's can translate those general press releases in their own mother tongue and circulate to (regional) media networks. PP communication managers to write and circulate at least 2 (x 11 project partners = 22 in total) regional press releases connected with regional stakeholder meetings or staff exchanges / study visits. Communication manager will make a helpful planning of press releases to PP's who and when should issue a project level and regional press release.





Communication task division (2)

x3 briefing leaflets on implementation x1 general project brochure (kick-off meeting Bologna)	Due to 05/2019	Together with PP Municipality of Debrecen the communication manager (PP ZLTO) will work on x3 'briefing leaflets' at the end of each project phase to monitor progress. So briefing leaflets will be produces in the 2nd, 4th and 5th project semester. Content will be related to the implementation of activities. Communication team of PP Debrecen municipality to squeeze in a concept. This will be shared with all PP's in the communication team. Communication mnager (PP ZLTO) will ratify, (re)design and finalise it (in English). Translation in regional language lays with PP's. Communication manager (PP ZLTO) will create a general project brochure before kick-off meeting in Bologna. PP Emilia Romagna will print it. Question PP's: do we angle only for recent time period (to 2020) or also for next time period (after 2020)?
x1 project video 'The making of' (English)	Due to 06/2019	A project video summarizes the results of Phase 1 and creates another type of publicity for STRING during the closing event in Bologna Italy (June 2019) - PP Regio Emilia Romagna. PP Central Denmark — responsible for the 'knowledge exchange part' — will be copartner to create this video. Coordination tasks rests with Communication manager (PP ZLTO). Video capturing team will be externalized (in Denmark or the Netherlands).
x3 newsletters (English)	Due to 06/2019	STRING will circulate x1 newsletter every semester. Communication managers PP's are responsible for inputs to these newsletters. Communication manager (PP ZLTO) will draft a general template according to Interreg Europe regulations. Newsletter will be circulated through e-mail (LP) and social media (PP ZLTO) and regularly published at our project website (PP ZLTO). The newsletter will not be translated.
x1 project website (with social media presence and online discussion tool) (with >2000 no. of sessions project website per reporting period of 6 months)	Due to 12/2018	JS Interreg Europe publishes our project website (and log-in details). OPMT has been put on the list as 'webmasters' for this task and will get invited for several workshops developing the project website. Day-to-day webmastering is in the hands of Communication manager (PP ZLTO). All PP's to create portlets (with an online logo banner) at their partner website interlinking with our project website. And upload relevant regional STRING-news to their partner websites. Communication manager (PP ZLTO) will augment the "number of sessions" per month and upload this to Dropbox. PP Asimcov will host in the 4th and 5th project semester 'online disussion fora' (within our project website) with project partners to keep track with the wise lessons learnt. They should involve regional PP's and their main stakeholders in those online discussion fora, present knowledge blogs to broaden up a wider audience and upload screenshots of online activity at discussion fora.



Communication task division (3)

x33 promotion activities (external) national and transnational podia as a presenter or exhibitor	Due to 06/2019	The main purpose of those events is to disseminate information about the project, aims, goals and results up to that moment to the wider public and target groups, as well as to share the knowledge and information obtained in the project. Based on the AF, two target groups are particularly emphasized – national and regional public authorities and those who are considered to be a potential market for food innovations. Regarding the required type of participation, partners should be either speakers or exibitioners – so you have to be actively part of the programme of the event. Every PP should actively attend 1 transnational podium and 2 national podia. All PP's report this to the general communication manager (PP ZLTO) and document their engagement via photos, program (scheme or groundplan), attendance sheets and presentation materials.
x2 press conferences; at kick-off event and final event in Bologna (contributing x30 no. of appearances in media)	Due to 06/2019	Communication manager (PP ZLTO) will organise and host x2 press conferences; one during kick-off event and one during final event. Both events will be held in regio Emilia-Romagna. So with help of communication manager PP3 (Regio Emilia Romagna) this press conference will be organised. Rule of thumb: at least 3 international journalist and 3 national journalist are present (in Bologna or via virtual press conference room).
x21 extended regional stakeholder meetings (networking lunch, evening reception, regional seminar, round table) at the end of each stage	Due to 06/2019	PP ADE is responsible for the methods of stakeholder management. All PP's are responsible for their own (regional) stakeholder meeting. As part of the total amount of dissemination meetings (21 in total; 3 per region) all PP's host at least 1 dissemination meeting with their own collegaues of the participating regions. Communication team members will be helping with that (internal) events. Furthermore Communication manager (PP ZLTO) will make and circulate a questionnaire to collect all 121 professionals reached (18 per region) and embrace them on social media (in LinkedIN-groups, or else). Extended stakeholder meeting which should be organized at the end of each phase. This should be something like a round table, networking lunch, evening reception or a small conference (lasting 2-3h for example), where you (you as a region) will invite the extended group of stakeholders (you have stakeholders participating in thematic activities, but there are also those who are relevant and
		3h for example), where you (you as a region) will invite the extended group of stakeholders (you





Communication team

Catherine Munch (PP ARIA Alsace)

Gaspar Marika (PP Covasna Region)

Martin Poul Gjervig Pedersen (Central Denmark Region)

Yolanda Arias Piedras & Wim Martens (PP ADE)

Sonia Gonzalez (PP VITARTIS)

Zsolt Plereczky (PP Debrecen University)

Anett Varga & Judit Acs (PP Debrecen Municipality)

Andrea Porzelluzzi (PP CRPA)

Chiara Toscano & Fabio Girotti (PP ERR)

Mark de Jong & Silvie Ammann (PP ZLTO), Communication managers STRING





Knowdlege sharing: inside communication team

Instant messaging (whatsapp)

- All 14 communication specialists together in 1 whatsapp-group (host: Silvie Ammann)
- Share fast messages, photos and promotional materials from regional level
- Announcements general communications (like project level press releases) to the regions

E-mail group

- E-mailings (reply to all) on current communication activities (upcoming 3 months)
- Feed-in from regional PP's to communication manager (PP ZLTO)
- ZLTO will upload all final communication materials to Dropbox

Phone

- Communication team members call eachother whenever needed.
- Buddy structure: 2 communication team members of different regions coach eachother and have regular contact on (communication) process and progress, f.i. PP ZLTO & PP CRPA.







Knowdlege sharing: inside partnership (together with PP Central Denmark)

Methodology

 PP9 (Central Denmark) will: providing methodology and templates for knowledge exchange, matching partners based on analyse, coordination and support in the organisation of site visits and staff exchanges together with the hosting partners

Cross-checking

- Full translation to English of posters Engines for Success is advised for synthetizing, quality
 control and potential mutual support (e.g. expert visits), translation of Action Plans is also
 advised for cross- checking
- Cross- checking: each Action plan will be proofread by two other partners. Advised to
 decide who is reading whose based on the findings from the knowledge exchange (e.g. good
 practice donor should read the action plan of the good practice adopter)
- Pilot actions may be financed based on additional applications in the 2nd phase of the project as a part of Action plan implementation. Therefore it is advised to think well in advance and include in the action plan if such need arise—examples listed (online application support tool for SMEs enhancing the participation of SMEs in the projects financed by the OP, launching of a pilot call for application in the frame of the OP).







Basics of internal communications

- LP to prepare partnership mailing list and thematic contact list
- Use simple, clear language that is also easy to understand for non-native speakers!
- Be as concrete as possible; avoid vague messages that can be interpreted in different ways. Stick to the expressions of the Application Form.
- The <u>subject of emails</u> must <u>be short and exact</u>: Alwys start the subject with "STRING" acronym and include the most crucial information of the e- mail.
- The same applies for the naming of the documents circulated among the partners!
- The name of files circulated and outputs produced has to be coherent and standardized in all cases: "STRING_name_date.pdf" (e.g. STRING_Case_Conclusions_112013.pdf).
- The front page of documents, as well as the whole structure of project output documents should be standardized (i.e. header, table ofcontent, fonts, spacing) based on a common template





Tools of the trade

EU-requirements

- General disclaimer present in all project publication (also videos) as a footer / header
- General logo (to be used on all communication materials) with cross reference ERDFfundings
- Partner website: short intro of STRING and hyperlinkgs via online banner to our project website: www.interregeurope.eu/string.
- Partners premises: put A3 poster in place and take a photo of it (feedbackin DropBox)

STRING-agreements

- Inform lead communication partner (ZLTO) of all media appearances, f.i. general schedule/calender of events and activities (per 6 months)?
- Which online 'individual learning tool' to use the best? Where are all project partners familiar with? That's the one we'll choose! -> Google Drive and DropBox.
- LinkedIN-group STRINGprojectEU to open up ongoing discussions across Europe (and in Brussels) on main theme: agrifood innovations. All PP's to come up with LinkedIN-members as gatekeepers/opinion leaders to follow!
- Rhythm of newsletters: 1 in 6 months (starting end-June 2017)
- Social media @STRINGprojectEU
- Max. 2x24h to (first) respond to e-mails and questions







Outside to (regional) stakeholders (example ARIA Alsace; all regions to come up with their accents)



Support : DNA Journaliste : Odile Weiss Date de parution : 26 avril 2017 Périodicité : quotidien

Site : http://c.dna.fr/economie/2017/04/26/vers-denouveaux-relais-de-croissance-a-l-international

L'USINE NOUVELLE Pays : France Périodicité : Hebdomadaire

Date: 19 MAI 17

AOUT 17 Page de l'article : p.1,57,58,59 Journaliste : PHILIPPE BOHLINGER, DIDIER BONNET, ET PHILIPPE SCHILDE

ENQUÊTES ===

OJD : 3003



AGROALIMENTAIRE ARIA Alsace Vers de nouveaux relais de croissance à l'international

Après une manie 2016 marquisée par un recul des exportingues par les controlles participation de les controlles participation par les controlles par les controlles participation de les controlles participation



Association régionale des industries alimentaires (Aria)

l'international toute!

L'Aria Alsace fait partie des onze Food Clusters européens retenus pour le programme Interreg Europe, «String» (STrategies for Regional INnovative Food Clusters). Elle est le seul partenaire français dans ce projet présenté à la Maison de la Région à Strasbourg le 24 avril.

C'est avec une certaine fierté que la présidente de l'Association régionale des industries alimentaires (Aria) Alsace, Manou Massenez-Heitzmann, a annoncé à la presse la sélection de l'association



Manou Massenez-Heitzmann et Sylvie Schott ont présenté les actions de l'Aria Alsace : projet String, soutien à la filière bio, présence en Chine. ® Sylvie Mattlé

né de l'union de trois coopératives fruitières produisant 8000 tonnes de mirabelle par an, a lancé ce printemps une gamme de gourdes de compote 100% Grand Est. Grâce à une croissance externe toute récente, cette société réalise désormais plus de 21 millions d'euros de chiffre d'affaires avec un peu plus de 50 salariés.

Accroissement des investissements

Les industriels plus traditionnels investissent également. Ainsi, plus il fait chaud et plus les quelque 200 salariés de l'usine Miko de Saint-Dizier (Haute-Marne) vont au charbon. Sur le site historique du glacier, ils approchent les 100 millions de litres produits chaque année, dont plus de la moitié conditionnés en bacs sous la marque Carte d'Or. Début 2017, aux lignes de petits pots, cornets et tubes de glace, est venue s'ajouter une huitième ligne de production dédiée à la fabrication des fameux Magnum. Preuve qu'Unilever voit toujours plus grand pour cette usine bragarde. En 2016 et dennis le début 2017, la liste des investissements annoncés dans l'agroalimentaire alsacien est spectaculaire. Dernier en date, le changement de nom et de production du chocolatier Mondelez, devenu début mai Carambar&Co. Heineken et Herta ont conforté leur implan tation dans la région de Strasbourg, Delpierre, spécialiste du saumon fumé, se renforce à Wisches (Bas-Rhin) et de nombreuses PME familiales misent sur l'export.

L'Aria est la seule structure française à participer à Stra-tegies for regional innovative food clusters (String). Ce projet européen vise à accroître la capacité d'innovation de sept clusters de l'industrie agroalimentaire afin de répondre aux exigences d'une alimentation de plus en plus variée et dans des quantités de plus en plus importantes. L'objectif est d'améliorer l'adéquation entre les besoins en R&D des entreprises agroalimentaires, les outils développés par les clusters pour y répondre et les politiques publiques régionales de soutien. De quoi accélérer les transferts de technologie et la mise en œuvre industrielle des innovations.







Outside to (regional) stakeholders (example ARIA Alsace; all regions to come up with their accents)

Alsace Food Meeting

- Organising a meeting with the stakeholders 3/per year
- Sending press release of the event
- Reminding the STRING event in our newsletter
- Creating and spreading an invitation with the String logos
- Sending a resume of the event to the stakeholders



Social Media

Promoting the event via Facebook







Outside to (regional) stakeholders (example ARIA Alsace; all regions to come up with their accents)

Newsletter Alsace Food Meeting #7

European Union

European Regional

Development Fund

STRING

Interreg Europe



Outside partners to stakeholders

Alsace Food Meeting

- Organising a meeting with the stakeholders 3/per year
- Sending press release of the event
- Reminding the STRING event in our newsletter
- Creating and spreading an invitation with the String logos
- Sending a resume of the event to the stakeholders

Social Media

Promoting the event via Facebook





Communication activities & tasks

Last 6 months: get ready for launch

February 2017

- Kick-off event (Den Bosch, NL)
- General poster (INTERREG Europe)
- General press release (also to publish on pp websites)

March 2017

- General project website (cross-over with pp websites via social media)
- Establishment of social media networks Twitter

May 2017

- STRING Communication Strategy. Waiting on feedback from Communication Team.
- Promotional leaflet and invitation to the Launching Event

June 2017

- Project Brochure
- Press conference Bologna
- Project level press release (x1)
- Regional press releases (x7). Every partner region to publish at least 1 press release.
- Media appearance (x1)
- Obligatory posters (x1 per project partner = x11 in total)





Communication activities & tasks

Upcoming 6 months: fortify our learning network

June 2017

- Newsletter 1 project STRING
- News from the newsletter posted at partner websites (and their social media)
- Project Brochure online at project website and partner websites (and their social media)

August 2017

- Promote (regional) activities and events via social media (LinkedIN and Twitter)
- Regional descriptions: brief profiles of each region online

October 2017

- Start social media presence to reach out to more stakeholders. VITARTIS creates method. PP host stakeholder meetings and collect stakeholder names. PP ZLTO to engage them on social media.
- Start capturing project video The Making Of . Interdependency with Regional Action Plans.

November 2017

- Press release TEA meeting Debrecen (x1)
- Extended stakeholder meeting per region (x7)

December 2017

- Printable posters of the "engines of change analysis" (x7). CRPA creating a "Synthesis report"
- Promote STRING activities at (trans)national event (x11)
- Newsletter 2 project STRING







Communication activities & tasks

After 1 year: per semester

3rd Semester (Jan-Jun 2018)

- Press release site visits Castila Y
 Leon and Nort-Brabant or partner
 visits Central-Denmark, ARIA
 Alsace, Covasna region)
- Midterm project level press relesae TEA-meeting North-Brahant
- Update project website and regional partner websites (news)
- Engage with stakeholders and food innovators social media online
- Communication around (regional) stakeholder events
- Newsletter 3

4th Semester (Jul-Dec 2018)

- Press releases about (regional) staff exchange visits
- Project level press release TEAmeeting Central Denmark
- Online discussion fora (ASIMCOV) in preparation of the Synthesis Report
- Update project website and regional partner websites (news)
- Continous communication with stakeholder list and beyond
- Newsletter 4

5th Semester (Jan-Jun 2019)

- Printable posters (updating engines of change)
- Project level press release regional meeting Covasna
- Project level press release Final Event Bologna
- Final event Bologna
- Project video 'The making of'
- Briefing implementation leaflets
- Newsletter 5



