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# Liv<u></u>stockSense

Enhancing environmental sustainability of livestock farms by removing barriers for adopting ICT technologies

#### Newsletter, October 2022

#### LivestockSense traveling the world!

A great part of 2022 has been spent on traveling the world for the LivestockSense partners to communicate the latest results of the project.

In this edition of the LivestockSense Newsletter, you can read more about the 20th ISAH Congress organised by International Society for Animal Hygiene in Berlin Germany, the ICT-AGRI-FOOD Mid-term Seminar held in Aachen Germany, and Prof. Thomas Banhazi's and Annamaria Banhazi's many summer visits, including a trip to Israel, Hungary and Denmark.

Happy reading!

### 20th ISAH Congress in Berlin



The UPWr team promoting LivestockSense at the poster session. From the left: Damian Konkol (MSc), Kasia Olejnik (MSc), Sebastian Opaliński (A/Prof.), and Ewa Popiela (PhD), Berlin, 2022.

The 20th edition of the Congress of the International Society for Animal Hygiene ISAH was held in Berlin, Germany on October 5-7, 2022, with LivestockSense represented by the Polish partners from Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences (UPWr).

Associate Professor Sebastian Opaliński, the project coordinator from UPWr presented the main objectives of LivestockSense and the results of the quantitative survey on expectations and concerns about ICT tools among Polish pig and poultry farmers.

UPWr contributed with a conference paper for the publication of the ISAH Congress: Abstract Session 8: *Expectations and concerns about the use of information and communication technology tools at poultry and pig farm – results of a survey of Polish producers* (page 73), describing the challenges of promoting and adapting ICT tools in animal production today.

ISAH - The International Society for Animal Hygiene, is a non-profit scientific organization founded in 1970 with a focus on animal health and welfare in livestock production.



The presentation was based on the strong cooperation between the UPWr team, project leader Prof. Thomas Banhazi from AgHiTech ltd, Hungary, and the team of Dr. Ildiko Tikasz from AKI - the Institute of Agricultural Economics, Hungary.

The information obtained throughout the surveys is a valuable starting point for identifying barriers to the implementation of modern technologies in animal production.

Similar surveys were conducted in Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Israel, and Sweden by the other LivestockSense project partners.

Thanks to the successful promotion of the project activities and the presentation of the results to the international academic community at the ISAH congress, it was possible to exchange experiences and knowledge with specialists in animal science.

This research and conference participation fee was funded by the National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR), within the European Union's Horizobn 2020 research and innovation program.

The publication for the ISAH Congress 2022, and the article by UPWr are available on the <u>LivestockSense website</u>.



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#### **ICT-AGRI-FOOD Mid-term Seminar in Aachen**

Dr. Ildikó Tikász, Head of Department at AKI - Institute of Agricultural Economics presented LivestockSense at the ICT-AGRI FOOD Mid-term seminar for co-founded projects.

The seminar took place over three days in Aachen Germany from the 28-30th of September and led to many insightful talks and presentations of innovative and exciting projects with productive dialogues across various fields.

Dr. Tikász presented the successful results of analysed data from the surveys conducted in 2021 with the participation of 121 pig farmers and 145 poultry farmers in Europe and Israel. Following LivestockSense's substantial quantitative and qualitative interviews with European and Israeli pigs and poultry farmers, a new understanding of barriers and the potential for more adoption of ICT solutions have emerged.

At this moment in LivestockSense, ICT tools (EnviroDetect<sup>TM</sup>) are deployed at commercial study farms in five countries (monitoring CO<sub>2</sub> concentration, ammonia concentration, temperature, dust, humidity, and ventilation). LivestockSense will focus on both expectations and experiences at the study farms.

LivestockSense was also represented by Thomas Bjerre from Innvite ApS, one of the two Danish partners in the LivestockSense project (pictured below with Dr. Ildikó Tikász.)

Early next year focus group meetings will be organised with invitations to endusers, technology providers, policymakers, and academia.

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## LivestockSense enhances the environmental sustainability of poultry farms in Israel



During a recent trip to Israel, Prof. Thomas Banhazi worked with scientists at the MIGAL Galilee Research Institute and local poultry farmers in the Galilee region to improve the environmental performance of their farming operations.

Four Enviro-Detect<sup>TM</sup> instruments have been installed on two separate farms to monitor the thermal and ventilation performance of the buildings and general environmental quality inside and outside of the buildings.

The participating farmers were very open-minded and keen to partake in this study that is generously funded by the EU ICT-AGRI FOOD funding scheme and co-funded by the various national funding bodies, including the Israel Innovation Authority רשות החדשנות.

Prof. Uri Marchaim and Dr. Moshe Meron arranged the farm visits and participated in the on-farm discussions. The Israeli component of the

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## Hungary moves towards more and better ICT in Livestock-farming

Together with Annamaria Banhazi (Aghitech), LivestockSense PI, Prof. Thomas Banhazi also participated in various meetings in Hungary, including meetings with AKI – Institute of Agricultural Economics to review the operational aspects of the project in Hungary.

The Hungarian components of the LivestockSense are represented by Dr. Ildikó Edit Tikász, Head of the Department at AKI, and Mr. Szilveszter Palotay, Deputy Director at AKI.

The Institute of Agricultural Economics Nonprofit Kft. is the main research and knowledge center of agricultural economics in Hungary. AKI's principal tasks are data and information management and based on this, carrying out policy analysis-driven and practice-oriented research on farming, the agri-food supply chain, environmental management, and rural development.

The national funding body for Hungary in this project is the Hungarian National Research, Development, and Innovation fund (NRDI).



PROJECT FINANCED FROM THE NRDI FUND

Visit to LivestockSense' Danish counterpart



Additionally, Prof. Banhazi and Annamaria Banhazi also made their way to Denmark in early August of 2022, to participate in a number of meetings with different Danish organisations, including Innvite ApS that together with Aarhus University (Prof. Claus Aage Grøn Sørensen) are the Danish partners in LivestockSense.

Innvite assisted in arranging some of the meetings, including a visit to the University of Copenhagen, Department of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (pictured). The purpose of the visit was to enhance the promotional, communication, and dissemination strategy of the LivestockSense project.

In Denmark, LivestockSense has successfully conducted quantitative surveys from 29 Danish poultry farms (broiler and egg-producing) and 28 Danish pig farms. Furthermore, three Danish study farms have been initiated to increase our understanding of potentials and barriers to the adoption of ICT solutions in both poultry and pig production.

LivestockSense Danish national funding body is the Danish Development and Demonstration Program, GUDP.

LivestockSense posts news and results from the project on a regular basis on our LinkedIn page and website - make sure to follow along!



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