



**Transform  
Dairy  
Net**

# **D1.1. Report on NIP and EKin network**

**WP1: Mobilising National and European MACCC Knowledge  
and Innovation Networks**



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## Deliverable Information Sheet

<b>Version</b>	v.1
<b>Grant Agreement Number</b>	101133326
<b>Project Acronym</b>	TransformDairyNet
<b>Project Title</b>	TransformDairyNet: Working together to upscale Cow-Calf-Contact dairy production and beyond
<b>Project Call</b>	HORIZON-CL6-2023-GOVERNANCE-01
<b>Project Duration</b>	36 months
<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D1.1
<b>Deliverable Title</b>	Report on NIP and EKIN network
<b>Deliverable Type</b>	R
<b>Deliverable Dissemination Level<sup>1</sup></b>	PU
<b>Work Package</b>	WP1 - Mobilising National and European Knowledge and Innovation Networks
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<b>Official Due Date</b>	31/05/2025 (M12)
<b>Delivery Date</b>	31/05/2025 (M12)
<b>Duration</b>	Months 1 to 12

<sup>11</sup> **Type** [1] R=Document, report; **DEM**=Demonstrator, pilot, prototype; **DEC**=website, patent fillings, videos, etc.; **OTHER**=other\_  
**Dissemination level** [1] **PU**=Public, **CO**=Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services), **CI**=Classified

## Revisions


## List of Acronyms

CCC	Cow Calf Contact
EEA	European Economic Area
EU	European Union
EURAKNOS	European Agricultural Knowledge Innovation Open-Source System
EKIN	European Knowledge Innovation Network
ETNP	European Thematic Network Projects
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
NNF	National Network Facilitator
TDN	Transform Dairy Net
WP	Work Package
NIP	National Innovation Practice Hubs
MA	Multi-actor networks
LLs	Living Labs

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## Keywords list

- National Innovation Practice Hubs (NIPs); European Knowledge Innovation Network (EKIN); Multi-actor networks (MA); National Network Facilitators (NNFs); Cow Calf Contact (CCC).

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# 1. Executive summary of WP1

Work package 1 (WP1) ***Mobilising National and European MACCC Knowledge and Innovation Networks***, had as the main objective to ***Mobilise National (NIP) and European (EKIN) multi-actor networks to learn from and share practice orientated CCC knowledge across Europe and beyond***, with the specific objectives being to i) ***Train and support TransformDairyNet's team of National Network Facilitators (NIPs)*** and to ii) ***Mobilise National (NIPs) and European (EKIN) MA Knowledge and Innovation Networks*** (Start date: Month 1/ End date: Month 12). To build the national networks' function and capacity, NNFs were trained (in M2), supported, and mentored (M2 to M12), in order to mobilise and maintain Multi-Actor (MA) engagement in their respective NIPs. Following the initial training, a tool kit for NNFs was developed focusing on mobilising NIPs and facilitating the TransformDairyNet process, including compiling existing knowledge ready for practice and identifying end-user needs (that feeds into WP3), co-creating new CCC knowledge – addressing end users' needs through innovation (Living Labs approach) (support for WP4) and championing communication, dissemination and exploitation across TransformDairyNet (WP5&6). As a result, 11 National Innovation Practice Hubs (NIPs) representing 12 countries were set-up and mobilized in WP1, each coordinated by trained National Network Facilitators (NNFs). The networks consist of existing and emerging CCC dairy farmers interested in CCC at different stages of cow-calf practice in participating countries, along with support actors pertinent to the stage of transformation in each country (advisors, veterinarians, researchers, farmer and breeding organizations, dairy processors, retailers, policy actors). Each NIP involves 7 to 22 members, with focus being given to existing or emerging CCC farmers. At the end of WP1 the number of members within the NIPs has reached 187 participants. The EKIN in Thessaloniki Greece, organized between 21<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2025 has mobilised a number of 111 participating members across Europe. WP1 provided constant support to NNFs, including peer-to-peer learning through periodic reflection and feedback meetings, organised online monthly, and the task of managing NIPs and the following EKIN meetings will be transferred to WP2.

## 2. Introduction

TransformDairyNet (TDN) bridges local and European efforts through National Innovation Practice Hubs (NIPs) and the European Knowledge and Innovation Network (EKIN). Efforts are coordinated by 11 National Network Facilitators (NNFs) across 12 countries, NIPs bring together farmers, veterinarians, advisors, and other stakeholders to exchange knowledge, tackle challenges, and foster innovation in Cow-Calf Contact (CCC) systems.

The main objectives of NIPs are centered as follows: i) Year 1 of TDN implementation - Focus on compiling existing CCC knowledge, identifying end-user needs, validating tools, and facilitating peer-to-peer learning through events and farm visits; ii) Years 2 & 3 of TDN implementation: Emphasize co-creating new CCC knowledge, addressing user needs through Living Labs, and digitalizing and disseminating insights for practical use.

At the heart of the TransformDairyNet project are the NNFs, which ensure open collaboration within trusted spaces, linking national efforts to the EKIN, connecting over 180 stakeholders across Europe. TDN activities were tailored to the maturity of peer-learning processes in each country, ensuring all relevant actors engage effectively.

TransformDairyNet's NNFs thus play a pivotal role in connecting and mobilising key actors within each partner country in order to support the adoption and advancement of Cow-Calf Contact (CCC) systems. Leveraging their extensive farmer networks and facilitation expertise, NNFs lead the 11 National Innovation Practice Hubs (NIPs) to:

- *Recruit CCC dairy farmers, farmer organisations, veterinarians, academics, processors, retailers, and other relevant actors based on the stage of CCC practice;*
- *Foster a collaborative environment where actors can share knowledge, identify challenges, and co-create innovative solutions;*
- *Facilitate knowledge exchange within and between NIPs, the European Knowledge and Innovation Network (EKIN), and other relevant stakeholders.*

In WP1 the NNFs were trained through peer-to-peer learning workshops to develop a harmonised methodology for facilitation, ensuring effective operation of NIPs and the Living Labs in their respective countries/regions. As a result, they use tools such as the 37-page facilitation toolkit (developed in WP1) and the periodic online meetings (monthly NNF catch-up meetings) in order to support continuous learning, reflection, and innovation.

Additionally, NNFs work closely with TransformDairyNet's Work Packages (WPs) leaders to: i) Compile and share CCC knowledge ready for practice; and ii) Develop Living Lab proposals and drive innovation processes; iii) Act as communication champions to promote TransformDairyNet outcomes nationally and across borders, ensuring impactful dissemination and exploitation of results. Through their efforts, NNFs are instrumental in creating a vibrant community of practice that accelerates the transformation of the dairy sector towards greater sustainability and resilience.

### 3. Facilitator training workshop (NNFs)

All NNFs met between Monday 15<sup>th</sup> of July to Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> of July 2024 for a 4-day workshop in order to be trained through peer-to-peer learning, to adopt a harmonised methodology for network facilitation in their respective country/region, to ensure an effective and similar approach towards setting-up the NIPs and the Living Labs within the project. The workshop was organised at the Royal Agricultural University (RAU) in Cirencester - UK (Associate Partner), with most NNFs and Work Package leaders attending in person, and some online (the agenda of the training presented in Table 3.1). The main objectives of the training workshop were: how to set-up the local NIPs; how to facilitate NIP meetings; agenda and tools for the 1<sup>st</sup> NIP meetings (TDN presentation and the Innovation Wheel); how set-up and foster Living Labs; project reporting during the 1<sup>st</sup> year of implementation; and the TDN project timeline.

**Table 3.1. Agenda of the 4-day NNFs training workshop in Cirencester (15-18 of July 2024)**

Date	Time	Activity	Content	Lead facilitator
15th of July	12-1 pm	Welcome and networking		Jessica Stokes & Siobhan Mullan
	1-2 pm	Icebreaker and getting to know each other	Quiz, values exercise and group attribute bingo	Jessica Stokes
	2-3 pm	Campus tour		
	3-3.05 pm	Introduction to workshop	Objectives/ purpose of workshop	
	3.05-3.15pm	Expectations	Facilitators and WP leaders expectations	
	3.15-4pm	Visioning	Our TransformDairyNet vision	Siobhan Mullan
	4-4.15 pm	Facilitation	What is facilitation?	Jessica Stokes
	4.15-4.25 pm	Touching base	Our facilitation experience	
	4.25-5 pm	What makes a good facilitator?	Create our TransformDairyNet facilitator	Siobhan Mullan
7 pm onwards: Dinner together				
16th of July	9-9.15 am	Introduction to the facilitators role in TDN	Key characteristics of TDN facilitators; The facilitators journey and timeline	Jessica Stokes
	9.15-9.45 am	Mobilising multi-actor National Innovation Practice Hubs (NIPs)	The value of joining NIPs	Siobhan Mullan
	9.45-10.45 am	Mobilising multi-actor National Innovation Practice Hubs (NIPs)	Participatory actor mapping	Jessica Stokes
Break - 10.45-11.15 am				



16th of July	11.15-11.45 am	Mobilising multi-actor National Innovation Practice Hubs (NIPs)	Recruiting farmers and industry actors to NIPs	Siobhan Mullan
	11.45-12.15 pm	Mobilising multi-actor National Innovation Practice Hubs (NIPs)	Addressing engagement challenges with existing dairy farmers	Jessica Stokes
	12.15-1 pm	Facilitators toolkit and tips for NIP meetings	Design NIP meeting Tips and tricks for facilitating group meetings	Siobhan Mullan
Lunch – 1-1.30 pm				
16 <sup>th</sup> of July	1.30 pm	Cow-calf micro dairy farm visit, organic dairy and award-winning cheese maker		
Dinner in Cirencester – 7.30 pm				
17th of July	9-10.30 am	Facilitating MA collaboration for accelerating pathways to CCC – focus on WP2	WP2 aim and facilitators tasks, Co-create overview for NIP meetings; Introduce EKIN meetings and farmer share fair	Dinu Gavojdian
	10.30-11.30 am	Compiling existing knowledge and identifying end user's needs – focus on WP3	WP aims and facilitator tasks Co-create facilitators and NIPs input	Kerstin Barth
Break - 11.30-12				
17 <sup>th</sup> of July	12-1.30 pm	Co-creating new CCC knowledge – addressing end users' needs through innovation	Touching base and LL personal experience	Julie Føske Johnsen
			LL case study examples; Spiral of Innovation Handouts	Jessica Stokes
Lunch at the organic farm shop – 1.45-3 pm				
17 <sup>th</sup> of July	3-4.30 pm	The Innovation wheel - practicing generating living lab ideas	Clarify the timeline for the LL process and criteria	Jessica Stokes, Julie Føske Johnsen
			Practice generating living lab ideas	
Cirencester historic walking tour and dinner – 6 pm onwards				
18th of July	9-10.30 am	Championing communication, dissemination and exploitation across TDN	WP5 and 6 aims and facilitators tasks	Yael Dotan
			Input on actors preferences for DEC channels and materials	
			Input from facilitators on best DEC stakeholders in each partner country	
Break – 10.30-11 am				
18th of July	11-11.30 am	Peer-to-peer learning, support and workshop reflection	How do we want to support each other going forward?	Jessica Stokes
	11-30-12 pm	Mobilizing the EKIN	We are all hot contacts – what are our hot TDN contacts? Collate potential EKIN members	
		12-12.30 pm	Intro to legacy – focus on WP7	Where is TDN going?
Final lunch together				

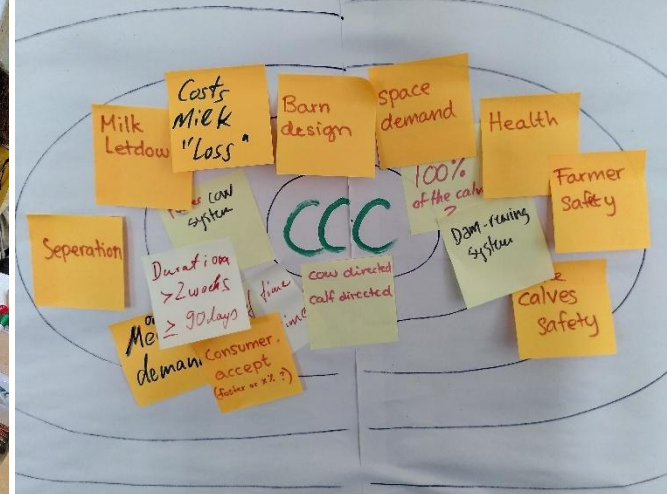


Figure 3.1. Facilitators training workshop (NNFs) in Cirencester – UK, 15-18.07.2024

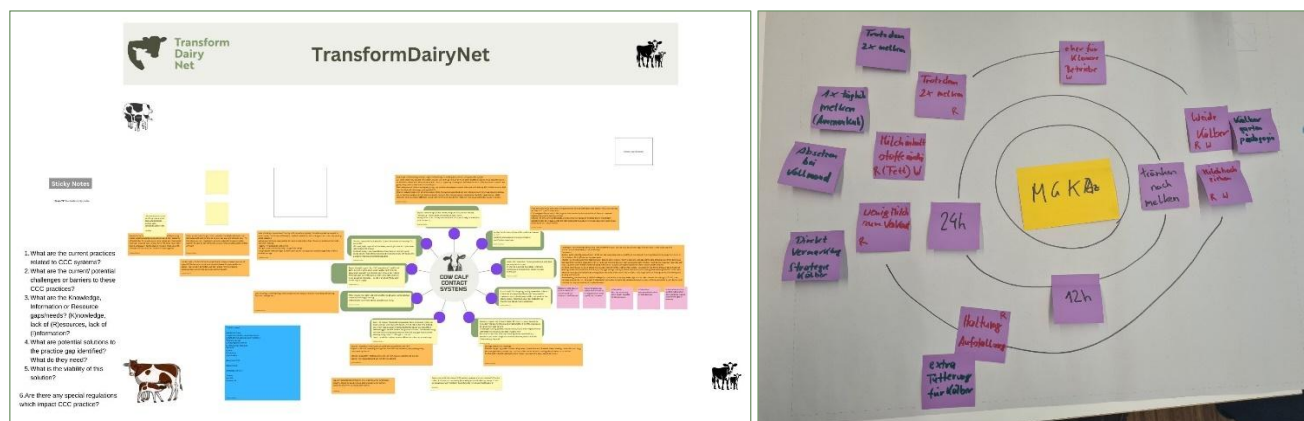


## 4. National Innovation Practice Hubs (NIPs)

Following the training at Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester - United Kingdom, all NNFs started working towards mobilising their 11 regional/country specific NIPs across 12 partner countries/regions (see Table 4.1). There are two pairs of partner countries which share a NNF, namely Ireland and the UK, and Sweden and Norway. All NIPs were set up with the aim to include existing and emerging CCC dairy farmers, farmer organisation representatives, veterinarians and advisory services, as well as other relevant support actors in that country/region. Each NIP was built with the aim of bringing together up to 12-15 actors, priority being given to dairy farmers that practice different CCC systems or those who are willing to adopt CCC practices in their farms.

The NNF approach towards potential stakeholders to join the NIPs was coordinated by WP1, following the training and the monthly NNF online meetings prior to the first set of NIP meetings. However, as foreseen in the proposal, the membership of NIPs has proven to be dynamic as the NIPs progressed, generally as the notoriety of the project has grown, so did the interest of farmers and other relevant actors in joining the NIP meetings.

The main objective of the **first round of NIP** meetings was centred around setting the national network up, to present in detail the TDN project, as well as to foster sharing existing CCC knowledge and identifying challenges, needs, and opportunities. The general agenda of the 1<sup>st</sup> NIP was designed by the WP1 leader, and included presentations of the projects and tools for collecting challenges, research needs and ideas for solving current problems in CCC adoption (the Innovation Wheel, see Figure 4.1.).



**Figure 4.1.** Examples of results of the Innovation Wheel coming from the UK and Ireland NIP (photo left) and the Austrian NIP (photo right)

The main objective of the **second round of NIP** meetings was mainly focused on identifying ideas, to be developed and submitted by each interested NIP to the call opened by WP4. Given the high interest of some NIPs and the multitude of ideas that needed refinement and/or additional information, some NIPs had to meet more than once, e.g. the German NIP 4 times and the Norway & Sweden NIP 5 times. The NNFs and WP4 leader offered their support to the NIP groups to come up with new ideas, refine their ideas and submit LL proposals in order to access moderate resource support (Innovation Fund) for testing new CCC practice or applications.

**Table 4.1. Number of NIP meetings per country/region during the 1<sup>st</sup> year of TransformDairyNet project**

No.	NIP name	NIP 1 date (NIP setting-up)	NIP 1 participants	NIP 2 date (Living labs)	NIP 2 participants
1	NIP UK and Ireland	28.11.2024	9 (online)	30.01.2025	9 (online)
2	NIP Austria	11.12.2024	21 (in person)	18.03.2025/ 19.04.2025	16 (in person)/ 17 (online)
3	NIP Buffalo Italy	27.01.2024	11 (online)	28.04.2025	10 (online)
4	NIP Denmark	13.12.2024	9 (in person)	06.02.2025/ 24.02.2025	8 (online)/ 11 (online)
5	NIP Estonia	07.01.2025	7 (online)	Postponed due to Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak in Central Europe	
6	NIP France	04.02.2025	12 (online)	16.04.2025	6 (online)
7	NIP Germany	11.12.2024	11 (in person)	13.03.2025/ 27.03.2025/ 07.04.2025/ 14.04.2025	10 (online)/ 7 (online)/ 9 (online)/ 10 (online)
8	NIP Greece	20.11.2024	12 (in person)	23.05.2025	6 (in person)
9	NIP Italy (Cattle)	06.11.2024	12 (online)	24.03.2025	11 (online)
10	NIP Norway and Sweden	04.11.2024/ 18.11.2024	7 (in person)/ 15 (in person + online)	10.01.2025/ 30.01.2025/ 28.02.2025/ 20.03.2025/ 11.04.2025	11 (online)/ 11 (online)/ 12 (online)/ 11 (online)/ 3 (in person)
11	NIP Romania	06.12.2024	12 (online)	13.05.2025	9 (in person)
<b>Total 11 NIPS sett-up</b>		<b>12 NIP meetings, 138 participants</b>		<b>19 NIP meetings, 187 participants</b>	

**Altogether, a number of 31 NIP meetings were organized during the first 12 months of the project (out of 22 proposed in the project during the 1<sup>st</sup> year of TDN), with 325 stakeholders participating.**

**Table 4.2. TransformDairyNet project global initiatives (online meetings, for setting-up outside of Europe NIPs)**

Country/Region	Date	Participants no.	Country/Region	Date	Participants no.
Brazil	01.05.2025	5	Zimbabwe	14.05.2025	4
India	02.05.2025	8	North America	07.03.2025	3
New Zealand	15.05.2025	4	Total outside Europe		5 events/24 persons

For the global initiatives, the Ireland & UK NNF and project leader gave short online presentations of TransformDairyNet project and activities, and persons attending were invited to join the 1<sup>st</sup> EKIN online.

## 5. NNFs Meetings

Following the training workshop in Cirencester, monthly online follow-up meetings were carried out, although in the TDN proposal these were scheduled for every two months (see Table 5.1), the NNFs and the PI had decided to have them each month, given the multitude of tasks that the NNFs had in supporting Work Packages such as WP2, WP3, WP4, WP5 and WP6 in the first year of implementation.

The NNFs delivered face-to-face and online NIP meetings to facilitate, feed in and feedback on the outcomes of WP3, WP4, WP5 and WP6, and worked closely with the WP leaders and associated partners. NNFs gave support for the harvesting and compiling of existing CCC knowledge ready for practice and identification of end-user needs, that feed into WP3. Moreover, NNFs helped develop Living Labs proposals within their NIPs to mobilise and drive the innovation process, actions coordinated by WP4.

During the first year of implementation of the project the NNFs have acted as communication champions and fed into the development of the Dissemination, Exploitation and Communication (DEC) plan to ensure relevant and impactful DEC measures are utilised throughout partner countries (WP5), and provided translation for questionnaires on stakeholders preferred information channels, in order to come up with a tailored communication strategy within the project. And finally, the NNFs acted as communication champions for TransformDairyNet at a national level and where possible created interactions and disseminated through collaborators in neighbouring CCC dairy practicing countries.

**Table 5.1. National Network Facilitators (NNFs) meetings during the 1<sup>st</sup> year of Transform Dairy Net project**

Meeting number	Date	Time	Online/Onsite	Persons attending	Verification means
1 <sup>st</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> of June 2024	10:00-12:50	Online: TDN Kick-off meeting	TDN PI + WP leaders + NNFs + TDN consortium	Minute of the meeting
2 <sup>nd</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> of July 2024	Four days, all day	RAU Cirencester UK + online	NNFs + TDN PI + WP 5	Report on the NNF training
3 <sup>rd</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> of September 2024	11:00-12:30	Online	NNFs + TDN PI	Minute of the meeting
4 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> of October 2024	11:00-12:30	Online	NNFs + TDN PI	Minute of the meeting

5 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup> of November 2024	11:00-12:30	Online	NNFs + TDN PI	Minute of the meeting
6 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> of December 2024	11:00-12:30	Online	NNFs + TDN PI	Minute of the meeting
7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup> of January 2025	11:00-12:30	Online	NNFs + TDN PI + WP3 + WP4 + WP5 + WP6	Minute of the meeting
8 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup> of February 2025	11:00-12:30	Online	NNFs + TDN PI + WP3 + WP4 + WP5 + WP6	Minute of the meeting
9 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup> of March 2025	11:00-12:30	Online	NNFs + WP3 + WP4 + WP5 + WP6	Minute of the meeting
10 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> of April 2025	11:00-12:30	Online	NNFs + WP3 + WP4	Minute of the meeting
11 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> of May 2025	11:00-12:30	Online	NNFs + TDN PI + WP3	Minute of the meeting
12 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>th</sup> of May 2025	11:10-12:10	On-site (GA meeting Greece) + online	NNFs + TDN PI + WP leaders + GA participants	Report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> EKin

Additionally, to prepare the 1<sup>st</sup> EKin in Thessaloniki – Greece, the NNFs, local organizers and the relevant WP leaders have met online several times, in 10<sup>th</sup> of April 2025; 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2025; 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2025; 13<sup>th</sup> of January 2025 and on 21<sup>th</sup> of November 2024, to discuss agenda, participants and presentations.

## 6. *TransformDairyNet* project 1<sup>st</sup> European Knowledge and Innovation Network (EKIN)

**TransformDairyNet** consortium has organized the first **European Knowledge and Innovation Network (EKIN)** in Thessaloniki, Greece between 21<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2025, the event was organized in person as well as streamed online. The local organizer partner was the Veterinary Research Institute from Thessaloniki - Ellinikos Georgikos Organismos DIMITRA. During the 1<sup>st</sup> EKIN, the network showcased the activities of TransformDairyNet to date and facilitated cross pollination of ideas in Cow Calf Contact (CCC) innovation from grassroots to policy level.

The three-day EKIN event was structured as follows:

- Day 1: 21<sup>th</sup> of May – **General Assembly** (GA) meeting of the project, Mediterranean Palace - Thessaloniki and online, number of participants 41 (agenda of the event in Table 6.1);
- Day 2: 22<sup>nd</sup> of May - **European Knowledge and Innovation Network** (1<sup>st</sup> EKIN), Mediterranean Palace - Thessaloniki and online, number of participants 111 (54 in person, 57 online) (agenda of the event in Table 6.2);
- Day 3: 23<sup>rd</sup> of May – **Study tour** to Kolchiko Lagadas dairy farm and Koufalia milk processing plant, number of participants 35 (agenda of the event in Table 6.3);

The event was advertised to potential stakeholders and other interested participants on the webpage of the project, in the TDN newsletter, on social media channels of the project (Facebook and LinkedIn) and by the NNFs within their national NIPs. To help out interested persons attending and for reaching out to a wider audience to the event, free online registration and participation was made available, in addition to the in-person participation.

**Table 6.1. General Assembly (GA) agenda, Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> of May 2025, in person & online participation**

<i>Time (EEST time)</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Lead</i>
10.30 am	Arrival of GA members	All
11 am	Welcome	Siobhan Mullan & Evangelia Sossidou
11.10 am	WP1 and 2 update	Susan Bullock & Dinu Gavojdian
11.20 am	NIP updates - 1 slide/2 min. per NIP	All NNFs
11.50 am	WP1 general discussion of interactions between NNFs, NIPs and the rest of the project activities	All
12 pm	WP2 update: Transitioning from WP1 and WP2 reporting needs	Dinu Gavojdian
12.10pm	WP3 update	Kerstin Barth

12.20 pm	WP3 workshop: How long should cows and calves stay together?	Kerstin Barth
1.10 pm: Lunch		
1.40 pm	WP4 Living Labs update	Julie Føske Johnsen
1.50 pm	WP4 workshop on: Sustainability of CCC systems	Marie Haskell
2.10 pm	WP5/6 update: Tools for the project/ What can we do to support the project/ DEC goals and form	Yael Dotan & Sabine Ferneborg
2.25 pm	WP7 update: Horizon scanning for opportunities	Ragnar Leming
2.30 pm	WP8 update: Management needs of the consortium including budget	Siobhan Mullan
2.40 pm: Break		
3 pm	WP huddles: 15min session with WP5/6 activities	All
3.15 pm	WP huddles: WP1&2 and NNFs together	
4 pm	AOB: Addressing the needs of the consortium	Siobhan Mullan
5 pm	GA members time together	
Welcome dinner		

The main focus of the first EKIN was to present to the TDN consortium and stakeholders a synthesised compilation of existing CCC knowledge ready for practice across Europe, work that was centred around activities carried out in Work Package 3.

**Table 6.2. European Knowledge and Innovation Network (EKIN) agenda, Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> of May 2025, in person & online participation**

<i>Time (Local EEST time)</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
9.00 am	Welcome by local organizers & Project co-ordinator	M.Chatzakou; A. Assimakopoulos; G.Kefalas; E.N. Sossidou; S. Mullan
9.15 am	The Ethical Dairy- our journey to Cow Calf Contact	Charles Ellett, The Ethical Dairy
9.45 am	Introduction to our National Innovation Practice Hubs: Romania and Norway-Sweden	Dinu Gavojdian & Stine Grønmo Kischel
9.55 am	Norway farm case study	Nina Veslum & Stine Grønmo
10.05 am	One size doesn't fit all- different Cow-Calf contacts	Margret Vonholdt-Wenker
10.30 am: Break		



11.00 am	From science and practice- what have we learnt about Cow Calf Contact farming across Europe?	Anina Vogt, Guilherme Amorim Franchi, Anna Rademann
12.00 pm	Introduction to our National Innovation Practice Hubs: Italy (cows) and Italy (buffalo)	Raffaella Finocchiaro, Yuri Gombia
12.10 pm	Farm Assurance for Cow Calf Contact	Daniela Haager
12.30 pm	Getting the market value of Cow Calf Contact milk- a case example from the Netherlands	Janina van der Drift
12.50 pm	Italian farm case study	Raffaella Finocchiaro
1.00 pm: Lunch		
2.00 pm	Introduction to our National Innovation Practice Hubs: Estonia, Denmark, France	Airi Vetemaa, Iben Christiansen, Chloé Le Gall-Ladevèze
2.15 pm	Getting the most out of thematic networks Introducing LIVENET and EUFarmBook	Lisa van Dijk
2.35 pm	Workshop: Vision for Cow Calf Contact in Europe	Lisa van Dijk
3.15 pm	Spreading the word! Disseminating Cow Calf Contact information more widely	Yael Dotan & Sabine Ferneborg
3.35 pm: Break		
3.50 pm	Introduction to our National Innovation Practice Hubs: UK-Ireland, Germany	Rachel Annan & Saro Ratter
4.00 pm	Germany farm case study	Saro Ratter
4.10 pm	Introduction to our National Innovation Practice Hub: Austria, Greece	Jacob Gadermaier & Chrysa Adamakopoulou
4.20 pm	What do we know about how much Cow Calf Contact costs?	Julie Føske Johnsen, Stine Grønmo Kischel, Lucie Adenauer
4.40 pm	Final discussion	Dinu Gavodjian
5.00 pm	Closing remarks	Siobhan Mullan

**Table 6.3. Study tour agenda, Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2025, in person**

Time	Topic	Location
8.00 am	Departure to Dairy Cow Farm	Hotel / Meeting Point
09.00 – 10.30 am	Visit & Tour at Dairy Farm	Kolchiko, Lagadas
10.30 am	Departure to Milk Industry	On the road
11.30-13.00 pm	Visit & Tour at Milk Processing Industry	Koufalia
13.00 pm	Departure	On the road
14:00 pm: Lunch		
17.00	Return to Thessaloniki	Hotel / Meeting Point

**Looking forward:** Given the great success of the 1<sup>st</sup> EKIN held in Greece, the consortium will organize the 2<sup>nd</sup> EKIN in Bucharest – Romania in May 2026. The 2<sup>nd</sup> EKIN will focus on sharing new ideas and innovation through the Living Labs (LL) process which solve farmers challenges and knowledge gaps (WP4).



**Figure 6.1.** NNFs at the General Assembly meeting, Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> of May 2025



**Figure 6.2.** European Knowledge and Innovation Network meeting group photo, Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> of May 2025



**Figure 6.3.** Study tour group photo (Kolchiko – Lagadas dairy farm), Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2025

## 7. Milestones of WP1

During WP1 implementation a set of two milestones were foreseen in the proposal (see Table 7.1), as follows:

**Milestone 1.1. - NNF training, toolkit:** All NNFs attended a 4-day training workshop at RAU in Cirencester – UK, between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of July 2024 (training agenda presented in detail in sub-section no. 3) and the 37-page toolkit (facilitator guide, outline of ppt presentations and resources package) was set-up and made available to all NNFs and consortium on the share platform of the project (*milestone reached and delivered on-time*);

**Milestone 1.2. - Setting up national practice hubs:** All 11 NIPs were set-up, as proposed in the project, representing 12 countries, the NNFs reported their first national NIP meeting back to the consortium (documents available on the share platform of the project), all NIPs had at least one meeting, and there are NIPs which at the request of the interested stakeholders had up-to 7 meetings (e.g. Norway and Sweden NIP), see Table 7.2 for the 1<sup>st</sup> set of NIP meetings and Table 4.1. for details on all NIP meetings to date.

**Table 7.1. List of Milestones set-up for TransformDairyNet project – Work package 1**

No.	Milestone name	WP	Month	Verification means
M1.1	NNF training, toolkit	WP1	4	Training has occurred; toolkit available to NNFs
M1.2	Setting up national practice hubs	WP1	6	Report on practice hubs within the consortium

**Table 7.2. Details on national practice hubs (NIPs) being set-up during WP1**

NIP no.	NIP country/region	Date for setting-up	No. of initial members	NNF partner
1	NIP UK and Ireland	28.11.2024	9	UCD
2	NIP Austria	11.12.2024	21	BIOA
3	NIP (Buffalo) Italy	27.01.2024	11	ANASB
4	NIP Denmark	13.12.2024	9	ICOEL
5	NIP Estonia	07.01.2025	7	EOFF
6	NIP France	04.02.2025	12	PHY
7	NIP Germany	11.12.2024	11	SFS
8	NIP Greece	20.11.2024	12	ELGO
9	NIP (Cattle) Italy	06.11.2024	12	ANA
10	NIP Norway and Sweden	04.11.2024	22	TINE
11	NIP Romania	06.12.2024	12	RDIB
<b>Total 11 NIPs, representing 12 countries</b>		<b>Total 138 initial NIP members</b>		

In **CONCLUSION**, Work Package 1 has been successful in reaching out its main objective, to mobilise a set of 11 National Innovation Practice Hubs (NIPs) and the European (EKIN) multi-actor networks, in order to identify and share practices orientated towards CCC across Europe and beyond. The efforts made in WP1 had led to attaining the two specific objectives, namely to *i) train and support TransformDairyNet's team of National Network Facilitators (NIPs)* and to *ii) Mobilise National (NIPs) and European (EKIN) Multi - Actor Knowledge and Innovation Networks*.



**Figure 7.1. Section of the NNFs guide for implementing tasks within TransformDairyNet project (full 37-page document + NNFs resources made available and circulated within the consortium)**