



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada

INRAE

 adaptation
futures 2023

International Forum on Agroecosystem Living Labs

October 4 to 6, 2023 | Palais des congrès | Montréal, QC, Canada

Why Agroecosystem Living Labs?

Javier Gracia-Garza, Chris McPhee, Muriel Mambrini

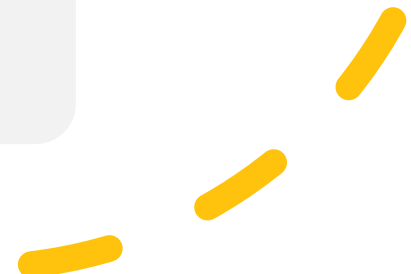
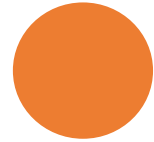
What is a living lab?



A living lab is an approach for **various groups to work together to co-develop innovations** that are more likely to be adopted.



Adoption is more likely because a **living lab creates conditions suited to improving the fit between an innovation and the user's needs** – and how they will actually use it.



Living lab's core principles



User-centred involvement



Multi-stakeholder co-design



Real-life context

Agroecosystem Living Labs

In agriculture, like in many other sectors, there is a pressing need for innovation models and processes that will enable an accelerated response to climate change and other environmental challenges.

G20 Meeting of Chief Agricultural Scientists in 2018:

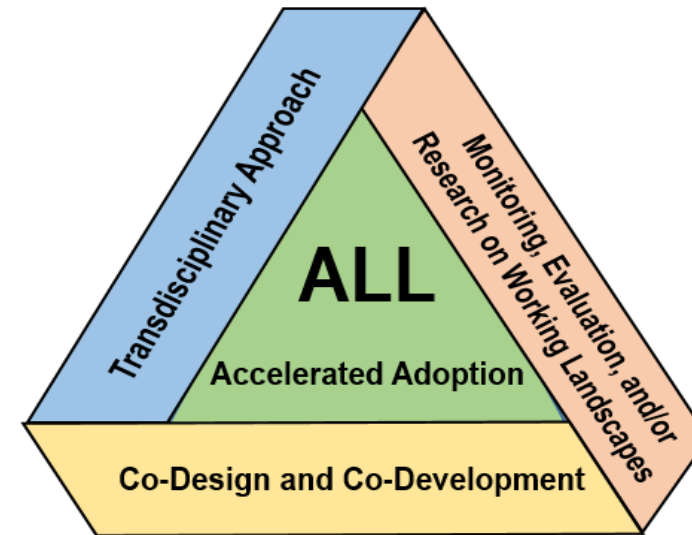
Canada presented the “agroecosystem living lab” as a promising approach to fostering more widespread and rapid adoption of sustainable practices and technologies to adapt to an ever-changing environment.



A Definition for Agroecosystem Living Labs

According to the G20 MACS working group, agroecosystem living labs are:

- + “transdisciplinary approaches...
- + which involve farmers, scientists and other interested partners...
- + in the co-design, monitoring and evaluation...
- + of new and existing agricultural practices and technologies...
- + on working landscapes...
- = to improve their effectiveness and early adoption.”



Characteristics of Agroecosystem Living Labs

Dimensions	Agroecosystem Living Labs
Aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aimed at sustainability and resilience of agriculture and agri-food systems • Innovation can be expressed through technology, beneficial management practices, or processes • Knowledge production and knowledge network creation
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exceptionally high level of evaluation and data management • Long/seasonal/unpredictable innovation cycles • Scaling up and out to system-level outcomes
Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasis on public sector researcher participation • User roles may be diverse and can evolve • Often led by the public sector academic institutions • High diversity and number of partners, interests, and values requiring complex governance
Context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The living lab is embedded within and examined at the scale of <i>agroecosystems</i>

Source: The Defining Characteristics of Agroecosystem Living Labs. McPhee, C.; Bancercz, M.; Mambrini-Doudet, M.; Chrétien, F.; Huyghe, C.; Gracia-Garza, J. 2021. *Sustainability*, 13, 1718.

Why are Agroecosystem Living Labs being established around the world?



Address complex issues and catalyzes system-wide transitions to increase resilience and sustainability



Bring together farmers, scientists and other partners to jointly exchange knowledge and implement solutions



Refine agricultural practices, technologies or policies adapted to farmers' needs and for the benefit of consumers and society



Accelerate the co-development and adoption of innovations

Why a forum on Agroecosystem Living Labs?

To bring together the international community to discuss how agroecosystem living labs:

- **Promote innovation**
- **Foster transitions toward sustainable food systems**
- **Empower participation and strengthen participatory governance in agroecosystems**
- **Evaluate success of agroecosystem living labs and their impacts**



Merci!



Program at-a-glance

Wednesday Oct 4

Thursday Oct 5

Friday Oct 6

	520 E	520 F	520 E	520 F	
8:30	Opening remarks				
9:05	Theme 1 "Promoting innovation through living labs"	Theme 2 "Fostering transitions toward sustainable food systems through living labs"			
10:30					Seats are reserved for IF-ALL participants
12:00	Lunch				Field Tour (12h30-20h30)
14:00			Theme 3 "Empowering participation, strengthening participatory governance in living labs"	Theme 4 "Evaluating success in living labs"	
16:00					
17:00	Networking Activity		Closing Plenary (17h10)		
20:00					

Don't forget to confirm your attendance

General info

- **Use SLIDO for asking questions, commenting, and interacting during the event**
 - Virtual participants - SLIDO app available on the right-hand side of the screen
 - In-person participants - Access SLIDO from your mobile device by going to [slido.com](https://www.slido.com) with #IF-ALL
 - Select the **name of the current session** to access Q&A features and interactive questions.
- **During the question periods and the discussion blocs**
 - You use SLIDO or **come to the microphone in the room** to comments or ask questions
- **Use English to communicate, or French (we can translate it)**
- **Do not forget to vote for your favourite ePosters online (before noon on October 5th)**

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