**Risk AssessmenT InnOvatioN for low-risk pesticides (RATION)**

**Coordinator/Head of the IUNG-PIB team**: **dr Magdalena Dziągwa-Becker**

**Increasing market uptake of low-risk pesticides**

The use of synthetic pesticides entails risks for environment and human health. In search of low-risk solutions, scientists are studying ways to substitute synthetic pesticides with plant extracts, semiochemicals, microbial and dsRNA pesticides. Despite ongoing regulatory efforts by the European Commission, we are still lacking a concrete risk assessment scheme for low-risk pesticides (LRPs). In this context, the EU-funded RATION project will develop a novel risk assessment scheme for currently used and emerging LRPs (dsRNA and microbiome solutions). Bringing together 22 partners from academia, industry and regulatory bodies, the project will benchmark EU regulatory science, uplift blockers holding back uptake of LRPs by the EU market and motivate research innovation in plant protection.

The project started on 1 November 2022.

*Source: CORDIS,* [*https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101084163*](https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101084163)