The VALUE4FARM project is financed from the HORIZON EUROPE program, with an estimated budget of EUR 6,377,839.88. The project started on September 1, 2023, and lasts until February 28, 2027. The project is a response to the challenges posed by the European Union's Green Deal such as reduction of the carbon footprint of the agricultural sector, promotion of decentralized renewable energy production and encouraging rural development.

The project goal is to demonstrate the effectiveness, sustainability and replicability of three local value chains based on biogas and linking sustainable food production with renewable energy production and the defossilisation of the agricultural sector by matching local needs in terms of electricity, heat, mobility, residual bioresources and land management. Three demonstration sites (in Denmark, Belgium and Italy, and three replication sites (in Poland, Island and Italy) will be developed and investigated. The specific goal is:

1: Develop sustainable agricultural protocols, compatible with renewable energy production and farmers’ specifications.

2: Propose a wide range of renewable energy production and storage technologies, meeting farmers’ residues management, electricity, heat and mobility needs.

3: Validate the sustainability and circularity of three renewable-based local value chains through demonstration.

4: Ensure the replicability and widespread use of the demonstrated overall value chains.

This initiative unites 14 partners, including 8 research-oriented partners, two technology providers, three associations and one small and medium enterprise (SME). One of the consortium members is the Institute of Soil Science and Plant Cultivation (IUNG).

IUNG is involved in:

WP1 – Framework and specification

* + Task 1.1. Recruiting the network of farmers in the polish replication site to better understand and map their needs.
  + Task 1.2. Collection of information about the environment conditions of the demonstration sites.
  + Task 1.3. Analysis of polish legislation documents, related to innovative concepts developed in the project, in order to identification the good practice and obstacles that can be found for their implementation in Poland.

WP3 – Demonstration of the optimized value chains

* + Tasks 3.1, 3.2, 3.3., 3.4. Receiving the samples from demonstration sites for analysis in T.4.1.2.

WP4 – Assessment and optimisation of the value chains

* + Task 4.1.2. Leading of the task: Soil and biodiversity analysis and study of digestates as field fertilizer

WP5 – Market uptake of renewable energy solutions

* + Task 5.2. Leading of the task: Raise the profile of energy production among farmers associated with the replication sites.

WP6 – Communication, dissemination and exploitation

* + Task 6.1.; 6.2; 6.3; 6.4. Participation in: creation of plan for dissemination and exploitation, development of website, leaflets etc. and translation them into polish, relaying information about the project on own social media, taking part in events, scientific conference, workshops etc., publication the results in scientific and technical journals, taking part in fostering the market uptake of the project solution

WP7 – Project menagement and ethics

* + Task 7.1. Providing coordinator with administrative information
  + Task 7.2. Participation in day-to-day management and progress monitoring by exchanging e-mail and telephone, videoconferencing etc.
  + Task 7.4. Participation in data management plan