



Deliverable D1.2

# **PUBLICATION STRATEGY**

[Version 1.0]

## DOCUMENT DETAILS

Project acronym	CoCo
Project title	Co-creating coexistence: Advancing policies, practices, and stakeholder engagement for integrating wildlife and livestock into sustainable multi-functional landscapes in Europe
Starting date	01/11/2024
Duration	36 months
Call identifier	HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-01-1
Grant Agreement No	101181958

## Deliverable Information

Deliverable number	D 1.2
Work Package number	WP1
Deliverable title	Publication strategy
Lead beneficiary	University of Inland Norway
Author(s)	John Linnell
Due date	31/01/2025
Actual submission date	31/01/2025
Type of deliverable	R – Document Report
Dissemination level	PU (Public)

## Version Management

### Revision table

Version	Revision	Date	Description
1	John Linnell	31/01/2025	First version

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## List of terms, acronyms, abbreviations

Term / Acronym / Abbreviation	Meaning / Full text
KPI	Key Performance Indicators
WP	Work Package
SSH	Social sciences and the humanities

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RURAL ECONOMY AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY



CoCo is funded by the European Union's Horizon Europe - Research and Innovation programme (grant agreement No. 101181958). The project, started in November 2024, has a duration of three years.



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## ABOUT THE PROJECT: CO-CREATING COEXISTENCE

‘Co-creating coexistence: Advancing policies, practices, and stakeholder engagement for integrating wildlife and livestock into sustainable multi-functional landscapes in Europe’ (CoCo) is a research project designed to build the knowledge base necessary to identify future pathways that can reconcile the needs of pastoralists with those of wildlife in shared European landscapes.

Recovering wildlife populations can create challenges for rural professions, including extra costs and workload due to predation and damage mitigation as well as conflicts between stakeholders concerning wildlife management and the contested nature of relevant knowledge. This occurs in addition to existing socio-economic challenges concerning, for example, power, wealth, social capital, and gender and diversity. Some of the major obstacles to addressing these challenges are conflicts between stakeholders and the contested nature of relevant knowledge.

The CoCo project will tackle such challenges and transform the ongoing entrenched conflict to promote human-wildlife and cross-sectoral coexistence in multi-functional landscapes. To this end, a partnership of 18 research and stakeholder institutes and organisations across 12 European countries, will implement a multi-disciplinary and multi-actor approach aimed at co-creating knowledge with high legitimacy. Through eight work packages, a ‘Roadmap to Coexistence’ will be created with policy and practice recommendations.

The project will use methods as diverse as systematic reviews, field inspections, face-to-face interviews, focus groups, questionnaires and modelling. The project’s ambition is to collect original quantitative and qualitative data from at least 1000 pastoralists, 1000 hunters and 1000 landowners and qualitative data from stakeholders deployed in a comparative way across 12 countries. The insights stemming from the reviews, the analysis of new data, and the modelling will be integrated into policy recommendations for a better standardization, harmonization and integration of both pastoral and wildlife management systems.

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Citation: Linnell, J. D. C. & Rooke, T. (2025) Deliverable D1.2. Publication strategy for the CoCo project.



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document presents the publication strategy for the scientific publication component of the wider strategy for communication and dissemination. It begins with a short summary of the strategic objectives attributed to scientific publication and a repetition of the Key Performance Indicators that were identified in the project proposal and included in the Grant Agreement contract. Focusing on the peer-reviewed publications and presentations at scientific conferences, the document then outlines the desired publication process and authorship principles for the project as well as mechanisms for resolving eventual disagreements. Choice of journals and open access are discussed. Finally, it presents a preliminary list of anticipated publications and attaches them to the different Work Packages and Tasks on which they will be based.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

The CoCo project is built on the premise of building a stronger consensus around the knowledge basis for informing policy decisions related to integrating pastoralism and wildlife conservation / management into shared landscapes. These goals will be met through a combination of robust science and extensive stakeholder engagement in a co-creation and multi-actor approach. These approaches require an extensive communication and dissemination strategy which is described in detail in the project’s Communication and Dissemination Strategy (Deliverable 8.1). The project’s Data Management Plan (Deliverable D1.1) provides details of how the underlying data will be published. This document compliments these wider strategies by focusing specifically on the scientific publication component of the strategy. It outlines the overarching motivations and strategic considerations behind scientific publication, discusses the procedural ground-rules for publication processes and authorship, and provides a preliminary overview of the intended publications that will emerge. This strategy is intended to provide a straightforward and easy to follow overview of our plans and procedures. The table of planned publications will be a living document.

The CoCo project is based around a set of 20 specific tasks organised into 8 work packages (see Figure 1). It is anticipated that most publications will emerge from the knowledge generating tasks, with a few cross-cutting publications emerging from the more integrative tasks.

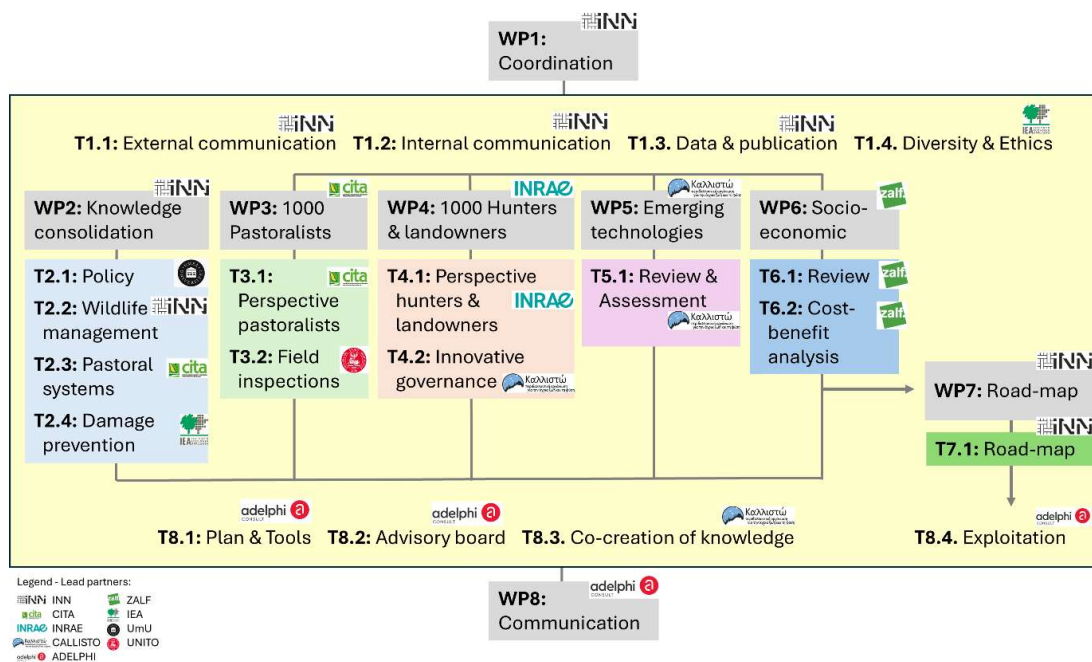


Figure 1. CoCo work package overview to show how proposed papers link to their tasks and WPs

## 2 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The motivations for scientific publication are identified in the project's articulation of its pathways to impact. It is built on the identified needs and addresses the fact that *"There are many cultural, social and political conflicts surrounding the appropriate way to manage the pastoralist-livestock interface"* and that the *"Knowledge about how to manage these conflicts is fragmented and highly contested by different stakeholders"*. Accordingly, there is a need to develop knowledge with a high degree of legitimacy. Part of this legitimacy will be built via our co-creation and multi-actor methodology, especially with respect to rural stakeholders. However, a further part of the legitimacy, especially among scientists, administrators and NGOs, can be enhanced by ensuring scientific publication in peer-reviewed journals among multiple dissemination, exploitation and communication measures. Not only does peer-reviewed publication convey legitimacy for our specific studies and provide feedback from scientists outside the project but it also provides a useful hook for gaining media attention and helping with the dissemination to the wider public. Furthermore, beyond the project's specific objectives it helps the scientists involved in the project to build their CVs and careers and increases the overall status and visibility of the Horizon research program.

The application's 'pathway to impact'-section identified the following scientific impact areas:

- Promotion of multi-disciplinary, multi-actor and co-creation approaches to address complex problems.
- New alliances between academia and NGOs, and between agricultural, environmental and SSH fields.
- Resolving a knowledge gap and build an evidence base.
- Standardisation of wildlife and pastoral monitoring tools to facilitate future research and evaluation.
- Increased coordination across Europe in terms of understanding and monitoring the pastoralist-wildlife interface.

These scientific impacts can only be achieved by scientific publication.

Scientific publication typically involves peer-reviewed publication in journals and oral or poster presentations at professional conferences and workshops.

The CoCo project will produce a large scientific output based on (1) reviews and aggregation of existing data and topics, and (2) the collection of new data from the field. There will therefore be an abundance of new research results and insights suitable for publication.

## 3 PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOLS

### 3.1 PAGER SYSTEM

Task leaders have the responsibility for developing concrete 1-page proposals (paggers) for the scientific publications that they anticipate will emerge from their activity. These paggers should be submitted to the project's Executive Board (consisting of the WP leads and overall project coordinator) that will ensure that there are no conflicts between paggers and identify potentially beneficial synergies as well as making strategic suggestions. The Executive Board will then provide rapid feedback and approval to go ahead. The proposed and approved papers will all be stored in the project's intranet system (Teams / Sharepoint). This refers to both the scheduled papers (outlined in Table 1 below) and opportunistic ideas that emerge. The same pager system should apply to any student theses that are associated with the project to ensure that their eventual publication ambitions are coordinated with the project's overall activities.

### 3.2 MANUSCRIPTS

When manuscripts are drafted, they should be circulated to the Executive Board with the possibility to comment before submission. The manuscript should also contain a clear overview of the contributions made by the different authors. Manuscripts will also be posted on the project's intranet system as soon as they begin to have a coherent structure so that project members can be kept up to date on developments. Once published, copies of the paper will be stored on the intranet and sent to the communication team for further dissemination.

### 3.3 AUTHORSHIP

The project will follow an inclusive authorship policy that recognises that there are many ways to contribute to the scientific process. Typically, this can include concept development, data-collection, data analysis, interpretation, visualisation, and writing. In general, lead authors should offer the possibility of co-authorship to all who have contributed to a specific study. This can also extend to project partners that do not come from research institutions and even to stakeholder partners if relevant. However, all co-authors must have read and commented on the manuscript's content and be able to stand by its contents and conclusions and thus have made meaningful contributions. Only providing technical assistance is not normally grounds for co-authorship. In cases where students and fieldworkers are hired to work on specific activities it is important that authorship expectations are clarified with them at the outset. It is up to the lead author of the manuscript to manage the comments from coauthors during manuscript preparation. To comply with our gender, diversity, equality and ethics procedures we would encourage practices that give early career stage researchers the opportunities to take the lead on some publications. First authorship should be given to the researcher who has taken the lead on the manuscript. The ordering of other authors can be modified according to the practices of the first author's institution or discussions within the group of authors, either in decreasing order of contribution, in alphabetical order, and / or with the last authorship offered to the task leader if that differs from the first authorship.

If there are any conflicts around manuscript authorship these can be referred to the project's Executive Board for negotiation and eventual decisions.

### 3.4 CHOICE OF JOURNALS

As stated in the Grant Agreement all scientific publications will be published in Open Access journals to facilitate transparency, broad readership and address potential inequalities in access to research results. Funding has been set aside in the project budget to cover open access publication fees when they are not already covered by partner institutional arrangements.

It is challenging to anticipate the exact journals that will be targeted because of the vagaries of the referee and editorial process, but in line with the project's interdisciplinary approach we will primarily target journals that have a broad readership within the fields of sustainability, wildlife management and pastoralism, although there will also be some papers that are more suitable for specialised journals within the fields of agricultural science, wildlife management / conservation and the various SSH fields. In some cases, we will deliberately aim to cross-over and publish wildlife perspectives in agricultural journals and agricultural perspectives in wildlife journals

### 3.5 CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

The Executive Board should be kept orientated about plans to make a presentation at scientific conferences. A copy of the presentation should be placed on the intranet after the presentation and the event logged in the database of dissemination activities. Authorships on conference presentations will normally be much more restrictive than on papers and should typically focus on the key researchers of that study / presentation, however, a slide acknowledging all other individual / institutional contributors would be best practice.

It is not possible at this stage to identify all of the specific conferences that will be organised and attended during the next 3 years. We aim to span a broad diversity of conferences from both the agricultural, wildlife and SSH fields. However, we have already arranged talks at the European Congress of Mammalogy in Greece (April 2025), Wolves Across Borders in the Netherlands (June 2025), the International Wildlife Congress in Norway (September 2025) and the 77<sup>th</sup> European Federation of Animal Science Annual Meeting in Germany (August 2026).

### 3.6 MONITORING

As described above the pathway of all papers from paper to manuscript to publication will be stored and logged on the project's intranet that will permit easy monitoring by the Executive Board. Conference presentations will also be logged on the intranet.

If progress stalls or encounters difficulties during its progression it is expected that the lead author / task leader takes contact with the Executive Board so that they can assist in finding help from within the project team to move the activity forward.

### **3.7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FUNDING**

It is essential that all publications make appropriate acknowledgement of the EU funding and of the project. On any oral or poster presentations it is also essential that the project's name and logo, as well as the EU funding, is made visible. Where possible the projects visual profile and templates should be used.

## 4 ARTICLE TOPICS

The project's minimum level of ambition was outlined in terms of expected KPIs in the Grant Agreement. These were set at 10 peer-reviewed papers and 15 presentations (oral or poster) at scientific / technical conferences.

There are 14 tasks that are expected to produce scientific outputs and as a general rule we expect each task to result in at least one publication and one corresponding conference presentation. Two tasks are most likely to produce two publications because of the breadth of the topics included in their activity. This brings our total level of ambition to 16 manuscripts (Table 1). The presentations at conferences are also expected to be broadly distributed across these topics. Reaching this target will exceed our stated KPI values.

In the 3-year time span of this project it is unlikely that all of these manuscripts will have reached the stage of being published because of the significant time lags between submission and publication. It is therefore expected that a draft manuscript ready for submission is produced and ready to be archived as a preprint before the associated WP ends. As an internal goal we will aspire to have at least 5 papers printed before the project ends, mainly drawn from the tasks that are based on scoping reviews or conceptual development.

The list of articles in Table 1 is not exhaustive. It is highly likely that there will other articles focusing on specific sub-topics, and it may well be beneficial to split some larger articles into smaller publication units for clarity, or to provide sufficient space for exploring the full richness of the data that we anticipate collecting.

*Table 1.* Overview of topics for scientific publication and conference presentations. REV = based on reviews, EMP = based on fresh empirical data, CON = conceptual and integrative article.

WP	Task	Manuscript topic	Lead institution
1	1.4	Gender aspects of pastoralism (EMP)	IEA
2	2.1	Policy mix governing multiple objectives (REV)	UU
2	2.2	Wildlife-livestock interactions (REV / CON)	INN / NINA
2	2.3	Pastoral systems in practice – typology (REV / CON)	CITA
2	2.4	Existing knowledge of damage prevention practice effectivity (REV)	IEA
3	3.1	Relationship between husbandry practices and losses (EMP)	CITA / INN
3	3.1	Pastoralist perspectives on pastoralism and wildlife (EMP)	INRAE
3	3.2	Evaluation of protection measure implementation (EMP)	UT
4	4.1	Hunter and landowner perspectives on hunting, on pastoralism and wildlife (EMP)	INRAE
4	4.2	Innovative governance mechanisms to reduce conflict (EMP / REV)	CALLISTO
5	5.1	Emerging technologies – functionality, availability, and adoption (EMP / REV)	CALLISTO
6	6.1	The diverse values associated with pastoralism (REV)	ZALF
6	6.2	Cost-benefit analysis – model farms (EMP)	ZALF
6	6.2	Cost-benefit analysis – choices and preferences (EMP)	ZALF
7	7.1	A co-created road map to coexistence (CON / EMP)	INN
8	8.3	Experience with co-creation (EMP)	CALLISTO