

Press release — 27 February 2023

Partnership signed between the InVivo Group and INRAE: for innovations supporting agricultural and food transitions

On Monday, 27 February 2023, Philippe Mauguin, Chair and CEO of INRAE and Thierry Blandinières, CEO of the InVivo group, signed a new partnership agreement for the next five years at the Paris International Agricultural Show. With a shared history of scientific collaborations and partnerships going back over 10 years, the research institute and the cooperative group would like to do more work together in the field of animal nutrition, human nutrition and the bio-protection of cereal crops at the farm, regional and sector levels. To support the necessary acceleration of transitions, this new partnership aims to bring about innovations that improve the economic, environmental and social performance of agricultural and food systems.

Since 2012, INRA, which became INRAE in 2020, has initiated scientific collaborations with the Soufflet Group, which InVivo acquired at the end of 2021. Such collaborations have focused on animal and human nutrition, and the protection of cereal crops. At the same time, INRAE has been partnering with InVivo since 2019, with a closer focus on the needs and systems in the field, in the agricultural and food sectors. It was therefore natural for INRAE and the InVivo Group to want to redefine the ways in which they collaborate through a new partnership agreement.

A partnership based around five priority themes

Having already been involved in a research programme into the development of plant proteins for over four years, both partners are bringing skills and expertise to the table. These will be used, on the one hand, to identify alternative cultivation techniques to control pests which affect legume crops. On the other, the partnership will provide a better understanding of the development of aftertastes brought about by plants, as well the bitterness of flour-based products that are rich in vegetable proteins, in order to propose new products and ingredients.

Given the challenges facing the agricultural and food sectors, INRAE and InVivo now wish to intensify their combined efforts in the following areas:

- Biocontrol and biostimulation of plants
- Development of new technical routes to improve soil biodiversity, biological functioning and soil ecosystem services
- "On Farm Experimentation" on digital and precision agro-ecology (data collection and artificial intelligence)
- Regeneration of biodiversity to make agriculture more resilient and valuable in the sectors
- Development of alternative sources of energy (methanisation, agriphotovoltaics etc.) and of the agro-ecological approach to water resources in technical processes.

By creating and implementing new projects together, the two organisations could also instigate the creation of associated partner laboratories or industrial chairs.

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About INRAE

Created on 1 January 2020, INRAE is the French National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment, and is a major player in research and innovation. The result of the merger between INRA, the French National Institute for Agricultural Research, and IRSTEA, the French National Research Institute of Science and Technology for the Environment and Agriculture, INRAE brings together a community of 12,000 people, with 272 research, service and experimental units located in 18 centres across France. The institute is among the world's leading research organisations in agricultural and food sciences, plant and animal sciences, and in ecology and the environment. It is the world's leading research organisation specialising in the "agriculture-food-environment" nexus. INRAE aims to be a key player in the transitions needed to meet major global challenges. Faced with population growth, climate change, diminishing resources and the decline in biodiversity, the institute has a major role to play in developing solutions and supporting the necessary acceleration of agricultural, food and environmental transitions.

About InVivo

The InVivo group is one of Europe's leading agricultural groups, with a turnover of almost €12 billion, more than half of which are generated in France, and a workforce of more than 14,500 employees, including 11,000 in France. Established in 38 countries, it has more than 90 industrial sites, including 63 in France. This key figure in food sovereignty operates along the entire value chain, from farm to fork, as a leader in each of its four major strategic business lines: international grain trade, agriculture, agri-food (Malting, Milling/ingredients/bakery, wine), gardening and food distribution. A global cross-functional centre for innovative and digital solutions completes the structure to accelerate the transformation of these activities towards the 3rd agricultural revolution. For more information: invivo-group.com / Twitter [@InVivoGroup](https://twitter.com/InVivoGroup)