

SCAR  
Strategic Working Group (SWG)  
on Agroecology (SCAR-AE)

# SCAR

## Standing Committee on Agricultural Research

**REGULATION (EEC) No 1728/74 OF THE COUNCIL**  
of 27 June 1974  
on the **coordination of agricultural research**

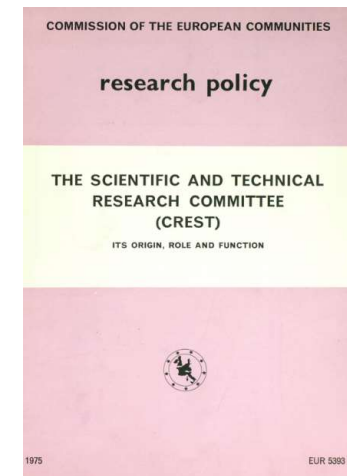
### Article 7

1. A **Standing Committee on Agricultural Research**, hereinafter referred to as the "Committee", shall be established, consisting of representatives of Member States and presided over by a representative of the Commission.
2. The Commission shall ensure the necessary **harmony** between the activity of the Committee and that of the [Scientific and Technical Research Committee](#).

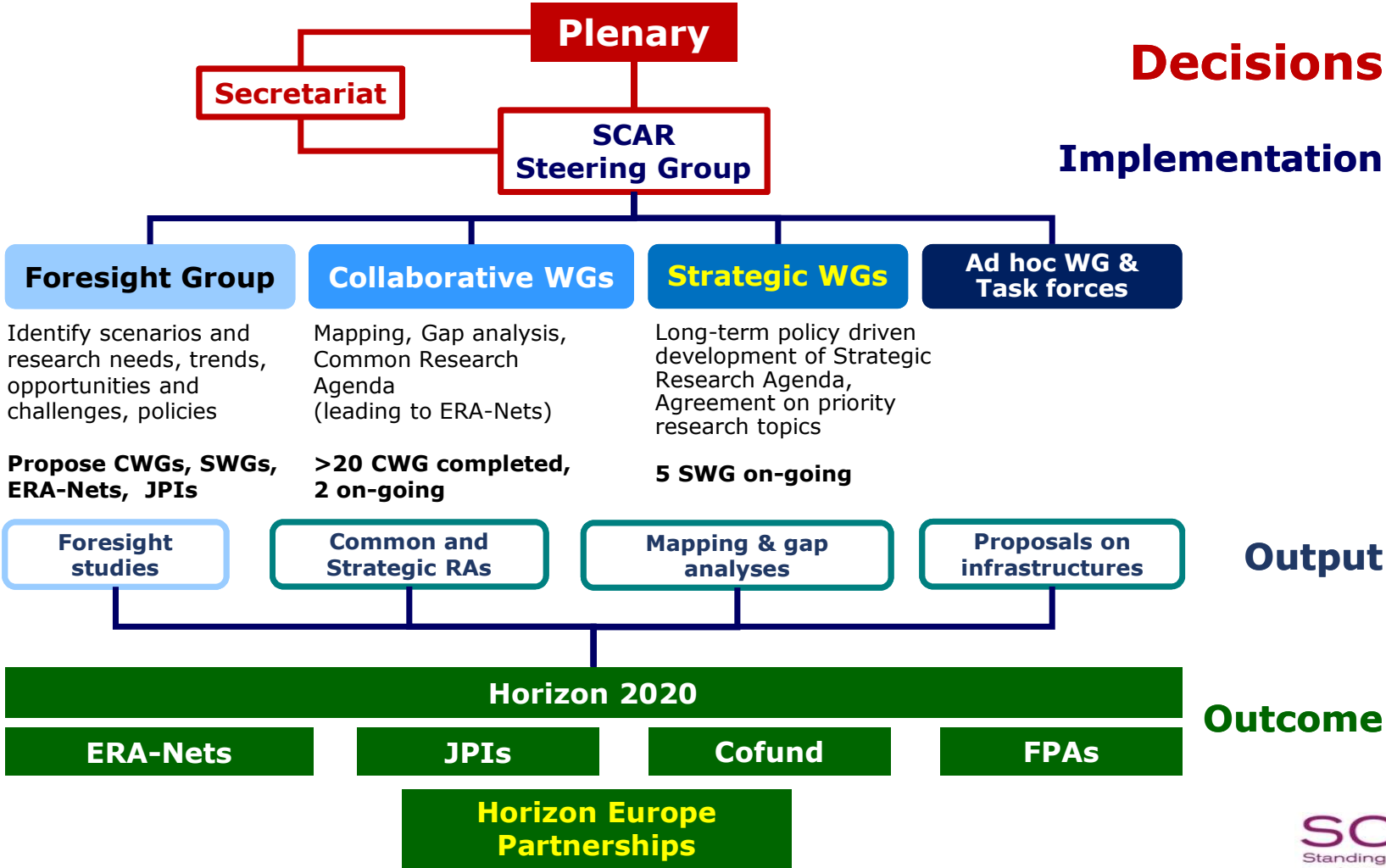
**SCAR activities are “Member State driven”**

**SCAR feeds the strategic planning process of research in the multiple domains of Agriculture and gives advice to policy makers (MS & COM)**

**SCAR supports the reinforcement of the European Research Area**



# SCAR - Organisation and Operations



# SCAR - Main Initiatives

European Research Area in the Bioeconomy



# SCAR-AE: A look in the past...

- 2019 June and December SCAR Plenary: topic on agroecology was named as key priority
- 2020 July Plenary: asked the SG to start the preparation for a **SCAR working group on Agroecology**
- July-October 2020: SG Taskforce working on the issue paper
- 22 October: SG Meeting agreed on the content of the issue paper, gave green light for TF to develop draft ToRs and to put on agenda of SCAR Plenary
- November: TF & co-chairs developed draft ToRs
- December: formal agreement for **SCAR-AE** by SCAR Plenary
- SCAR-AE started on 01.01.2021

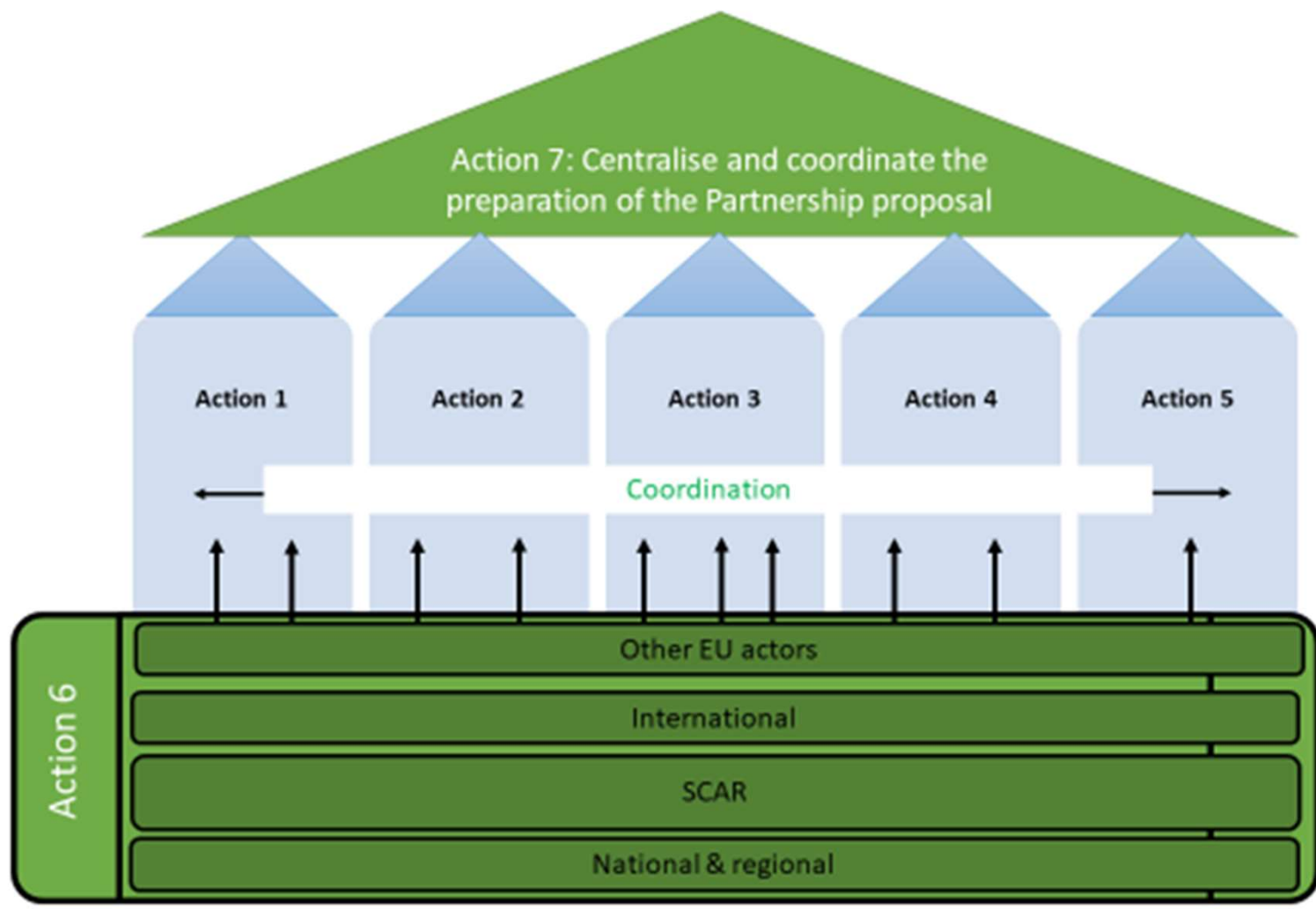
Main Objective: Partnership “Accelerating farming systems transition: agroecology living labs and research infrastructures”

- Supporting research policy development for AE at national, EU and international levels
- Fostering debate and providing conceptual, methodological and practical frameworks
- Alignment of activities from the relevant entities by gathering and analysing their potential inputs and providing advice to promote synergies and avoid duplication
- Platform for continuous strategic discussion
- Short-term: “Partnership proposal” and SRIA

# Rationale



- Climate agenda and SDGs -> need for more sust. Agri; role for AE?
- Policy, research and innovation agendas include AE approaches: FNSSA, FACCE, Green Deal (F2F+Biodiv.); SCAR foresight
- Partnership “Accelerating farming systems transition: agroecology living labs and research infrastructures” proposed by EC
- Funding rate of P: essential to attract MS/AC! -> SCAR
- Plenty of actors, at first rank ALL-Ready and AE4EU
- Also JPIs, ERA-NETs, Mission & SMS, other Partnerships, EIP, ETPs, regions, FAO....
- SCAR-AE centralises the preparation of the Partnership proposal
- Fluent communication with the relevant, appropriate and necessary sources of inputs to the Partnership





## Vertical actions: Pillars (1)

- Action 1: Build a common understanding of AE, AE LLs and related RIs
  - Inputs from webinars, CSAs, FAO...
- Action 2: Recommendations on agroecological research needs to be addressed in the Partnership
  - Some items into the P, others in HEUR or national
- Action 3: Recommendations on research and innovation instruments needed to test agroecology concepts and practices
  - Requirements for AE LLs (e.g. criteria/indicators), infrastructures & instruments
  - Guidance how to monitor / performance

## Vertical actions: Pillars (2)

- Action 4: Recommendations on suitable funding schemes and regulatory drivers to promote the long-term (programmes and infrastructures) and short-term (projects) initiatives dealing with agroecology
  - Long-term & mid- or short-term
  - EAFRD -> role of regions!
- Action 5: Recommendation on the potential governance for the Partnership
  - Good examples from H2020 and from Partnerships from 1<sup>st</sup> wave

## Horizontal: Action 6: Collaboration with relevant actors



- Ensure appropriate inputs in the activities, outputs from the activities from and to the relevant target groups and further synergies
- Alignment in terms of timing needs to be done at the earliest stage
- Constant check (new actors emerging?)
- Four layers as basement/cement:
  - National and regional (mirror groups, National Contacts...)
  - SCAR and the SCAR Working Groups
  - International organizations and activities
  - Other relevant R&I EU actors
- Outcomes: (1) Cooperation and coordination with other relevant entities, in terms of appropriate inputs in the vertical actions of SCAR-AE and outputs from SCAR-AE to the relevant target groups. (2) Efficient coordination at national level. (3) Perspectives on Europe's role in international AE research agendas

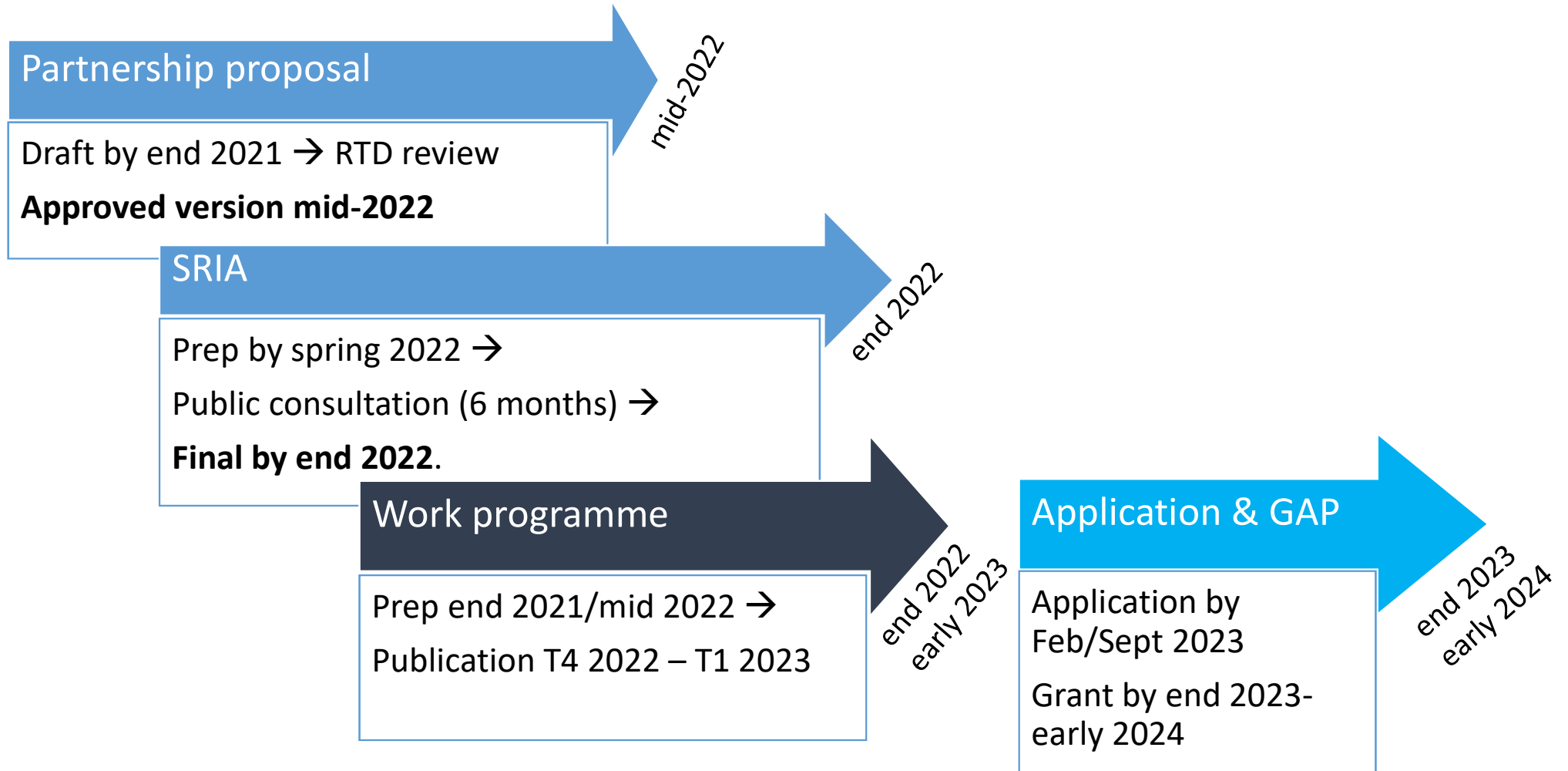
## The target: Action 7: Centralise and coordinate the preparation of the Partnership proposal

- Take the lead in preparing the development of the Partnership
- Promoting the participation in the Partnership of as many countries as possible
- Collating inputs from all vertical activities
- Gathering inputs from several sources and feeding them into the Partnership “proposal” that will be drafted by SCAR-AE (template format pre-defined by EC)
- Link to the EC input paper for the Partnership:  
[https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/research\\_and\\_innovation/research\\_by\\_area/documents/aellri-ec-input-partnership-discussion.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/research_and_innovation/research_by_area/documents/aellri-ec-input-partnership-discussion.pdf)
- In parallel SRIA

# Organisation

- Coordination Group (CG): co-chairs + EC (DG AGRI): 6 meetings/ year
- Coordinators of ALL-Ready, AE4EU and SMS + 1 FACCE representative as key advisors at this “umbrella” level
- SCAR-AE = representatives of MS and AC + potential actors identified by Action 6: 3 meetings/year
- A Task Force for each action
- A “writing group” in charge of Action 7 (Target)
- Mandate: 01.01.2021-31.12.2023 (-> Partnership)
- Annual WP incl. perspectives for following year

# Timeline agroecology partnership preparation



**Thank you for your attention!**