

38th TRADITIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE PUBLIC AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY SERVICE (PAAS)

Conference of the Public Agricultural Advisory Service (PAAS) and the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) event

Challenges of agricultural extension in European agriculture and necessary adjustments of extension organisations



Jussi Juhola, EUFRAS

EUFRAS

EUROPEAN FORUM FOR AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL ADVISORY SERVICES

Bled,
21th – 22th
November 2023



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE,
FORESTRY AND FOOD



Evropski kmetijski sklad za razvoj podeželja: Evropa investira v podeželje





Jussi Juhola

Chairman, European Forum for Agricultural and Rural
Advisory Services (EUFRAS)

Chief Operating Officer, Association of ProAgria Centres

Email: Jussi.juhola@proagria.fi

Tel. +358 40 728 0999

Linked-in: [linkedin.com/in/jussijuhola](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jussijuhola)

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EUFRAS

EUROPEAN FORUM FOR AGRICULTURAL
AND RURAL ADVISORY SERVICES

What is EUFRAS?

European network and representative association of public and private rural and agricultural advisory/extension services.

Our mission:

- To develop a community of advisors and advocate on their behalf
- To support advisors' professional development
- To respond to challenges advisors face

What is ProAgria?

The largest provider of agricultural advisory services in Finland, catering to all sectors of agriculture and services ranging from management consulting through financial accounting (bookkeeping) to production advise.



Who are we, as advisors?

- Lately, especially under the current CAP advisors have been tasked with many responsibilities, e.g innovation brokerage
- *Fundamentally our main responsibility is always to help and support farms and farm entrepreneurs succeed and achieve better results*



Being an advisor is very demanding

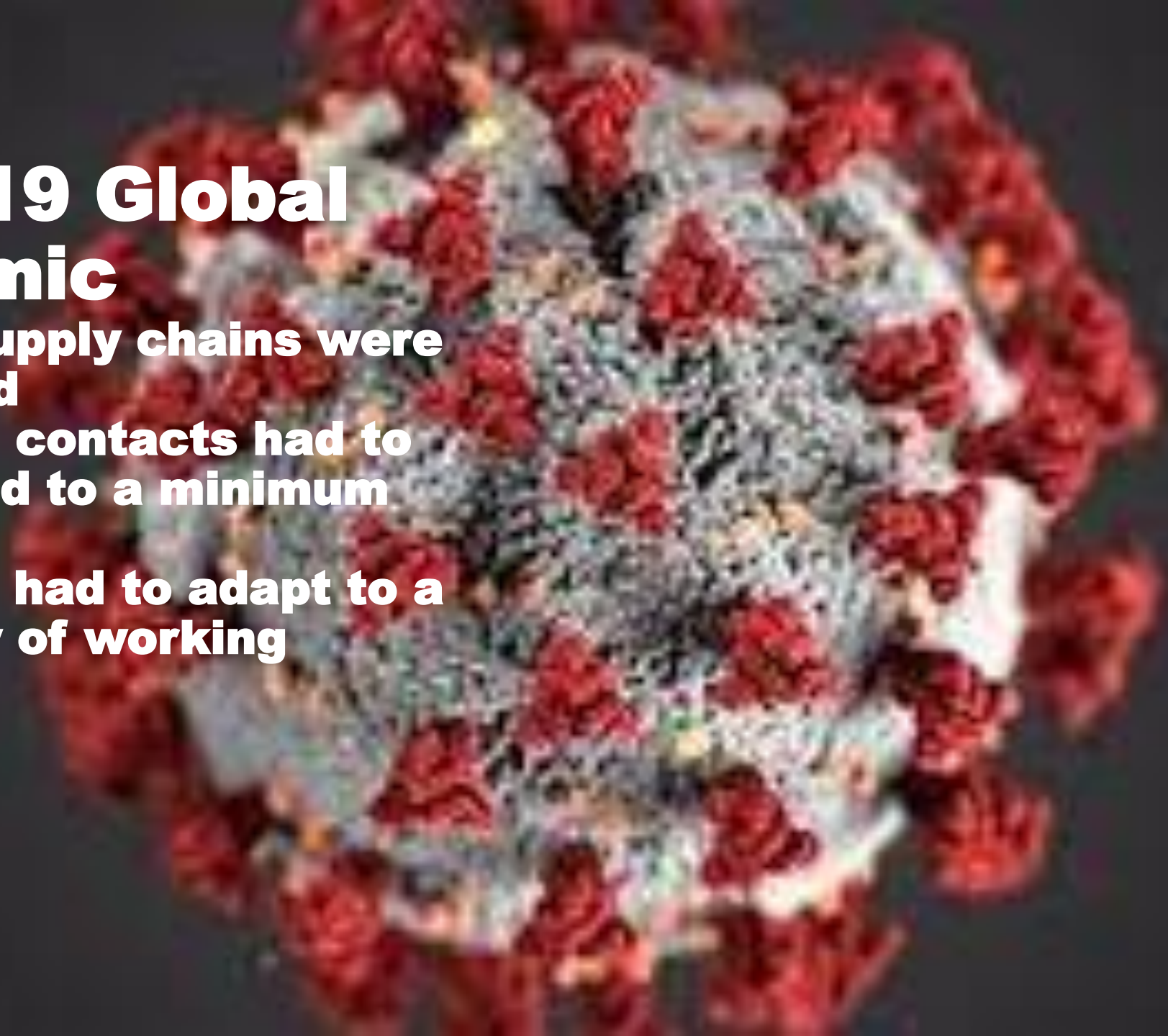
- An advisor is most times the one person that a farmer turns to for advice on difficult issues
- We need to constantly stay afloat of developments in the sector
- Policy development brings new responsibilities
- Societal, political and environmental issues have a direct influence on our work

➤ *Let's talk about a few current events...*

Disruptions call for resiliency – advisors in the frontlines

Covid-19 Global pandemic

- **Global supply chains were disrupted**
- **Personal contacts had to be limited to a minimum**
- **Advisors had to adapt to a new way of working**



Armed conflict in Ukraine

- **Again supply chains were interrupted, this time agriculture was one of the first ones to be hit**
- **Production input prices hiked and a shortage of key inputs hit**

The background is a collage of four images. The top-left image shows a forest fire with bright orange and yellow flames. The top-right image shows a bright sun with rays in a clear blue sky. The bottom-left image shows a large, dark, stormy cloud. The bottom-right image shows a road with a truck driving away, with orange and white striped barriers in the foreground.

Underlying theme: Climate change adaptation and mitigation

What do these events tell us?

What can we do?

- We live in an ever changing environment and we need to be able to adapt
 - **We are not alone!**
 - Advisors all over Europe face similar challenges and are seeking answers, through sharing we can overcome the challenges and stay on top of the demand from the farmers
- We need to be able to share experiences more in the future!

How can we do it?

- EU Horizon projects emphasize building networks amongst advisors, participation helps build
- Advisor networks such as EUFRAS, IALB and SEASN provide an opportunity to share experiences amongst advisors
- Mutual exchange programs with other advisory organizations from around Europe
- CECRA training programs, Webinars and online exchanges on various current topics
- And many more...

We need to collaborate more! That is the only way to keep up in the ever changing environment!

Some practical examples from Finland

Spreading knowledge and know-how amongst farmers:

- Advisor-lead discussion and benchmarking groups
- Field trials and field days exhibiting new methods and carbon sequestration techniques

Maintaining and updating advisor skills

- Knowledge lead –system, every identified key skill area has a named person who is responsible for maintaining advisor skill levels and suggest further training if required

Fulfilling CAP requirements

- Interactive innovation –training for selected advisors to act as innovation brokers (based on H2020 – I2Connect –project methodology)

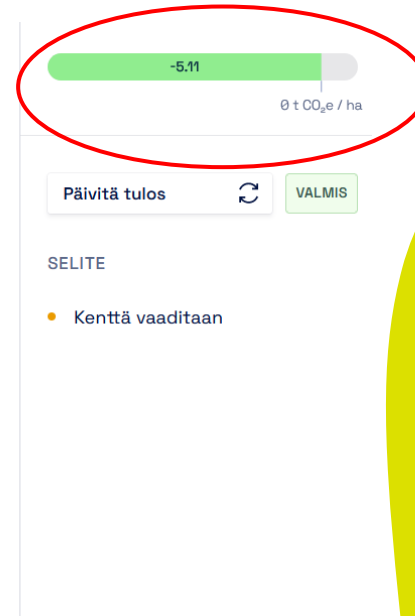
Example: calculation of change in organic carbon stocks in mineral soils (dSOC)

NYKYISET VIJELYTAVAT

Onko lohko aktiivisessa viljelyssä? • Maanmuokkaustapa •

Yksivuotinen viljelykasvi ▼ Kyntö ▼

- Onko oljet tai kasvintähteet jätetty pellolle viimeisimmän sadonkorjuukauden aikana?
- Onko lohkolle kylvetty syysviljaa tai suoja-, alus- tai kerääjäkasveja kuluvana vuotena?
- Onko lohkon viljelykierrossa ollut nurmia 3 vuoden aikana?
- Onko lohkon viljelykierrossa ollut mukana typensitojakasveja 3 vuoden aikana?
- Onko lohkolla käytetty kuluvana vuonna viherlannoitusta?
- Onko lannoituksessa käytetty karjanlantaa viimeisen 3 vuoden aikana?



Calculation as part of MMWisu (Crop Planning software) since 1/2023

IPCC calculation method:

EQUATION 2.25
ANNUAL CHANGE IN ORGANIC CARBON STOCKS IN MINERAL SOILS

$$\Delta C_{Mineral} = \frac{(SOC_0 - SOC_{(0-T)})}{D}$$

$$SOC_{Mineral} = \sum_{c,s,d} (SOC_{REF_{c,s,d}} \cdot F_{LU_{c,s,d}} \cdot F_{MG_{c,s,d}} \cdot F_{I_{c,s,d}} \cdot A_{c,s,d})$$



<https://producer.biocode.io/>

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Thank you!

Jussi Juhola

jussi.juhola@proagria.fi

[Linkedin.com/in/jussijuhola](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jussijuhola)