

Social and environmental impact assessment for new innovative plant protection product

Short summary for practitioners:

INTRODUCTION

Introduction of the new products and techniques requires a thorough analysis of its impacts. It is essential not only to assess the environmental sustainability of the newly developed plant protection product, but also take into account the social consequences in the life cycle of the product. In order to be able to genuinely assess the impact new techniques or products will have, it is of utmost importance to define the situation to which one should compare (i.e. reference scenario). Interaction with other tasks within novIGRain project, ensures that the reference scenarios are developed with attention to the specifics of the market as well as inputs of stakeholders.

RESEARCH FOCUS

The environmental impact of the new product will be evaluated against the impact of the currently applied practices ('references') and other (upcoming) alternatives. The method used for assessment includes on-site as well as globally occurring environmental impacts up- or downstream of the production plant. The assessment will be expanded to account for social impacts such as health and safety, fair competition, supplier relations, job creation, fair salary, gender equality, etc. The resulting assessment will emphasize the potential benefits of the new plant protection product and newly developed application technique as well as provide guidance to the grain storage and plant protection industries for sustainable future developments.