

# The EU project POnTE 'Pest Organisms Threatening Europe'



## The POnTE Consortium:

CNR, UNIBA, INRA, ANSES, IVIA, CSIC, SG SASA, FORESTRY RES. AG., BFW, LUKE, WAGENINGEN UNIV., UNIV. OF COSTA RICA, ARO VOLCANI CENTER, BELGRADE UNIV., CERTIS EUR., AUREA IMAGING, VILMORIN, LOEWE, PRC, ACLI RACALE, AGRITEST, CITOLIVA, AGRICOLA VILLENA, A.L. TOZER, UNITO, CRSFA, UNIV. OF HELSINKY



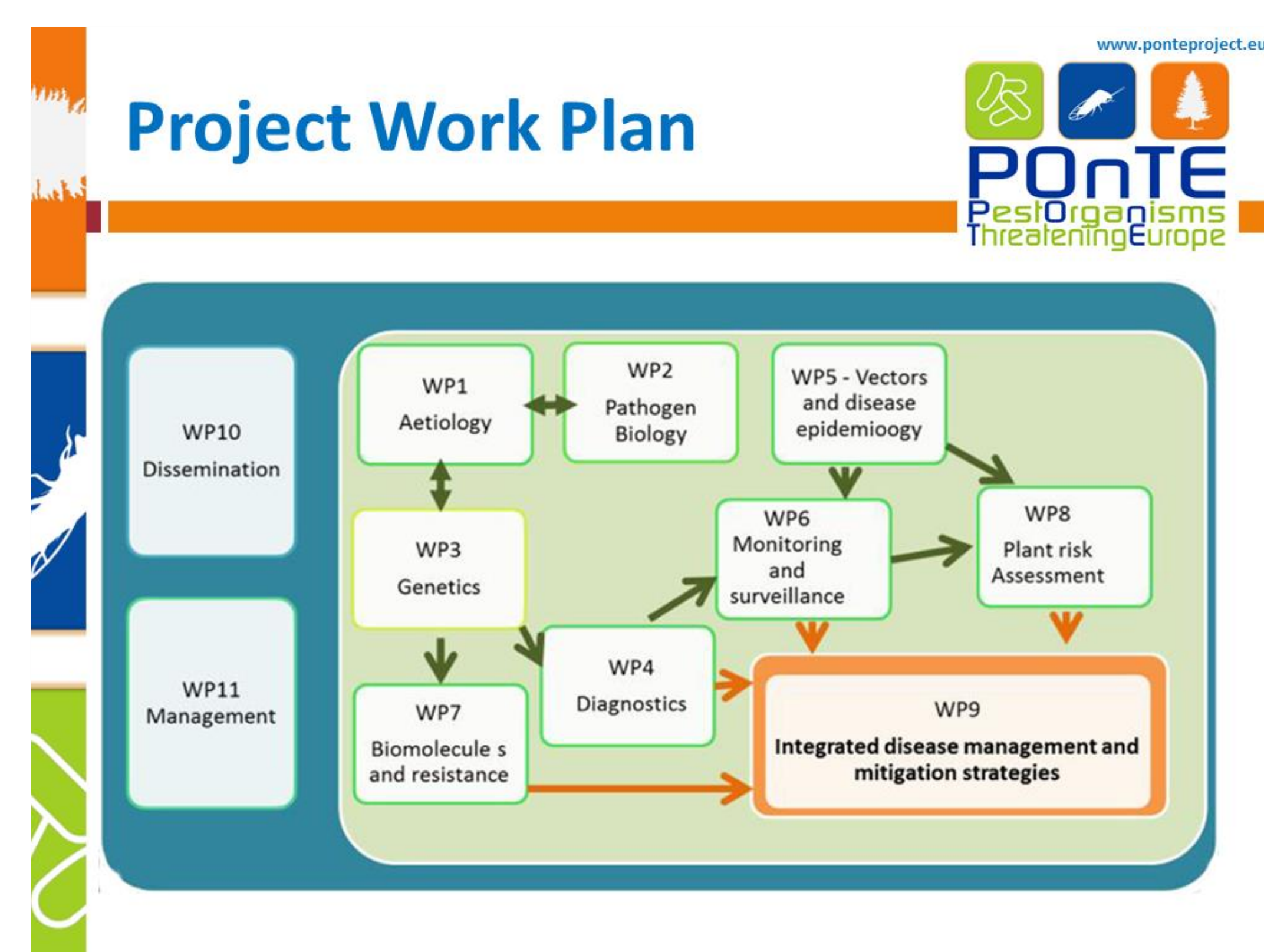
- ✓ The POnTE project was funded under grant agreement No 635646 from the H2020-SFS-2014-2015 Sustainable Food Security call (Topic SFS-03a-2014: Native and alien pests in agriculture and forestry).
- ✓ POnTE focuses on the investigation of genetics, biology, epidemiology, vector ecology and economic impacts of three pathosystems that threaten strategic crops and natural landscapes in the EU with the aim to identify economically, technically feasible and environmentally sustainable integrated management policies and strategies for their containment.

### Target pathosystems

**WP10 Dissemination**

- *Xylella fastidiosa* and hemipteran vector species
- '*Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum*' and psyllid vector species
- *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus* (anamorph. *Chalara fraxinea*) and new and exotic *Phytophthora* species

**WP11 Management**



### Project Consortium

**25 PARTICIPANTS**  
**13 COUNTRIES**  
**120 RESEARCHERS**

Logos of participating institutions: ivia, INRA, ANSES, BFW, NIBIO, CERTIS, TOZER SEEDS, Agricola Villena, Forest Research, WAGENINGEN, CSIC, CERTIS, Vilmarin, CIBCM UCR, Luke, AGRITEST, CITOLIVA, LOEWE, ACTI-RACALE, SASA, AUREA IMAGING, UNIVERSITA DEL SALENTO, ARO VOLCANI CENTER, FORESTRY RES. AG., UNIBA, CNR, UNIV. OF COSTA RICA, BELGRADE UNIV., VILMORIN, PRC, ACLI RACALE.

- ✓ The target pathogens are: 1) *Xylella fastidiosa* and its **vectors** in olive, grapevine, citrus, stone fruit, ornamentals and landscape trees of high socio-economic importance; 2) '*Ca. Liberibacter solanacearum*' and its **vectors** affecting a number of strategic crops such as potato, tomato and carrot; and 3) *Hymenoscyphus pseudoalbidus* (anamorph *Chalara fraxinea*) and *Phytophthora* spp. seriously affecting broadleaf and conifer species in forest ecosystems.
- ✓ Targeted pests, their vectors and the host response will be explored using innovative approaches (NGS, transcriptomic). Diseases surveillance and epidemiology given by current methods will integrate improved survey protocols and remote sensing. Innovative IPM will include studies of microbiome to develop sustainable solutions in line with the EU plant health legislation.
- ✓ New knowledge gained with POnTE will result in an outcome-based pest prevention and management work plan to:
  - ❖ Implement area-wide pest risk assessments
  - ❖ Prevent the entry and develop surveillance and early detection tools (diagnostic kits, lab-on-chip, new biomarkers)
  - ❖ Mitigate the spread and reduce the socio-economic impact; d) IPM based on disease resistance, disease-free seeds, cultural practices and physical environmentally-friendly treatments
  - ❖ Support knowledge-based decision-making policies at EU level
- ✓ The proposal fosters and promotes a multi-actor approach and transnational research collaborations among 25 Partners at the forefront of research in plant protection, agro-engineering and economics. It involves key industries/SMEs that develop diagnostic kits and services, agrochemical and seed companies, stakeholder groups. End-users will participate in the development of the project and immediately implement the practical solutions derived from the outcomes to solve these serious emerging diseases.