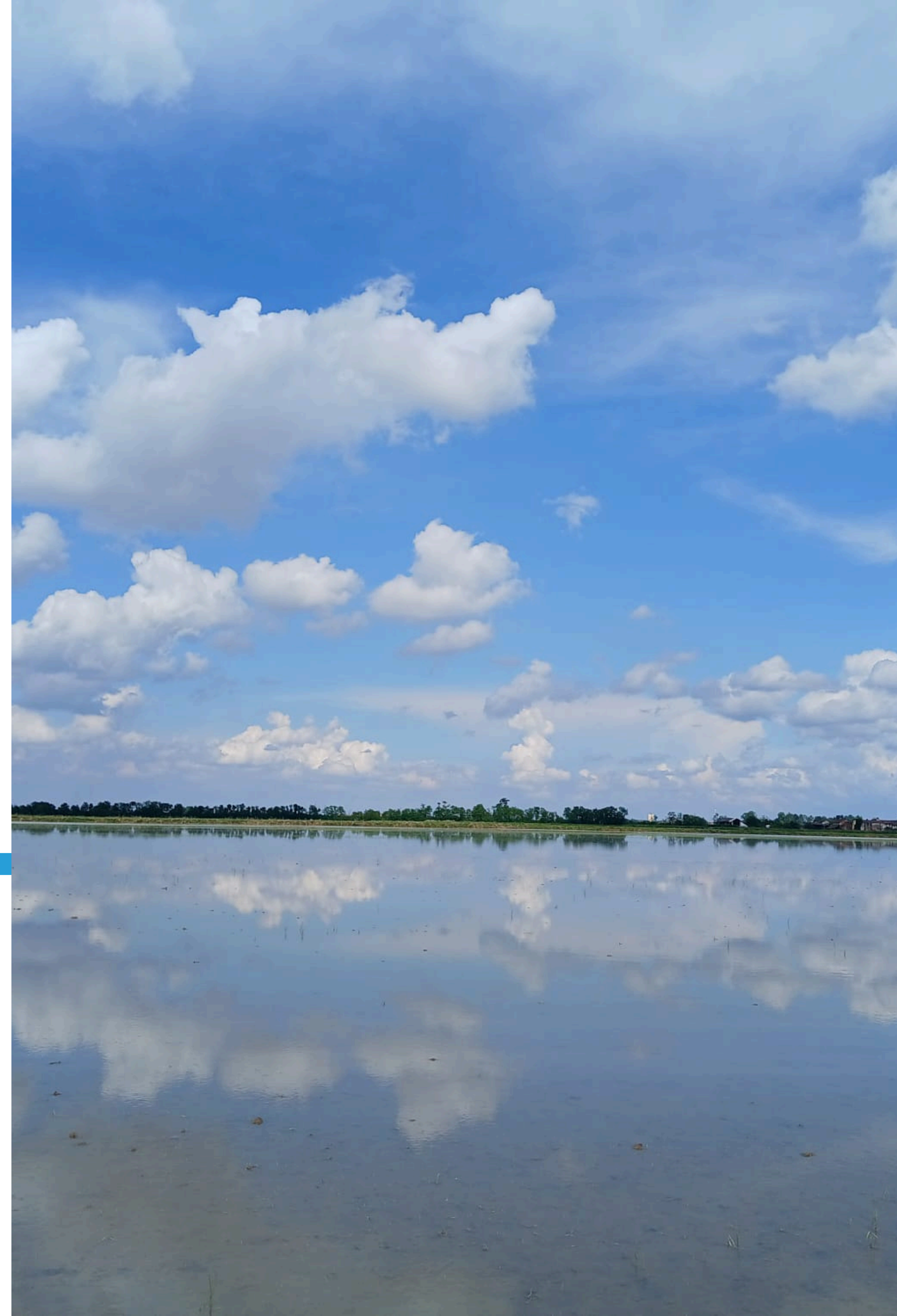


A EUROPEAN RICE NETWORK

**COOPERATION PROJECT
PROPOSAL**



WHO ARE WE?

GAL Risorsa Lomellina is a Local Action Group (LAG) dedicated to promoting sustainable development and enhancing the quality of life in the Lomellina region through strategic initiatives and funding opportunities.

Visit our website at
<https://www.galrisorsalomellina.it/>



THE AREA

Lomellina is a region located in the northwest of **Italy**, within the province of Pavia in Lombardy. It is bordered by the rivers Ticino, Sesia and Po, contributing to its rich agricultural landscape. The region is approximately one hour away from Milan.



Lomellina is renowned for its lush, fertile plains, which are ideal for **rice cultivation**. The region is characterized by its scenic countryside, dotted with rural villages, historical landmarks and extensive rice paddies.

The natural beauty and peacefulness of Lomellina makes it the ideal place for people who want to discover a land far from the hectic city life.





CONTEXT

As one of Europe's primary rice districts, we recognize the vital cultural, economic, and environmental significance of rice. By launching a European rice network, we aim to promote collaboration and foster partnerships among diverse entities to tackle common challenges and seize

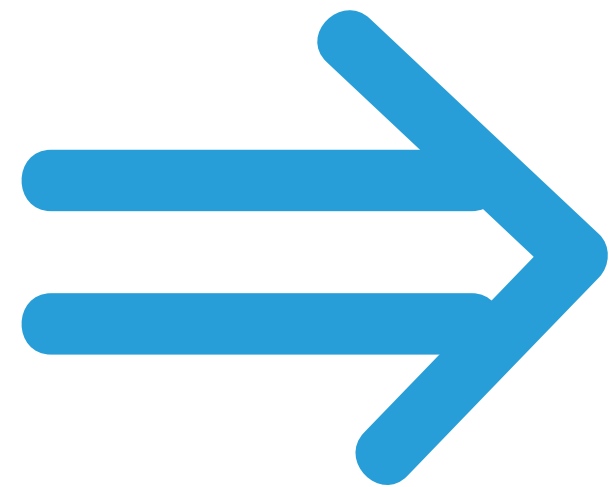
opportunities within the rice sector, but also enhance the quality, traceability, and sustainability of European rice.

POSSIBLE COOPERATION THEMES:

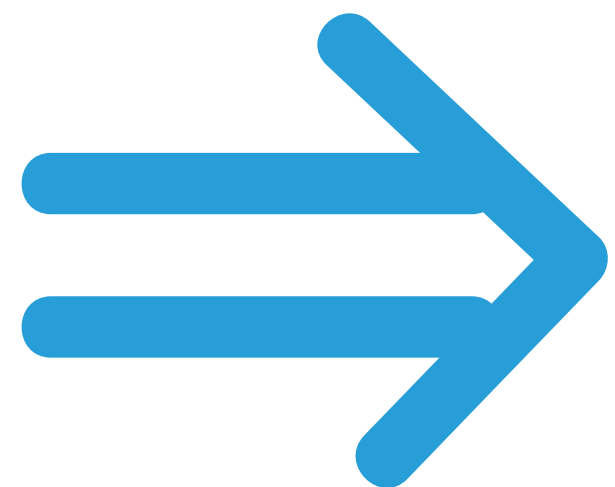
- **Rice culture:** Promoting rice consumption by enhancing knowledge of its sensory features and complexities, from different cultivars to culinary experiences.
- **Non-Food uses:** Diversifying and stabilizing farmers' incomes through the use of rice straw in bio-refineries, bio-building, and cosmetics.
- **Thermal use of rice straw:** Implementing district heating in rice-growing areas and developing heat and power supply chains in rural territories.
- **Traceability:** Establishing shared good practices based on common European standards.
- **Sustainable practices:** Adopting smart and rational approaches to pesticide use.

We are open to other proposals, and the final project content will be decided by the partnership.

WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR

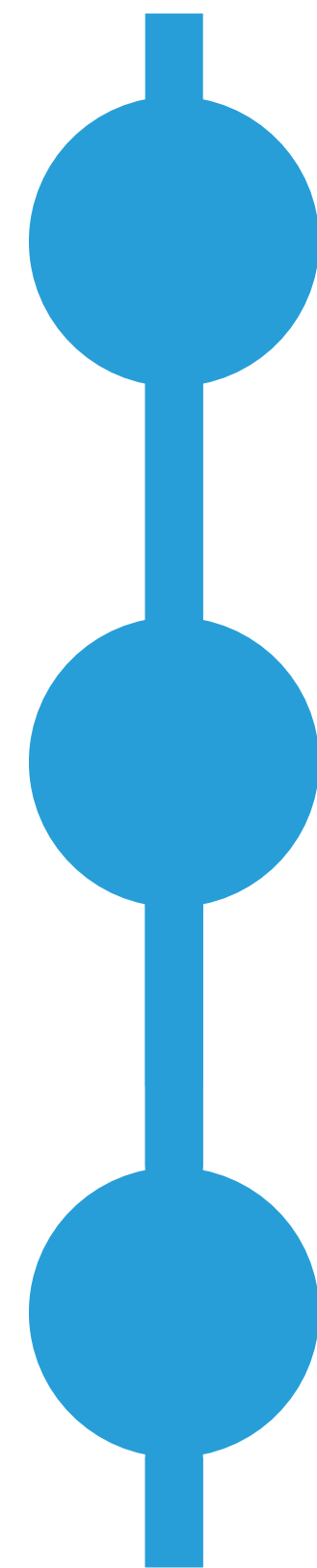


Cooperation project: we are seeking other Local Action Groups active in rice-producing areas that are interested in exploring themes related to the valorization of this product.



Network: this project also aims to establish a European rice network, which can include everyone involved in rice cultivation and valorization, such as cooperatives, food districts, and more. Therefore, even those who are not LAGs but wish to contribute to the exchange of knowledge are welcome to participate.

TIMELINE



June-September 2024:
partners reserach

October-December 2024:
project and network designing

Spring 2025:
project and network launch

If you're interested or need more information,
reach out to schedule a discovery call

Alessandra Visentin - project coordinator
animazione@galrisorsalomellina.it