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# Sustainable production of high quality beef and pork in Slovenia – focus on SLO-ACE project



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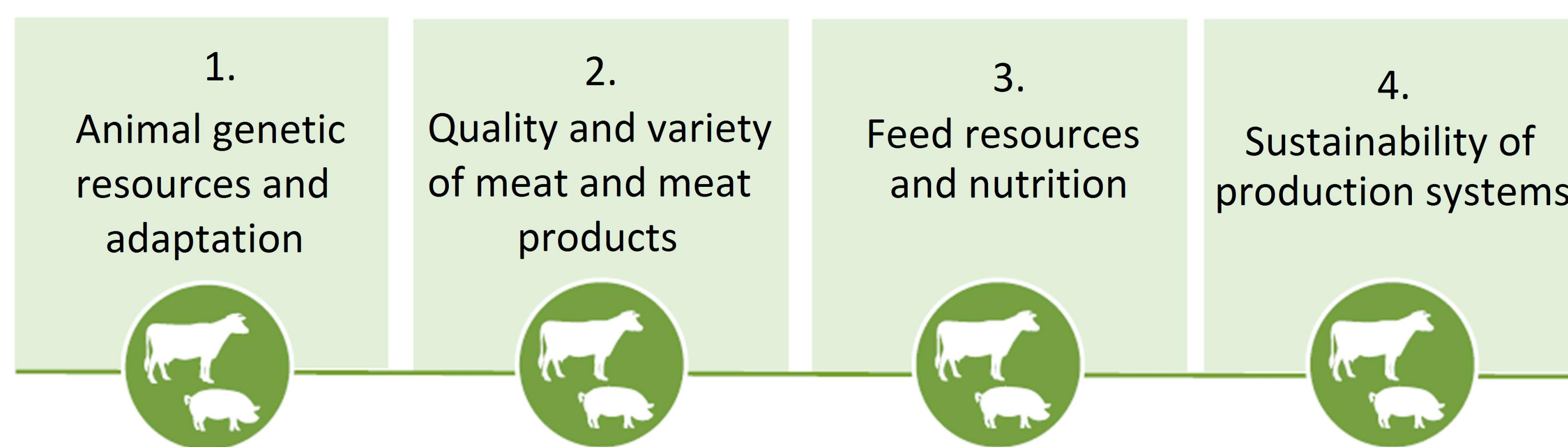
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**AIM:** Increase the innovation potential of meat producing sector by high impact research addressing questions relevant for local conditions.

Scientists of the Agricultural Institute of Slovenia have – together with two leading European institutes, the Danish Aarhus University (AU) and the French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA) – recently devoted to the establishment of the Slovenian Center of Excellence for Agricultural Sciences (SLO-ACE) to respond to the latest development trends and transfer of cutting-edge science into agricultural practice.

## RESEARCH PRIORITIES



Sustainable exploitation of resources for meat production, which will focus on the resilience of animal production systems and products with added value in terms of quality, diversity and ecosystem services.

In line with Slovenian strategy of agricultural development, smart specialization strategy (sustainable food production), and EU priorities for sustainable agriculture.

## WHY THESE PRIORITIES?

Slovenian geo-agro-climatic conditions, land use and availability demand a rationale exploitation of resources and improved added value of meat production (quality, diversity, eco-system services).

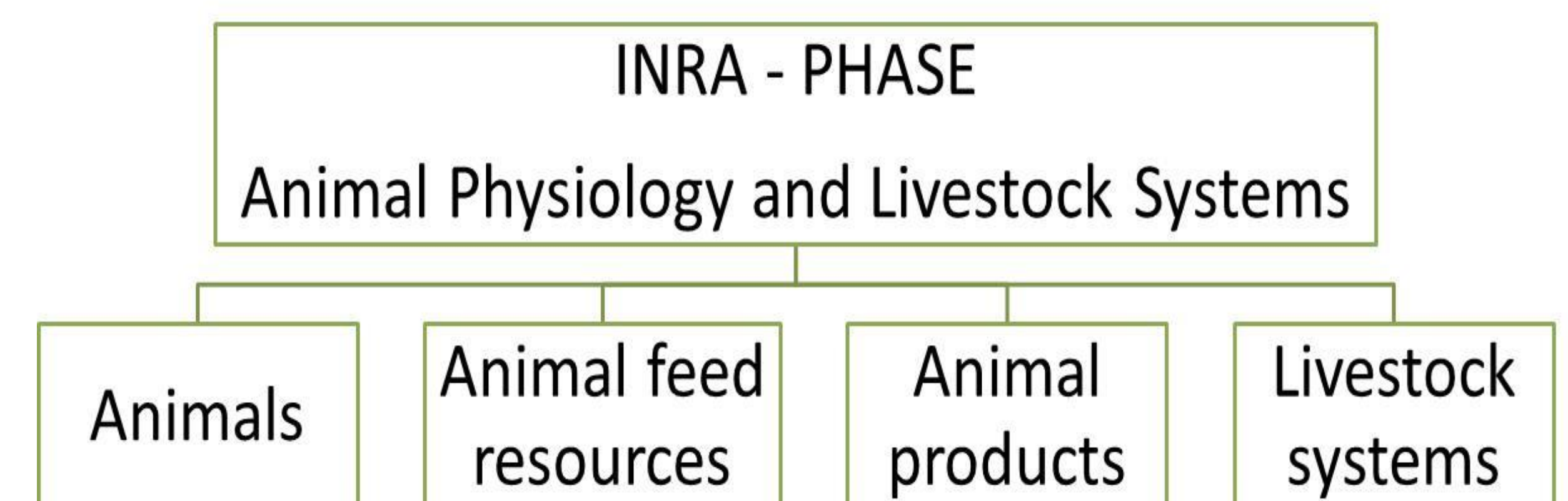
Beef production is stable (~105% self-sufficiency) but lags behind milk sector. Its economic power is poor due to low growth rate, use of dual-purpose breeds (predominant dairy production), a price system that does not reward better quality, and a poorly segmented beef market. Research work on beef is weak.

A strong decline of pig production calls for a renewed concept of this sector. As the natural conditions and societal acceptance of pig farming are not in its favour, while the tradition and appreciation of pork is high, innovative sustainable approaches for competitive pig farming are needed, with emphasis on high quality pork.

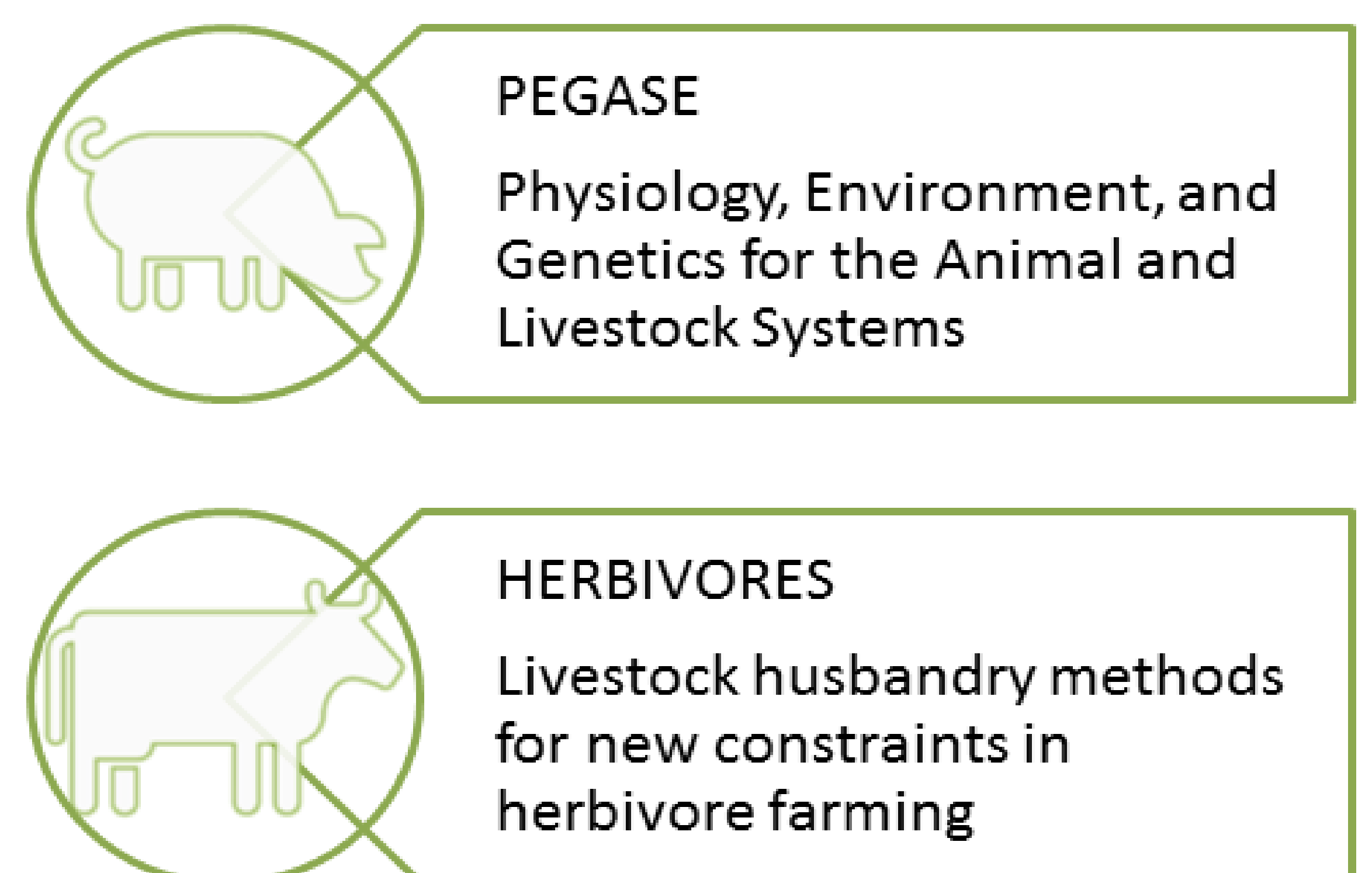
## TEAMING IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

- ✓ connecting and integrating existing research potentials in Slovenia in animal/meat science
- ✓ joining the efforts in research with mentor institution

**INRA will support SLO-ACE with the involvement of PHASE scientific division**



## INRA Research units involved in SLO-ACE



SLO-ACE project is funded by European Union's H2020 program (Grant agreement No 763655).  
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