

Practice Abstract #43

The importance of creating a Product Requirements Document when building an agricultural knowledge reservoir

The aim of the EUREKA project (<https://www.h2020eureka.eu/>) was to test the feasibility of building an EU-level open-source agricultural knowledge reservoir. Many of the lessons learnt during the project will be of interest and relevance to the developers of other similar digital platforms at a national or sectoral level.

The main focus of EUREKA was the building and testing of an online pilot platform called the EU FarmBook (<https://eufarmbook.eu/>). An important element of the design process of such a platform is the creation of a **Product Requirements Document (PRD)**.

A PRD aims to ensure that everyone involved in the design process (user experience designers, back-end developers, front-end developers and the client) is **fully and effectively aligned** with regard to the required functionalities, the data architecture, front-end architecture and back-end architecture by collecting and collating all of this information in a single document. Creating a PRD not only **ensures this alignment** within the current design process but also ensures that other parties can use the same processes to recreate (and/or adapt) the platform.

The required functionalities that should be included in a PRD for a knowledge reservoir encompass user scenarios, functional system requirements and non-functional system requirements related to the personas and user journeys developed through extensive user research.

