



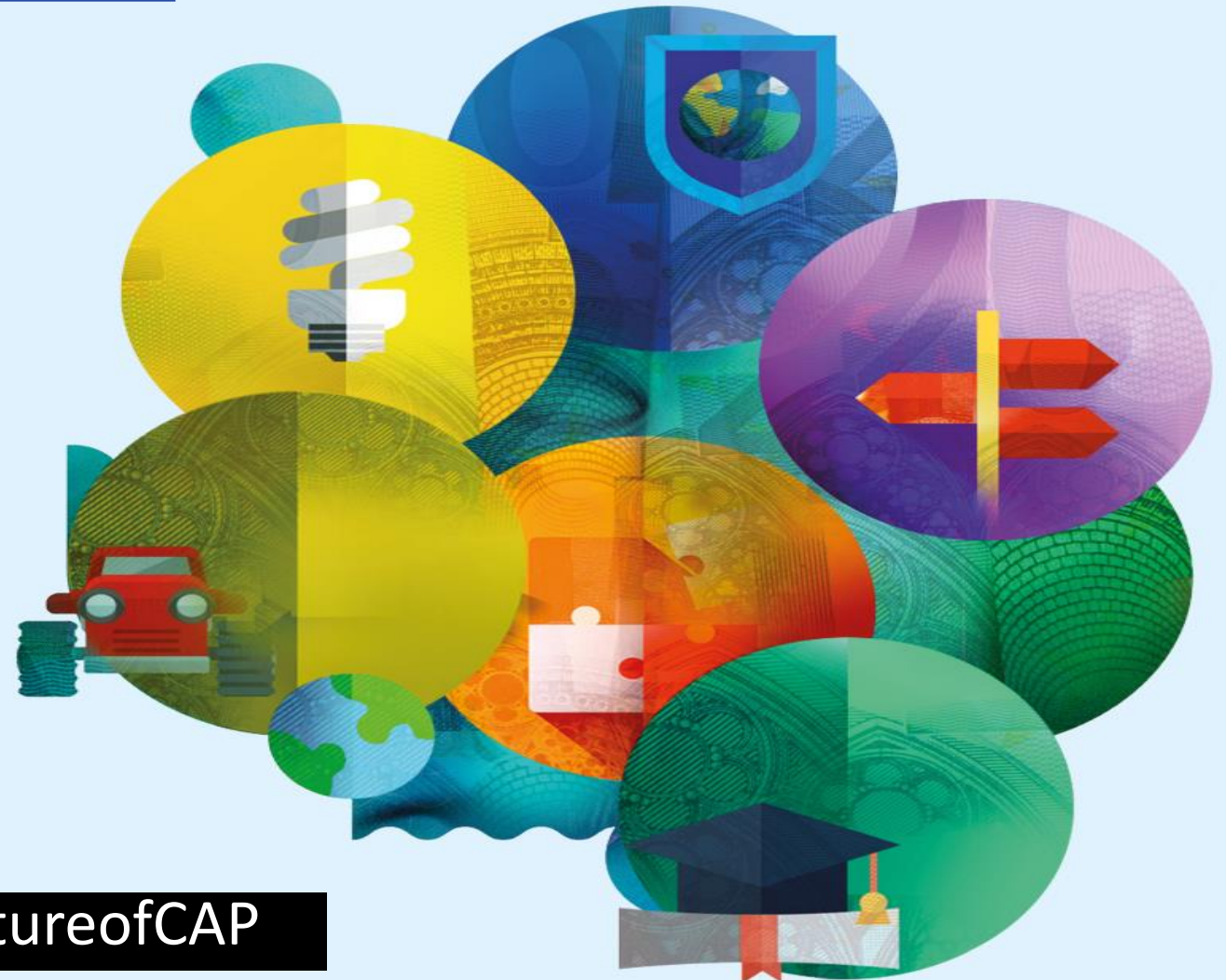
COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY

Post-2020

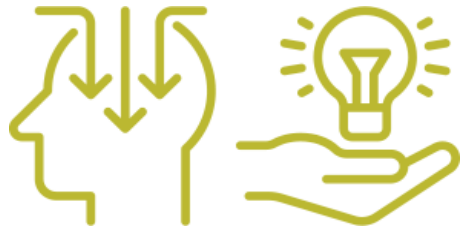
NRNs & AKIS

Kufstein in AT – NRN meeting
5 May 2022

Inge Van Oost - DG AGRI
Unit D1 – CAP Networks



#FutureofCAP



The AKIS at the heart of the agricultural innovation ecosystem

What is an Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS)?

What: *AKIS is the organisation and interaction of persons, organisations and institutions who **use** and **produce knowledge and innovation** for agriculture **and interrelated fields**. (def)*

Who: *The main players of the AKIS are: farmers/foresters, advisors, researchers, (farmer) organisations, NGOs, networks, education, retailers, media, services, various ministries...: they all produce and need knowledge!*

Why: *The aim is to create a **regional/national innovation ecosystem** by enhancing **knowledge flows** between the AKIS players as well as strengthening links between research and practice.*

Brief "What is AKIS": https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/food-farming-fisheries/key_policies/documents/building-stronger-akis_en.pdf

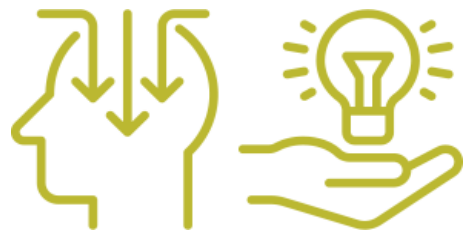
AKIS at the heart of the agricultural innovation ecosystem =>

Cross-cutting CAP support to Systematically share

Knowledge and Innovation in Agriculture and rural areas

including **in whatever farming and rural activities**

automatically relate to (= landscape, environment, climate, biodiversity, consumers and citizens, food and non-food systems including transformation and distribution chains, etc)



Where does the AKIS policy come from?

In their 2008 declaration, the researchers of the Standing Committee of Agricultural Research (SCAR) stated that the classical linear research model does not function anymore to have real impact in the field. The current CAP AKIS policy and potential interventions can make use of the current formats and experiences from MS. Experts from about 24 MS from the SCAR Strategic Working Group collected this in the AKIS4 report, and based it on their discussions and own practical experiences. In the report much about AKIS in all its aspects is explained and a long series of possible types of interventions and concrete examples given. The report is available on the Europa "Future CAP" website and is called "Report: preparing for future AKIS in Europe". You can download it here: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/key-policies/common-agricultural-policy/future-cap#innovation> or ask to you a paper copy



THE 9 COMMON OBJECTIVES



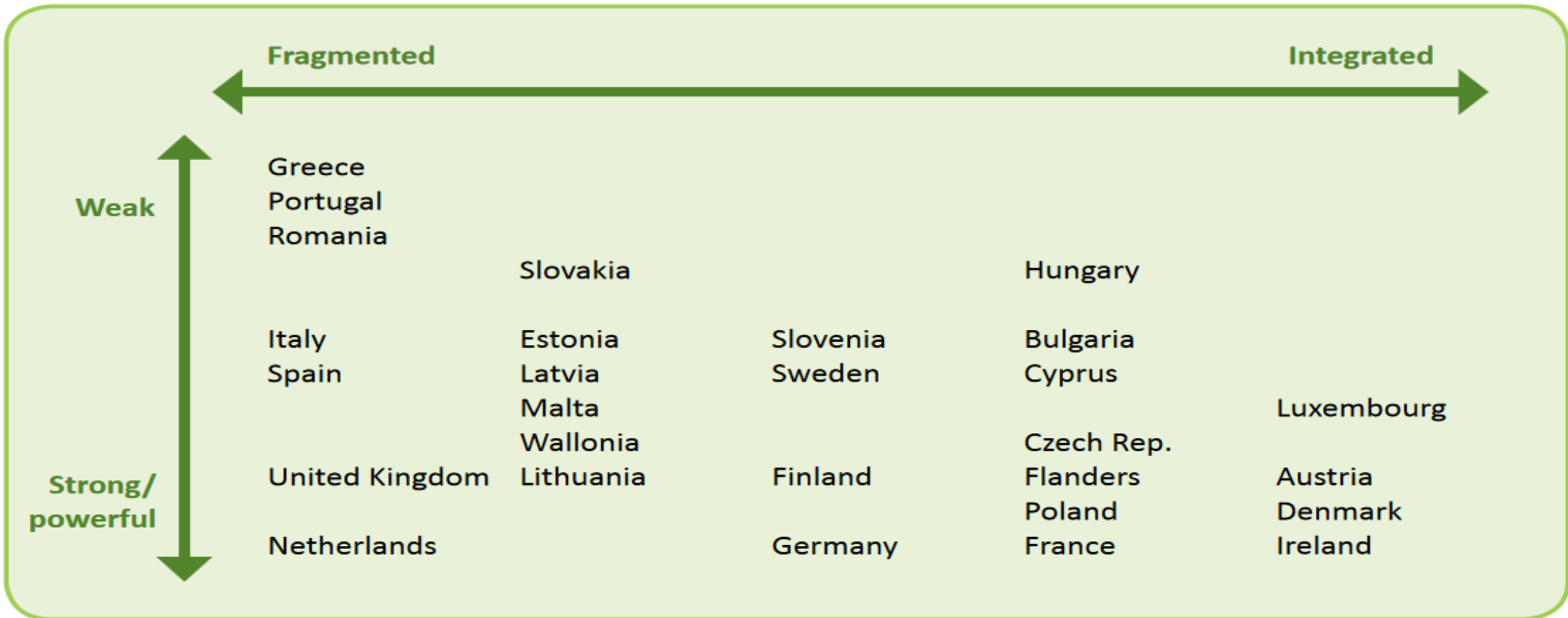
WHY AKIS? A reinforced AKIS integrates all AKIS actors and ensures knowledge flows inside MS & across border



AKIS coordination and structuring will bring actors together on a structured and regular basis, creating continuous interaction to speed up knowledge exchange, knowledge flows, innovation and most of all: implementation in practice (=> Cross-Cutting Objective on « Modernisation »)

PROAKIS study: Characterising MS' AKIS

An overview (as of 2014)



The EIP-AGRI in short: same principles in AKIS

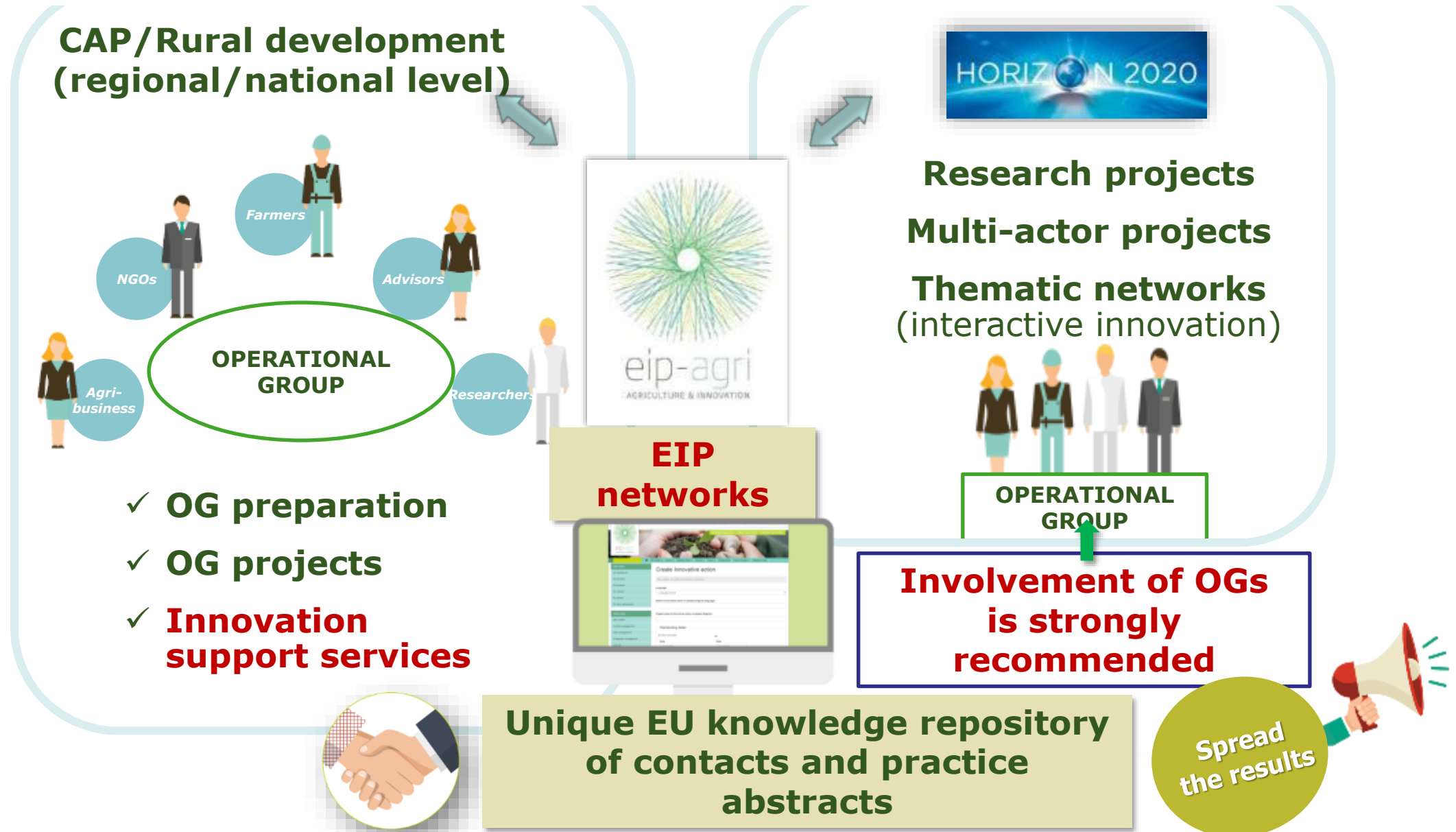


- The EIP-AGRI applies an overarching "*Open innovation*" concept based on the **interactive innovation model** (applied in RD Operational Groups (Art 127) and H2020 Multi-Actor projects):

Collaboration between various actors to make **best use of complementary types of knowledge** (scientific, practical, organisational, etc) **in view of co-creation** and **quick spreading** of solutions/opportunities **ready to implement in practice.**

- **EU wide EIP network** linking actors: communication, partnering, dissemination, knowledge flows and collecting practice needs (*Open science*)

Connecting policies: the bigger EIP picture: How to find each other? => AKIS needed to improve synergies

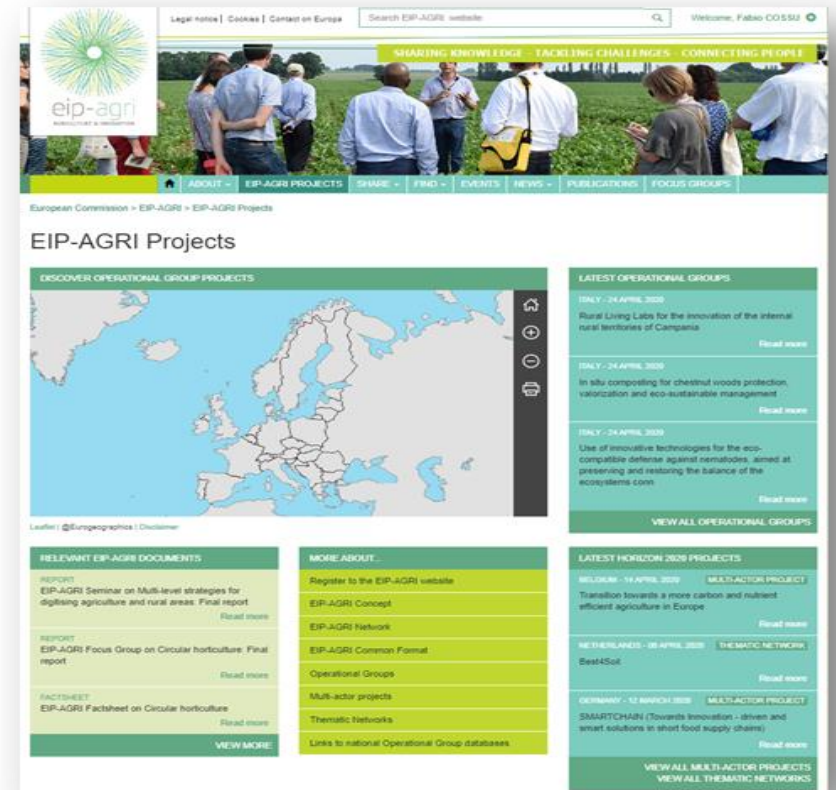


Agriculture will be more and more knowledge-intensive



EIP-AGRI – What did we achieve?

- ✓ 26(27) Member States, 98 rural development programmes implementing EIP Operational Group “innovative projects”
- ✓ in 2014-2022 (7 years) more than 2500-3000 OGs running or finished (still 3,5 years to go)
- ✓ **Next CAP: around 6500 OGs for only 5 years**
- ✓ 190 multi-actor projects under Horizon 2014-2020 (two thirds of total projects) for 1 bio Euro – again many more to come.... => A growing and thriving network:



An increasing volume of practice-oriented knowledge to be managed!

www.eip-agri.eu

**From EIP-AGRI 2014-2020
to AKIS Strategic Plans post 2020 &
Green Deal relevance:
We needed continuation + change....**



Provisions on modernisation in the CAP Strategic Plan Regulation post 2020

Funding innovative projects.....

.....will now be supported by a whole innovation ecosystem systematically interlinking people and projects (AKIS)

AKIS in CAP Strategic Plans

(Art.102 modernisation, section 8 in CPS)

The CAP Strategic Plans shall contain:

1.Their contribution to the cross-cutting general objective related to fostering and sharing of knowledge, innovation and digitalisation, notably by describing:

- **The organisational set-up** of the (*existing*) **AKIS** (=> *SWOT*)
- How advisors, researchers and **CAP networks** will work together within the framework of the (*future*) **AKIS**, and
- How advice and innovation support services are provided

2.A description of the strategy for the development of **digital technologies** in agriculture and rural areas

Art 13 and 72: Farm advice organised within the AKIS structures in CAP Strategic plans

- ✓ *Advising farmers and other beneficiaries of CAP support to be included in the CAP plans*
- ✓ **All advisors shall be integrated within the AKIS in an inclusive way, to be able to cover economic, environmental and social dimensions and to deliver up-to-date technological and scientific information developed by R&I**
- ✓ *Advisors must be impartial and be able to provide Innovation support, in particular for preparing and implementing Operational Group projects of the EIP AGRI*

4 main strands of AKIS and examples of interventions and actions

1. **Enhancing knowledge flows and strengthening links between research and practice:** incentivise researchers for their impact beyond academia, e.g. in their careers, by making practice ready outputs, meet practitioners frequently/thematic events, organise on-farm demonstrations where farmers and researchers meet and talk, education for researchers on interactive innovation approaches etc
2. **Strengthening farm advisory services within MS' AKISs:** capturing and sharing farmers' needs, acting as innovation brokers/facilitators, participating in and sharing knowledge from OG innovative projects, advisors' training and thematic events to update knowledge, cross-visits (learning peer-to-peer), spend time with researchers,...
3. **Incentivising interactive innovation projects (OGs, H2020 MA):** help connecting actors, facilitating cross-border and transnational calls/knowledge exchange, establish innovation support services to develop projects and capture farmers' foresters needs and innovative ideas, support intergenerational renewal by experts' collaboration...
4. **Support digital transition in agriculture:** EIP OGs on digital innovation, build and use repositories with agricultural data for multi-purposes, digital skills development,...

Overview of relevant provisions for modernisation, innovation and digitalisation

Art 5
Cross-cutting objective of modernisation, knowledge sharing, innovation and digitalisation



Strategic approach to plan CAP interventions

Art 102 Modernisation in CAP Strategic Plans:
Well-functioning AKIS:
research + advisors + CAP networks +... working together ...and digitalisation

Tools = targeted CAP interventions to support the strategy:

Art 72
Funding for knowledge exchange, advice and information

Art 71
Cooperation:
Funding for preparing and implementing EIP OG projects

Art 13
Details on Advice and Innovation support to be given

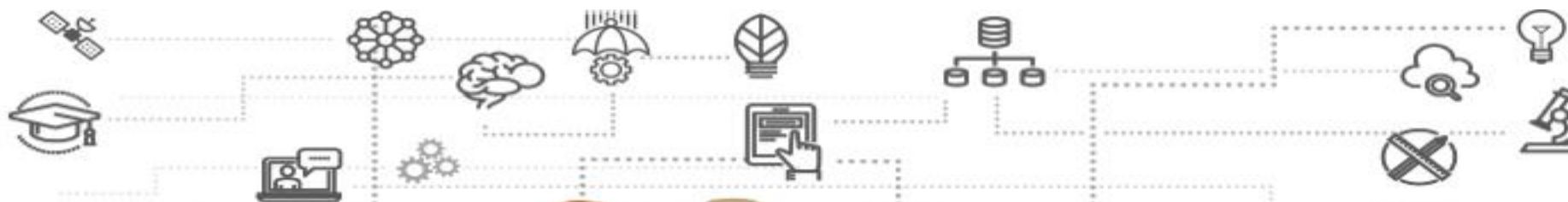
Art 114
Details on EIP and OGs,
Interactive innovation model

Art 113
CAP networks:
Fostering innovation and knowledge exchange



TOOLBOX FOR A KNOWLEDGE- BASED AGRICULTURE

- **Cross-cutting objective** on knowledge, innovation and digitalisation (CAP Art. 5)
- Each **CAP strategic plan** will include a section on how to stimulate the exchange of knowledge and innovation & digital technologies in agriculture (CAP Art. 102)
- **Strengthening of MSs'/regions'** Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (**AKIS**)
- **Support** for advice, training, innovation and knowledge exchange in Rural Development (CAP Art. 71,72,13,...)
- Specific budget of EUR 9 billion in **Horizon Europe** for food, agriculture, rural development and the bio-economy.



Continuation of the agricultural **European Innovation Partnership** (CAP Art 113, 114)

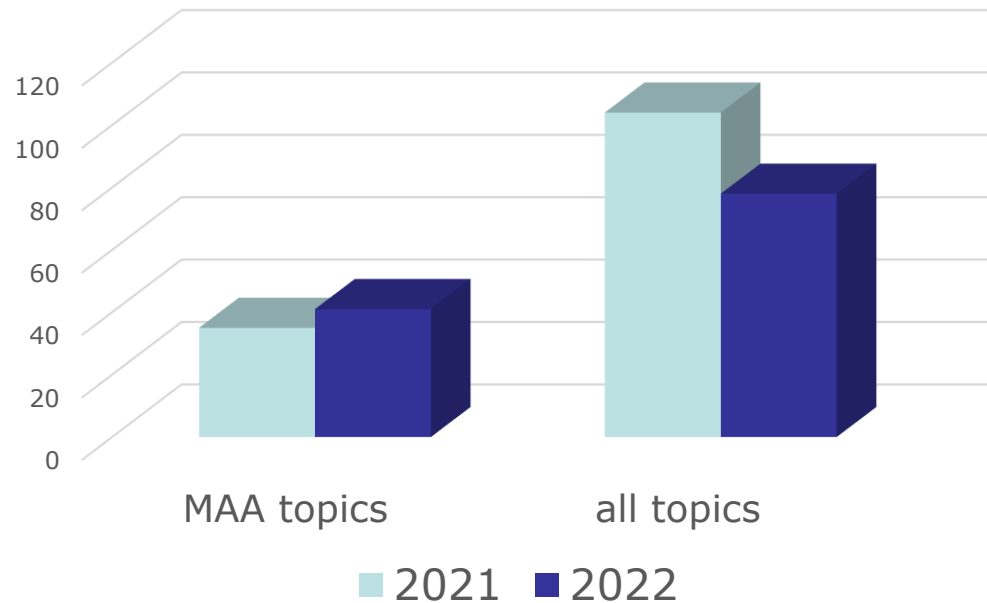


AKIS Knowledge flows: Horizon Europe Cluster 6
9 bio € for 7 years, half are MAA projects
with synergies with EIP OG innovation projects

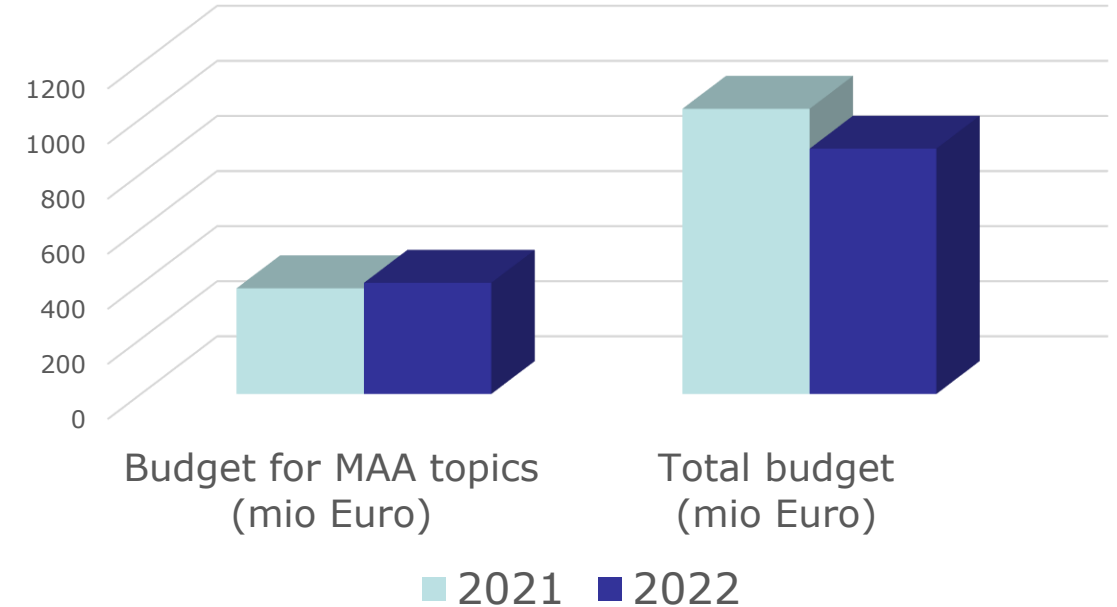


2021-2022 topics under Horizon Europe (9 bio Euro): half of them is MAA and looking for EIP OGs to join

Number of topics



Budget for MAA projects



	Number of MAA topics	MAA Topic share	Total number of topics	Budget MAA topics (mio Euro)	MAA Budget share	Total budget (mio Euro)
2021	35	34%	104	383,5	37%	1035,3
2022	41	53%	78	403,5	45%	890,64
Total	76	42%	182	787	41%	1925,94

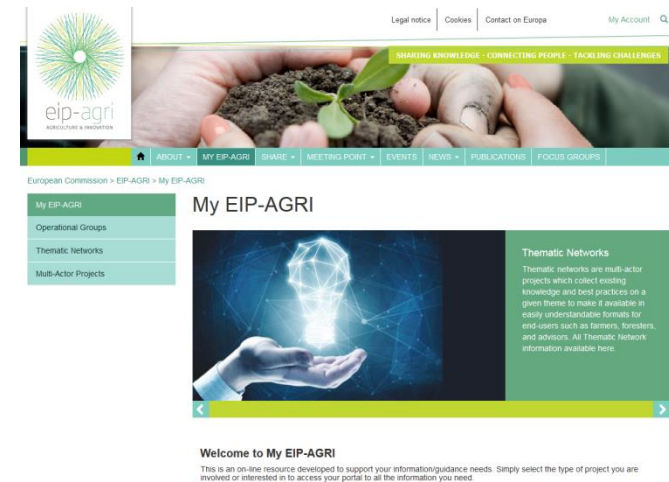
AKIS & EIP-AGRI – prepare an EU knowledge reservoir for practice which will help the advisors' back-offices for innovation support and more competent advice

- ✓ **FARMBOOK:** MS plan or already have **knowledge databases**, we need to ensure they become **interoperable** worden, to save costs and avoid duplication through cooperation!
- ✓ **MODERNAKIS** project (2022-2029): helps MS learn from each other how to build a **well-functioning AKIS** and what are good AKIS interventions (exchanging experiences and train new actors)
- ✓ **ATTRACTISS** project (2022-2027) helps the building of **innovation support services** across the EU and shares the related knowledge
- ✓ **EU advisory networks, EU thematic networks, EU thematic networks built on at least 5 OGs from 3 MS**



AKIS & EIP-AGRI – preparing for EU knowledge reservoir(s) for practice **serving advisors' back-offices for innovation support and advice**

- ✓ *MS already creating **dbases (EIP-AGRI in DE, FR, back-office and ISS in LT etc)***
- ✓ ***EURAKNOS** project (Thematic Network of Thematic Networks, midterm Jan 2020)*
- ✓ ***EUREKA** project (feasibility EU knowledge reservoir for practice, kick-off Jan 2020)*



Making at EU level an increasing volume of practice-oriented knowledge easy accessible, interactive and attractive!

EU knowledge reservoir(s) for practice serving advisors' back-offices for innovation support and advice, as well as the innovation strand of the CAP network

- ✓ *Farmbook project starting Sep 2022*
- ✓ *Running 7 years, build on the EUREKA pilot & IT standards/language (see their guidelines)*
- ✓ ***Involving all AKIS coordination bodies/platforms for tests and feedback***
- ✓ *27 Member States to become **interoperable***



To make at EU level, as well as in MS, an increasing volume of practice-oriented knowledge easy accessible, interactive and attractive!

EURAKNOS & EUREKA have prepared the 'FarmBook', an EU wide knowledge reservoir for practice



Categories ▾

Q Search

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Active smart search filters

RETURN TO OVERVIEW

554 likes 0 comments

The title of this interesting article

January 12, 2018

By Joseph Stevens, Katherine Youth and Forest advisment

Smart-Akis

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More info

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EUREKA



EURAKNOS

How can CAP networks help AKIS knowledge flows? => Structuring and organising



1.5.3 How can CAP networks help strengthening innovation and knowledge exchange on all 9 CAP objectives?

1. Collecting and sharing outcomes of 3200+ EIP OGs from current CAP
2. Collecting and sharing outcomes of 180 H2020 multi-actor projects + Horizon Europe
3. EIP website + knowledge reservoirs being prepared under H2020
4. **Connecting OGs with Horizon** projects = great added value
5. All this **material provides great input for local AKIS actors** (farmers, advisors, education, trainers, media, businesses, researchers,..): training for farmers and for advisors, peer-to-peer events, demonstrations, website, e-learning, ISS etc
6. Organising **events to link and network AKIS actors** for future cooperation
7. **Start now**, already testing future interventions under current period and **brainstorm in AKIS networking platforms**

Interaction of CAP networks: need for intensifying CAP innovation networking with Horizon Europe (National Contact Points)

1. The synergies organized between Horizon projects and EIP Operational Groups induces the need for intensifying **CAP innovation networking** with Horizon Europe **National Contact Points**: a monthly encounter could be useful
2. **Promote and make MA & OGs visible**: database with all OGs & MA projects in the MS + contacts + thematic categorization. Useful for HE Thematic networks and MA projects as well as for cross-border OGs
3. **Follow the yearly Horizon Europe calls and be pro-active**: present the MA topics to OGs, make a brokering event MA-OGs, advisors and researchers, think about cross-border events around specific topics in a topic where OGs could join. Horizon consortia should better enabled to find the OGs they would like to have in their project thanks to better functioning AKISs, in which good linkages are constructed.
4. Also when **Horizon projects are running, OGs or their partners should still be invited** to events of their interest, and vice versa: give them support (NCPs)

AKIS Coordination Body

The AKIS coordination body, (inter)acting as the spider in the AKIS web of the country, interconnecting all key AKIS influencers

- The AKIS coordination body is the **contact point for all AKIS related issues towards the European Commission.**
- It should **cooperate with AKIS multi-actor platforms across the geographical levels in the country**, following day-to-day AKIS interventions and actions,
- **asking for modification of the CAP plan if needed**, while continuously supporting interaction and implementation of the AKIS plan.
- The body should **keep an overview on the progress and performance** foreseen in the CAP plan, using a dedicated framework for monitoring and evaluation, in particular those related to the CAP indicators (Annex I of the AKIS tool, see Section 2.6).

AKIS Coordination Body

The AKIS coordination body, (inter)acting as the spider in the AKIS web of the country, interconnecting all key AKIS influencers

- The above responsibilities make it most likely that the AKIS coordination body is situated in the RD Managing Authority of the Ministry of Agriculture
- It is the task of the AKIS coordination body **to organise the advice and advisors**, ensuring coverage of all obligatory fields in Art 15 in a smooth way which does not produce overly administrative burden, and
- keeps advisory support open for all public and private advisors, in particular the most trusted ones

Examples and ideas for CAP AKIS Strategic plans of MSs (SCAR AKIS members) , as collected in the AKIS 4 report

section 1.5 of the SCAR AKIS 4 report



1.5.1 Enhancing knowledge flows within the AKIS and strengthen links between research and practice

- Further development and better funding of the EIP CAP networks: Member States' CAP networks should **filter, summarize and translate (!!!) all info relevant for their country** about OGs, H2020 MA projects, other relevant EU or national (research) projects (source: material on EIP website: practice abstracts, videos, photos, links to useful websites and projects etc.). – **interventions can help the funding**
- Create knowledge centres, platforms and digital knowledge reservoirs
- **Specific incentives for researchers** very much needed: share results easy understandable in **dissemination channels for farmers – role for advisors?**
- **Funding:** Technical Assistance fund & Art 72 for actions and national funding, re-organisation of tasks within research bodies.

1.5.1 Enhancing knowledge flows within the AKIS and strengthen links between research and practice

- **National multi-actor thematic networks** can deliver for training and education (see 1.3), while also interlinking a mix of actors. Organise bottom-up calls and do efforts to disclose the needs of farmers, be it in group or one-to-one (role of advisors): regular **face-to-face exchange thematic events**,...
- **CAP networks** should organize on a regular basis **meetings between research, farmers and advisors**: Researchers to share their work with practice, learn researchers to work interactive
- **Soft ways** can improve knowledge flows e.g. **co-location of research, advisors and networks into one building**(+education, farmers' organization, food cluster, etc.): co-location is cheap, efficient and informal

1.5.2 Strengthening farm advisory services within the AKIS



European
Commission

1.5.2 Strengthening farm advisory services within the AKIS

- Advising should be **listening and interactive**
- Deliver **holistic advice targeted to the farm's and farmer's context**
- **Advisors' training:** sufficient amount of days obligatory per year, as for other professions, especially on innovative techniques and outcomes of OGs/MAA and soft skills; make it attractive and qualitative, e.g. use of common advisory tools, back-office support for all advisors
- **Enable farmers to find the advisor which can help him best: public advisory registers** with info on education, experience, continuous professional development, cross-border exchanges, various thematic focus, membership of advisory platforms, etc
- Invest in **tools for advising** (e.g. measurements, digital)

1.5.2 Strengthening farm advisory services within the AKIS

Setting up of farm advisory services (Art 78):

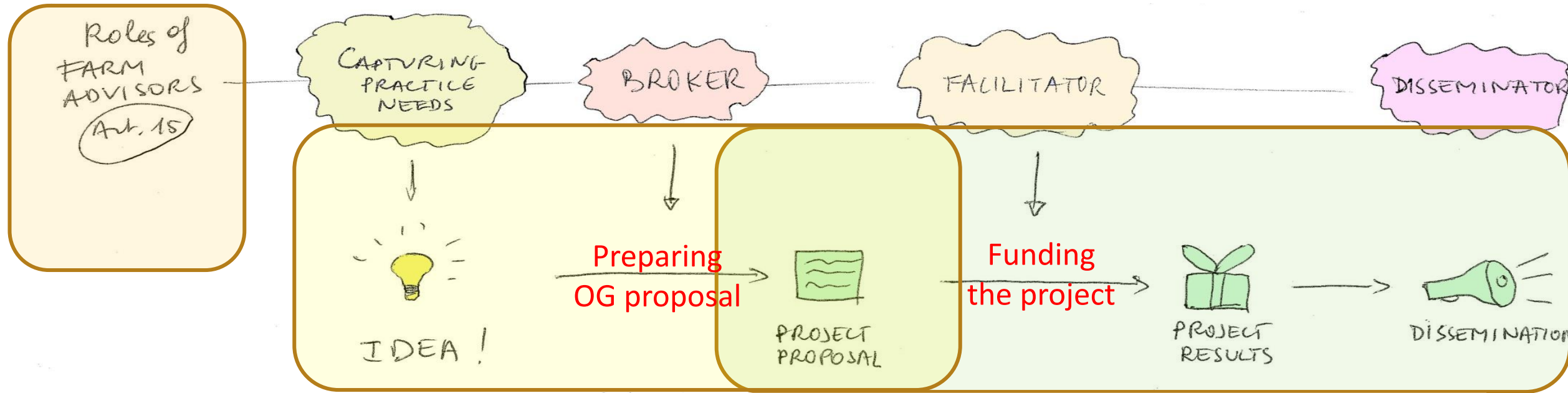
e.g. Innovation support services, or mobile advisory units and measurement tools (see photo)



1.5.2 Strengthening farm advisory services within the AKIS

- **Innovation support must** be available: advisors acting as innovation brokers/facilitators, capturing needs and sharing outcomes
- **Regular interaction with researchers**, e.g. in workshops, (bi-) annual meetings, exchanges during on-farm demo, being located in the same building helps informal contacts
- A **back-office with specialist advisors** who have thematic focus (not only sectorial focus!) is the best investment to support field advisors
- Ensure regular **participating in** and sharing knowledge from **OG innovative projects**
- **Region/country wide advisory networks for all advisors** to share newly generated knowledge e.g from innovation projects or after visits abroad

New roles for farm advisors in interactive projects, e.g. EIP OIGs



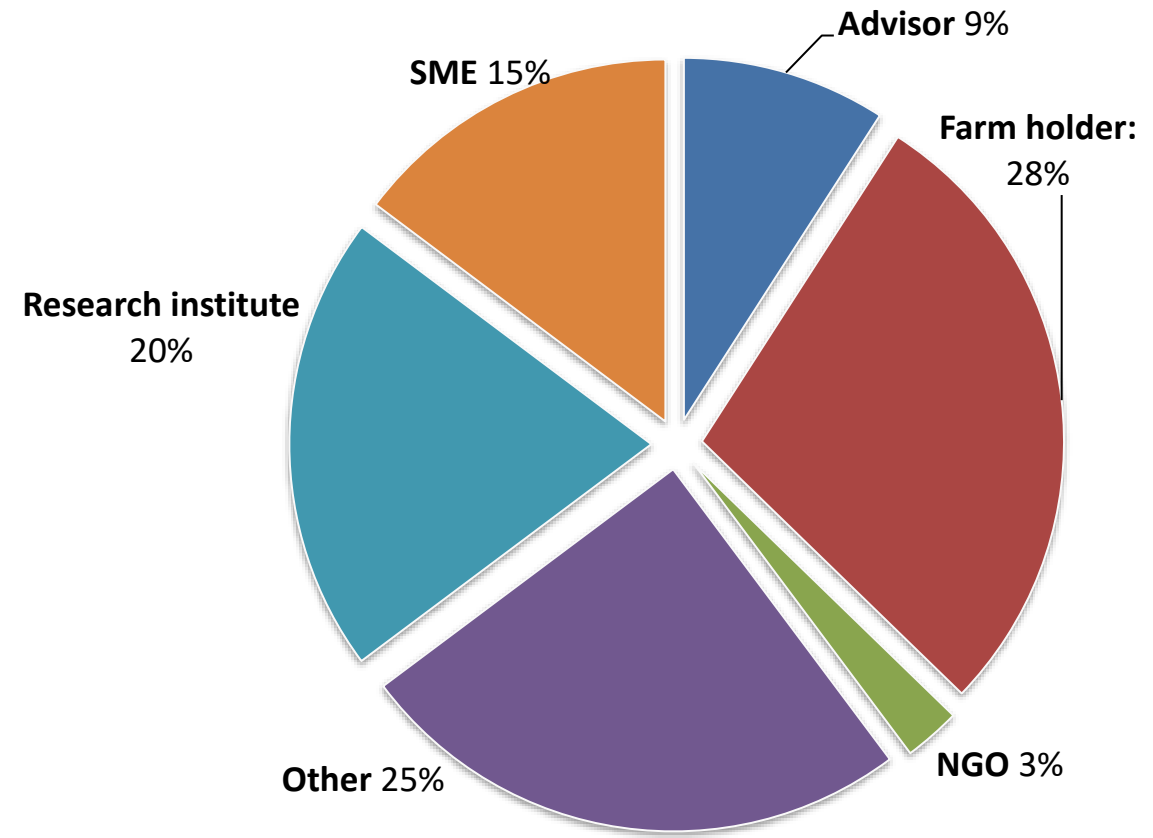
Farm advisors/innovation support services' play an important role in interactive innovation processes:

- **Capture** practice needs
- **Broker** to set up interactive innovation projects
- **Facilitate** interactive innovation projects
- **Disseminate** newly generated knowledge
- **Bridge** between CAP and Horizon programmes as innovation support service?

Main action points for OGs: CAP networks can help

Advisors and innovation support services (ISS) should be more involved:
now often missing in EIP OGs (9% advisors only)

Number of partners per category (%
on total number of OGs):



Innovation brokering function - How to capture ideas?

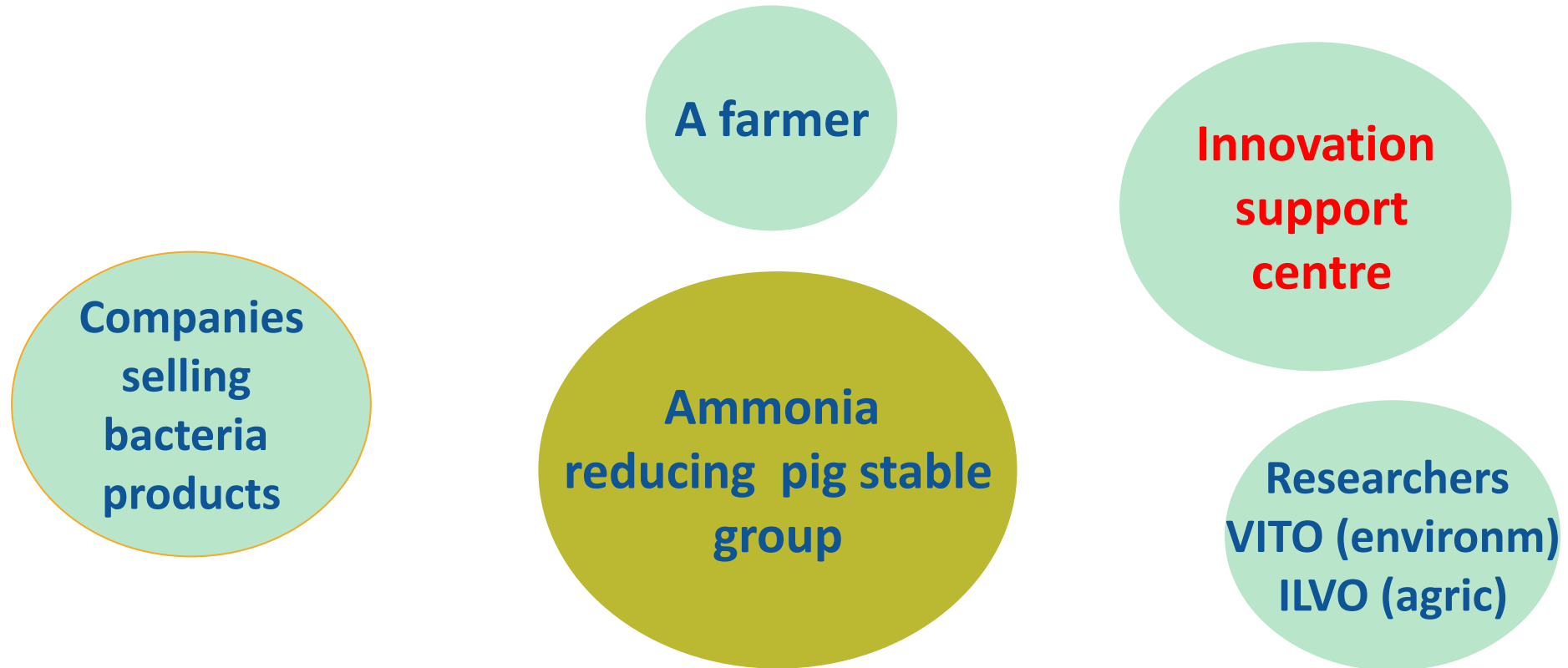
- **Capturing bottom-up ideas from the grass-roots level**
- **Helping to formulate Practice abstracts and web tools/pages**
- **Getting an innovation project ready to start** by acting as a go-between: helping single actors which might have difficulties in finding the adequate partners.
- **A close connection with and understanding of agriculture is important.**
- **A cross-cutting approach** beyond existing sectors, regions, initiative and institutes brings added value
- Different approaches may be useful e.g. vouchers etc ("**simplified cost**") for easier use and reduction of administrative burden – **Art 77**

Innovation Support Service functions

<http://www.innovatiesteunpunt.be/en/projects/agrispin-innovation-brokership>

1. **Brokering** function: **OBLIGATORY**
2. Coordination and **facilitation** of projects as an intermediate between partners: **OBLIGATORY**
3. Innovation **promotion** and **awareness** raising
4. Coaching farmers towards innovation (individual advice)
5. **Brainstorming** events and thematical animation
6. Biannual **innovation prize**: 150 candidates, 10 final prizes, one winner - and a lot of communication in the farm journals promotes innovation
7. **Dissemination** of innovative results
8. Connect with SMEs and other innovation services and funding bodies
(see example of innovation project "Distrikempen" **video** from **Agrispin H2020 project**)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fbiAGzlf3IA> *logistic innovation short supply chain*

Example of an Innovation Support Service: one to one innovation brokering



Project objective: develop a pig stable reducing ammonia emissions by 50 % in a more cost-efficient way than existing stable systems (idea from a farmer, brokered by the Innovation Support Centre)

Skills for Innovation brokers

1. Be able to **listen** to understand exactly the problem/opportunity and the context
2. Be capable to **analyse** the problem/opportunity: how can it be tackled in the best possible way (costs, actors, funding source etc)?
3. Have a good **network to find** people and information
4. Have **intermediating skills** to seek compromises where needed
5. Be **quality orientated**: plans made have to work out eventually, responsibilities taken, don't create audit problems
6. Where useful, **think out of the box** and do not defend your own position/research

Integrating advisors within the AKIS: some examples...(1)

CAP networks can help providing info or organising events for many of these interventions/tasks

- ✓ *Advisor giving **holistic on-farm one-to-one advice** on economic, environmental and social dimensions, capable of delivering up-to-date technological and scientific information developed by R&I (very broad scope)*
- ✓ **Specialist advisor** on a certain theme, on-farm or off-farm
- ✓ Provide **individual innovation support**: capture grassroots innovative ideas and accompany the preparation and implementation of an EIP OG (CAP networks can bring innovation brokers together to learn from each other)
- ✓ **(Obligatory yearly) training of advisors** on themes, or learning new approaches and skills (eg social farming, digital, short chains, ...)
- ✓ **Advisors can provide training** farmers, farm workers etc (eg IPM)

Integrating advisors within the AKIS: some examples...(2)

- ✓ Advisors **joining/organising knowledge exchange events** with researchers, farmers etc, making workprogrammes, exchanging practical needs, Advisors writing in agricultural journals, websites, social media, newsletter, EIP event coordinator
- ✓ Advisors leading a **multi-actor thematic network** (e.g. RMT) at national/regional level
- ✓ Advisor **organizing a farm demonstration**, a fair, another type of event
- ✓ Advisor as **partner in a research project**, communication event,...
- ✓ Advisor going abroad to learn and come back to train and disseminate new knowledge (“**advisor mobility budget**”)

=> Result: **advisors are integrated within the AKIS system** (in a fully integrated manner, serving and making use of all kind of interventions)

1.5.3 Incentivize interactive innovation projects

- Involvement of education and young people in OGs (use ERASMUS project to share your summer school results, try to influence also the regular courses in universities and high schools)



- Reflect on a "before" life (platforms where actors regularly meet, funding for preparation) and an "after" life (connect with other OG/MA projects)
- Design e.g. a specific fund for after-project communication of innovative projects. We still not share enough the results of OGs.
- Ensure sufficient coordination within MS and ensure that learning from each other (e.g. other regions) is possible

1.5.3 Incentivize interactive innovation projects

- Foresee **sufficient funding for continuous OG calls**, think about a **set of calls**: keep a bottom-up call & add further "suggestive" calls
- Enable **advance payments** and paying of farmers
- Ensure involvement of **advisors in EIP OGs and Horizon multi-actor projects**, and give them multiple roles (see next slide)
- CAP networks and knowledge reservoirs should help facilitate **cross-border OGs** (within one country and between countries)
- **Ensure a substantial budget for communication** in each project and for dissemination in various ways, **use existing channels** which are most used
- **Peer-to-peer learning**: organize cross-border visits for OGs or for specific actors who can incentivize (ISS, advisors, farmers' groups, ...)

Cap networks help facilitating interactive innovation projects

- **CAP networks** can incentivize thematic work as well as bottom-up brokerage: very regular events if **continuous OG calls**. Adapt your approach: possibly a **set of calls**: a bottom-up call & further thematic or "suggestive" calls
- Enable support (and paying of) farmers, advisors or other **intermediate persons** (professional communicator, facilitator,..): **peer to peer learning** is key and facilitating between different types of actors very helpful: inform OGs
- **CAP networks and knowledge reservoirs** can help facilitate **cross-border OGs** (within one country and between countries): common timing and common criteria
- **Ensure a substantial budget for communication** in each project and for dissemination in various ways, **use existing channels** which are most used
- **Peer-to-peer learning: organize cross-border visits for OGs** or for specific actors who can incentivize (ISS, advisors, farmers' groups, ...)

Use Communication material from the EIP-AGRI at EU level: filter, translate, and spread knowledge from abroad

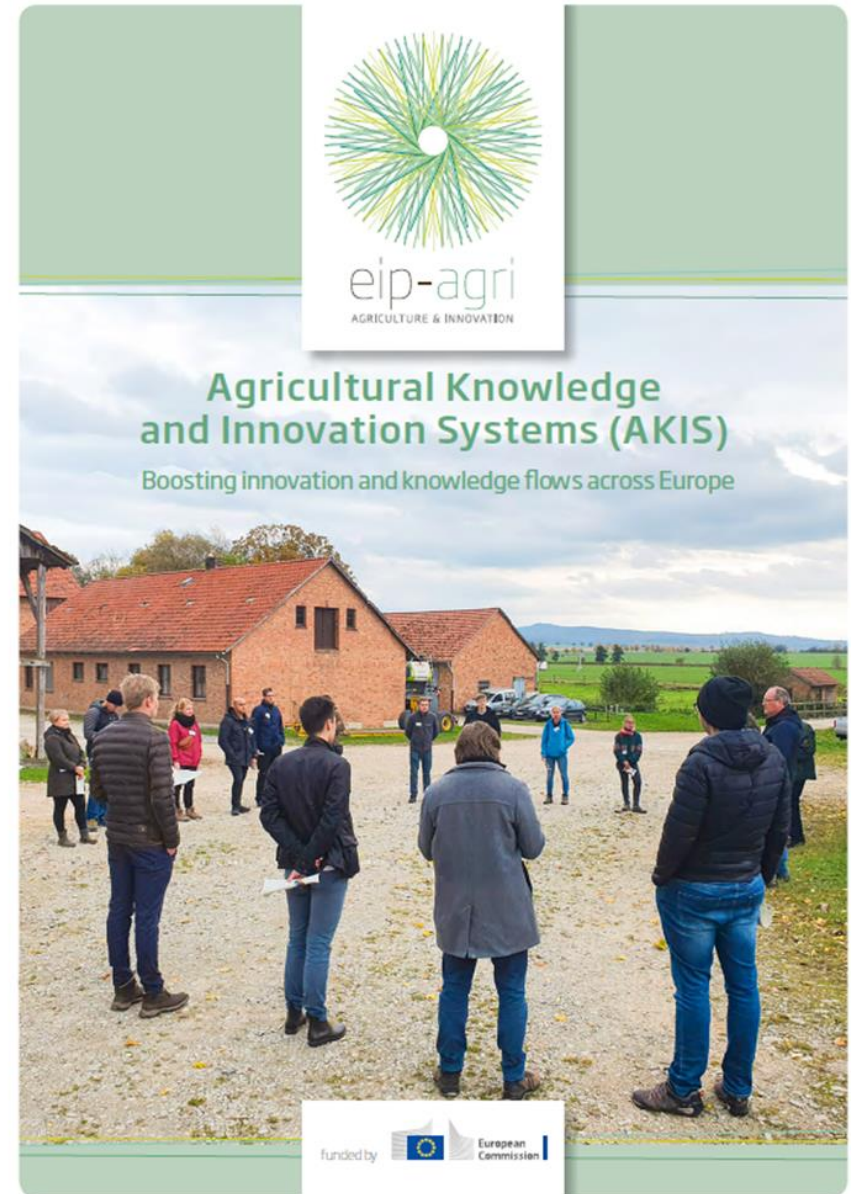
- Use the Database of OGs to connect OGs etc within and beyond the country/region
- AKIS animated infographic: <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/new-animated-video-akis-building-effective>
- Updated overview of the Focus Groups: https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/focus_groups_state_of_play_november_2020_update.pdf
- List of EIP-AGRI Events 2013-2020: https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/eip-agri_factsheet_overview_eip-agri_events_2020_en.pdf
- Animated infographics: [Innovation Support Services](#), [Soil Salinisation](#), [Focus Groups](#) , etc
- [Agrinnovation magazine](#) on soil – Sept. 2020
- Monthly newsletter, press articles, Brochure on climate-smart agriculture, Thematic campaigns (social media, newsletter): animal welfare, soil, forestry, Operational Groups and new farmers



EIP-AGRI communications

- A **Thematic webpage on AKIS + new AKIS brochure** is created: <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/about/akis-eip-agri-spotlight>
- **Press article on advisory Back-Office in Slovenia feeding into Innovation support and the whole AKIS:**

<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news-events/press-media/press-release/slovenia-integrates-advisors-its-national>



1.5.4 Support digital transition in agriculture

- **Interlink all public data** to enable additional services, e.g. Lithuania RECAP app, Estonia GIS/LPIS based layers combining soil fertility, erosion zones, spreading harmful organisms etc, irrigation needs
- Set up **platforms to discuss** how to manage the digital transition, find the most urgent needs (Austria)
- Finance OGs on useful free of charge **digital applications** and make them publicly available, e.g. for pest management, recognising weeds, etc
- Organise **training on digital skills for farmers, advisors** etc
- **Build knowledge reservoirs** that are interactive and quality checked (eg LT, EURAKNOS), and use common standards as much as possible
- Share **digital advisory tools**, reducing the maintenance cost

What post 2020 ?

Jean
Monnet
Father of Europe

12/05/1954



“Ce qui nous arrête, c’est la peur du changement. Et pourtant, c’est du changement que dépend notre salut”

“What stops us is the fear of change.
And nevertheless, it is on change that our
salvation depends”

CAP plans post 2020 – main new AKIS issues

- The CAP Strategic Plans regulation provides **many new or improved tools for AKIS** under the Cross-Cutting Objective:
 - Farm advice**: MS must have impartial advisors integrated within the AKIS covering all sustainability fields with up-to-date K&I, obligatory training
 - Support for **knowledge exchange** and information events, including for advice, demo and training, **thematic and cross-sectorial events**
 - Obligation to provide innovation support for OGS - from grassroots ideas
 - CAP networks** (Art. 113): will connect existing OGS to collaborate & interact with **Horizon Europe NCPs** (seminar June 2021 on EIP website, seminar AKIS autumn 2022)
 - EIP Operational Groups (Art. 114): 80% cofinancing instead of 43%
 - 100% support for non-productive investments for OGS
 - Advance payments up to 50% for OGS
 - State Aid derogation till 350.000 Euro project for OGS

The SWG SCAR AKIS4 report will help....

https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/knowledge-and-innovation-unlocking-potential-food-and-farming-2019-sep-26_en



See in particular sections 1.2 What is AKIS?, 1.3 Multi-actor projects, 1.4 thematic networks, 1.5 possible actions for CAP AKIS Strategic Plans) and chapter 4 (Advisors and advisory instruments and functions)



Info: EIP Seminar on AKIS strategies in CAP Strategic Plans

16-18 September 2020 (the full seminar was recorded and can be seen again)

<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/event/eip-agri-seminar-cap-strategic-plans-key-role-akis>

- Inspiration from an experienced **innovation support service**, followed by a **panel discussion on AKIS policy**.
- Opening speeches from **Commissioner Polish Ministers of Agr.**, one very inspiring and **Rural Inspiration Award OG** + an **overview on the basic elements of AKIS + Q&A**.
- Section on advice: intro + 3 diverse examples of **advisory services**
- Section on role of the **national CAP network for innovation**, again with good examples
- **Online discussions** which happened in the weeks before the seminar (on advisory services, on CAP networks and on the CAP plans), summarised by **Mark Gibson**
- **10 good examples of nice AKIS interventions**
- **4 Member States presenting their CAP plans**, already full of content
- after the breakout sessions, **our Director General Burtscher** closed with a very nice **summary on the interactive discussions** and expresses how he sees the future & AKIS.

<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/event/preparing-cap-strategic-plans-role-innovation>

Tool on AKIS

CAP tool on CCO: content on AKIS strategic approach and interventions

[8.1 tool for modernisation - akis and digital technologies - on circabc 7 oct 2021.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#)

- Legal references and their interaction
- Why do we need well-functioning AKIS?
- How to shape an AKIS fit for the future?
- Strengthen knowledge flows and links between research and practice
- Fostering all farm advisors' knowledge and strengthen their interconnections within the AKIS
- Enhancing cross-thematic and cross-border interactive innovation
- Making effective use of information and communication technologies to improve knowledge sharing

Tool on AKIS

CAP tool on CCO: AKIS

- Main new elements in the post 2022 CAP related to AKIS and EIP
 - Obligations
 - Opportunities
- **Cornerstones for an AKIS fit for the future**
 - EIP-AGRI Operational Group (OG) innovative projects - Art. 71 and 114
 - **CAP networking for innovation** post 2022 - Art. 113 and Art. 102(a)
 - New and more interactive functions for advisors, innovation support
- How reflect the AKIS Strategic Approach in the CAP plan?

Tool on AKIS

CAP tool on CCO: AKIS + Annexes

[8.1 tool for modernisation - akis and digital technologies - on circabc 7 oct 2021.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#)

- AKIS related impact, result and output indicators
 - Impact indicator (Article 7, Annex I of the SPR)
 - Output indicators (Article 7, Annex I of the SPR)
 - Main Result indicator (Articles 7, 97 and Annex I of the SPR)
- Guidance questions for the assessment of the AKIS strategic approach
- **Annexes – very useful !!!**
 - I. Background information on AKIS
 - II. Why do we need well-functioning AKIS?
 - III. Basics on EIP Operational Groups
 - IV. **Innovation related CAP networking elements** to be brought to the MS' attention when developing their CAP plan
 - V. **Good practices to integrate advisors in the AKIS**
 - VI. Links to Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe projects
 - VII. Common format for the output of EIP OG projects

EIP AKIS seminar in autumn 2022 is now being prepared: **Suggestions?**

Main bodies influencing AKIS policy, thus made most progress in AKIS understanding so far:

- SWG SCAR AKIS since 2010
- Subgroup on innovation

Building and linking AKISs across the EU

*Speed up creativity and
practice application*

*Better connectivity and
quicker circulation of
information*

Speeding up knowledge exchange and innovation 2.0



Thanks for your attention

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European
Commission

Questions?

Main AKIS action points in post 2020 CAP plans by MS :

CAP networks, impartial advisors and researchers at MS level to improve collaboration within the AKIS for increased innovation and knowledge flows:

1. MS' CAP networks tasks and objectives:

- Provide for more **learning (=filtering, translating, summarizing)** from all 3000 EU OGs and MA projects on EU EIP website => knowledge exchange **among MS**
- Organize a variety of knowledge events between in your country between AKIS actors **including all** in the knowledge-exchange and knowledge-building process
- Be more active on **linkages between OGs and the Horizon Europe projects:** capture the results and added value of the policy at European level (HE NCPs)
- **Foster innovation: support to OGs within the MS and across borders**

2. Researchers to be **more closely involved in the AKIS:** (inter)acting on farmers' needs/opportunities, and to be rewarded to do so. Researchers to join specific "multi-actor" activities and publish for practice and advisors' back-offices too. "Partnership agreement" of Agri Ministries in particular with research and innovation ministries.

Main AKIS action points post 2020 CAP by MS :

- 3. More, more frequent and more diverse EIP Operational Group calls** because **EIP now covers all 9 CAP specific objectives**: mixing bottom-up calls with thematic calls to have a “**family of EIP calls**” (e.g. OGs on bottom-up grassroots ideas + on specific environmental challenges, on piloting digital tools & measures, on social innovation). Also initiate **cross-sectorial** and **cross-border OGs** and the possibility for **collaboration between OGs** (national CAP network task in coordination with the Man. Authority).
- 4. Advisors** to become **more competent** on economic, environmental and social issues & up-to-date knowledge and innovation. **Simplification** of the administrative system for advisors: no more rules on certification or public procurement, **transparency** via public website on the advisors available, vouchers. MS must have **impartial** advisors and **innovation support services + provide training to advisors**. **The AKIS system must integrate all** advisors, public and private: no more silos or separated Farm Advisory System. Holistic and interactive advice, **mobility** budget for advisors.

Main AKIS action points post 2020 CAP by MS :

5. **A substantial financial envelope** is needed in a globally more commercialized, world full of public good related challenges, **to protect public knowledge & knowledge flows, and incentivize publicly shared innovation => AKIS.**
- **emerging knowledge reservoirs at national level, national thematic networks**
 - **public back-offices (“knowledge hubs”)** with **specialist advisors** closely interacting with field advisors, research and CAP networks, and with **innovation support services**
 - National and **EU advisory networks**
 - **Public digital advisory tools** reducing maintenance costs: e.g. H2020 project Fairshare
 - Face-to-face multi-actor thematic events, on-farm demonstrations etc.
 - **Soft ways** also improve knowledge flows e.g. **co-location of research, advice and networks** (+education, farmers' organization, food cluster, etc.): co-location is cheap, efficient and informal
 - An **AKIS coordination body**, (inter)acting as the **spider in the AKIS web of the country, interconnecting all key AKIS influencers**

Find EIP Operational Groups: How? (1)

- **For cross-border OGs**
- **For Horizon Thematic Networks built on OGs in WP 2023-2024 (5 OGs from 3 MS minimum): annual call**

European Commission > EIP-AGRI > About EIP-AGRI > Operational Groups

About
Europe 2020 strategy
Funding streams
Operational Groups
Horizon 2020
Multi-actor projects
Thematic networks
AKIS
Subgroup on Innovation
EIP-AGRI Support Facility
EIP-AGRI multiplier toolkit

Operational Groups




Operational Groups are intended to bring together advisers, businesses, environmental groups, innovation in the agricultural and forestry sectors.

Learn more about Operational Groups:


- [What is innovation?](#)
- [Concept EIP-AGRI Operational Groups](#)
- [Video: Operational Groups, first experiences](#)
- [Operational Groups database](#)
- [Innovation support services](#)
- [How to evaluate innovation?](#)
- [Contact Managing Authorities](#)
- [Links to national Operational Group databases](#)

Find EIP Operational Groups: How? (2)

Projects - Operational groups

 **Fulltext search**  **Geographical location**  **Keywords**

Contains any of these words



 *Brexit content disclaimer*

Projects found: 247 

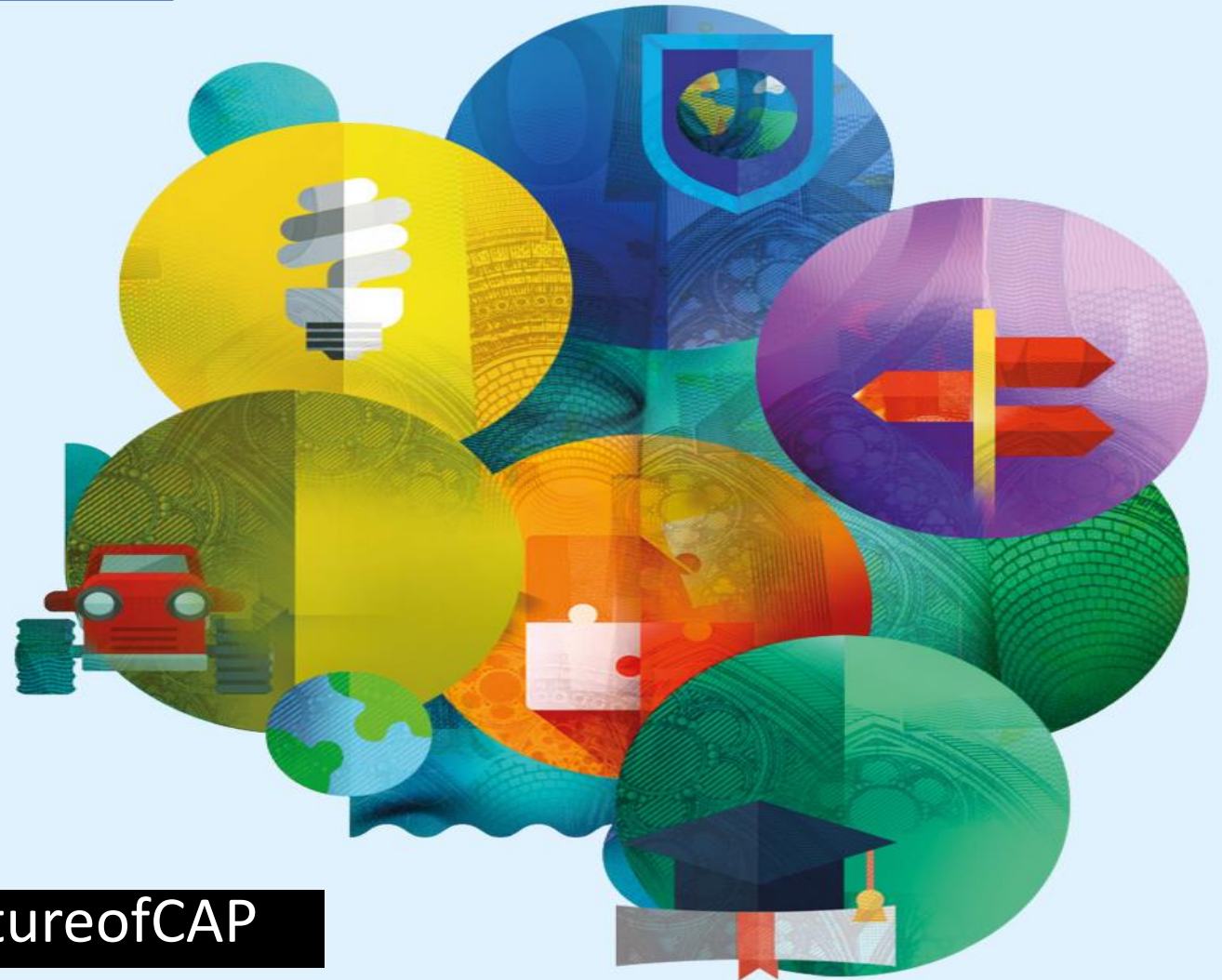
Published on	Title	Geographical location
07/02/2018	Biodiversamente Castagno: "Guidelines for the preservation and enhancement of biodiversity the chestnut in Emilia Romagna"	Italy
07/02/2018	Agroecological Cover - Cover crops to increase soil organic matter and reduce weeds	Italy

Influence CAP plans now: Examples of interventions contributing to R.2 result indicator. Knowledge exchange and information under rural development (Art 72):

	R.1	R.2	R.3	R.24
Examples of interventions contributing to integration of advisors within the AKIS (R.2)	Modernisation Farm	Number of advisors integrated within AKIS	Digitisation Farm	Env/clim performance through knowledge
1. Training of advisors (O.29)	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Back-office work (=specialist support collecting practice knowledge) by advisors (O.29)	(✓)	✓	(✓)	✓
3. Advisors' mobility budget (O.29)	✓	✓		(✓)
4a. Providing innovation support for OG on social care farming (O.2 or O.1)	✓	✓		
4b. Providing innovation support for OG on short supply chains in HNV areas (O.2 or O.1)	✓	✓	(✓)	✓
5. Advisors leading thematic networks compiling knowledge for practice (O.29)	(✓)	✓	(✓)	(✓)
6. Advisors leading on-farm demonstration events/training (O.29)	✓	✓	(✓)	(✓)

Thank You!

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#FutureofCAP