COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY
Post-2020

AKIS in post 2020 CAP, including EIP and advisory services integrated within AKIS

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Unit B2 – Research & Innovation
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#FutureofCAP
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, 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.

PROAKIS study: Characterising MS' AKIS

An overview (as of 2014)

- Fragmented
  - Greece
  - Portugal
  - Romania
  - Italy
  - Spain
  - Slovakia
  - Estonia
  - Latvia
  - Malta
  - Wallonia
  - Lithuania

- Integrated
  - Hungary
  - Bulgaria
  - Cyprus
  - Luxembourg
  - United Kingdom
  - Slovenia
  - Sweden
  - Czech Rep.
  - Flanders
  - Poland
  - France
  - Austria
  - Denmark
  - Ireland
  - Netherlands
  - Finland
  - Germany
The EIP-AGRI in short

- 2010: European Innovation Partnerships want to speed up innovation through cooperation and linking existing policies and instruments

- EIP "Agricultural productivity and sustainability" launched in 2012: "more and better from less", "ideas put into practice with success", impact by end-users becoming "actors" and motivated

- The EIP-AGRI applies an overarching *Open innovation* concept based on the interactive innovation model (applied in RD Operational Groups 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 diffusion 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

CAP/Rural development (regional/national level)
- OG preparation
- OG projects
- Innovation support services

Research projects
Multi-actor projects
Thematic networks (interactive innovation)

Unique EU knowledge repository of contacts and practice abstracts

Involvement of OGs is strongly recommended

Spread the results
EIP-AGRI – Where are we?

✓ 27 Member States, 98 rural development programmes voluntary implementing the EIP

✓ Around 3 200 OGs planned in 2014-2020; more than 1500 OGs already running or finished, still 4 years to go

✓ Around 180 H2020 multi-actor projects (1 bio €), including 39 thematic networks

✓ A growing and thriving network

An increasing volume of practice-oriented knowledge!
From EIP-AGRI to AKIS Strategic Plans & Green Deal relevance: what is changing?
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)
THE 9 COMMON OBJECTIVES

- Continuation of support for preparing and implementing OG innovative projects, as well as for EIP networking (Art 113,114), contributing to ALL 9 specific objectives
Cross-cutting objective
KNOWLEDGE & INNOVATION

- Respond to citizens' concerns in terms of food & health quality
- Support generational renewal
- Preserve landscapes & biodiversity
- Environmental care
- Climate change action
- Rebalance power in food chain
- Increase competitiveness
- Ensure viable income
- Vibrant rural areas
- The 9 CAP objectives

The 9 common objectives

- Cross-cutting objective
  - Knowledge & innovation
  - Respond to citizens’ concerns in terms of food & health quality
  - Support generational renewal
  - Preserve landscapes & biodiversity
  - Environmental care
  - Climate change action
  - Rebalance power in food chain
  - Increase competitiveness
  - Ensure viable income
  - Vibrant rural areas
  - The 9 CAP objectives
Intervention logic for modernisation, innovation and knowledge flows: Overview of relevant AKIS provisions

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
AKIS in CAP Strategic Plans (Art.102 - modernisation)

The CAP Strategic Plans shall contain:

1. Their contribution to the cross-cutting general objective related to fostering and sharing of knowledge, innovation and digitisation, 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
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FOOD
MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND SPORT
MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SPATIAL PLANNING
SLOVENIAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY
AFSVP*
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
New roles for farm advisors in interactive innovation projects

Farm advisors/innovation support services’ role in interactive innovation processes:

• Capture practice needs
• Broker to set up interactive innovation projects
• Facilitate interactive innovation projects
• Disseminate newly generated knowledge
• + ……
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)
Example (BE): Innovation Support Service

1. **Brokering** function
2. Coordination and **facilitation** of projects as an intermediate between partners
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**
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
Innovation brokering function - How to capture ideas?

- Capturing bottom-up ideas from the grass-roots level

- **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 may bring added value

- Different approaches may be useful e.g. vouchers etc (**simplified cost**) for easier use and reduction of administrative burden – Art 77
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, businesses, researchers,..): training for advisors and farmers, 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 coordination platforms
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 10 billion in **Horizon Europe** for food, agriculture, rural development and the bio-economy.

- Continuation of the agricultural **European Innovation Partnership** (CAP Art 113, 114)
The Horizon 2020/Horizon Europe (HE) dimension of the EIP-AGRI

=> induces the need for intensifying CAP innovation, networking and efficiency of Horizon Europe National Contact Points
Council Working Party: AKIS related discussions as good as finalised:
MS are overall happy with Commission proposal, including:
- Continuation of support for preparing and implementing OG innovative projects, as well as for EIP networking (Art 113,114)
- Higher than normal EU co-funding for OG projects (up to 80%), (OGs in average 150-200,000 euro)
- Possibility of advance payments for OG projects (up to 50%)
- Principles of interactive innovation now explicit in regulation (as in 2014 EIP guidelines):
  1) focus on practical farmers’ needs
  2) co-creation and co-decision all along the project
  3) complementary knowledge in the OG necessary: farmers' involvement is key
(Idem Horizon 2020 WP page 11-13, and Horizon Europe)
=> Do not underestimate the entrepreneurial creativity of farmers in OG projects for innovation, e.g. IE example of an OG testing and preparing an Agri-Environmental measure (AKIS report: see box page 63)
CAP post 2020 – AKIS, EIP, advice and innovation – state of play negotiations (2)

- Obligation to integrate and **update advisors' competences through connections within the AKIS** (Art 13), e.g. on up-to-date R&I and economic, ecological and social domains
- **Obligation and funding to provide innovation support** (Art 13)
- Broad CAP support for almost **any type of knowledge exchange and advice** (Art 72)
  ⇔ limitations in former FAS, as well as in Art 15 advisory support in current RD regulation

A number of **further improvements since June 1018:**
Art 3: definition of AKIS
Art 72: **coherence:** linking the support for knowledge exchange & advice with AKIS strategies
Art 114: introduction of **funding cross-border OG projects** (as from the start)
Art 113: introduction of the **possibility for existing OGs to cooperate,** funded by Technical Assistance or Art 72 => CROSS-FERTILISATION

**European Parliament:** compromise amendments voted on 2/4/2019: no substantial changes

New Parliament: positive, no substantial changes
An integrated approach supporting modernisation, innovation and knowledge flows

Farmer at the centre of the integrated Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS) to support modernisation, innovation and knowledge flows.
EIP OGs assessment – clustering analysis (data Feb 2018):
65% OGs are climate/environment related

A huge variety of agricultural challenges/ opportunities tackled in OGs
AKIS & EIP-AGRI – preparing for EU knowledge reservoir(s) for practice serving 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 an increasing volume of practice-oriented knowledge accessible and attractive!

www.eip-agri.eu
Conclusions 2018-2019 study on OGs

=> IMPACT ON PRELIMINARY AKIS STRATEGIC PLANS

**Conclusions**

Confirmed **great interest** in the EIP-AGRI OG framework and instrument

- Since launch of study, number of OG has **increased** to about 1500 now
- Some MS launch a set of OG calls, both open and thematical aspects  
  => MS INSPIRED BY EACH OTHER FOR AKIS STRATEGIC PLANS
- **91% of OGs are positive** about their experience and **would recommend** other actors/organisations to become involved in an OG project  
  => CONTINUATION OGS EXPECTED IN AKIS STRATEGIC PLANS
Conclusions => PRELIMINARY FINDINGS FROM DRAFT AKIS STRATEGIC PLANS

OGs focus on **tackling farmers’ needs** in a practical and collaborative way

- OG partnerships are indeed set up to co-develop new/adapted methods, tools, solutions, **directly applicable by farmers**

- OGs prove a **unique, versatile and flexible framework** to address various concrete bottom-up farmers’ challenges/needs: from 30.000 Euro to 25 mio Euro per OG **MORE TYPE OF OG CALLS EXPECTED ACCORDING TO PRELIMINARY AKIS STRATEGIC PLANS, LESS COOPERATION PROJECTS**

- OGs do connect the farmer’s community with **complementary external expertise** to help solve these challenges in variety of partnership compositions AKIS COORDINATION BODIES, AKIS KNOWLEDGE PLATFORMS AND INNOVATION SUPPORT SERVICES IN EACH MEMBER STATE
**Conclusions**

**Partnership and project structures** in three circles help connecting and disseminating to farmers’ communities.

- **OG partnership** usually consist of a few **core partners**, complemented by group of partners for practical parts of the project (2\(^{nd}\) circle).

- Regular interaction and involvement of **wider target group** built into project structure through testing & demo activities.

- **3\(^{rd}\) circle of up to 100 farmers/end-users not formally part of the partnership**, testing new solutions in real farming practice and providing direct feedback.

- This structuring ensures **efficient project coordination** while providing **practical feedback mechanism and dissemination channels** to farmers’ community.

- Farmers are still reluctant to take administrative lead as they lack the capacity and resources to deal with the related obligations (**pre-financing**) Solved!
Conclusions

Outcomes and dissemination

- OGs devote substantial attention to **dissemination in a variety of ways** throughout the project.
- OGs interestingly **link rural-agricultural community with other sectors and industries**.
- OGs can **test and prepare the field and motivate beneficiaries for agri-environmental measures in the next RD programme**. OGs BECOME TESTBED FOR CAP MEASURES

Support

- OGs **satisfied with administrative support** received: useful advice from Managing Authorities.
- **Innovation support services are important** in setting up the right partnership structure and **preparing the application** (now only 12%) OBLIGATION FOR ALL MS.
Conclusions

OGs as vehicles to connect to other (rural) innovation initiatives and actors

- OGs **discovering the collaboration potential** beyond the scope of the own OG, and interested to explore further, even though no priority in current period yet

- 90% of OGs **established relations with organisations outside the partnership** or intend to do so, even though the current funding framework cannot cover all the costs for this => MS START TO SEE BETTER THE EU ADDED VALUE AND WANT TO GO CROSS-BORDER

**Need to better facilitate this**, e.g. by more structured and accessible information on the themes and approaches of OGs

- OGs would welcome **more pro-active support** for this by national/regional support structures

=> AKIS COORDINATION BODIES, AKIS KNOWLEDGE PLATFORMS AND INNOVATION SUPPORT SERVICES IN EACH MEMBER STATE
How does this translate to the drafting of the CAP Strategic plans and indicators?
Overview of AKIS, advice and EIP in CAP post 2020

Relevant articles (see also reference to 2013-2020 articles/measures):

1. An more inclusive AKIS with better knowledge flows as part of MS’ CAP Strategic Plan (Art 102 - new)
2. EIP OGs supporting all CAP objectives (Art 114, replacing Art 53)
3. EIP interactive innovation model defined (Art 114 - clarification)
4. Impartial advice, all advisors inclusively integrated in AKIS (Art 13, new) => replacing FAS (system) by the AKIS (system)
5. Innovation brokering and facilitation - supporting EIP OGs (Art 13, new)
6. OGs use Cooperation intervention for funding OGs (Art 71 => M16)
7. AKIS uses Knowledge exchange & information (Art 72 => M1 & M2)
8. CAP networks at EU level and National/regional levels to support EIP and AKIS coordination activities (Art 113 => before: Art 52-57)
8. Modernisation and Simplification

8.1 Modernisation: AKIS and digital technologies

How the CAP Strategic Plan will contribute to the cross-cutting general objective related to fostering and sharing knowledge and innovation, including:

• Identification of the needs, based on the evidence from the SWOT analysis, in relation to the cross-cutting objective related to fostering and sharing of knowledge innovation and digitalisation, including relevant information from the SWOT analysis about the functioning of the AKIS and related structures;

• Overall organisational set-up of the AKIS, including planned actions to improve knowledge flows in particular between advisors, researchers and CAP networks;

• Description of the farm advisory services provided, which shall cover economic, environmental and social dimensions and deliver up to date technological and scientific information developed by research and innovation;

• Description of how advisory services, research and CAP networks will work together within the framework of the AKIS, and how advice and innovation support services are provided;
7. Governance systems and coordination systems

7.1 Identification of governance and coordination bodies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Body</th>
<th>Contact details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Competent Authority</td>
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<td>Managing Authority</td>
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<td>Paying Agency (ies)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coordinating Body (if applicable)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certification Body</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monitoring Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other delegated and intermediate bodies not laid down in the Regulation, with a description of their role</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AKIS coordination, including farm advice</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Relevant coordination body(ies) for the AKIS</strong></td>
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Whenever the draft Regulation provides for the possibility to establish governance bodies at regional level, and Member States make use of this possibility, this Chapter will include information on all these bodies.
Milestones of Advisory Services under the CAP

**Pillar I**

- **2003**: Introduction of cross compliance
- **2007**: Obligatory **"Farm Advisory System"** (FAS) all MS must make up a list of dedicated advisory services in support of cross-compliance as a package
- **2014**: FAS moved into horizontal legislation (Art 12-15 R. 1305/2013) covering both CAP pillars
- **2021**: AKIS system replaces FAS system (simplification) => Cross-cutting objective on Knowledge and Innovation for the whole CAP

**Pillar II**

- **2007-2013**: Support for vocational training and advisory services
- **2014-2020**: Knowledge and advisory measures further developed (e.g. training of advisors, only specific elements to be advised on, not the full CC package)
- **2021-2027**: **"Farm Advisory Services"** = RD support for all advisors to be integrated in the AKIS according to Art 102 strategy + Art 72 interventions (incl SCO Art 77) to be designed in coherence with CAP AKIS Strategic Plan (Art.102) made after SWOT (Art.103)
Advisory Services under the CAP post 2020

- **One CAP regulation**: Advisory services to be included in the CAP Strategic plans (Art 13(1))
- **One Cross-cutting objective on Knowledge and Innovation** in support of all CAP 9 specific objectives (Art 5)
- **Funding** for farm advisors and various knowledge exchange activities (Art 72)
- Art 13(3): **Impartial** advice (no conflict of interest)
- Art 13(2): **Advice must be available on a wide range of issues** such as:
  - Economic, environmental and social dimensions
  - Up to date technological and scientific information developed by R&I
  - Therefore advisors to be integrated within the AKIS
- Art 13(4):
  - List of **fields to cover** within the Member State, including innovation support

Support for advisors from **CAP networks’ actions for innovation**
CAP Plan template

4.4. Elements common to several interventions

4.4. Technical Assistance

- Objectives;
- Scope and indicative planning of activities;
- Beneficiaries.

4.5. CAP Network

- Summary overview and objectives of the National CAP Network, including activities to support knowledge flows within the AKIS.
- Structure, governance and operation of the National CAP Network.
Knowledge exchange and information under rural development (Art 72): Examples of interventions contributing to R.2 result indicator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples of interventions contributing to integration of advisors within the AKIS (R.2)</th>
<th>R.1</th>
<th>R.2</th>
<th>R.3</th>
<th>R.24</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Modernisation Farm</strong></td>
<td>Number of advisors integrated within AKIS</td>
<td>Digitisation Farm</td>
<td>Env/clim performance through knowledge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Training of advisors (O.29)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Back-office work (=specialist support collecting practice knowledge) by advisors (O.29)</td>
<td>( ✓ )</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>✓</td>
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<td>3. Advisors' mobility budget (O.29)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>4a. Providing innovation support for OG on social care farming (O.2 or O.1)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>4b. Providing innovation support for OG on short supply chains in HNV areas (O.2 or O.1)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Advisors leading thematic networks compiling knowledge for practice (O.29)</td>
<td>( ✓ )</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Advisors leading on-farm demonstration events (O.29)</td>
<td>✓</td>
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Designing CAP Strategic Plans to improve the structuring of AKIS: Ideas for interventions have been collected in the SWG SCAR AKIS 4 report

#FutureofCAP
CAP AKIS Strategic Plans: potential interventions to strengthen AKIS

(SWG SCAR-AKIS Athens, Tallinn, Dublin)

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,…
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
1.5.5 General remarks about Strategic CAP AKIS plans

- A financial envelope is needed: a certain proportion of the CAP budget should be spent on the various ways of improving the AKIS (strands 1-4 hereafter) to ensure that the issue is taken serious and that the plan is implemented with real actions. For instance "target"/ringfence a dedicated part of CAP funding to knowledge and innovation, e.g. 10%

- We need public knowledge, coherence & the flexibility to make it happen.

- Develop the strategic AKIS plan in a transformative process together with different stake-holders. Beyond researchers, advisors and networks, have also farmers and rural actors participating in the formulation of the plans, as well as the younger generation of researchers (up to 10 years after PhD), they are more transition enthusiastic
1.5.5 General remarks about Strategic CAP AKIS plans

- For the approval of a functioning AKIS plan, different ministries need to coordinate in an AKIS coordination body: sign a collaboration agreement between the institutions involved (gives responsibility and also visibility).

- Adopt a National Partnership Programme of all AKIS' related organisations, promoted and financed by the MS' respective ministries.

- A coordination unit could be made responsible for day-to-day AKIS actions and stakeholder relations and for supporting implementation.

- A specific framework for reporting, evaluation and control practices is needed, see the potential qualitative indicators for the 4 strands of AKIS actions.
1.5.1 Enhancing knowledge flows within the AKIS and strengthen links between research and practice

- Strengthening knowledge flows by **requesting involvement of researchers to the research authorities at high level** (difficult for the Min. of Agr) – *Example 2018 UK*: rewarding academics and researchers for (1) the quality of outputs (e.g. publications, performances, and exhibitions), (2) their impact beyond academia; (3) the environment that supports research.

- **On-farm demonstration** is an excellent tool for informal contacts and knowledge exchange for all actors (farmers, researchers, advisors,…) –peer-to-peer!
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.).

- Create knowledge centres, platforms and digital knowledge reservoirs

- Specific incentives for researchers very much needed: share results easy understandable in dissemination channels for farmers

- Funding: Technical Assistance fund & Art 72 for actions and national funding, re-organisation of tasks within e.g. research bodies.
1.5.1 Enhancing knowledge flows within the AKIS and strengthen links between research and practice

- **National 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, advice and networks (+education, farmers' organization, food cluster, etc.): co-location is cheap, efficient and informal
1.5.2 Strengthening farm advisory services within the AKIS
1.5.2 Strengthening farm advisory services within the AKIS

- 95% still understands advising as linear knowledge "transfer": make clear that advising should also be **listening and interactive**
- **Describe** the term "advisor" in the broad sense of the word
- No public procurement of advisors: there is no real market working
- **Innovation support must** be available: advisors acting as innovation brokers/facilitators, capturing needs and sharing outcomes
- participating in and sharing knowledge from **OG innovative projects**
- advisors' training (specific amount of days obligatory per year), especially on innovative techniques and outcomes of OGs/MAA and soft skills
- Develop **tools for innovation support and advising** (e.g. digital)
1.5.2 Strengthening farm advisory services within the AKIS

- Mobile advisory units and measurement tools
1.5.2 Strengthening farm advisory services within the AKIS

- linking different forms and methods of advisory work (individual advice, group advice, discussion groups, provide training, workshops, demonstration, etc.)
- thematic or cross-cutting events to update advisors' knowledge,
- after the privatization wave, give advisory services again a public role.
- strengthen support from the AKIS for advisors (e.g. back-office)
- cross-visits (learning peer-to-peer from other advisors / abroad)
- freedom for new advisory themes and instruments (e.g. whole value chain approach, bio-based chains, dialogue with society,...)
- spend time with entrepreneurs and researchers: link innovative investments or research facilities to advice (e.g. food pilot...)
1.5.2 Strengthening farm advisory services within the AKIS

- Region/country wide advisory networks for all advisors to share newly generated knowledge e.g. after visits abroad
- Support advisors' internships and placements in experimental research centres and training facilities, in cooperation with international partners
- Dedicated actions to involve private advisors: not only training but other information flows e.g. use of common advisory tools, back-office support for all advisors public and private.
- Support digitization of advisory work: fund establishment and maintenance cost of an IT knowledge platform, containing knowledge reservoirs, to be shared by several advisory bodies even across borders
- Simplify administration and avoid dense control systems, rather manage the quality of advising
1.5.3 Incentivize interactive innovation projects

- Involve education and young people in OGs

- Reflect on a "before" life (platforms where actors regularly meet, funding for preparation) and an "after"-life (connect with other OG/MA projects)

- Design a specific fund for after-project communication of innovative projects

- Ensure sufficient coordination within MS and ensure that learning from each other 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, ...):
New roles for farm advisors in interactive projects

Farm advisors/innovation support services’ 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?
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 needs (Austria)
- Finance OGs on useful digital applications and make them publicly available for free, 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 (e.g. LT, EURAKNOS), and use common standards as much as possible
- Share digital advisory tools, reducing the maintenance cost
2 main instruments for future AKIS:

1. **Innovation support service** – "Innovation hub"

2. **Back-office for advisors** – "knowledge hub"

section 4.2 of the SCAR AKIS 4
Example (LT): An Innovation Support Service combined with Back-office - Lithuanian Advisory Service Department of Innovation

4 specialists: Head of Innovation Support Service; 2 Project Management Specialists; Interpreter. *Specialists of other departments are asked to take part in project activities only when expert knowledge is needed.

Functions:

- collect and store information;
- organize various activities;
- initiate writing of proposals and take part in implementation of projects;
- administer projects;
- find human resources needed for implementation of projects;
- co-ordinate dissemination of the results of innovation projects implemented;
- co-ordinate collaboration among institutions.

E. Wielinga, 2016
Information System of Applied Research Results TITRIS - Free, Bilingual (LT/EN) Information System - Open Access

Information Database of the Backoffice

• It collects, publicizes and compiles data on applied innovation research and innovations in the sector of agriculture in Lithuanian and English.
• Object: non-commercial scientific research and practical innovations that have or might have influence on sustainable agricultural production.
• Administrator: Innovation Support Service.

https://titris.lzukt.lt

Kiekviena detalė svarbi!
Process of Data Submission and Publication in TITRIS

Information is sent by data provider → Information is evaluated by LAAS specialist → Information is reviewed by language editor → Information is published in TITRIS

- An intensive search for information to complete TITRIS database is in progress at the moment.
- All published information is available in a newsletter subscribed (in Lithuanian or English).
The SWG SCAR AKIS4 report will help...


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

Jean Monnet
Father of Europe
12/05/1954
Handover AKIS4 report to Commissioner Hogan on 26 Sep 2019

How can we get farmers & rural communities the information & advice they need to build a modern, innovative & sustainable future? The 4th Agriculture Knowledge & Innovation Systems report is a great place to start! An important moment for the #FutureofCAP europa.eu/my44Tp

Tweet vertalen
CAP Future post 2020 – Key events:

• **26-27 March 2020**: HR presidency high level research event on AKIS: “Bridging between science and practice” (Zagreb)

• **22-23 April 2020**: EIP seminar on CAP Strategic Plans targeting AKIS strategies and interventions (Warsaw)
Building an "EU AKIS"

Speed up creativity and practice application

Better connectivity and quicker circulation of information
Speeding up knowledge exchange and innovation

Thanks for your attention

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