



AGRIRESEARCH CONFERENCE

INNOVATING FOR THE FUTURE OF FARMING & RURAL COMMUNITIES



2-3 MAY 2018 - **BRUSSELS**
(CHARLEMAGNE BUILDING)

#AgriResearchEU **AGENDA**

Agriculture
and Rural
Development

AGRIRESEARCH CONFERENCE

INNOVATING FOR THE FUTURE OF FARMING & RURAL COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 2-3 MAY 2018

CHARLEMAGNE BUILDING

Rue de la Loi 170, 1040 Brussels

Foreword

Dear Participant,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this AgriResearch conference, dedicated to innovation and the key role it will play in shaping the future of farming and rural communities.

In January 2016, we gathered in the same place, after a year of rich dialogue, engaging over 600 stakeholders and experts, to finalise our strategic approach to EU agricultural research and innovation. We had the great honour to welcome Commissioner Carlos Moedas and I am glad that he will be able to join us again this year. He will speak to you about the future of EU research and innovation policy. We have managed research and innovation policy and the Common agricultural policy in close synergy under this period. A lot has been set in motion with concrete results and outcomes coming in and it is therefore of utmost importance that we keep up our efforts in this respect in the upcoming period.

This AgriResearch conference comes five months after the European Commission adopted a Communication on the Future of Food and Farming. It is a blueprint for the future development of the European agricultural sector and places EU agricultural policy at the heart of the delivery of the Juncker priorities. It is a great pleasure for me today to share my vision of how research and innovation, which are prominent in the communication, can fruitfully contribute to the future of EU agriculture and rural communities.

Two years ago, we defined together what we wanted EU agricultural research and innovation to focus on in the long term. Since then, we have been very busy implementing this vision both in the design of the Horizon 2020 calls for projects and in the daily running of the activities of the European Innovation Partnership on agricultural productivity and sustainability (EIP-AGRI). The pieces of the new and innovative framework that we have put in place to enhance and speed up knowledge creation and innovation, using Horizon 2020 and the CAP in a complementary and synergistic way, under the umbrella of the EIP-AGRI, are coming together. We are just starting to see the benefits of this new approach. These include an increase in newcomers from research but also farming sectors participating in projects, stronger links between science and practice communities, better targeting of research to end-users needs, more cooperation at all levels, from local to international, better alignment with policy objectives – be it agricultural, health, environment or digital transformation – and stronger knowledge and innovation systems. I am sure these improvements will yield significant impact on the ground in our farms, value chains and territories.

With Horizon 2020 calls almost fully programmed, activities funded under rural development programmes rapidly upscaling and future EU policies to be soon widely discussed, it is time to take stock of what we have achieved or are expecting to achieve in this 2014-2020 period and kick-start discussions on the way forward.



During the first day of this conference, we will look at the challenges that we are or will be facing, the opportunities that innovation trends bring and our commitment to build a more sustainable society by improving the sustainability and resilience of our farming and food systems and rural communities. We will look at the approach we have taken, and discuss how we can increase our impact in this period and in the next one.

During the second day, we will focus on three major objectives of our long-term strategy, which are to improve resource management, enhance plant, animal and ecosystem health, and ultimately human health, and to improve the well-being of our rural communities. On each of these themes, we will look at what we have achieved or programmed, and assess what is missing or deserves greater attention in the future. We will look at the variety of approaches and instruments that we can use, and discuss how to improve synergies and impact. On that basis, we will discuss how we can pursue our long-term goals in the next cycle of EU policies, how we can further structure and organise our work to deliver more for society, in partnership with public authorities, international partners, primary producers and other businesses, local communities and all those in the innovation ecosystems.

I am confident that these two stimulating days will be inspiring and will generate new ideas on how research and innovation can contribute to the future of food production, farming and rural communities.

This conference is not a stand-alone event. It will build on the outcomes of the 11th OECD Rural development conference “Enhancing rural innovation” organised in partnership with the European Commission on 9-12 April. And it will contribute to the Bulgarian presidency High-level Food 2030 Flagship event in Plovdiv on 13-15 June. I am sure these three events altogether will provide a solid ground on which to build our future food, farming and rural research and innovation activities.

However, the reflection on the future direction of agricultural research will not be concluded at the end of this cycle of conferences. The discussion process will continue to develop during the coming months.

I am delighted that you have joined us and I look forward to your input in the discussions.

Phil Hogan

2 May - From strategy to action

ROOM: DE GASPERI

LANGUAGES: EN, FR, DE, ES, IT, PL, BG

11:00 Opening registration

12:00 – 14:00 Welcome lunch and coffee

The conference will be moderated by **Katrina Sichel**, Wit and word communications

14:00 – 15:00 The key role of agricultural research and innovation in answering global challenges

Introduction by **Katrina Sichel**

Systems approaches: sustainable farming at the interface of land and food systems

Tim Benton, UK Champion for Global food security and Professor of population ecology, Faculty of biological sciences, University of Leeds

Agriculture R&I: a key contribution to the implementation of SDGs

Bruce Campbell, Director of the Research Programme on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), CGIAR

A global perspective on agricultural innovation trends and policies

Carmel Cahill, Deputy Director, Directorate for Trade and Agriculture, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

15:00 – 16:00 High-level policy session: European policies advancing agricultural research and innovation

R&I and CAP in synergy for sustainable farming systems and thriving rural areas

Phil Hogan, European Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development

Raising Europe's ambition in agriculture research and innovation

Czesław Adam Siekierski, Chair of the AGRI committee of the European Parliament

Building synergies between the EU and Member States on agriculture and food research and innovation

Rumen Porodzanov, Minister for agriculture, food and forestry of the Republic of Bulgaria, Chair of the Agriculture and Fisheries Council

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break



16:30 – 18:00 **Creating knowledge to answer societal challenges: EU agricultural and rural research and innovation in the spotlight**

Introductory remarks - Agriculture and rural R&I under Horizon 2020: priorities, approaches and main achievements

Nathalie Sauze-Vandevyver, Director for quality, research and innovation and outreach, DG Agriculture and Rural development, European Commission

How to improve the impact of EU R&I: key recommendations and lessons learnt from the approach taken on agriculture

Mark Ferguson, Director General of the Science Foundation Ireland and member of the High-level group on maximising the impact of EU research and innovation

How do EU R&I activities deliver for society? What needs to be improved? A science-society-policy panel

- **Alfred Grand**, Farmer in Austria
- **Patrick ten Brink**, Director for EU policy, European Environmental Bureau
- **Hayden Montgomery**, Special representative of the Global research alliance on agriculture greenhouse gases
- **Anikó Juhász**, Director general of the Hungarian Research Institute of Agricultural Economics (AKI) and Co-chair of the SCAR AKIS SWG
- **Joao Ribeiro Lima**, Executive Board Member at the National Institute for Agrarian and Veterinary research (INIAV) in Portugal
- **Judit Anda Ugarte**, Regional Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development. Andalusia Regional Government, Spain

18:00 **Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for research and innovation:** The way forward: the future framework programme for research and innovation in post-2020 EU policies

18:20 Concluding remarks & outline of the following day – **Katrina Sichel**

18:30 Networking cocktail & dinner



3 May – Building on achievements to shape the future



08:30 Welcome coffee

09:00 – 15:45 Parallel sessions

Parallel session 1: Smart resource management in farming

ROOM: DE GASPERI

LANGUAGE: EN

09:00 – 12:30 Building on achievements: agricultural and rural R&I activities delivering in the broader context of EU action

Moderator **Fabien Santini**, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission

Rapporteur **Agnes van den Pol**, Wageningen University and Aeres University of applied Sciences

09:00 – 10:30 Activities, achievements and gaps under Horizon 2020

Overview of the portfolio of activities:

Annette Schneegans, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission

Project and achievement examples:

Improving soil and soil functions (LANDMARK)

Francesca Bampa, Wageningen University (WUR)

Delivering solutions for improving agroecosystems and crop efficiency for water and nutrient use (SolACE)

Philippe Hinsinger, French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA)

Building regional value chains from animal genetic resources (TREASURE)

Marjeta Čandek-Potokar, Agricultural Institute of Slovenia

Smart resource management across farming systems – the potential of Internet of Things (IoF 2020)

Cristina Micheloni, Valoritalia-AIAB

Discussion with the audience:

- How well do the activities address the strategy's objectives?
- What requires priority attention in the future?

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 - 12:30

How to maximise synergies between various instruments and approaches?

Flash overview of implementation approaches and of R&I support support under other EU programmes:**Louis Mahy**, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission**Instruments and implementation approaches: examples****Building synergies between Horizon 2020 and EIP-AGRI Operational Groups***The example of the thematic network 'EURODAIRY'***Ray Keatinge**, AHDB Dairy**Building synergies between Horizon 2020, EIP-AGRI focus groups and INTERREG***Examples in the field of nutrients cycling and circular economy (Biorefine)***Erik Meers**, Ghent University**Building international cooperation with key global partners***The example of the EU-African Union Partnership on Food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture***Yemi Akinbamijo**, Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA)**From joint research to integrated European Infrastructures***The example of SMARTCOW***Richard Dewhurst**, Scotland's Rural College**Building capacities for Open Science***The example of AGINFRA+ & E-ROSA***Thodoris Kontogiannis**, Agroknow**Discussion with the audience:**

- Do we have the right set of instruments and approaches to support EU R&I in this field?
- How to best cooperate at the various levels?

12:30 – 14:00

Networking lunch





14:00 – 15:45 Shaping the future: how to best design R&I to support transition towards resilient and sustainable farming systems and rural communities?

Smart resource management in farming:
How to deliver on the challenges of resource scarcity and climate change?

Moderator **Nikolaos Kastrinos**, DG Research and innovation, European Commission
Rapporteur **Agnes van den Pol**, Wageningen University and Aeres University of applied Sciences

Inspirational speeches:

Overall sustainability impact of agricultural production on land and other resources and the link with diets

Elin Roos, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)

Linking analysis of peak-rate years of global resource use with land use, biodiversity and major agricultural production trends

Ralf Seppelt, Department of Computational Landscape ecology, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research

Panel discussion with...

- **Jürgen Vangeyte**, ILVO
- **Iris Bouwers**, CEJA
- **Pavel Horčíčka**, Plant breeding department, SELGEN
- **Mute Schimpf**, Friends of the Earth
- **Joerg Jasper**, Crop nutrition R&D, Yara international

... and the audience on the following questions:

- What are the most important aspects to focus on in future EU R&I activities?
- Which steps need to be taken to design future activities in a participatory manner?

09:00 – 15:45 Parallel sessions**Parallel session 2: Healthy plants, animals and ecosystems for healthy people**

ROOM: JENKINS

LANGUAGE: EN

**09:00 – 12:30 Building on achievements: agricultural and rural R&I activities delivering in the broader context of EU action****Moderator** **Luis Vivas-Alegre**, DG Health and food safety, European Commission**Rapporteur** **Hans Keune**, Belgian Biodiversity platform (INBO), University of Antwerp**09:00 – 10:30 Activities, achievements and gaps under Horizon 2020****Overview of the portfolio of activities:****Eleonora Ganci**, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission**Project and achievement examples:****Delivering practical implementation and solutions for integrated weed management in Europe (IWM PRAISE)****Per Kudsk**, Aarhus University**Strengthening animal production and health through the immune response (SAPHIR)****Isabelle Schwartz**, French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA)**Managing pests and harmful alien species effectively through integrated solutions (EMPHASIS)****Maria Lodovica Gullino**, University of Turin**Promoting One Health in Europe through joint actions on foodborne zoonoses, antimicrobial resistance and emerging microbiological hazards (European Joint Programme co-fund One Health)****André Jestin**, French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety (ANSES)**Discussion with the audience:**

- How well do the activities address the strategy's objectives?
- What requires priority attention in the future?

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break



11:00 – 12:30 How to maximise synergies between various instruments and approaches?

Flash overview of implementation approaches and of R&I support under other EU programmes:

Jean-Charles Cavitte, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission

Instruments and implementation approaches: examples

Boosting dissemination and interactive innovation

The example of the EIP-AGRI thematic network 'WINETWORK'

Fanny Prezman, Institut Français de la Vigne et du Vin

Aligning national R&I programmes

The example of the European Joint Programme «Human biomonitoring» on chemicals in the environment and human health (HBM4EU)

Sofie Norager, DG Research and innovation, European Commission

Building international cooperation with key global partners

The example of the delivery of an effective, resilient and sustainable EU-China Food Safety Partnership (EU CHINA SAFE) within the work of the FAB EU-CHINA taskforce

Paul Breerton, The Queen's University of Belfast

Building international and public-private cooperation

The example of the International Research Consortium on Animal Health (IRC STAR IDAZ) and its secretariat (SIRCAH)

Ariel Pereda, Institute of Pathobiology Argentina - INTA

Completing the European Research Area

The example of the ERA-NET Cofund «CORE Organic» in Organic Food and Farming Systems

Niels Halberg, International Centre for Research in Organic Food Systems

Discussion with the audience:

- Do we have the right set of instruments and approaches to support EU R&I in this field?
- How to best cooperate at the various levels?

12:30 – 14:00 Networking lunch



14:00 – 15:45 Shaping the future: how to best design R&I to support transition towards resilient and sustainable farming systems and rural communities?

Healthy plants, animals and ecosystems for healthy people: how to deliver on societal demands to lower the use of chemicals?

Moderator **Sofie Norager**, DG Research and innovation, European Commission

Rapporteur **Hans Keune**, Belgian Biodiversity platform INBO, University of Antwerp

Inspirational speeches:

Towards zero pesticides

Christian Huyghe, French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA)

Microbial diversity for health

Graham Rook, University College London

Panel discussion with...

- **Marta Hugas**, European Food Safety Authority
- **David Cary**, International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association (IBMA)
- **Eduardo Cuoco**, International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements – European Group (IFOAM-EU)
- **Maurizio Ferri**, Federation of veterinarians of Europe
- **John McNamara**, Irish Agricultural Food and Development Authority (TEAGASC)

... and the audience on the following questions:

- What are the most important aspects to focus on in future EU R&I activities?
- Which steps need to be taken to design future activities in a participatory manner?





09:00 – 15:45 Parallel sessions

Parallel session 3: Attractive, smart and resilient rural communities

ROOM: MANSHOLT

LANGUAGE: EN

09:00 – 12:30 Building on achievements: agricultural and rural R&I activities delivering in the broader context of EU action

Moderator Mike Gregory, European Network for Rural development Contact Point
Rapporteur Hilikka Vihinen, Natural Resources Institute Finland (LUKE)

09:00 – 10:30 Activities, achievements and gaps under Horizon 2020

Overview of the portfolio of activities:

Marc Duponcel, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission

Project and achievement examples:

Advancing the state of the art in evaluating social innovation (SIMRA)

Laura Secco, University of Padova

Enabling local communities to improve the delivery of public goods (PEGASUS)

David Baldock, Institute for European Environmental Policy

Strengthening food value chains through quality policy and public procurement (STRENGTH2FOOD)

Matthew Gorton, University of Newcastle

Improving access to sustainable finance (SUFISA)

Erik Mathijs, Katholic University of Leuven

Discussion with the audience:

- How well do the activities address the strategy's objectives?
- What requires priority attention in the future?

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break



11:00 – 12:30 How to maximise synergies between various instruments and approaches?

Flash overview of implementation approaches and of R&I support under other EU programmes:

Alexia Rouby, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission

Instruments and implementation approaches: examples

Boosting dissemination and interactive innovation

The example of the EIP-AGRI thematic network 'SMART-AKIS' and related operational groups

Spyros Fountas, Agricultural university of Athens

Using INTERREG to enhance innovation support through ERDF

The example of digital service development in rural areas (ERUDITE)

Emilia Stojmenova Duh, University of Ljubljana

Supporting green innovation through LIFE

The example of pilots for rural smart grids (LifeCOOP2020)

Priya Devasirvatham, TRANSFER Consultancy

Building public private cooperation

The example of a BBI JU project on «Agri and food waste valorisation co-ops based on flexible multi-feedstocks bio refinery processing technologies for new high added value applications» (AGRIMAX)

Dieter Brigitta, Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking (EU)

Discussion with the audience:

- Do we have the right set of instruments and approaches to support EU R&I in this field?
- How to best cooperate at the various levels?

12:30 – 14:00 Networking lunch





14:00 – 15:45 Shaping the future: how to best design R&I to support transition towards resilient and sustainable farming systems and rural communities?

Attractive, smart and resilient rural communities: How to deliver on the promise of a better life in rural areas?

Moderator **Mike Gregory**, European Network for Rural development Contact Point

Rapporteur **Hilkka Vihinen**, Natural Resources Institute Finland (LUKE)

Inspirational speeches:

Enhancing rural innovation & rural policy 3.0: which implications for EU rural research and innovation? Feedback on the 11th OECD Rural development conference

Enrique Garcilazo, Head of rural and regional development programme, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Looking ahead at territorial futures for rural and inner areas: the outcomes of ESPON research at a glance

Ilona Raugze, Director of the European Spatial Planning Observatory Network EGTC

Panel discussion with...

- **Kirsten Birke Lund**, European LEADER Association for Rural Development
- **Kevin O'Connor**, University College Dublin
- **Cynthia Lynn Giagnocavo**, University of Almeria
- **Adrien Guichaoua**, Association for agricultural technical coordination (ACTA), co-chair of the SCAR-AKIS strategic working group
- **Barna Kovacs**, Central and Eastern European initiative for knowledge-based agriculture, aquaculture and forestry in the bioeconomy (BIO-EAST)

... and the audience on the following questions:

- What are the most important aspects to focus on in future EU R&I activities?
- Which steps need to be taken to design future activities in a participatory manner?

15:45 – 16:15 Coffee break

16:15 – 17:45 Plenary - Reporting and wrap-up: designing the path towards future EU research and innovation policies

ROOM: DE GASPERI

LANGUAGE: EN

Introduction by Katrina Sichel

Inspirational speech

R&I looking ahead towards more resilient and diverse farming systems

Janez Potočnik, Co-chair of the International Resource Panel, Chair of the Forum for the Future of Agriculture, Member of the European Commission Multi-stakeholder platform on SDGs

Flash reports on outcomes of the discussions in the three parallel sessions:

- **Agnes van den Pol**, Wageningen University and Aeres University of applied sciences
- **Hans Keune**, Belgian Biodiversity platform (INBO), University of Antwerp
- **Hilkka Vihinen**, Natural Resources Institute Finland (LUKE)

Final panel discussion: which concrete steps do we take and which roles for the different actors involved?

- **Maira Dzelzkaleja**, COPA-COGECA and Vice President of the Latvian Farmers Parliament, Zemnieku Saeima (ZSA)
- **Inger Pehrson**, Swedish National Rural Network and Permanent Subgroup on Innovation for agricultural productivity and sustainability
- **Philippe Vinçon**, Director General for Education and Research, French Ministry of agriculture and food
- **Stefan Lange**, Research Director of Thünen Institute

17:45 – 18:00 Closure

Conclusions and next steps towards participatory programming

Maria-Angeles Benitez-Salas, European Commission, Deputy Director-General at DG Agriculture and rural development

