



The European Innovation Partnership (EIP) „Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability“ Speeding up innovation



Cross-fertilisation event multi-actor projects – Brussels – 8 March 2018

Inge Van Oost & Fabio Cossu– EU Commission DG AGRI - R&I unit

(afternoon)

5. Practice abstracts and the EIP common format



Funding for interactive innovation projects

Rural Development

(regional/national level)

- Funding for setting up of an **“Operational Group” (OG)** : farmers, advisors, agribusiness, researchers, NGOs, etc) planning an innovation project (Art 35)
- **Project funding** for the **Operational Group’s project** (Art 35).
- Supporting innovation support services



eip-agri
AGRICULTURE INNOVATION

EIP networks
MS/regions

Unique EU
repository of
contacts and
practice
abstracts

Health and
Consumers

Horizon 2020

(European projects)

- **Research projects**, to provide the knowledge base for innovative actions
- **Interactive** innovation formats: **multi-actor projects and thematic networks** genuinely involving farmers, advisors, enterprises, etc.... **“all along the project”**

Involvement of OGs is strongly recommended

Why was the EIP common format built? What purposes does it serve?

- **'Practice abstracts'**: to facilitate contact and share information in the EU agricultural knowledge and innovation systems (AKIS), so between OGs, MA projects and Thematic networks + farmers, advisors etc (also for partner search)
- **Concise, easy to understand terminology**: to be **attractive** for those who will put it into practice (farmers, advisors, enterprises etc)
- It will contribute to the **visibility and rewarding of researchers' work** in practice-oriented interactive innovation projects (e.g. thematic networks, multi-actor projects, rural development operational groups, etc)
- The unique EU repository of practice abstracts on the EIP website may help **measuring impact** of research on practice, similar to the research abstracts in peer reviewed journals.

CONTENT: What info is to be shared through the EIP common format for practitioners?

- Short and easily understandable **title** (one key sentence, max 150 char.)
- Short **summaries** in easily understandable language (max 1500 char.) = **'practice abstracts'**:
 - What problem will the knowledge generated solve for the end-user? What will be the main benefits to the practitioner?
 - Main outcome/recommendation (2-3 main results)
- **Contact data:** Project coordinator (+ address, e-mail, telephone), text editor, project partners (+ address, e-mail, telephone), geographical location, project period, funding source & budget, link to project website and to a **website where info stays long-term available**

Guidance for drafting practice abstracts (1)

Choose the right topics. The items chosen need to be assessed against their potential to bring concrete recommendations and useful results for practice (i.e. information / tools that practitioners can **immediately use**).

Consider the right level. It is much more useful to go at a deeper level (e.g. work packages or below) rather than to try to summarise the project itself to **find practice-relevant information**

Focus on useable results. The main scope is to focus on results, outcomes and recommendations that can 'be used' and move the practitioner to action. **Avoid describing project activities** since these are of no further use for the reader at the time he/she is reading it.

Guidance for drafting practice abstracts (2)

'Recycle' already available information from your project.

Take advantage and use appropriately relevant information that exists already. Sometimes short, concise and ready-to use information is already available for the target audience on your website or in reported deliverables.

Use of language. It is key to **put yourself in the place of the reader** (end-user) when writing. What do they want to read about? **What would practitioners find useful?** Would a farmer, forester etc. disengage when reading this sentence? Etc.

For instance: Sentences like these should be avoided: "Tests have shown that an IPM approach can result in lower yields with high environmental benefits". Even if factually true, this information is not appealing for practitioners and could even put them off. A suggestion is to try to work around negative messages to draw the reader's interest. For instance, if lower yields are involved, try to explain why taking up a certain practice is still important and work around the negative element (e.g. 'the dexipm tool can help farmers to find the solutions that have the lowest impact on yields while having a similar reduction of the use of pesticides')

An example of a practice abstract from Fertinnowa

Application of zeolite to reduce nitrates concentration in growing media and soil

Areas like the Albenga plain in Liguria Region (Italy) are classified as “areas vulnerable to nitrates” and are under specific legislation to limit nitrate contamination of superficial and deep water bodies.

The addition of zeolite to the source of nitrogen can improve the nitrogen use efficiency and reduce the environmental impact caused by nitrates leaching. Thanks to the specific atomic structure of clinoptilolite (a kind of zeolite) nitrifying bacteria are stopped from entering the tiny pores of the clinoptilolite. The ammonium is held internally on the cation-exchange sites and is not likely to be leached out easily as water passes through. As a consequence, nitrification and thus nitrate leaching is reduced. Secondly, zeolites improve nitrogen use efficiency because they act as a medium that slowly releases fertilisers.

Trials in the Albenga area have demonstrated that the addition of zeolite to the soil substrate both in open field (vegetables) and in greenhouse (ornamentals) lead to a reduction of nitrates concentration in the substrate.

For the best result, add clinoptilolite at a rate of 3% weight/weight when preparing the substrate for crop cultivation:

- for potted plants: mixed in the peat based substrate (normally added with slow release fertiliser);
- for open field cultivation: mixed in the first 20-30 cm of soil through tillage.

An example of a practice abstract from Winetwork

Trunk cleaning to fight against Grapevine Trunk Diseases

Grapevine trunk diseases (GTD) are extremely destructive diseases affecting vineyards worldwide. Effective treatments were unknown until very recently.

The “curettage” method is an effective way to clean the trunk of the vine and reduce impact of the GTD. Trunk cleaning is only effective to fight two GTDs, Esca and Botryosphearria dieback. The more superficial the symptoms are, the more efficient is the technique. The operation needs to be done with a small chainsaw.

Trunk cleaning consists in digging in the trunk to remove grapevine diseased parts. It should take place as soon as first symptoms of GTD appear. This usually happens between June and September and becomes visible as the leaves are drying out. The affected parts are often located close to dead wood zones and below big pruning wounds. They can be identified by their sponge-like texture producing toxins (white rot).

The method: First, open the trunk where dead wood has been detected: do not hesitate to open the trunk widely and take off the dead wood. Then, detect diseased parts, recognizable by their spongy form which is secreting toxins (white rot). There infected tissues need to be removed by scraping, using the side of the chainsaw in the grapevine axe and taking care to not cut sap flow. Do not hesitate to well clean out the wood in order to suppress all diseased wood.

If used in June, this method can save a whole harvest and reduce further spread of the disease.

If the symptoms of the disease appear again, it is possible to carry out a second curettage even during the same year.

Submitting project information and
practice abstracts:
The EIP common format template

The EIP Common format template in a nutshell

- Helps all H2020 consortium and work-package leaders to **collect the required information from projects** to facilitate contacts and knowledge exchange
- Aims at disseminate output and results of the project "**ready and relevant for practice**" (not a scientific paper), in a concise and easy understandable way to practitioners
- Comes in an **Excel sheet with instructions and guidance**
- **Must be delivered to:** AGRI-EIP-PRACTICE-ABSTRACTS@ec.europa.eu
CC to REA and AGRI officers
- **Only one Excel file per project** (**unique ID number**), allows for 100 Practice Abstracts.
- **Always use the same file with the unique ID**, and update it at any time

<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/content/eip-agri-common-format>

When use your Common format Excel file?

- **At any moment when useful or needed**, all along the life-cycle of the project, at least at the beginning and the end (= results, deliverables) + at midterm (review).
- **Enable visibility of your project and connections** between OGs and MA projects as soon as possible. Important to produce practice abstracts **as from the beginning of the project**. It is also a way of announcing the project (communication on the objectives and the partners).
- Later you **update the (same!) Excel file** as soon as more info becomes available. The mailbox sends it to the EIP website
- At the review meeting: discuss the quality of the practice abstracts produced

Instructions for the completion and submission of the 'EIP-AGRI common format' (Nov 2017)

This section provides information on how to use and complete the 'EIP-AGRI common format' Excel template. For general information and requirements on the common format, please refer to the official EC guidelines (see first sheet of this Excel document).

Note for Horizon 2020 project coordinators : please submit only one Excel file per project, including for following updates. In case of updates, ensure that you use the same project ID (see further below). Please send your completed Excel file to the following email address: AGRI-EIP-PRACTICE-ABSTRACTS@ec.europa.eu including your Project officer (REA) and Policy officer (DG AGRI) in copy of the message.

All obligatory, recommended and optional elements requested in the official guidelines can be recorded through this template.

The template is composed of different sections. Here below you can find a correlation table indicating which information required by the official guidelines is to be provided under each section of the Excel template. Under the section '**IDENTIFICATION**' you are asked to indicate whether the information refers to a **multi-actor project** or a **thematic network**.

Required information (in the sequence as foreseen in the official RD guidelines on the EIP-AGRI common format)	Section of the Excel template	Type of information
Title (native language)	PROJECT INFORMATION	Obligatory
Title (in English)	PROJECT INFORMATION	Obligatory
Editor	PROJECT INFORMATION	Obligatory
Project coordinator	PROJECT INFORMATION	Obligatory
Project partners	PARTNERS	Obligatory
Keyword-category	KEYWORDS	Obligatory
Project period	PROJECT INFORMATION	Obligatory
Project status	PROJECT INFORMATION	Obligatory
Funding source	PROJECT INFORMATION	Obligatory
Total budget	PROJECT INFORMATION	Obligatory
Main geographical location (NUTS3)	PROJECT INFORMATION	Obligatory

**EIP COMMON
FORMAT
(Excel template)**

... with instructions

Common format template in Excel:

easy to share and best to draft together (scientist + practitioner)

	A	B	C	D	E	G	H
1	Project Information						
2							
3	Project identifier (see INSTRUCTIONS)						
4							
5	Title of the project in native language <i>(can be the language of the coordinator / one of the partners - otherwise repeat the title in English)</i>						
6							
7	Title of the project in English <i>(provide the project ACRONYM + short title within the characters limit)</i>						
8							
9	Geographical location						
10	Country <i>(of the coordinator)</i>						
11							
12	Main geographical location (NUTS3) <i>(of coordinator - for geolocalisation on map)</i>						
13							
14							
15							
16	Editor of the text: person/organisation responsible for delivering the text						
17							
18	Project coordinator (lead-partner) according to the cooperation/consortium agreement:						
19	Name						
20	Address						
21	E-mail						
22	Telephone						
23							
24	Project period:						
25	start year (YYYY)						
26	end year (YYYY)						
27							
28	Project status: ongoing (after selection of the project) <u>or</u> completed (after final payment)						
29							
30	Main funding source (Rural development programme, H2020, or other EU, national/regional or private funds)	H2020					
31							

[YYYY]H2020_[PROJECT ID NUMBER]_[PROJECT ACRONYM]
 where:
 YYYY = Start year of the project

Examples:
 2015H2020_652642_AGRISPIN
 2015H2020_652601_WINETWORK
 2016H2020_678024_Strength2Food
 Etc.

It is of key importance that each Excel file (= each project) includes an unique ID number. This is particularly relevant in case of **further updates**.

Detailed instructions for completing the different sections

Practice abstracts on the EIP website:
Where to find them?
What they look like?

Main access to the EIP project database

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European Commission > EIP-AGRI > Meeting point > Projects

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Projects

 Subscribe to this search**Title****Keywords****Main funding source****Geographical location****Agricultural sectors****Partners categories****Language****Fulltext search****Published on****Title****Project type**

Mon,
22/01/2018

[EUFRUIT: Europæisk Frugt Netværk](#)

Research project [view](#)

Mon,

[AgriSpin - Space for Agricultural innovation](#)

Research [view](#)



European

Search

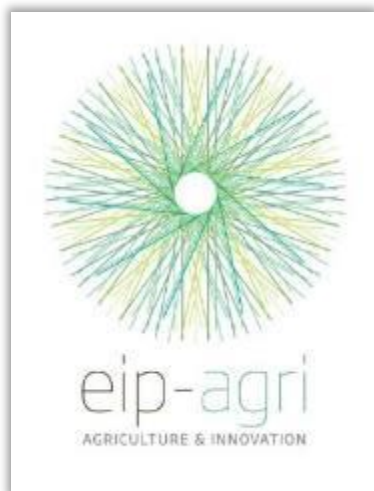
Search
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Online

Search

EIP AGRI Project database



Description of activities (in English):

PLAID will collaborate with its sister project AgriDemo, to create on-line resources including an inventory of demonstration activities in the EU 28, Switzerland, Serbia and Norway. The inventory will be stored in the FarmDemo hub, which will be linked to a georeferenced searchable map. PLAID will use case studies to follow demonstration activities from conception to impact assessment, leading to identification of best practices and innovative approaches. Additionally PLAID will develop 'virtual' (on-line) demonstration approaches with commercial farmers. The project findings will be integrated to produce overall recommendations, best practice guidelines and tools for target audiences.

Project coordinator

Name: Lee-Ann Sutherland

Address: The James Hutton Institute, Craigiebuckler, Aberdeen AB158QH

Email: Lee-Ann.Sutherland@hutton.ac.uk

Telephone: +44 1224 395285

Further details

Links to other website(s):

[FarmDemo](#)

Audiovisual material:

- [Short video presenting the PLAID project](#)
- [PLAID at Cereals in Practice](#)
- [Presentation Genvee](#)
- [Report on PLAID at the Bioveld Da](#)
- [Oz robot for weeding](#)
- [Robot for slug control](#)
- [Cultivator for weed control](#)

Description of the context of the project:

The proposal is a response to the RUR-11-2016 call "On-farm demonstration: deepening farmer-to-farmer learning mechanisms", which responds to the challenge of "improving the sustainability of European farming systems and facilitating their transition". The call specifically identifies the disconnection between innovative research and up-take by farmers, and the problem of communicating tacit knowledge beyond its local origin. PLAID will enable researchers to communicate more effectively with a wide range of farmers by working with researchers, farmers, advisors and other stakeholders to co-develop best practice guidelines and indicators. These will be made easily accessible through targeted decision-support tools. PLAID will also enable the communication of tacit knowledge between European regions through the development of virtual (on-line) demonstration activities on commercial farms, targeted training for case study participants, and an ambitious dissemination plan. A key challenge in responding to the call will be to identify and unravel the diverse approaches to demonstration across Europe, and assess their utility. The proposed method is a progression of the approach adopted in the successful PRO AKIS FP7 project, in which an inventory of agricultural advisory services in the then EU 27 was undertaken. <http://www.plaid-h2020.eu/> <http://farmdemo.eu> [Unique EU repository
of contacts and practice
abstracts](http://www.plaid-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Where to find information on H2020 MAP and practice abstracts?



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[Online resources](#)

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New feed, frost damage & reducing waste: call for three new Focus Groups!

Apply for 3 new EIP-AGRI Focus Groups before 3 April 2018

[Read more](#)

Agriculture Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) is a concept describing how people and organisations join together to promote mutual learning, to generate, share, and use agriculture-related knowledge and information. This...

[Read more](#)

(1)
From the Homepage:
Meeting Point
main access of the EIP
projects database and
practice abstracts

 [FEATURE NEWS](#)



Where to find information on H2020 MAP and practice abstracts?

The screenshot shows the EIP-AGRI website interface. At the top left is the EIP-AGRI logo with the tagline 'AGRICULTURE & INNOVATION'. The top right contains links for 'Legal notice', 'Cookies', 'Contact on Europa', and 'My Account'. A navigation bar below the logo includes 'HOME', 'ABOUT', 'MY EIP-AGRI', 'SHARE', and 'MEETING POINTS'. The 'MY EIP-AGRI' link is highlighted with a red box. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb trail reads 'European Commission > EIP-AGRI > My EIP-AGRI'. A sidebar on the left lists 'My EIP-AGRI', 'Operational Groups', 'Thematic Networks', and 'Multi-Actor Projects', with 'Thematic Networks' highlighted by a red box. A red arrow points from the bottom left towards the 'Thematic Networks' link. The main content area features a large image of hands holding soil with a seedling, and a callout box with the text: '(2) From the Homepage: MY EIP-AGRI dedicated area for Multi-Actor projects & Thematic networks'. Below this is a section titled 'My EIP-AGRI' with a sub-section 'Thematic Networks' containing a glowing lightbulb image and a text box explaining that thematic networks are multi-actor projects that collect knowledge and best practices. At the bottom, a 'Welcome to My EIP-AGRI' section states: 'This is an on-line resource developed to support your information/guidance needs. Simply select the type of project you are involved'.

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SHARING KNOWLEDGE - CONNECTING PEOPLE - TACKLING CHALLENGES

(2)
From the Homepage:
MY EIP-AGRI
dedicated area for
Multi-Actor projects &
Thematic networks

European Commission > EIP-AGRI > My EIP-AGRI

My EIP-AGRI
Operational Groups
Thematic Networks
Multi-Actor Projects

My EIP-AGRI

Thematic Networks

Thematic networks are multi-actor projects which collect existing knowledge and best practices on a given theme to make it available in easily understandable formats for end-users such as farmers, foresters, and advisors. All Thematic Network information available here.

Welcome to My EIP-AGRI

This is an on-line resource developed to support your information/guidance needs. Simply select the type of project you are involved

Dedicated area for H2020 MA projects & Thematic Networks

Your single entry point to:

Relevant documents and publications

European Commission > EIP-AGRI > My EIP-AGRI > Multi-Actor Projects

Multi-Actor Projects



Tools for environmental farm performance
Read the final report from the EIP-AGRI workshop on 'Tools for environmental farm performance' [Read more](#)

REGISTER OR LOGIN TO "EIP-AGRI" 

ASK A QUESTION OR PROVIDE FEEDBACK 

Relevant documents

- BROCHURE EIP-AGRI Brochure Operational Groups Update 2016 [Read more](#)
- BROCHURE EIP-AGRI Brochure on Funding [Read more](#)

Latest News

FEATURE NEWS [READ ALL NEWS](#)

Latest projects


- EUROPEAN UNION - 04 SEPTEMBER 2017
Resource Preservation by Application of BIOefFECToRS in European Crop Production [Read more](#)
- EUROPEAN UNION - 30 AUGUST 2017
XF-FACTORS "Xylella Fastidiosa Active Containment Through a multidisciplinary-Oriented Research." [Read more](#)

Key questions & information


- EIP-AGRI Concept [Read more](#)
- Links to existing Operational Groups [Read more](#)
- EIP-AGRI Operational Groups – basic principles [Read more](#)
- EIP-AGRI networking [Read more](#)


European Commission > EIP-AGRI > My EIP-AGRI > Thematic Networks

Thematic Networks



Inspirational ideas: Concrete solutions for sustainability and animal welfare
A number of companies are working on improving existing building solutions to reduce emissions and improve animal welfare [Read more](#)

REGISTER OR LOGIN TO "EIP-AGRI" 

ASK A QUESTION OR PROVIDE FEEDBACK 

Relevant documents

- BROCHURE EIP-AGRI Brochure Operational Groups Update 2016 [Read more](#)
- BROCHURE EIP-AGRI Brochure on Funding opportunities under Horizon 2020 - 2017 Calls [Read more](#)
- BROCHURE EIP-AGRI Brochure on Thematic Networks under Horizon 2020 [Read more](#)
- BROCHURE EIP-AGRI Brochure on Participatory approaches for agricultural innovation [Read more](#)

VIEW MORE

Latest projects

- EUROPEAN UNION - 04 SEPTEMBER 2017
Resource Preservation by Application of BIOefFECToRS in European Crop Production [Read more](#)
- EUROPEAN UNION - 30 AUGUST 2017
XF-FACTORS "Xylella Fastidiosa Active Containment Through a multidisciplinary-Oriented Research." [Read more](#)
- AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, BULGARIA, DENMARK, FRANCE, GERMANY, GREECE, HUNGARY, ITALY, LATVIA, NETHERLANDS, POLAND, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA, SPAIN, UNITED KINGDOM, WORLD WIDE - 07 JULY 2017
Pooling funding streams to boost interactive innovation [Read more](#)

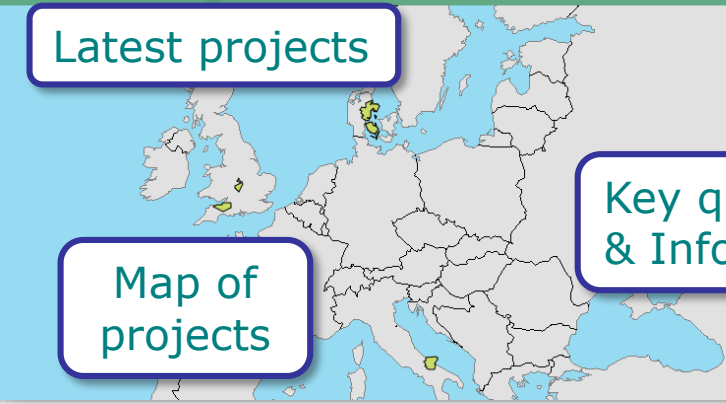
Key questions & information

- EIP-AGRI Concept [Read more](#)
- Links to existing Operational Groups [Read more](#)
- EIP-AGRI Operational Groups – basic principles [Read more](#)
- EIP-AGRI networking [Read more](#)
- Links to other policies [Read more](#)
- EIP-AGRI common format [Read more](#)

Key questions & Information

Discover "Thematic Network" Projects

Latest projects



Map of projects

Quick access to the complete list of running H2020 MA projects



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SHARING KNOWLEDGE - CONNECTING PEOPLE - TACKLING CHALLENGES



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PUBLICATIONS

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About

Europe 2020 strategy

EIP-AGRI multiplier tool-kit

Funding streams

Subgroup on Innovation

EIP-AGRI Service Point

Horizon 2020

Thematic networks

Multi-actor projects

Growing protein crops to optimise livestock farms' profits

Operational Group SOS Protein-TERUnic in the west of France is increasing the protein in their animal feed, while remaining profitable

[Read more](#)

REGISTER OR LOGIN TO "EIP-AGRI" 

ASK A QUESTION OR PROVIDE FEEDBACK 

LATEST NEWS & EVENTS

Call for abstracts on agro-biodiversity – deadline 15 September

The deadline for submitting an abstract for the workshop "Experiences of agro-biodiversity valorisation in Europe" has been extended to 15 Sep

[Read more](#)

← FEATURE NEWS



6. EIP-AGRI Network for your communication, dissemination and outreach



European Commission

The EIP-AGRI website

The screenshot shows the EIP-AGRI website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Legal notice', 'Cookies', 'Contact on Europa', and 'My Account'. Below this is a banner image of hands holding a seedling, with the text 'SHARING KNOWLEDGE - CONNECTING PEOPLE - TACKLING CHALLENGES'. The main content area features a featured article titled 'Inspirational ideas: Organic and "conventional" farmers joining forces for innovation', a 'REGISTER OR LOGIN TO "EIP-AGRI"' button, and a 'LATEST NEWS & EVENTS' section. A sidebar on the left contains a 'FEATURE NEWS' section and a 'POLL' section asking 'How frequently do you visit our website?'. At the bottom, there is a 'LATEST TWEETS' section with several tweets related to EIP-AGRI projects.

THE ONE-STOP-SHOP FOR AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION IN EUROPE



SHARE WITH US information about you, your projects and projects ideas, research needs, etc.



SEARCH AND FIND funding opportunities, partners, interesting projects... on EIP-AGRI Meeting Point



FOCUS ON practical innovative solutions to problems and opportunities provided in the EIP-AGRI Focus Group chapter



DEEPEN YOUR KNOWLEDGE by different EIP-AGRI related publications in our library

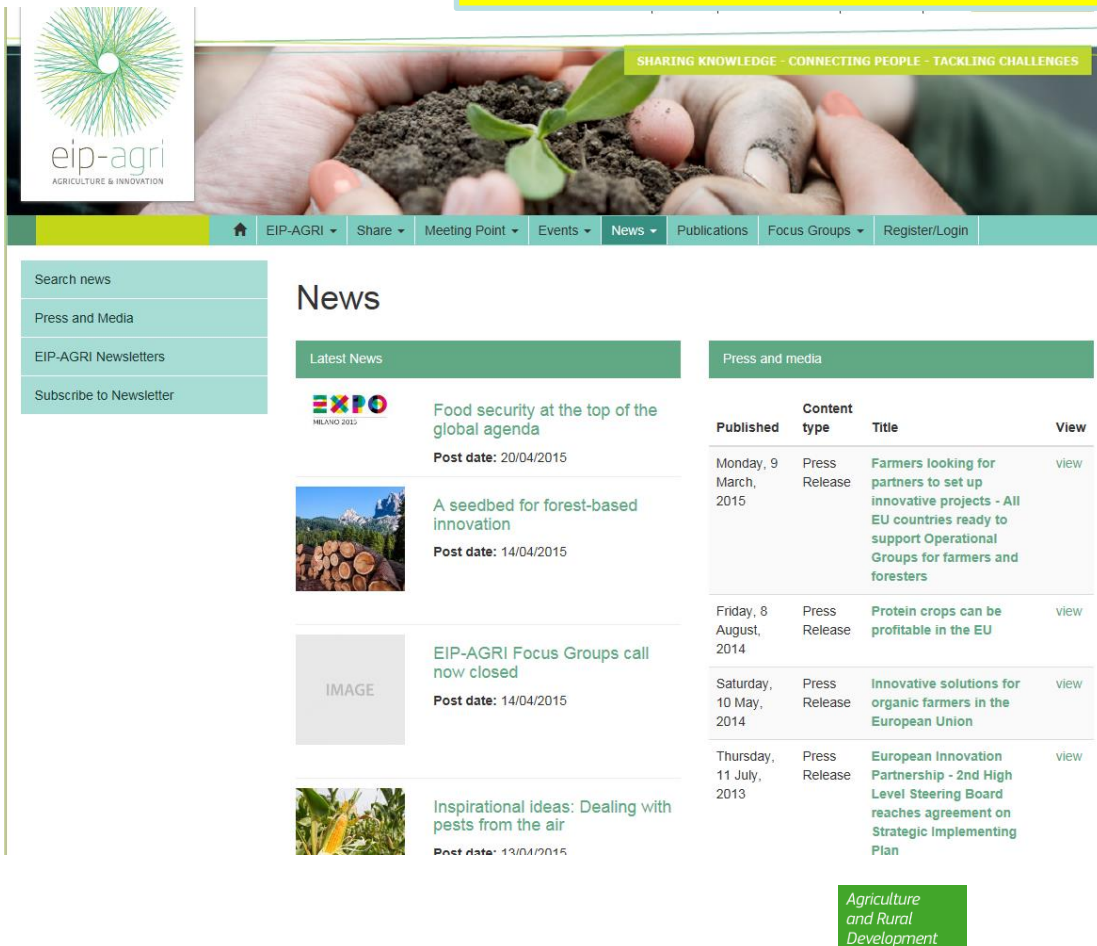


STAY UP TO DATE on innovation related agricultural topics and read about the latest EIP-AGRI news and events

<http://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture>

Tell people about your news

Announce your project in the EIP newsletter to get into contact



SHARING KNOWLEDGE - CONNECTING PEOPLE - TACKLING CHALLENGES


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News

Latest News

 Food security at the top of the global agenda
Post date: 20/04/2015

 A seedbed for forest-based innovation
Post date: 14/04/2015

 EIP-AGRI Focus Groups call now closed
Post date: 14/04/2015

 Inspirational ideas: Dealing with pests from the air
Post date: 13/04/2015

Press and media

Published	Content type	Title	View
Monday, 9 March, 2015	Press Release	Farmers looking for partners to set up innovative projects - All EU countries ready to support Operational Groups for farmers and foresters	view
Friday, 8 August, 2014	Press Release	Protein crops can be profitable in the EU	view
Saturday, 10 May, 2014	Press Release	Innovative solutions for organic farmers in the European Union	view
Thursday, 11 July, 2013	Press Release	European Innovation Partnership - 2nd High Level Steering Board reaches agreement on Strategic Implementing Plan	view

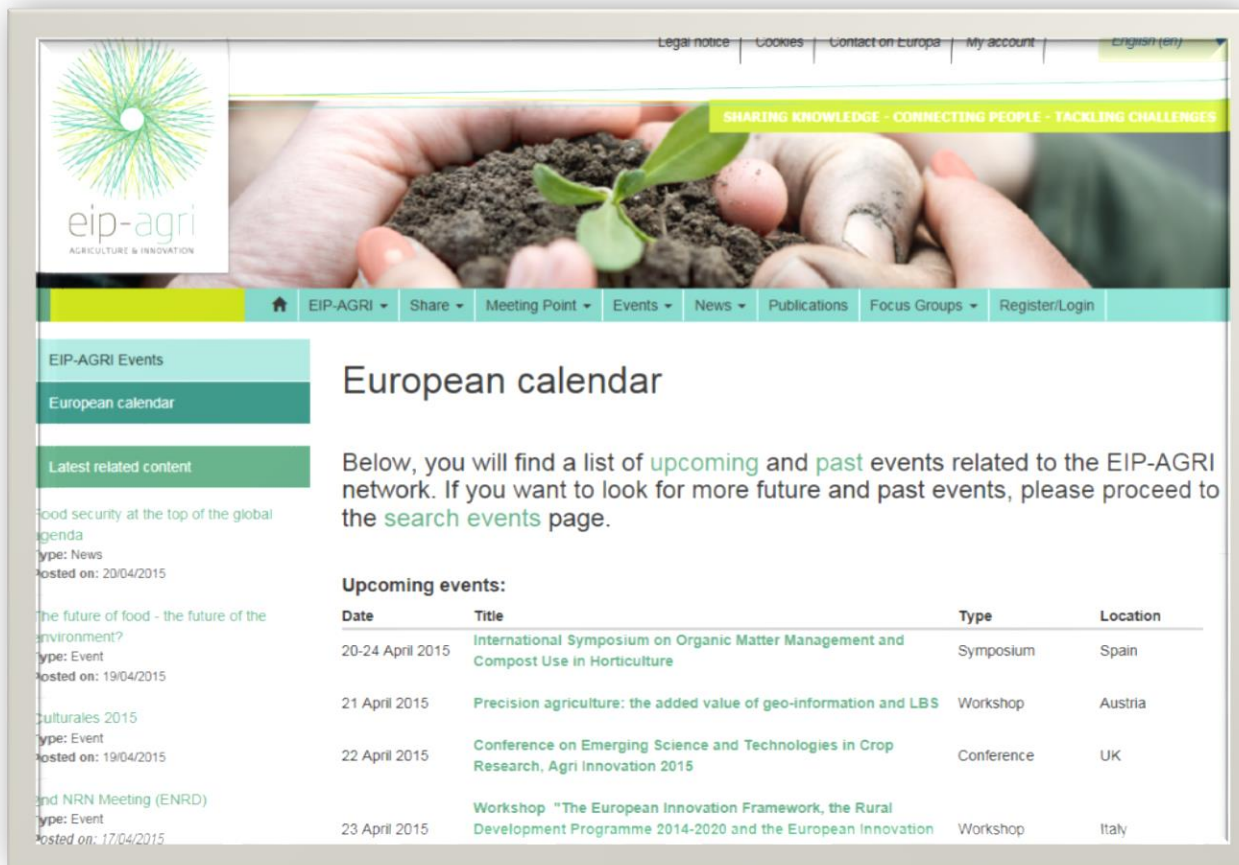
Agriculture and Rural Development

Propose news and stories to include in:

- **Website news section**
- **Monthly newsletter**
- **Social media posts**
- **EIP magazine**
- **Factsheets and brochures...**

Promote your events

European agriculture innovation calendar



The screenshot shows the EIP-AGRI website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Legal notice', 'Cookies', 'Contact on Europa', 'My account', and 'English (en)'. Below this is a banner image of hands holding a small plant in soil, with the text 'SHARING KNOWLEDGE - CONNECTING PEOPLE - TACKLING CHALLENGES'. The main navigation bar includes 'EIP-AGRI', 'Share', 'Meeting Point', 'Events', 'News', 'Publications', 'Focus Groups', and 'Register/Login'. The left sidebar contains 'EIP-AGRI Events', 'European calendar', and 'Latest related content'. The main content area is titled 'European calendar' and includes a paragraph: 'Below, you will find a list of **upcoming** and **past** events related to the EIP-AGRI network. If you want to look for more future and past events, please proceed to the **search events** page.'

Upcoming events:

Date	Title	Type	Location
20-24 April 2015	International Symposium on Organic Matter Management and Compost Use in Horticulture	Symposium	Spain
21 April 2015	Precision agriculture: the added value of geo-information and LBS	Workshop	Austria
22 April 2015	Conference on Emerging Science and Technologies in Crop Research, Agri Innovation 2015	Conference	UK
23 April 2015	Workshop "The European Innovation Framework, the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 and the European Innovation	Workshop	Italy

Share your publications and results on-line and at maybe at EIP events



B More than the sum of its parts: PLATFORM

An article by Dr. Christine Buntford

This year many of Europe's funders of bioeconomy research met in the Bioeconomy museum, Leiden (NL), to discuss how to effectively pool funding and knowledge for these fields of research that are essential to innovation in the agri-, food and forestry sectors. The PLATFORM project held its virtual workshop in this context, all building upon knowledge previously shared in the 2PM century. It is now the benchmark national research of science and medicine, where the history of life sciences is presented to school children, tourists and anyone else, linking it to current reality.

The participants in the PLATFORM project are ERA-NETs, European Research Area Networks, and Joint Programming Initiatives, or JPIs, in both ERA-NETs and JPIs. EU Member States coordinate, and sometimes pool National Research Funding, to allow researchers across Europe to work together on solving problems and creating knowledge for an innovative and competitive EU economy.

EIP-AGRI in their own approach, to ensure that the research results would be put to use. They also considered that the EIP-AGRI network would be very useful in promoting research results and in identifying research needs from practice for their future calls.



The PLATFORM project invited the EIP-AGRI service point to co-organise one of the workshop sessions, to explore potential synergies and collaboration between the ERA-NETs, JPIs and the EIP-AGRI. The participants were very interested in the EIP-AGRI, and explored how they could bring the respective innovation model advocated by the

Looking for inspiration?

Farmer across Europe have experimented on their farms for centuries. Testing out new, innovative ideas and methods. Inspiration can be drawn from these experiences. Sharing what has been found will help the organic sector to continue to flourish. Combining systems and setting up joint initiatives which involve farmers, advisors, researchers, local companies and authorities have proven to be an essential way to compensate for the lack of knowledge and experience sharing between organic farmers. When they are given the opportunity to look for solutions outside of the box, innovation often comes about as a result. Here we have some more interesting outcomes discovered by real stories.

Fine-tuning of composting techniques

WASTE NOT, WANT NOT FINLAND

Carbon and nutrient management with industrial by-products

Representatives from the pulp and paper industry, the farmer and researchers developed the solution together. "It is important that industrial producers do not contain chemicals that are dangerous later on in the chain", says Aina Sevelä, Forest Group expert Farmer, researcher and entrepreneur Juuso Joensuu, who initiated the project. "We saw a significant improvement in the soil quality. This technique gives value to waste products and contributes to putting the carbon back where it belongs!" - Juuso Joensuu, project initiator

In Finland, a solution has been developed to use by-products from the pulp and paper industry as compost in organic farming to manage carbon and nutrients in the soil. Adding slowly decomposable wood fibres to it can help restore exhausted soils, add water and nutrient holding capacity and improve microbiological activity. Putting waste from industry to good use is also a great environmental benefit.

More information?
<https://www.eip-agri.eu/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Finland-Case-Study.pdf>

Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions – grants for the mobility of research staff

Horizon 2020: Find out funding possibilities for innovations in agriculture and forestry

The updated EIP-AGRI factbook on Horizon 2020 presents the 2015 programme with a particular focus on the current call and the topics which are the most interesting for innovation in agriculture and forestry. Download the fact sheet here.

A smart way to irrigate crops – and save water

EIP-AGRI researchers have developed a smart irrigation system that calculates the exact amount of water that needs to be used. The technology allows farmers to save time, staff and water and achieve the best yields possible – drop by drop. Read more

Find more success stories on www.eip-agri.eu

Looking for partners to start a project with Horizon 2020 funding?

The new EIP-AGRI website has a "Horizon Partner" where you can search for interesting projects, people and projects that are interested in Horizon 2020 or agriculture or forestry. This is a great starting point for you to find partners and build your research team together. You can also register and expand your innovation flow.


EIP-AGRI Labelle group called "Future Search Horizon 2020: Food security, sustainable agriculture, forestry and bio-economy" has more than 100 members and could also help you search for the right partner for your project.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Are you looking for funding to test your innovative ideas?


In addition to the Horizon 2020 calls and the Rural Development Funding, there are several other opportunities. A new EIP-AGRI fact sheet takes a closer look at some of these funding opportunities.

- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- Cooperating National Regions through INTERREG
- LEADER
- LEADER+
- LEADER+ by Young Entrepreneurs (YE) – Erasmus+
- European Investment Fund
- ERDF



Innovative Solutions for Organic Farmers in the EU

Optimising Arable Yields



European Commission

Interested?

Contact: servicepoint@eip-agri.eu