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

Agriculture and Rural Development

European Commission

(afternoon)

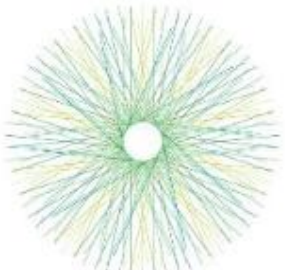
5. Practice abstracts and the EIP common format

Agriculture and Rural Development

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 networks MS/regions

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, entreprises, etc…. "**all along the project**"

Unique EU repository of contacts and practice abstracts

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 Botryosphearia 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.

European Commission

Submitting project information and practice abstracts:

The EIP common format template

Agriculture and Rural Development

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 (*can be the language of the coordinator / one of the partners - otherwise repeat the title in English*)						
6							
7	**Title** of the project in English (*provide the project ACRONYM + short title within the characters limit*)						
8							
9	**Geographical location**						
10	Country (*of the coordinator*)						
11							
12	Main geographical location (NUTS3) (of coordinator - *for geolocalisation on map*)						
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) or 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

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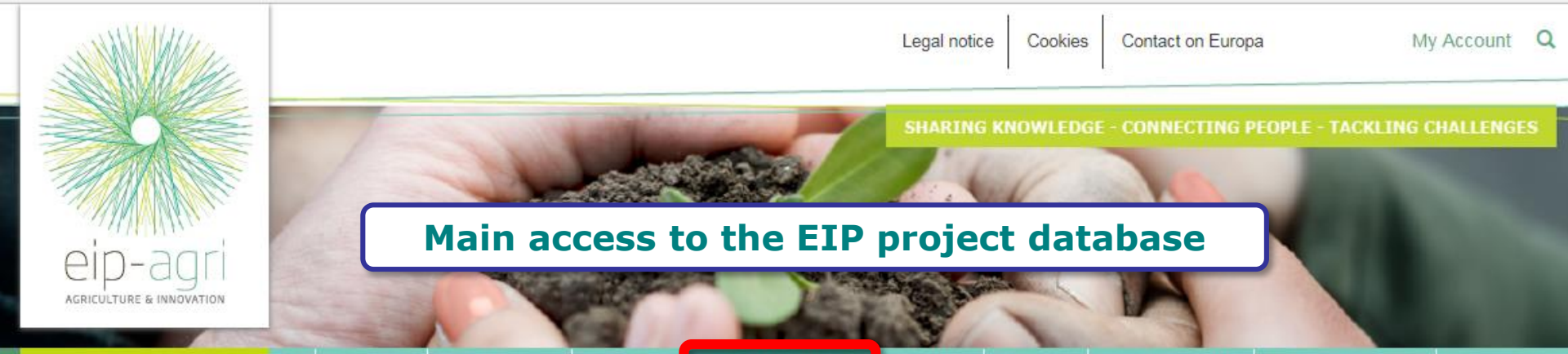
Practice abstracts on the EIP website:

Where to find them?

What they look like?

Agriculture and Rural Development



Search Funding Opportunities
Search Needs for research from practice
Search People
Online resources
Search Interesting Projects

Projects

Subscribe to this search

Title

Keywords

Choose some options

Main funding source

Horizon 2020 (EU Research & Innovation programme)

Geographical location

Choose some options

Agricultural sectors

Choose some options

Partners categories

Choose some options

Language

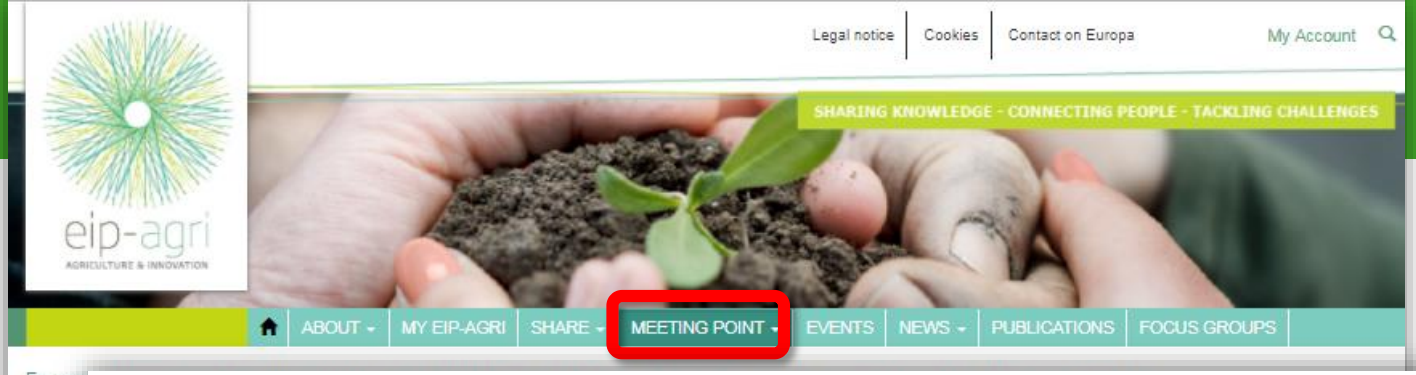
Choose some options

Fulltext search

Search | Reset

Published on	Title	Project type	
Mon, 22/01/2018	EUFRUIT: Europæisk Frugt Netværk	Research project	view
Mon,	AgriSpin - Space for Agricultural innovation	Research	view

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

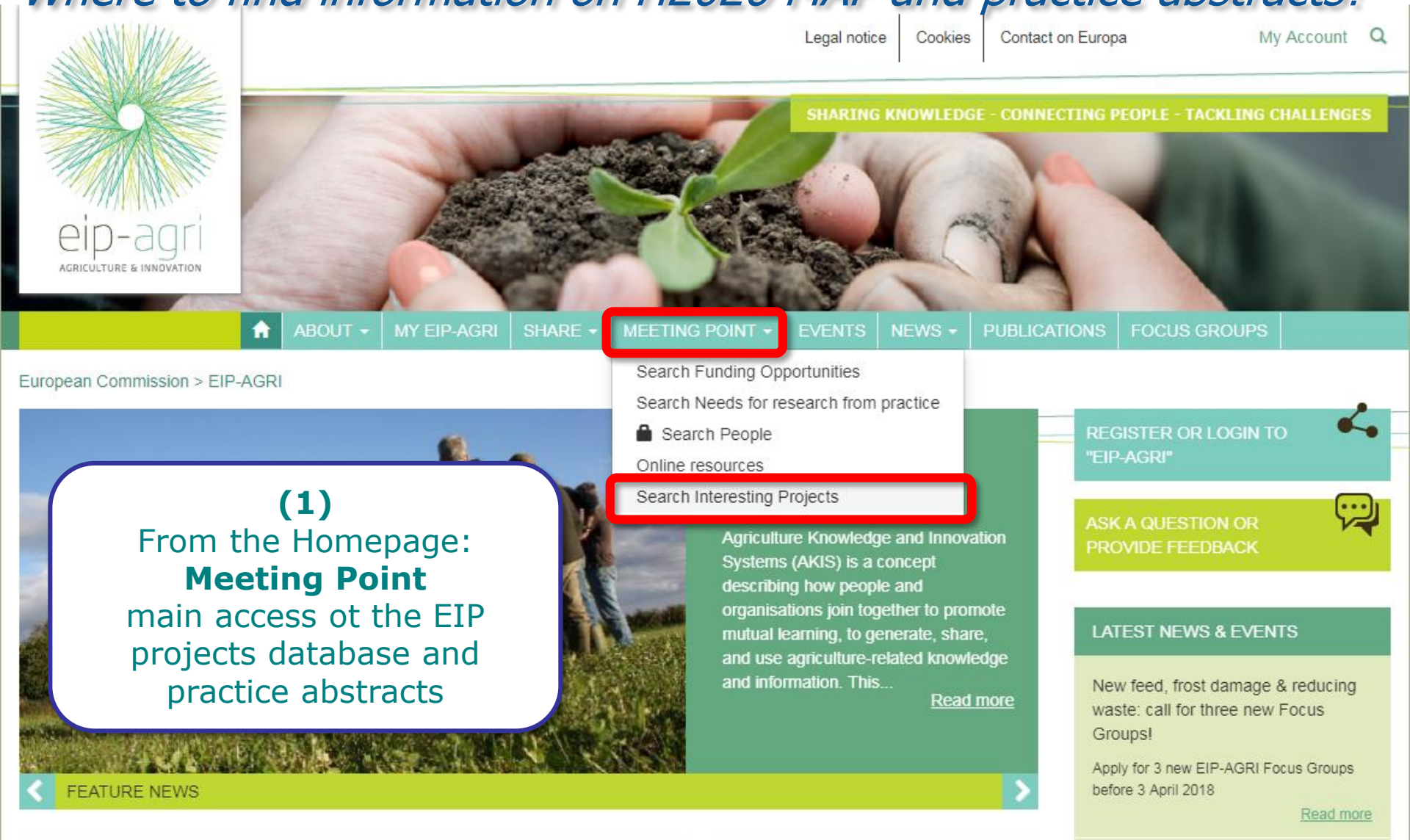
Audiovisual material: Short video presenting the PLAID project
PLAID at Cereals in Practice
Presentation Genvce
Report on PLAID at the Bioveld Da
Oz robot for weeding
Robot for slug control
Cultivator for weed control

Unique EU repository of contacts and *practice abstracts*

Description of the context of the project:

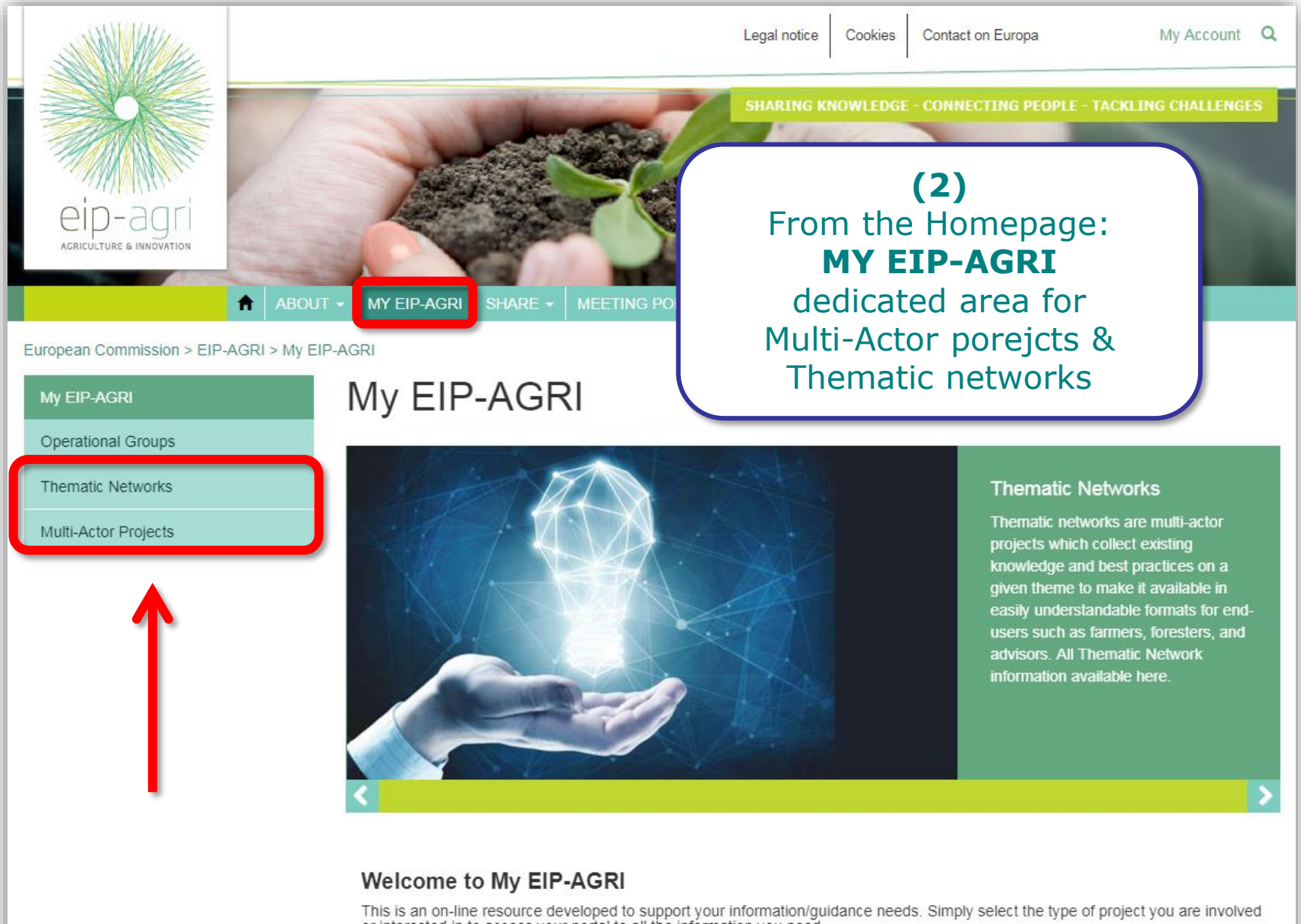
The proposal is a response to the RUR-11-2016 call "On-farm demo… …epening farmer-to-farmer learning mechanisms", which responds to the challenge of "improving the sustainability of Eur… farming systems and facilitating their transition". The call specifically identifies the disconnection between innovative 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 http://www.plaid-

Where to find information on H2020 MAP and practice abstracts?



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

Where to find information on H2020 MAP and practice abstracts?



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

Dedicated area for H2020 MA projects & Thematic Networks

Your single entry point to:

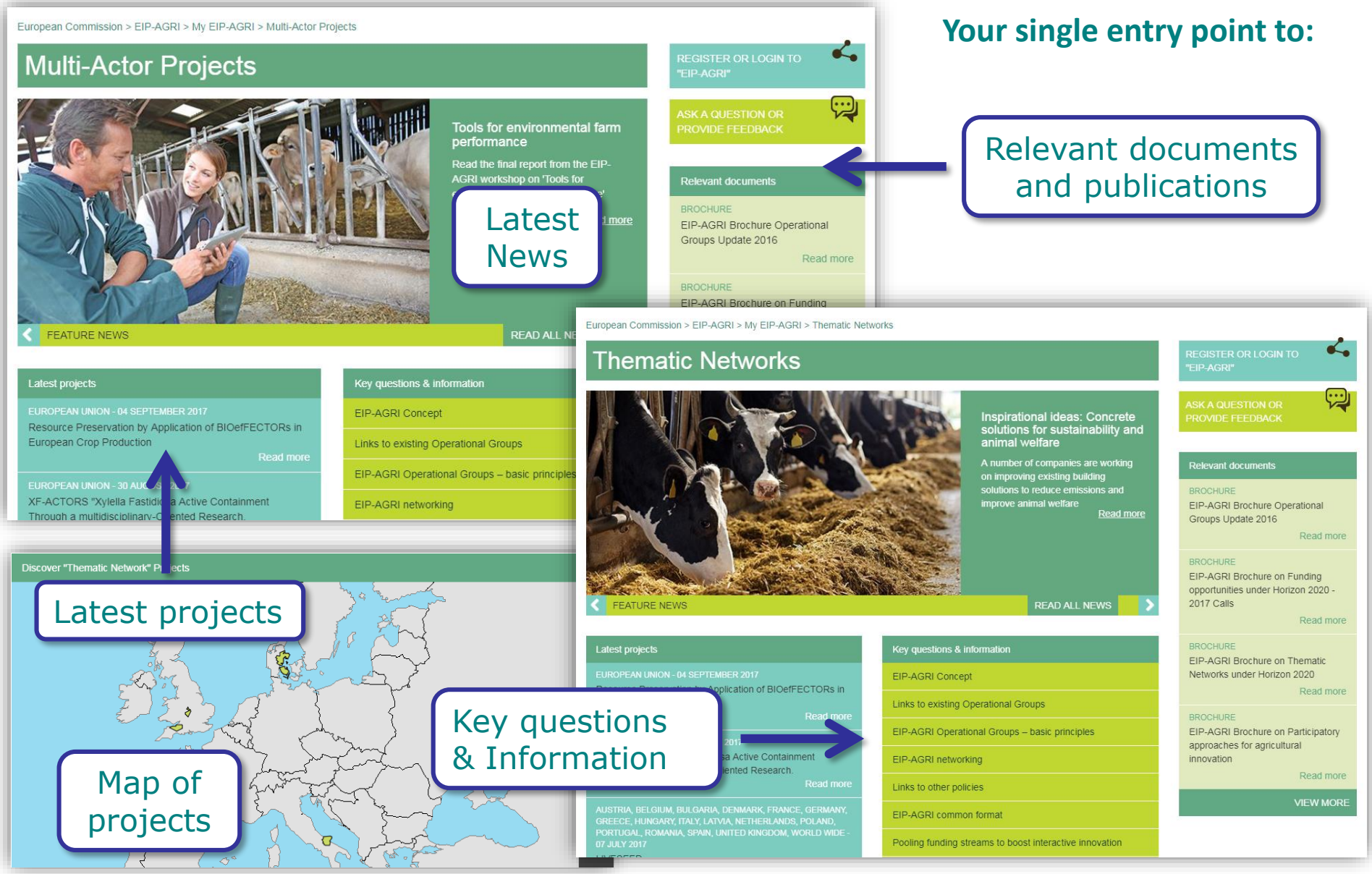
Relevant documents and publications

Latest News

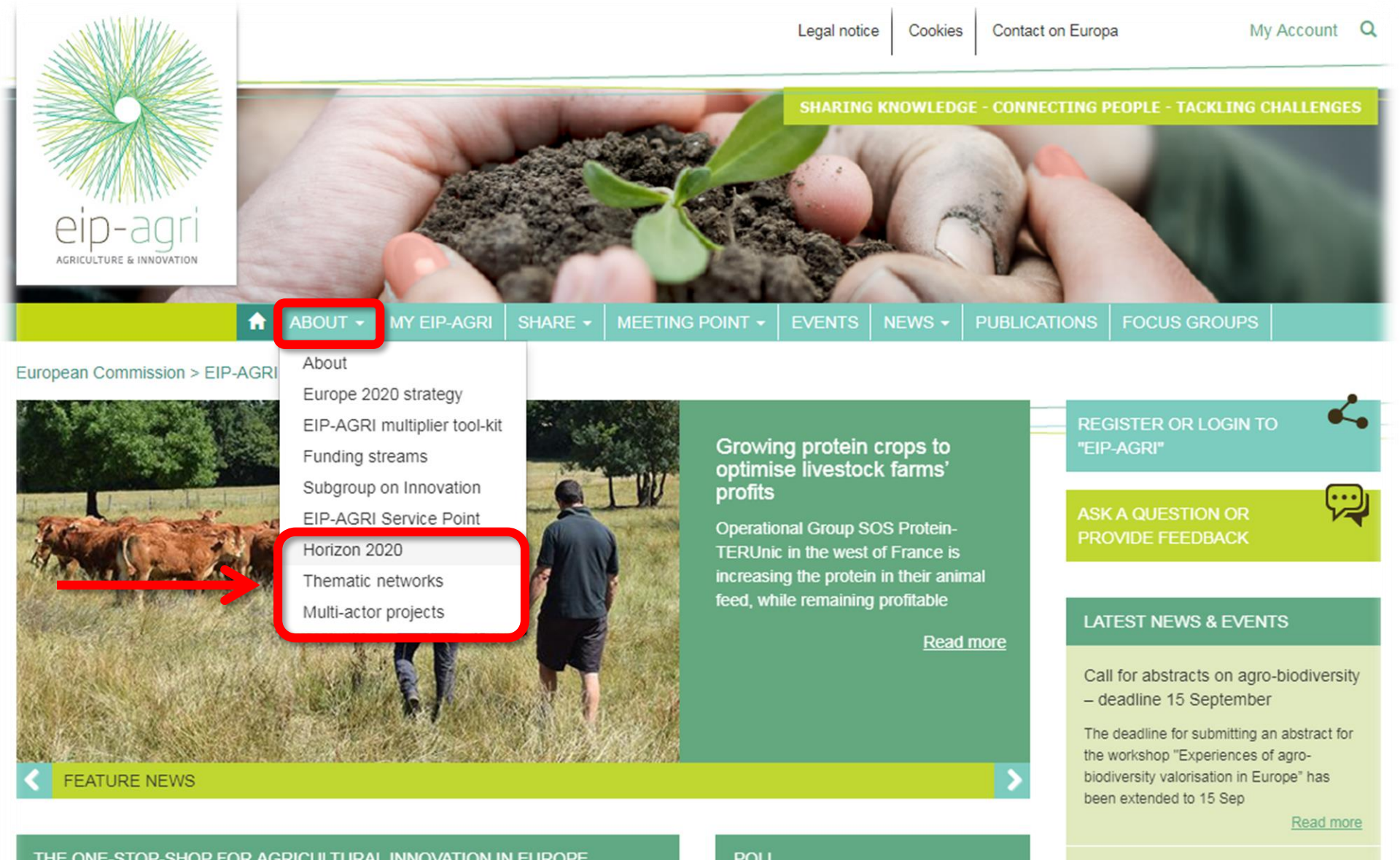
Latest projects

Key questions & Information

Map of projects



Quick access to the complete list of running H2020 MA projects



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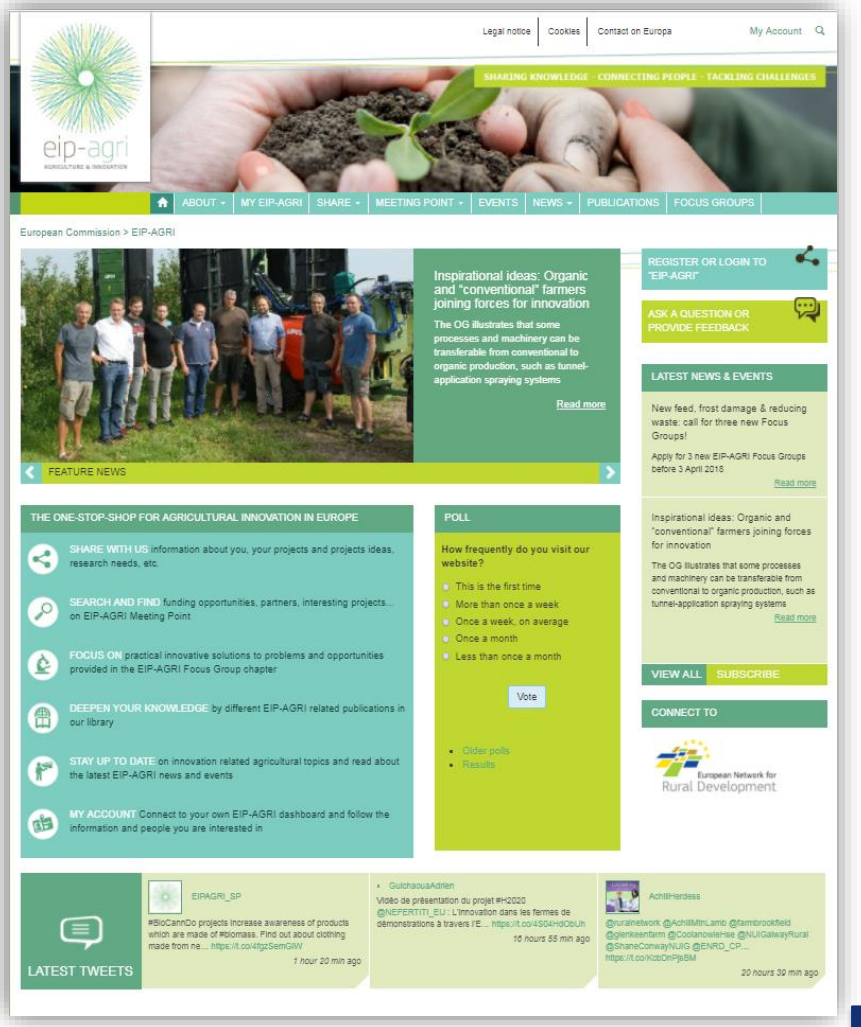
6. EIP-AGRI Network for your communication, dissemination and outreach

Agriculture and Rural Development

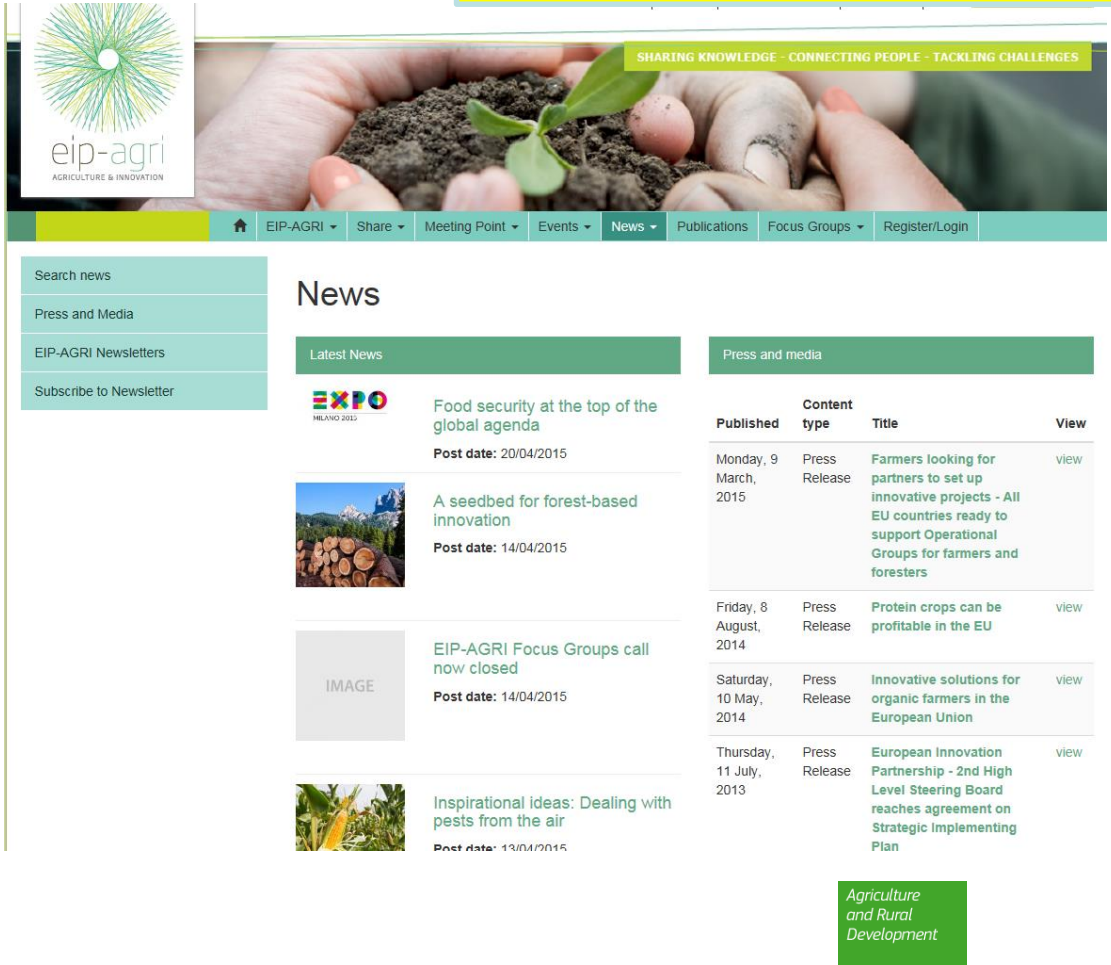
The EIP-AGRI website



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

Tell people about your news

Announce your project in the EIP newsletter to get into contact



Propose news and stories to include in:

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

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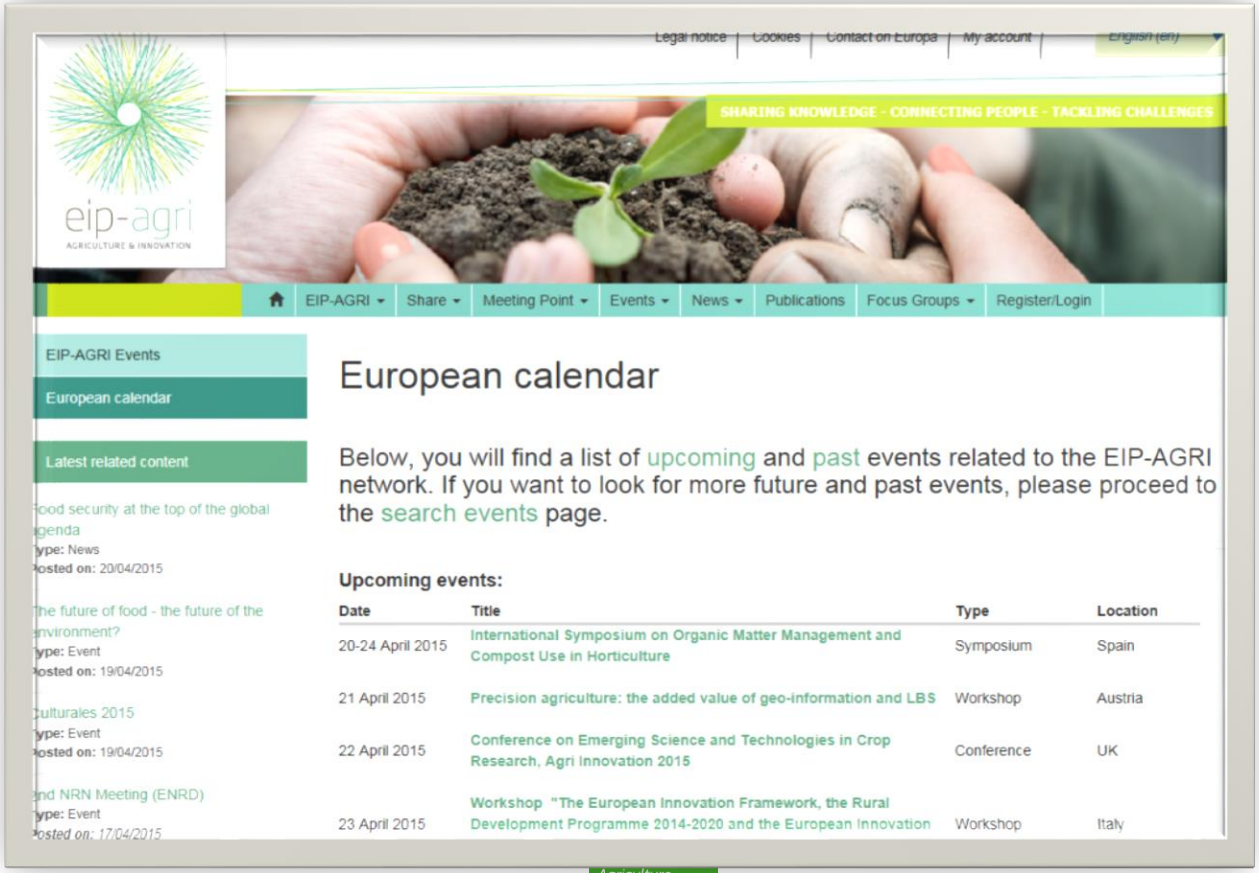
Promote your events

European agriculture innovation calendar



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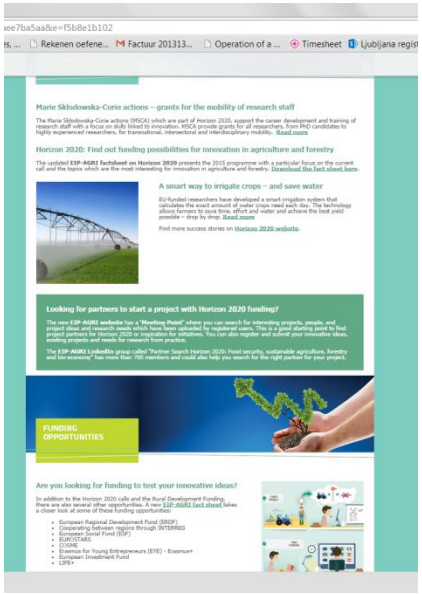
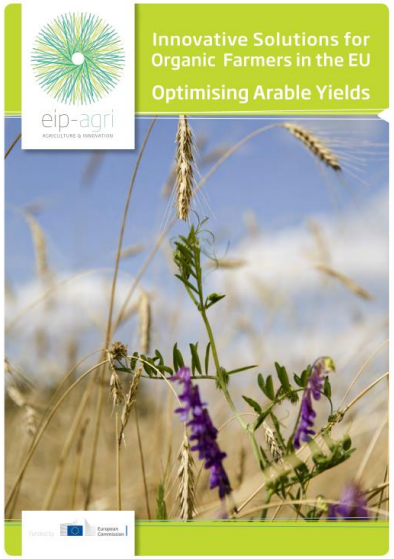
Share your publications and results

on-line and at maybe at EIP events





Interested?

Contact: servicepoint@eip-agri.eu

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