



# 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

# 1. The bigger picture of EIP-AGRI

"I not only use all the  
brains that I have,  
but all that I can  
borrow"

Woodrow Wilson –  
President of the USA, 1913-1921

*Interactive innovation: **Cross-fertilisation** is key for tackling complex challenges and developing opportunities for innovation*

# Du choc des idées jaillit la lumière

Nicolas Boileau, french philosopher, 17th century

- > **Enlightenment comes when views collide**
- > From the clash of opposing minds, new ideas arise

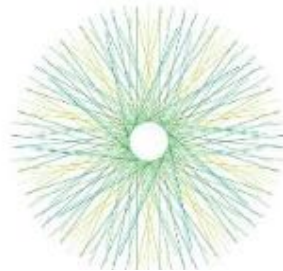


# Funding for interactive innovation projects

## 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



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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

# EU added value : An EU wide EIP network, supported under Rural development policy

## Linking with H2020

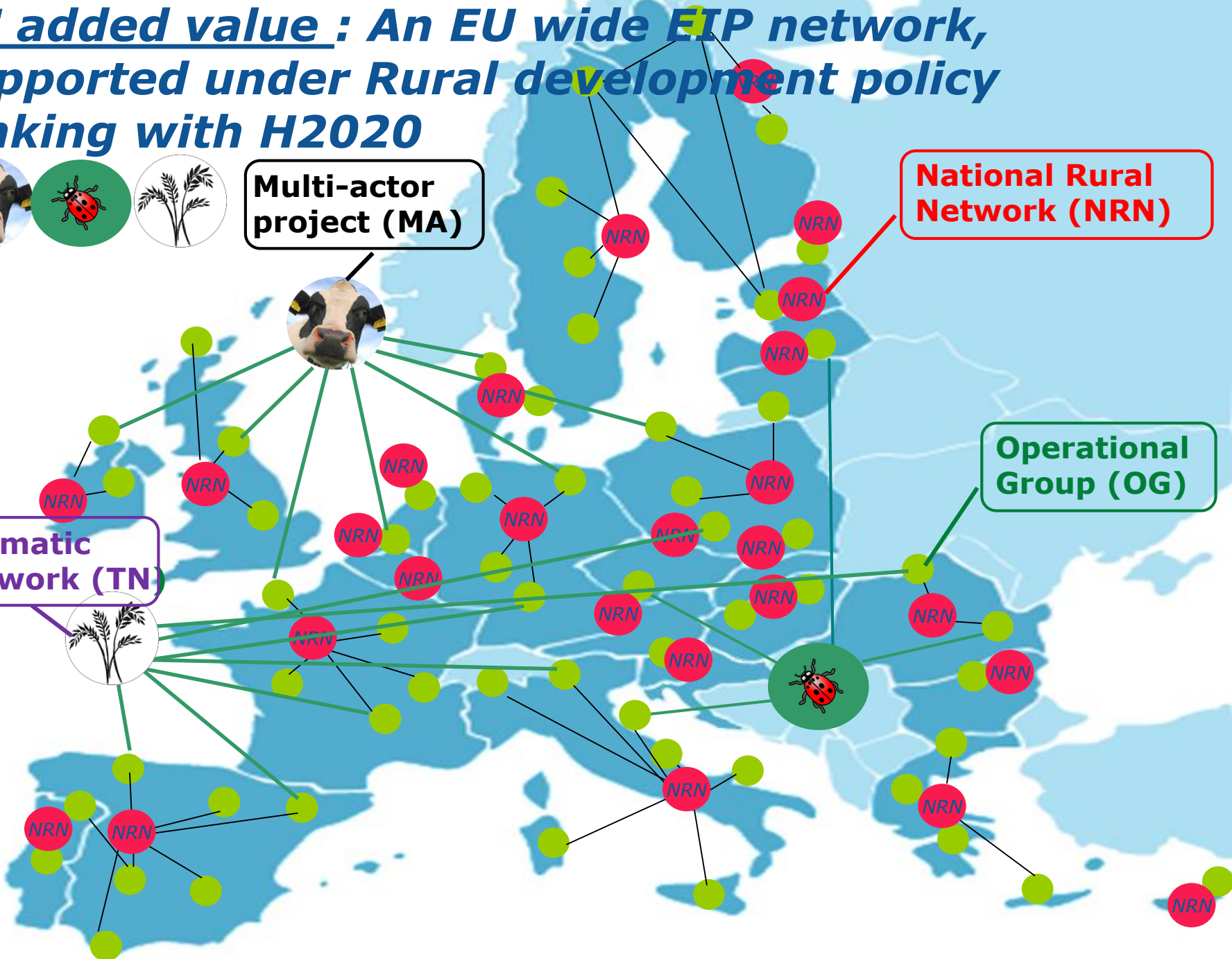


**Multi-actor project (MA)**

**National Rural Network (NRN)**

**Operational Group (OG)**

**Thematic Network (TN)**



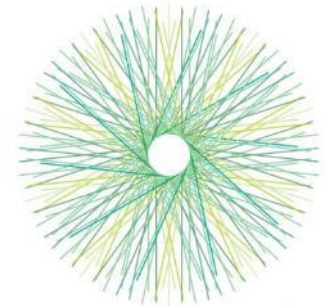
## **2. EIP-AGRI's Rural Development side**

## ***EIP Operational Groups 2014-2020***

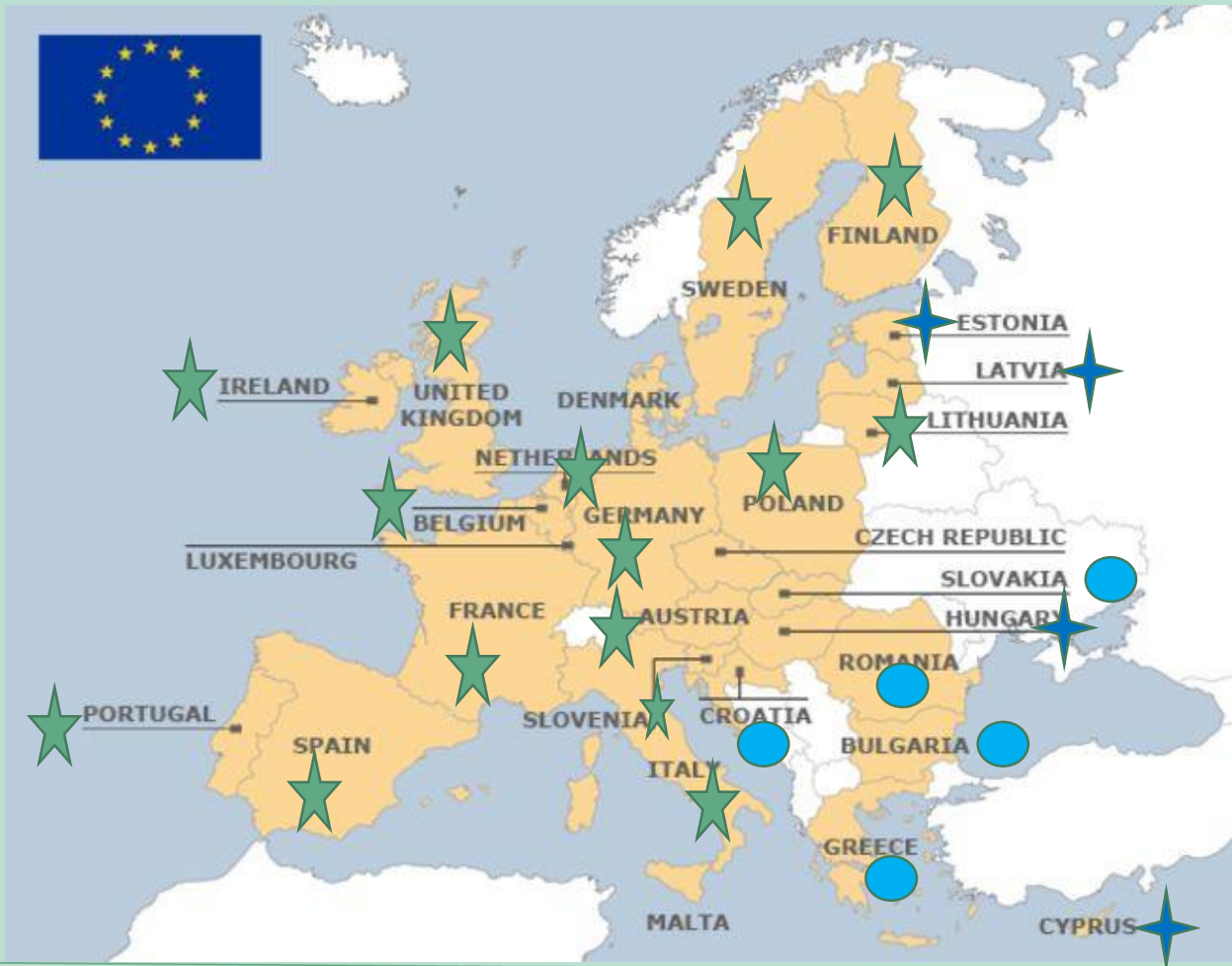
- The EIP implementation aims at a **flexible and open system** for the creation of a multiplicity of operational groups (OGs)
- **27 MS and 98 RDPs** are implementing the EIP in their 2014-2020 Rural Development programmes with **regular calls for Operational Group projects during this period**
- **3200 OGs** planned in 2014-2020, with cooperation in innovative activities such as the development of **new products or practices**, pilot projects, **supply chain** cooperation, **environmental** projects or climate change actions, cooperation in **biomass** provision or renewable **energy**, forest management and much more
- Thematic EIP workshops starting: 600-700 running **OG projects are being connected with other OGs and H2020 projects** in EIP workshops or by MSs' events (mostly since 2017)...



# Calls for Operational Groups (OG) (informal state of play 25 January 2018)



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● 1<sup>st</sup> call to open soon

★ 1<sup>st</sup> call now open

★ OG projects finished, selected and/or being evaluated

# ***Connecting H2020 MA projects with OGs, how?***

## ***1. Innovation Support Services are emerging:***

- **Brokering** function: finding partners and help building the proposal
- **Coordination and facilitation of projects** as an intermediate between partners
- Innovation advice and promotion
- Coaching farmers towards innovation (Innovation Prize)
- Brainstorming events and animation
- Dissemination of innovative results
- Connect with SMEs and other innovation services and funding

## ***2. National rural networks also can support:***

- **National Rural Networks can help connect** H2020 consortia and EIP Operational Groups from their country
- [http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/enrd-static/networks-and-networking/nrn-information/en/nrn-information\\_en.html](http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/enrd-static/networks-and-networking/nrn-information/en/nrn-information_en.html)

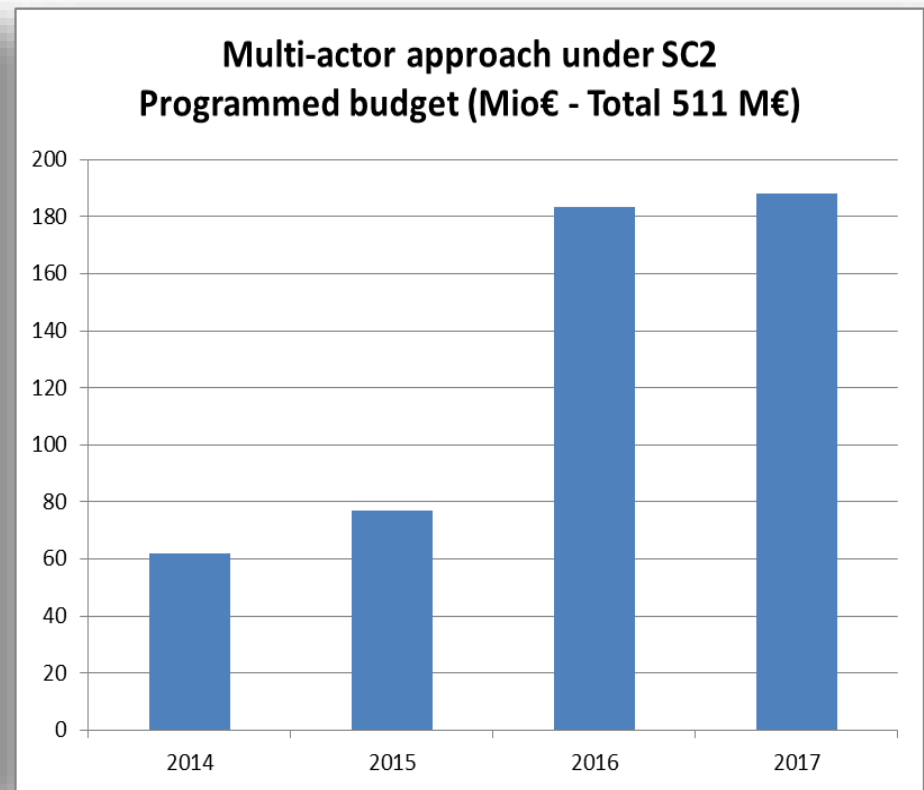
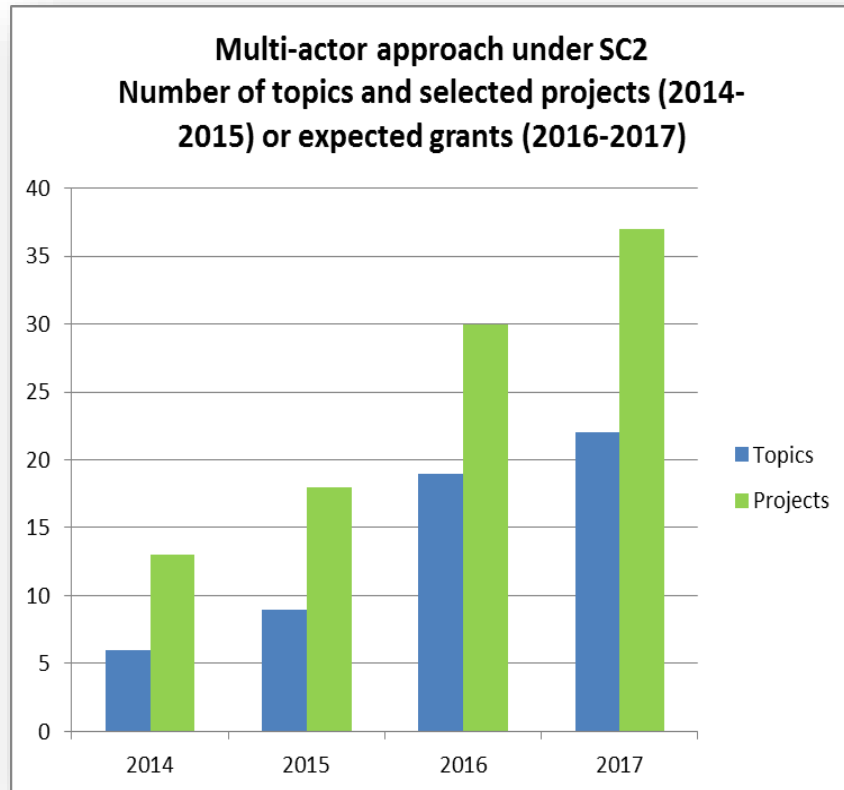
# **3. EIP-AGRI's H2020 research and innovation side**

WPs 2014-2017: 500 mio Euro – 80 Multi-actor projects

WP 2018-2020: More multi-actor topics/projects

**500 mio Euro – another 100 MA projects (incl TNs)**

**In total 1 bio Euro H2020 Multi-actor projects in 7 years**



## ***H2020 Multi-actor approach - Key elements EU interactive innovation projects***

**Multi-actor is not  
“The More The Merrier”**

**“End-users” are those that  
will use  
the results of the project**

## ***H2020 Multi-actor approach - Key elements EU interactive innovation projects***

The two most important (EIP) principles are (as in OGs):

- to **focus on end-users' problems/opportunities** and develop innovative solutions which cover **real needs**. End-users like farmers, foresters or businesses will be more motivated to use the project results, because they were incorporated in generating them and therefore feel "**co-ownership**"
- to bring together the **most relevant partners with the needed complementary type of knowledge** which helps solving problems and tackling opportunities e.g.: farmers, advisors, researchers, suppliers, processors, agencies and/or other actors, who co-operate and co-innovate **in project activities from the beginning till the end.**

**Detailed requirements in H2020 WP introduction p. 9**

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2018-2020/main/h2020-wp1820-food\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2018-2020/main/h2020-wp1820-food_en.pdf)

## *H2020 Thematic networks :* ***Compiling knowledge ready for practice***

- Multi-actor coordination action: Partners should **summarise, share and present existing scientific knowledge & best practices** that are not sufficiently known (and applied) by practitioners , **in an easy understandable concise way ready for practice**
- Themes to be chosen **bottom-up**, contributing to a more competitive sustainable agriculture and forestry
- Themes must **focus on the most urgent needs of agricultural or forestry production sectors,**
- Projects **involving those actors relevant for the chose theme** (e.g. researchers, farmers, advisors, enterprises, education, NGOs, administration, regulatory bodies, EIP project groups...)



## 22 H2020 bottom-up Thematic Networks so far (1)

calls 2014-2016 – **a complementary set of themes (sectors)**

|               |             |  |
|---------------|-------------|--|
| RUR 10 - 2016 | CERERE      | Cereals: organic/low input cereal food systems for biodiversity and quality (production, processing, marketing)            |
| RUR 10 - 2016 | Eu PiG      | Pig husbandry: health management, precision production, welfare and meat quality   |
| RUR 10 - 2016 | Inno4Grass  | Productive grasslands: profitability and environmental services  |
| RUR 10 - 2016 | SheepNet    | Improving sheep productivity   |
| ISIB 2 - 2014 | Winetwork   | Wine diseases: Grapevine Trunk Disease and Flavescence dorée   |
| ISIB 2 - 2014 | OKNetArable | Organic agriculture - arable crops   |
| ISIB 2 - 2014 | Hennovation | Animal welfare hens  |
| ISIB 2 - 2015 | 4D4F        | Data and sensor driven decision making on dairy farms  |
| ISIB 2 - 2015 | EuroDairy   | Practice-based innovations in dairy farming: resource efficiency, Biodiversity, Animal care, and Socio-economic resilience |
| ISIB 2 - 2015 | EUFRUIT     | Fruit: cultivar development, minimize residues, storage and fruit quality, sustainability of production systems            |





## 22 H2020 bottom-up Thematic Networks so far (2) a complementary set of themes (cross-cutting themes)

|                 |              |   |
|-----------------|--------------|---|
| RUR 10 - 2016   | SKIN         | Stimulating innovation and good practices in short supply chains  |
| RUR 10 - 2016   | AFINET       | Agroforestry: sylvoarable and sylvopastural systems' design, management and profitability   |
| ISIB 2 - 2014   | Agri-Spin    | Innovation brokering methods  |
| ISIB 2 - 2015   | AGRIFORVALOR | Valorization of biomass side-streams from agriculture and forest  |
| ISIB 2 - 2015   | Smart-AKIS   | Smart Farming Technology: Management Information Systems, Precision Agriculture and Agriculture automation and robotics           |
| ISIB 2 - 2015   | HNV-Link     | Support HNV farmlands through knowledge and innovation  |
| WATER 4B - 2015 | FERTINNOWA   | Optimize water and nutrient use efficiency: dbase on innovative technologies and practices for fertigation of horticultural crops |

A short film explaining how a thematic network works:  
<https://youtu.be/mVsW4--ex0M>



**2017 H2020 bottom-up Thematic Networks (3)**  
**another complementary set of themes**  
**(cross-cutting themes)**

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>ENABLING</b>       | <b>Upscaling biomass production and pre-processing</b> for bio-based value chains           |
| <b>INCREDible</b>     | <b>Non Wood Forest Products:</b> Cork, Resins and Edibles in the Mediterranean basin        |
| <b>NEWBIE</b>         | <b>New Entrant</b> netWork: Business models for Innovation, entrepreneurship and resilience |
| <b>OK-Net EcoFeed</b> | <b>Organic</b> Knowledge Network on <b>Monogastric Animal Feed (pigs, broilers, hens)</b>   |
| <b>PANACEA</b>        | <b>Non-food Crops'</b> penetration path   |
| <b>INNOSETA</b>       | Best management practices <b>Spraying Equipment</b>   |



## 4. Synergies within H2020 Multi-Actor projects (MA), including Thematic Networks (TN) with OGs :

**How can this go in  
practice?**

# Four main strands to link OGs (etc) to H2020 Multi-actor (MA&TN) projects

*If partners from an OG project participate in an H2020 project (e.g. participate in workshops), could they receive funding?*

- 1) The **full OG** can be a partner (=“beneficiary”) or a third party of the MA consortium if the OG is constituted as a legal entity.
- 2) **One OG partner**, established as a legal entity, can be included as a partner or third party bringing input from the OG and/or giving input to the OG. In order to convince evaluators, such inputs **should be clearly described** in the proposal, even if not fully defined yet.

3) Without an OG or an OG partner being a beneficiary or third party in the project, another type of connection with OGs can be made. In order to support certain activities, partners (beneficiaries) from the **H2020 project can earmark budget under "other direct costs" to cover expenses for OG members to participate to project activities.**

Again, it is important to **describe the planned activity and how it relates to the OG(s) mentioned.** For instance, OGs can be invited to workshops of the MA project or can be included in cross-visits organized across countries.

4) The cooperation can also relate to support provided on a voluntary basis (with **no impact on the MA project's budget**). Such support can include activities that OGs are willing to undertake, without financial support from the MA project, to maximise the multi-actor project's impact (e.g. stakeholder mobilization, enabling/strengthening the links with and between relevant OGs, activities with OG's networks).

In this particular case, since the control will not fall under the MA project control, **strong evidence is needed that the OGs will indeed undertake these activities**. For instance, the activities could be visible in the OG project plan as approved by rural development authorities, or a **cooperation agreement** could be made as annex to the H2020 proposal.

Please take into account that **MA projects cannot start up Operational Groups**. It is up to the regional or national Rural Development Programme managing authorities to select OG projects according to the calls they make.

As a general rule, funding through the MA project should **not duplicate funding** received from other sources (e.g. those OG project activities already supported under a rural development programme)



# Where can you find more info?

- **EIP brochure on multi-actor projects**

- [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/eip-agri\\_brochure\\_multi-actor\\_projects\\_2017\\_en\\_web.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/eip-agri_brochure_multi-actor_projects_2017_en_web.pdf)

- **EIP brochure on thematic networks & practice abstracts**

- [http://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/eip-agri\\_brochure\\_thematic\\_networks\\_2016\\_en\\_web.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/eip-agri_brochure_thematic_networks_2016_en_web.pdf)

- **EIP common format for practice abstracts**

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

- **Videostreamed seminar on drafting practice abstracts:**

- <http://www.ncp-biohorizon.net/events?cmd=showDetail&id=33>

- **Brochure 'Collaborate to innovate – OGs networking across the EU' - Publication Tuesday 13 March 2018**

- <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/publications/eip-agri-brochure-operational-groups-collaborate>

**New**

**New**





Jean  
Monnet  
Father of  
Europe  
Speech on  
12/05/1954



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

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

***Having potential innovative knowledge is one thing,  
turning it into reality is another.***

**"The value of an  
idea lies in the  
using of it."**

**Thomas Alva Edison –  
inventor of the light bulb**

# ***Start building an EU AKIS***

***Speed up creativity  
and practice  
application***

***Better connectivity and  
quicker circulation of  
information***

***Innovation is: an idea put into  
practice with success !***



***Thank you for your attention***

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***Inge.Van-Oost@ec.europa.eu***