Subgroup on Innovation for agricultural productivity and sustainability

10th meeting
22 February 2018
Subgroup on Innovation for agricultural productivity and sustainability
10th meeting – 22 February 2018

09:00 – 10:00 Welcome & introduction by Alberto D’Avino (DG AGRI)

Session I “Ready, steady, go: launching new EIP-AGRI networking activities for 2018

• EIP-AGRI network work plan for 2018, Koen Desimpelaere (EIP-AGRI Service Point)
• New Focus Groups – Launch of calls for experts
  FG 29 “New feed for livestock”
  FG 30 “Protecting perennial crop production from frost damage”
  FG 31 “Reducing food loss on the farm”
• Workshop “Innovative water management in agriculture”, Anikó Seregélyi (DG AGRI)
• Communicating the digital transformation in agriculture, Fabio Cossu (DG AGRI)

10:00 – 11:00 Interactive session II “Improving OG connection and upscaling their results”

• Introduction by Rob Peters (DG AGRI)
• Presentation of two H2020 Multi-Actor Projects involving OGs
  - LANDMARK, Francesca Bampa
  - EuroDairy, Ray Keatinge
• Recent and ongoing experiences connecting OGs
  Flash presentations by members of the Subgroup

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break
11:30 – 13:00 Interactive session II “Improving OG connection and upscaling their results” (cont.)
  • Introduction by DG AGRI and EIP-AGRI Service Point
  • Forthcoming study assessing Operational Groups
  • Discussion in groups: how to foster cooperation among OGs

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 15:00 Session III “Evaluation innovation”
  • Presentation of the guidelines on evaluating innovation in RDPs
    European Evaluation Helpdesk for Rural Development, Hannes Wimmer
  • Assessing Innovation, what’s going on?
    Flash presentations by members of the Subgroup

15:00 – 15:10 “Intermezzo”: AGROPOL Pilot Project

15:10 – 15:40 Coffee break

15:40 – 16:30 Session IV “Can we do better?”
  • Results of the self-assessment of the EU Rural Networks up to 2017
    DG AGRI and EIP-AGRI Service Point
  • Discussion on the follow-up to the recommendations relevant for the EIP-AGRI network

16:30 – 16:45 Wrap-up / next steps

16:45 Closing
Session II

Improving OG connections:

Synergies between OGs and H2020 Multi-Actor projects (MA), including Thematic Networks (TN)
Funding for interactive innovation projects

Rural Development (regional/national level)
- Funding for setting up 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

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"

Unique EU repository of contacts and practice abstracts
Involvement of OGs is strongly recommended
How to link OGs 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 in 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 dedicated cooperation contract 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 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. the project of the OG supported under a rural development programme)
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)
In conclusion, how to link OGs to H2020: **It is up to you!**

- **Multi-actor project consortia are looking for OGs:** be visible as from the start of your project (use practice abstracts, use H2020 info & partnering events at EU and national level, use the partner search tool on the EIP website (Linkedin), use EIP events,).

- **Thematic networks can be built from OGs** in various MS (minimum 3): see clusters of the main OG themes

- The EIP network is organising **dedicated events to bring together OGs** (Feb on supp chains, June on organic), but....

- Don’t wait to **take initiative yourselves** (e.g. Bxl AKIS meeting on 9 March 2018 for all TNs, present yourselves in scientific conferences, ...)

- **Practice abstracts** are there to help you connect on similar themes: find contact data from potential partners (both for informing OG projects and for forming potential consortia for MA projects)
Clustering OG projects: first indications

In terms of scope:

Top 5

- Plant protection
- Precision farming
- Agro-environment
- New supply chains
- Organic farming

N.B. Initial clustering analysis covering 231 OGs – Oct 2016. New clustering starting now (Feb 2018)
In conclusion, how to link OGs to H2020: It is up to you!

- **Organise collection of needs from farmers & foresters’ practice:** can feed into the H2020 WP programming phase and in the yearly calls for Thematic Networks: bottom-up topics in the H2020 WP (without predefined themes + TN proposals can be improved)

- **What can NRNs do? (“must foster innovation”)**
  - Ask Managing Authority to have the first Practice Abstract already in the **application form** and put selected OGs immediately in SFC
  - **Translate** Practice Abstracts of your OGs in English
  - **Inform your OGs about H2020 calls** (EIP newsletter and brochures can help you)
  - Inform your OGs about **running H2020 projects** of interest for them
  - **Organise events** where MA projects can meet OGs
  - Keep close **contact** with H2020 National Contact Points (**NCPs**)
Mise au point et adaptation d’itinéraires techniques innovants en filières végétales: Innoveg.

**Objectif du projet (en français):**

**Description des activités (en français):**

**Total budget:** 265338

**Name:** MANDRET GILLES
**Address:** 43, Rue de l’hôpital, B.P 1304, Kowâm, 97600 Mamoudzou
**Email:** secrétariat@inra.fr
**Telephone:** 0269612121

- **Project partners**
- **Short summary for practitioners**
  - **Practice abstract 1**
  The project will allow in the field of Research, the publication of different types of documents: technical datasheets, reports, articles… in the area of relationship with the main actors, the dissemination of Research results in form areas by communications of new model meetings in conductions. Economically, the context will...
| 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 | EUFRUIT | Fruit: cultivar development, minimize residues, storage and fruit quality, sustainability of production systems |
## 23 H2020 bottom-up Thematic Networks so far (2) 

A complementary set of themes (cross-cutting themes)

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

A short film explaining how a thematic network works: [https://youtu.be/mVsW4--ex0M](https://youtu.be/mVsW4--ex0M)
### 2017 H2020 bottom-up Thematic Networks (3)

**another complementary set of themes**
**(cross-cutting themes)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENABLING</th>
<th>Upscaling biomass production and pre-processing for bio-based value chains</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INCREdible</td>
<td><strong>Non Wood Forest Products:</strong> Cork, Resins and Edibles in the Mediterranean basin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEWBIE</td>
<td><strong>New Entrant</strong> netWork: Business models for Innovation, entrepreneurship and resilience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OK-Net EcoFeed</td>
<td><strong>Organic</strong> Knowledge Network on <strong>Monogastric Animal Feed</strong> <em>(pigs, broilers, hens)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PANACEA</td>
<td><strong>Non-food Crops’</strong> penetration path</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INNOSETA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Improving OG connections?

Everything starts with having OGs on the EIP website => make a practice abstract from the start of the project and be visible