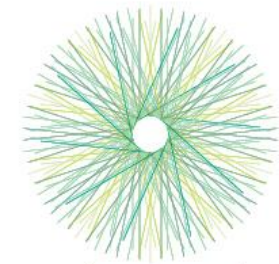


EIP-AGRI Workshop Small is smart

29-30 October 2019– Bucharest, Romania



eip-agri
AGRICULTURE & INNOVATION



#smallfarms #EIPagri

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Programme

DAY 1 - TUESDAY 29 OCTOBER

09:00 - 10:15

Welcoming participants and setting the scene

- Welcome to Bucharest and short introduction about small farms innovation in Romania by the Romanian Ministry of Agriculture, [Dana Reberga](#), Deputy General Director of the [MoA](#)
- Opening words from the European Commission, [Inge Van Oost](#), DG AGRI
- Ice-breaker
- Presentations
 - Small smart farms: how can small farms benefit from digital innovations in agriculture? [Leanne Townsend](#), James Hutton Institute, UK
 - An overview of the CUMA: farm machinery cooperatives, [Stephane Diard](#), FN CUMA, France
 - Direct selling: an instrument to improve profitability in small-scale farming, [Bavo Verwilt](#), Organic farmer, Belgium
 - Combining innovation with tradition for economic viability of Romania's small-scale farms, [Razvan Popa](#), Adept Foundation, Romania
 - Small-scale Bioeconomy Opportunities for European Farmers, [James Gaffey](#), Biorefinery glass project, Ireland

10:15 - 11:00

Breakout session: **What steps could a small farmer take to introduce innovation or good practices?**

11:00 - 11:30

Coffee break

11:30 - 13:00

Continuation of breakout session: **What steps could a small farmer take to introduce innovation or good practices?**

13:00 - 13:50

Lunch

14:00 - 18:30

Field trip to the Romanian Horticultural Institute



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Programme

DAY 2 – WEDNESDAY 30 OCTOBER

08:30 - 09:00 **Registration**

09:00 - 09:45 A **welcome back** to participants

Energiser exercise

What is the EIP-AGRI? The importance of knowledge exchange (and the local AKIS in general) in successful EIP-AGRI implementation, **Inge Van Oost, DG AGRI**

An **introduction** to the rest of the day

09:45 - 10:45 Breakout session: **How can best practice sharing, collaboration, digitalisation and knowledge transfer best support innovation in small farms?**

- Which types of collaboration support small farmers to innovate and how?
- How can small farmers be encouraged and supported to utilise digitalisation as a means to innovate?
- Which methods of knowledge sharing work best for small farmers and how can these methods support innovation?

10:45 - 11:15 **Coffee break**

11:15 - 12:30 Breakout session: **How could the innovation support environment for small farmers be improved at a regional, national and European level?**

- What type of advisory services best support small farmers?
- What type of innovation support would help best?
- How can networking help small farmers?
- What areas of research are important for small farmers?

12:30 - 13:30 **Bringing participants together** and reflect on the workshop's outcomes

13:30 - 14:30 **Farewell & lunch**



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An overview of the CUMA

Farm
Machinery
Co-operatives

speaker : Stéphane DIARD



CUMA are service co-operatives set up by and for farmers

COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT AND JOINT USE

of machinery, building, workers
for tasks directly linked to production cycles

LITTLE AUTONOMOUS GROUPS
to ease or improve production conditions



Key Figures

All over France :

10 407

Cuma in the Cuma network



A specific advisory service :

350 facilitators skilled on
collective dynamics in the
federations of Cuma

Human-scale groups :

23 members on
average per Cuma



45%

of French farmers are
members of a Cuma



- **Access to equipment**

 - ☑ mechanization costs, Access to up-to-date machinery

- **Risk sharing**

- **Quality of life** : better work organization, social interaction

- **Easier setup** of new farmers

- **More autonomy**



Small farmers are in a particularly good position to meet current society demands and future stakes, if they take the benefits of being collectively organized

For instance :

Short supply chains : it involves producing (livestock feed), transforming and selling, whilst relying on a group



Agro-ecological transition : autonomy at the scale of local ecosystems means cooperation with other farmers



VOLUNTARY MEMBERSHIP

EQUITY

DEMOCRATIC MANAGEMENT

SOCIAL CAPITAL

COMMITMENT

**CUMA associated members
= decision-makers + users**



Which invoicing rules in our Cuma?

How do we share responsibilities for the maintenance of our equipment?

There isn't one single way for a group to rule its Cuma

Collective decision process
Possible assistance of a facilitator

How do we fix the period of engagement?

How do we define the planning?

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