



eip-agri
AGRICULTURE & INNOVATION





EIP-AGRI Online Seminar

CAP Strategic Plans: The key role of Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) in Member States

Wednesday 16 – Friday 18 September 2020

The European Commission, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), and the European Innovation Partnership EIP-AGRI Service Point are organising a seminar dedicated to the development of national Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) as part of the CAP Strategic Plans post 2020.

Knowledge and innovation fostering and sharing are part of the post 2020 CAP cross-cutting objective on modernisation. They have a key role to play in helping farmers and rural communities to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow. There is an increasing demand for innovative solutions through continuous renewal of products, processes and services. For quicker impact, such solutions are best co-created by people with complementary knowledge, and by farmers and foresters as end-users of the project results. They bring in the necessary practical knowledge to make the results applicable in practice. This successful **interactive innovation model** based on co-ownership of innovation and its results was established in the current funding period. It links research, innovation and knowledge sharing under Horizon 2020 and the CAP with the EIP-AGRI and its current over 1200 Operational Groups (OGs). It will be continued and further developed in the next period 2021-2027.

The main current challenge is that the **existing national and regional AKISs are not sufficiently interconnected within each Member State** to effectively support interactive innovation. There is already a substantial amount of knowledge available, but the available knowledge is fragmented all over Europe and insufficiently applied in practice.

Well-functioning AKISs will help speed up innovation throughout the EU, avoid duplication of efforts and save costs, and strengthen the impact of EU and national/regional R&I funding providing cross-border spill-overs.

The overall aim of this seminar is to **support the Member States in the preparation of their AKIS Strategic Plans** and to promote efficient agricultural knowledge flows across the whole EU. It will focus on exchanging experiences and inspiring examples in organising and supporting knowledge creation and exchange in agriculture between the different AKIS actors. It will create the opportunity to familiarise Member State administrations and other AKIS actors with the various possible approaches through discussions and the exchange of experiences on draft AKIS Strategic Plans and actions.



All times are CET
(Brussels time)

Day 1: Wednesday 16 September 2020

09:00 - 12:00 **Technical troubleshooting**

15:10 - 15:30 **Checking in**

Part I: Starting our journey together

15:30 - 17:00 **Welcoming participants and setting the scene**

- **Welcome** by Kerstin Rosenow, Head of Unit B2 – Research and Innovation, DG AGRI
- **Key elements of the post 2020 CAP: the AKIS policy** strengthening innovation, knowledge exchange and advice – Kerstin Rosenow, DG AGRI
- **Welcome** by Pacôme Elouna Eyenga – Team leader, EIP-AGRI Service Point
- EIP-AGRI animated **infographic - Innovation Support Services**
- **Inspirational speaker:** innovation support services functioning as the glue in AKIS – Wim Ceulemans, Innovatiesteunpunt, BE
- **Panel discussion** with relevant guest-speakers moderated by Mark Gibson, EIP-AGRI Service Point. Guest-speakers are:
 - Aniko Juhasz, Deputy State Secretary of Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture, HU
 - Victor Falguera, AKIS International, ES
 - Tom Kelly, Teagasc, IE
 - Kjell Ivarsson, Federation of Swedish Farmers and Copa-Cogeca, SE
 - Carola Ketelhodt, Innovation Office EIP-AGRI at the Chamber of Agriculture in Schleswig-Holstein, DE

17:00 - 17:30 **Starting the AKIS community** - interactive session to support networking among participants, led by Sarah Watson, EIP-AGRI Service Point

Day 2: Thursday 17 September 2020

09:40 - 10:00 **Checking in**

Part II: AKIS strategies - the basics

10:00 - 12:00 **Understanding AKIS' essential elements**

- **Opening address** – Janusz Wojciechowski, EU Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development
- **Inspirational speakers:**
 - Polish AKIS - Minister Ardanowski and Undersecretary of State Ryszard Kamiński, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in Poland
 - EIP-AGRI Operational Group 'ECOPIONET' - Raquel Arroyo, Institute of Natural Resources and Agrobiology of Salamanca (IRNASA), ES
- **What are the elements of a well-functioning AKIS** + Q&A – Inge Van Oost, DG AGRI

12:00 - 14:00 **Lunch break**



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13:40 - 14:00 **Checking in**

Part III: Main building blocks of AKIS

14:00 - 15:00 **Integrating advisors in the AKIS to foster the sharing of knowledge and innovation for agriculture and rural areas**

- **Introduction** to the topic – Inge Van Oost, DG AGRI
- **Inspirational speakers:**
 - Integration of Slovenian advisors in the AKIS – Anton Jagodic, Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia, SI
 - Experience from an NGO delivering advice and much more – Razvan Popa, Adept Foundation, RO
 - Develop innovation support services including innovation brokering, facilitation and innovation tools and much more - Marleen Gysen, Innovatiesteunpunt, BE
- **Inputs to the topic from participants:** highlights from the **Google Document B** – Mark Gibson, EIP-AGRI Service Point
- **Group discussion** in plenary

15:00 - 15:20 **Coffee break**

15:20 - 16:15 **Preparing the role of CAP networks in strengthening the AKIS by promoting innovation and knowledge flows within the country and across the EU**

- **Introduction** to the topic – Inge Van Oost, DG AGRI
- **Inspirational speakers:**
 - The Polish advisory service and EIP network – Krzysztof Janiak, Agricultural Advisory Centre in Brwinów, PL
 - Networking meetings with Operational Groups – Erika Frankhuizen, National Rural Network Unit, NL
- **Inputs to the topic from participants:** highlights from the **Google Document C** – Mark Gibson, EIP-AGRI Service Point
- **Group discussion** in plenary

16:15 - 16:30 **Closing of the day**

- Interaction and highlights



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Day 3: Friday 18 September 2020

09:10 - 09:30 **Checking in**

Part IV: Inspiration for AKIS planners

09:30 - 09:40 **Warming up:**

- Welcome and introduction to the programme for Day 3 – Sarah Watson, EIP-AGRI Service Point
- Introduction to the topic – Inge Van Oost, DG AGRI

09:40 - 10:30

Getting inspiration from existing tools and initiatives:

- Establish **knowledge centres and digital knowledge reservoirs:**
 - EURAKNOS and EUREKA - Pieter Spanoghe, Ghent University, BE
 - TITRIS - Gintarė Kučinskienė, Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service, LT
- Organise **farmer to farmer exchanges** including on farm demonstrations and experimentation – Tom Kelly, Teagasc, IE
- **Reward researchers** beyond academic purposes:
 - Mugurel Jitea, University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj Napoca, RO
 - Agustí Fonts, Institute of Agrifood Research and Technology - IRTA, ES
- Support and facilitate **increased engagement with Horizon Europe projects:**
 - The power of connecting European Thematic Networks and local OGS – Jean-Marc Gautier, IDELE, FR
 - Activities of the National Rural Network Unit – Jan Swoboda, National Rural Network Unit, DE
- Capture the creativity of **young farmers** to act as catalysts of innovation – Jannes Maes, CEJA
- **Group discussion** in plenary

10:30 - 10:50 **Coffee break**

10:50 - 12:00

Getting inspiration from existing tools and initiatives (continued):

- Prepare interesting **calls for Operational Groups** – Åsa Broberg, RDP Managing Authority, SE
- Use of **Operational Groups for testing out new CAP measures** – Shane Conway, National Rural Network, IE
- Develop **cross-border** Operational Groups – Hardi Tamm, Estonian Dairy Cluster (EDC), EE
- Promote collaboration and knowledge flows among OGS - Johanna Rohrhofer, National Rural Network, AT
- Added value of **thematic networks at national level** - Pascal Bergeret, CIHEAM-IAMM, the Mediterranean Intergovernmental Agronomic Institute – Montpellier, FR
- **Group discussion** in plenary

12:00 - 14:00 **Lunch break**



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13:40 - 14:00 **Checking in**

Part V: AKIS strategic plans and AKIS interventions

14:00 - 14:10 **Resuming our journey**

- Welcome back – Sarah Watson, EIP-AGRI Service Point
- **Introduction** to the topic – Inge Van Oost, DG AGRI

14:10 - 14:45 **Preparing the AKIS strategic plan and choosing the right interventions**

- **Inspirational speakers:**
 - Preparing the **Spanish** AKIS strategy – Rocio Wojski and Andres Montero, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, ES
 - The **Slovenian** example – Joži Cvelbar, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, SI
 - AKIS interventions in the **Estonian** CAP plan: Helena Pärenson, Ministry of Rural Affairs, EE
 - The **Dutch** AKIS interventions in the CAP plan post 2020 – Jan van Esch, Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, NL

14:45 - 15:35 **Designing AKIS interventions**

- Inputs to the topic from participants: highlights from the **Google Document D** – Mark Gibson, EIP-AGRI Service Point
- Interactive session in **breakouts** – groups will be challenged to design a concrete AKIS and related interventions for their own country based on the examples presented and adapted to the country's own context

15:35 - 15:55 **Coffee break**

15:55 - 16:25 **Designing AKIS interventions (continued)**

- Reporting back from breakouts
- Inputs from the audience

16:25 - 16:50 **Closing of the seminar**

- Group reflection in plenary
- Evaluation of the seminar

16:50 - 17:00 **Conclusions of the seminar** – Wolfgang Burtscher, Director-General DG AGRI

17:00 **End of the seminar**

The seminar webpage is accessible through this link:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/event/eip-agri-seminar-cap-strategic-plans-key-role-akis>

*Note to participants: For the **Google documents**, please find the links in your invitation email.*