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AGRICULTURE & INNOVATION



16-17-18 September 2020

EIP-AGRI Seminar 'CAP Strategic Plans: the key role of AKIS in Member States'

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# Shane Conway

National Rural Network, Ireland



16-17-18 September 2020

EIP-AGRI Seminar 'CAP Strategic Plans: the key role of AKIS in Member States'

# Day 3: Friday 18 September 2020

## Part IV - Inspiration for AKIS planners

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, EE
- Promoting 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



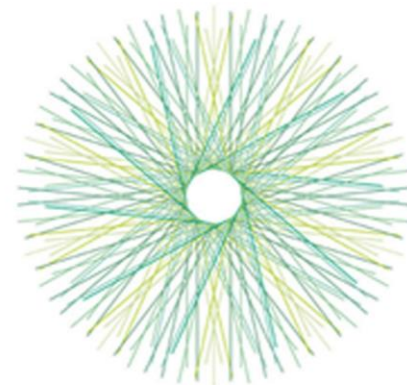
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The European Agricultural Fund  
for Rural Development: Europe  
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# EIP-AGRI: Ireland's Operational Groups

Use of Operational Groups for testing out new CAP measures

EIP-AGRI Online Seminar  
CAP Strategic Plans: The key role of AKIS in Member States  
September 18th, 2020



Dr Shane Conway - NUI Galway & Irish NRN

National Rural Network



# Irish EIP-AGRI OGs Breakdown - 'Family of Measures'



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**Themed – Hen Harrier Project = €25m**



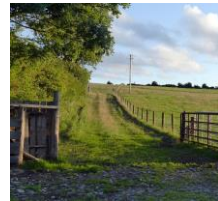
HEN HARRIER PROJECT

**Themed – Pearl Mussel Project = €10m**



- Agreed with Commission as part of Ireland's RDP 14-20
- Recruited by competitive tender
- Responsible for developing local partnerships & actions

**Open Call – Environment = €20m**



**Open Call – General = €4m**



- 'Bottom-up' Operational Group Call
- Recruited by simple application process
- Designed to be accessible to all

# Ireland's 23 EIP-AGRI Operational Groups



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## Irish EIP-AGRI



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## Operational Groups



\* The location points for each EIP-AGRI Operational Group Project relates to the group's Lead Partner, however the Operational Groups, in most cases are far reaching regionally and nationally. A specific indication of 'Geographical Location' for each group can be found in the EIP-AGRI Project Storyboard Database on the National Rural Network (NRN) website, and also on the EIP-AGRI Service Point website.



Infographic designed and  
produced by Dr Shane  
Conway (NUI Galway/NRN)

The majority of these innovative projects are bottom-up, led by farmers who are passionate about the future of farming and the environment in their communities. Please see: <https://bit.ly/33xaaR4>

## Locally-led, Farmer-centered, Results-based

- **Involve farmers, farm organisations and farm advisors in the design phase of projects and then throughout** (*in line with EIP-AGRI's 'Interactive Innovation Model' overarching concept*).
- **Flexible, practical, locally adaptable, locally relevant measures** (*e.g. farmers making decisions on a field by field basis*).
- **Results-based Approach** i.e. Designing schemes that reward farmers for improvements in farmland biodiversity etc.
- **Lessons learned from the Burren Programme.**



# Supporting the Preparation & Implementation of OGs



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**The DAFM & NRN held a number of Knowledge Transfer & Exchange Workshops for Successful OGs, providing stakeholders with an opportunity to listen to expert advice in various fields and also to learn from each other.**





# OGs' Far-Reaching Agri-Environmental Impact



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Hen Harrier Project

Hen Harriers are a good indicator of ecosystem functionality



A Symbiotic Relationship Exists



Not just about Species Conservation

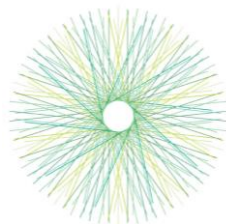
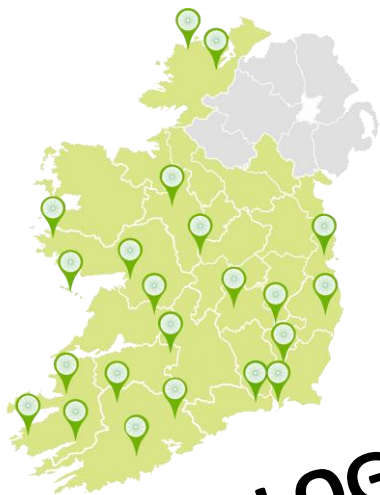
...also about Habitat Protection

Pearl Mussel Project



Water Quality Indicator Benefits





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**EIP-AGRI OGs under Ireland's current RDP 2014-2020  
are intended as preparation for future CAP  
Agri-Environment-Climate interventions post 2020**



# Testing CAP Measures Via EIP-AGRI OGs



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The DAFM are taking on board the lessons learned from existing OGs in the next CAP

*For example.....*

**Small Biogas Demonstration Programme (SBDP)** - Stimulate the deployment of on-farm small-scale biogas production



**DANÚ Farming Group** - Develop a conventional to biological farming transition programme



**Protecting Farmland Pollinators** - Develop mechanisms encouraging farmers to make their farm pollinator friendly



**PEATLANDS CALL** - The DAFM have recently launched a call for an EIP-AGRI OG to inform their CAP post-2020 measures in the area of farmed peat soils.



# Irish EIP-AGRI Operational Groups Booklet



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Department of Agriculture,  
Food and the Marine

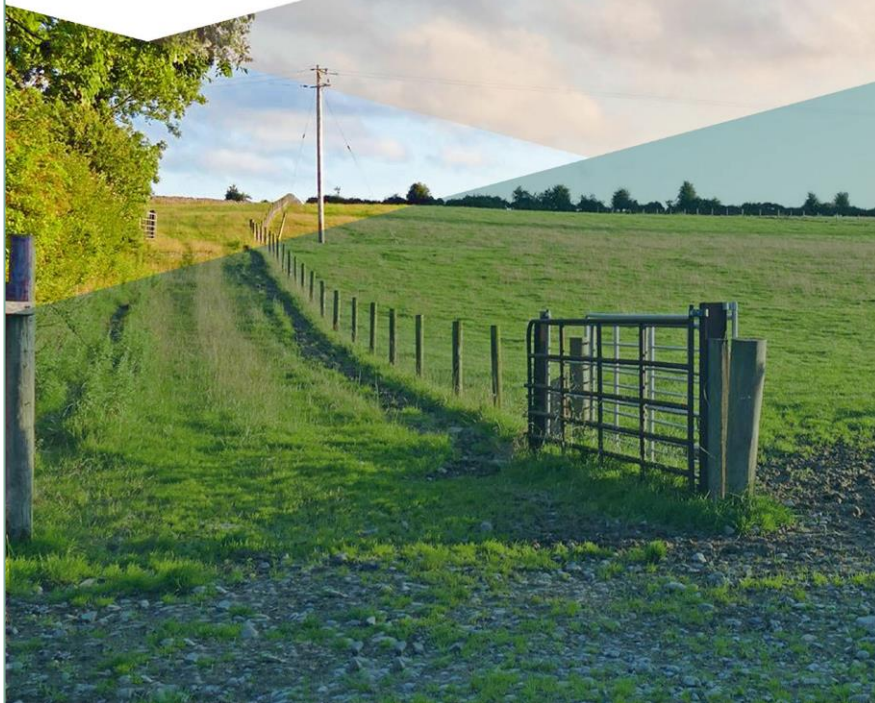


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## EIP-AGRI: Ireland's Operational Groups 2019



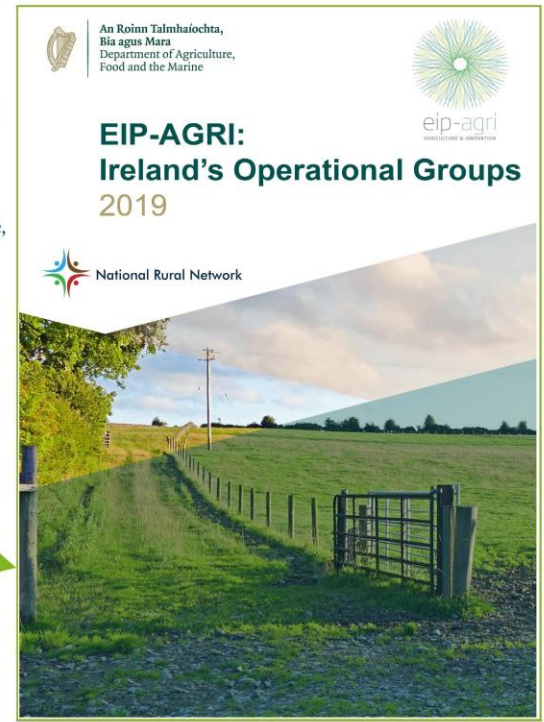
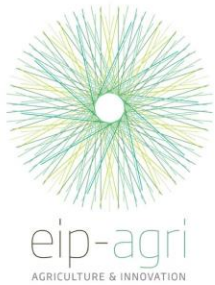
National Rural Network



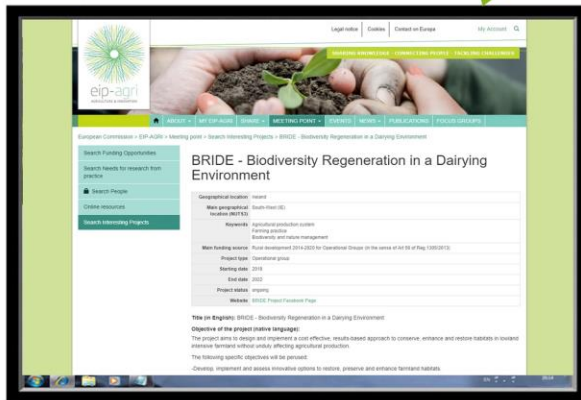
A booklet produced by the Irish NRN team at NUI Galway on behalf of the DAFM, aimed at inspiring people in the farming community and rural areas to maximize the success of the objectives set out in Ireland's RDP 2014-2020, details the main aims, objectives, activates and background of all 23 EIP-AGRI projects.

See: <https://bit.ly/3fwAME7>

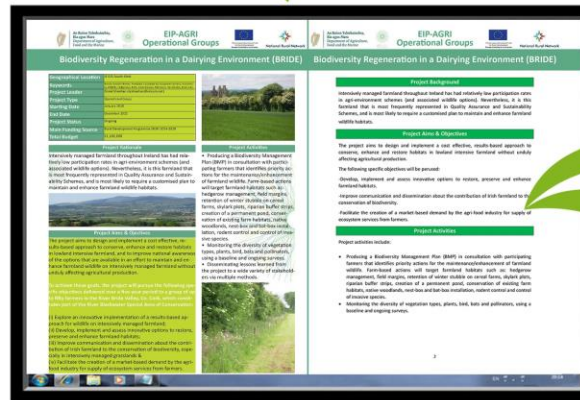
# Irish EIP-AGRI Operational Group 'One-Stop-Shop' NRN Storyboard Database



NRN Operational Group Project Booklet



EIP-AGRI Service Point Project Database



NRN Operational Group Poster/Abstract



Project Social Media

NRN have also created an interactive database of all Irish EIP-AGRI projects, graphically displayed on a Storyboard platform. This innovative tool consists of a geographical map of Ireland combined with user-friendly interactivity, an infographic created for each project & links to websites/social media accounts. See: <https://bit.ly/2DGA0qM>

# Irish EIP-AGRI Operational Groups Go Digital



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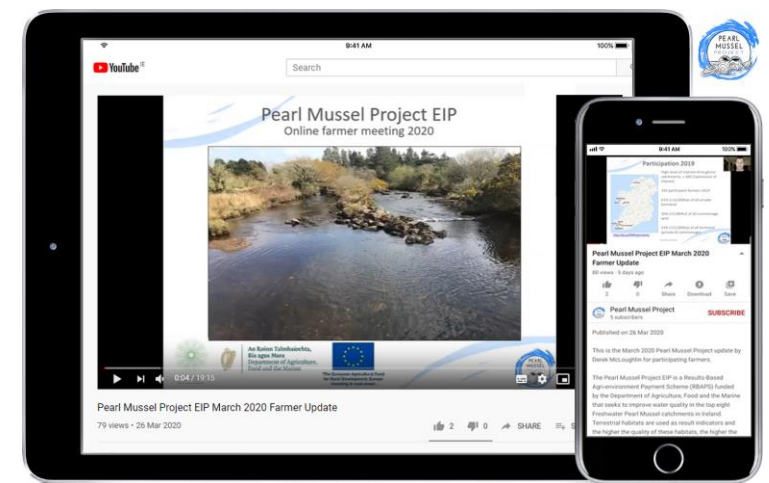
- The Irish NRN have launched a new Video Blog (Vlog) series on their YouTube Channel featuring farmers who explain how their respective Operational Groups are working on the ground, at farm level.

See: <https://youtu.be/0CBt4Mp8VTs>



- In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, Irish OGs have also stepped up their efforts to help stimulate knowledge exchange and boost farmer-led innovation within their project by holding virtual meetings with farmers on Zoom, such as the Pearl Mussel Project.

See: <https://bit.ly/3kh2Zmb>



- The Irish DAFM & European AKIS recognises the fundamental importance of such measures not only for stimulating innovation at farm level, but also in strengthening social inclusiveness & well-being within the farming community, particularly during times of social isolation as a result of COVID-19.

# 'On the Ground' Actions Remain Key



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**A blended (mixed) approach is now necessary, combining digital measures with hands on knowledge exchange activities & strategies which follow COVID-19 guidelines**



*Image Credit: MacGillycuddy Reeks Project EIP-AGRI Operational Group*

# Thank you for your attention

*Go raibh maith agaibh go léir*



# **EIP-AGRI seminar 'CAP Strategic Plans: the key role of AKIS in Member States'**

**Online 16-17-18 September 2020**

All information of the seminar available on  
[www.eip-agri.eu](http://www.eip-agri.eu)

on the event webpage

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

