

eip-agri
AGRICULTURE & INNOVATION

EIP-AGRI Service Point How can we help you?



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EIP-AGRI

The EIP-AGRI is a new approach to boosting innovation in European agriculture and forestry. Launched in 2013, the EIP-AGRI aims to build bridges between science and practice, in particular through practical projects, carried out by Operational Groups, and through networking activities.

The concept of European Innovation Partnerships ("EIP"), as set out in the 2010 Commission Communication 'Innovation Union', encourages collaborative efforts in order to achieve synergies and EU value added. The EIP-AGRI is based on existing policies, most notably the Rural Development policy and the EU research and innovation policy Horizon 2020.

The success of the EIP-AGRI relies on people across the whole supply chain and from the scientific community working together and sharing their ideas and experiences in order to develop innovative solutions and research results ready for application.

The EIP-AGRI therefore focuses on forming partnerships, using bottom-up approaches and linking all actors together in a network.

A service point for the EIP-AGRI

The European Commission established the EIP-AGRI Service Point in April 2013 to connect people and facilitate innovation and knowledge-exchange in agriculture. Here at the EIP-AGRI Service Point, we act as a mediator within the EIP-AGRI network, enhancing communication and cooperation between all innovation actors: farmers, researchers, advisors, businesses, environmental groups, consumer interest groups and other NGOs.

We do so by providing a number of services to innovation actors. This brochure will give you an overview of what the Service Point has to offer and also how you can get involved.

The dream? When a Romanian expert comes up with a solution that could help a Spanish farmer, we want to get this information to him as soon as possible.

Or when a Finnish advisor is looking for a solution to a problem many farmers in her district are facing, she can find the solution developed by an Estonian innovation project on the EIP-AGRI website.







Services > We are here for you



Answering your questions

The EIP-AGRI Service Point invites farmers, researchers, advisors, businesses, farmers' organisations, environmental groups, consumer groups and anyone else interested in agricultural innovation to get in touch and see how we can be of service.

We are available to provide information on questions such as funding opportunities, upcoming events organised by the EIP-AGRI, information on Operational Groups and many other issues related to the EIP-AGRI.

You can reach us:

At our office:
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Avenue du Toison d'Or 72
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Belgium

By telephone: +32 2 543 73 48
By e-mail: servicepoint@eip-agri.eu

subscribe to our monthly newsletter via our website
follow us on twitter via @EIPAGRI_SP
join us on LinkedIn:
www.linkedin.com/in/eipagriservicepoint

Addressing specific challenges in agriculture through Focus Groups

The EIP-AGRI Service Point organises Focus Groups on very specific agricultural topics. The groups gather and summarise knowledge on farming practices, listing problems and opportunities. They take stock on the state of play in research, highlighting and developing possible solutions to these problems. Based on this, the groups propose priorities for innovation actions

including dissemination of good practices and applied research involving farmers, advisors, industry and other practitioners. Focus Groups are short-lived, efficient entities, which wrap up their activities in a report after approximately a year's work. Focus Groups consist of 20 experts with different competencies: farmers, advisors, agro-business representatives and researchers but all with key expertise within the specific field of the Focus Group.

For example, the current Focus Group on Protein Crops will provide suggestions on how to make protein crops in the EU more competitive. By analysing the demand for protein crops in Europe, assessing the potential of protein rich crops in the crop rotation, it will develop alternative scenarios and outlines for additional research and proposals for relevant case studies.

Suggestions for new topics are always welcome.

If you are interested in participating in a Focus Group within your field of expertise, you may apply to future calls. These calls will be announced in our monthly e-newsletter.

Organising events

Face to face contact is still the best way to promote and improve cooperation. Our workshops, seminars and conferences bring people together from across the agricultural innovation landscape: farmers, scientists and local authorities just to mention a few. The EIP-AGRI events deal with questions such as how to prepare proposals for the next Horizon 2020 call or how to set up an operational group and they may also target questions related to innovation within a specific branch of agriculture.

You can find a list of our past and upcoming events on <http://www.eip-agri.eu>



Services > Search, Find & Connect

A website with a user-friendly database

In 2014, the EIP-AGRI website will be transformed into a new interactive innovation platform that can bring people and ideas together virtually on the web. At any given time, you will be able to find out which ideas and projects are being developed in different European countries and regions, which innovations have been tried and tested, which research needs have been generated from practice and which case studies are in progress. There will also be collaborative workspaces for specific innovation topics and an overview of funding opportunities for innovation projects.

In short, the goal is to make it the 'one-stop-shop' for agricultural innovation in the EU.

Search for experts

As the online database develops, you will be able to search for experts working on specific topics. All innovation actors in agriculture will be able to sign up and share and exchange information about their ideas, projects or expertise. The more people who join the database, the more useful it will be for everyone.

Funding opportunities

The EIP-AGRI Service Point will collect and publish information on the different funding opportunities that are available through the Rural Development programmes, the Horizon 2020 programme for Research and Innovation as well as other EU and national funds.

Collecting and sharing research needs from practice

To help bridge the gap between science and practice, the EIP-AGRI service point collects and shares research needs identified by practitioners such as farmers, advisors and agri-businesses. This is meant to inspire and catalyse further innovation actions, including practice-oriented research. We will interact with different stakeholders involved in agricultural practices to see how this process can be elaborated and how cooperation can be established. In the same way, the results of the different Focus Groups will include identification of research needs based on practical experience in their field of focus.

Providing information on innovation actions and research projects

Our team will continuously feed the EIP-AGRI database with projects from research and operational groups with innovation actions and results collected through all the activities set up by the EIP-AGRI Service Point. But we also invite innovation actors to contribute by providing information on their innovation actions, innovative solutions to problems in agriculture and relevant research projects.

Finding partners for your project

Many people have interesting ideas for innovations but it is often a challenge to find the right partners to build a project. The EIP-AGRI Service Point can help you with this and will provide platforms to connect you to other people via our website.





Services > We spread the word

All EIP-AGRI activities will feed into a wide range of publications: newsletters, press articles, fact sheets, web articles, full reports and many more.

Stay up to date

Publications, interesting case studies, important events, new funding opportunities: our monthly e-newsletter on innovation & agriculture will keep you up to date. You can also follow our twitter account, join our LinkedIn Group or check out our website to get the latest news.

Once a year, the EIP-AGRI magazine will report on the milestones, lessons learnt, projects developed and successes celebrated over the past year.

Subscribe, follow or join us via www.eip-agri.eu

Building a strong network is like farming in the sense that you have sow and cultivate to encourage growth.

The work of the EIP-AGRI Service Point will do just that. However, a network is also only as strong as the total sum of its participants and the EIP-AGRI network will only become a factor in agricultural innovation if all players contribute.

Networks, platforms and organisations are always very welcome to relay the relevant information to their members via their own channels.

This way, a strong EIP-AGRI network can lead to an innovative, sustainable and productive agricultural sector.



Help us help you

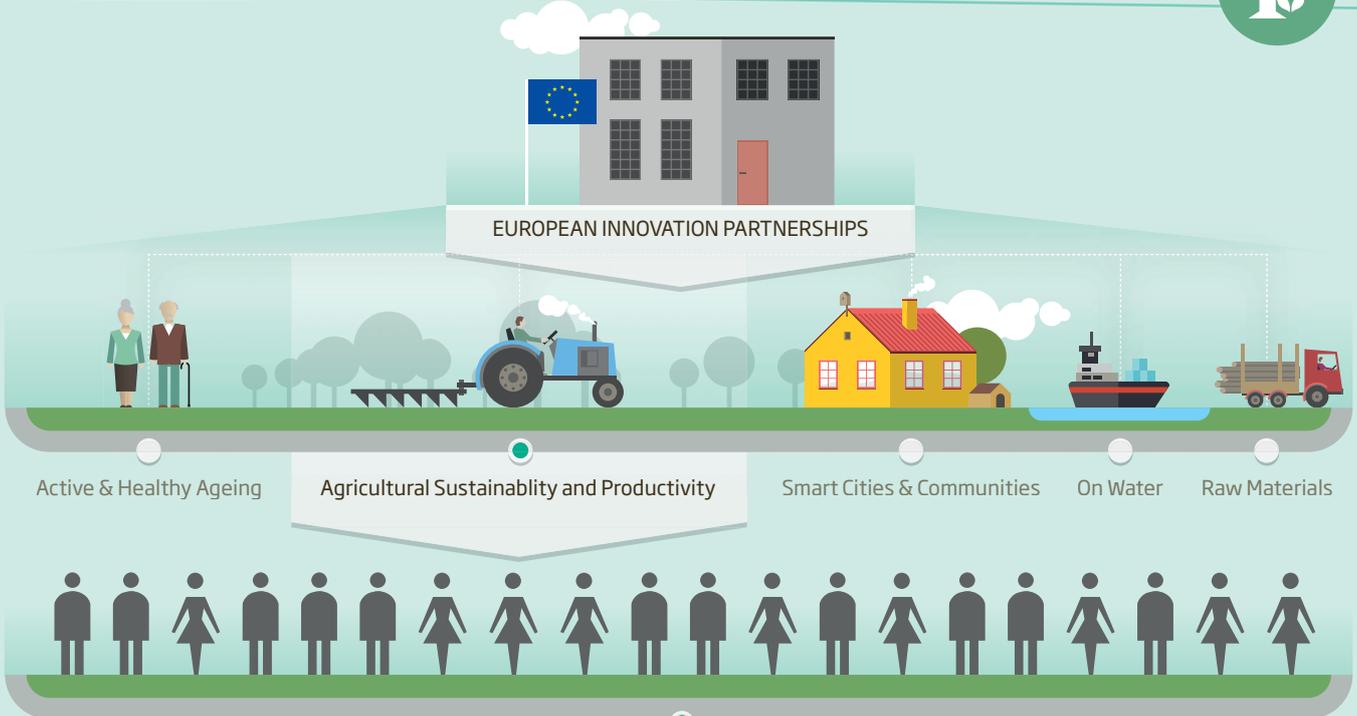


Share your information via easy-to-use e-forms

The EIP-AGRI Service Point has created different e-forms that can be filled in by people who want to share and exchange their information with others. Using these e-forms, you can provide information on Operational Groups, research projects, innovation actions and initiatives, research needs from practice and online sources of information.

Share your information on Operational Groups

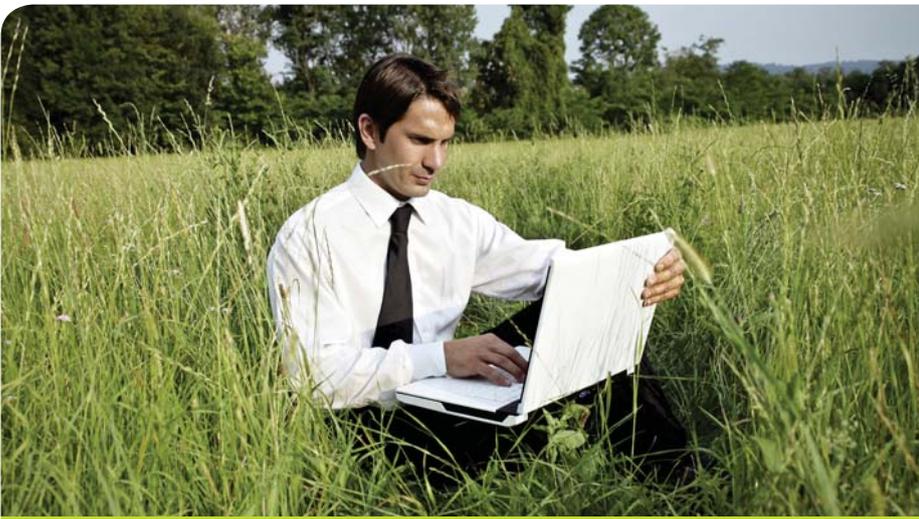
Special attention goes to sharing of the information on the Operational Groups. Operational Groups that are funded under Rural Development disseminate their results. The EIP-AGRI Service Point offers an online form where this information can be supplied



EIP-AGRI Service Point
 SHARING KNOWLEDGE - CONNECTING PEOPLE - TACKLING CHALLENGES
 SERVICES



GOAL The EIP-AGRI Service Point aims to build bridges between science and practice in order to foster a productive and sustainable agriculture and forestry through innovation.



the one-stop-shop for
agricultural innovation in Europe
www.eip-agri.eu

Online from 1 May
2014 onwards



SHARE WITH US information about you, your projects and project ideas, research needs, ...



SEARCH AND FIND funding opportunities, partners, interesting projects, ... on EIP-AGRI meeting point



FOCUS ON practical innovative solutions to problems and opportunities provided in the EIP-AGRI Focus Group chapter



DEEPEN YOUR KNOWLEDGE by different EIP-AGRI related publications in our library



STAY UP TO DATE on innovation related agricultural topics and read about the latest EIP-AGRI news and events



MY EIP-AGRI connects you to your own EIP-AGRI dashboard enables you to follow the information and people you are interested in.

Stay up to date!

- subscribe to our monthly newsletter via our newsletter
- follow us on twitter @EIPAGRI_SP
- join us on LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/eipagriservicepoint

