

European innovation partnership agricultural productivity and sustainability rural development

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Integration of the EIP Agricultural productivity and sustainability in French programming



1. Decentralized management of the EU Funds in France for the 2014-2020 period

A common statement by the French Government and the Regions' representatives (September 2012)

- The French State and the French Regions agree on a 15 commitments basis in favour of France's economic and industrial recovery
- A new legal act on decentralisation
- A series of commitments for Growth and Employment
- Commitment N°14

«The State will entrust the Regions with the management of the EU Funds, in particular on economic development, training, innovation, land-use planning and rural development in order to strengthening the leverage effect of the public funds (...) Right now, the State fully associates the Regions to the preparation of the next programming period ».

A bill on decentralization is on the agenda (April 2013) :

(article 45 ter) «The State entrust the Regions, at their request, the role of managing authorities for ERDF, ESF, EAFRD and conferral of management for a part of EMFF »



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1. Decentralized management of the EU Funds in France for the 2014-2020 period

avec le LEADER

As regards EAFRD : an agreement between the French minister of Agriculture and the representatives of the French Regions has been signed (January 2013) resulting in:

27 Rural development programmes + one national programme

The Regions will be the next Managing Authorities, the Services and payments agency (ASP) will be the paying agency, Government services retain the instruction of a certain number of measures.

A National Framework -jointly drafted by the State and the Regions- states :

- The strategic orientations and methodologies for the next programming period and the commitment from the State
- The content of a certain number of measures required in all the RDP (LFA, risk management, organic farming, setting-up of young farmers, .Agri-environment-Climate..)

It contains cross-cutting provisions concerning **Agroecology, EIP, LEADER...**

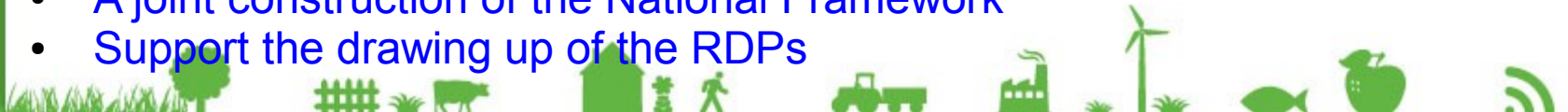
Thematic working groups have cleared the way for further works: (setting-up, forestry, AEC, **competitiveness/innovation**, territorial development) in order to :

- A joint construction of the National Framework
- Support the drawing up of the RDPs



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2. The EIP and the Agriecological project for France



A political framework to boost collective and bottom-up approaches : **the agro-ecological project for France promoted by the French Minister of Agriculture Stéphane LE FOLL**. To increase the capacity of different actors to produce and disseminate all the knowledge necessary to make changes in practices and technological advances expected **for a productive and sustainable agriculture**.

Three areas : awareness and capitalize, disseminate and train, motivate

7 plans : Ecophyto, Ecoantibio, nitrogen/ methanization, sustainable apiculture, vegetal protein, organic 2017 ambition, sustainable seed

A tool : **economic and ecological interest groupings (GIEE) to ease the way for dynamic transitions carried out collectively** and adapted to the closest needs of each territory : several farmers or other partners if needed, commit collectively to implement a pluriannual project, sustainable modification of their practices, of their productive system in view of an overall economic and environmental performance. »

Some of these GIEE are meant to be operational groups in the EIP

A methodological guide « agriecology » is proposed as an annex to the national framework for the managing authorities.

The EIP and operational groups (OG) line with the objectives and methods of agro-ecological project.



3. Towards a national animation of EIP

- **Regions = managing authorities.** Identify the needs as regard innovation and strategic answers, prioritize PDR operations and measures to be implemented. Guide the mobilisation of the cooperation measure by EIP operational groups (key topics, selection criteria, call for proposal, animation and local governance ...).

- **UE : EIP network facility, focus group, CFP, H 2020...**

➤ **Within and between these two levels : a strong expectation for a national animation**

A request from the GIS « Agricultural Recovery » partners - a specific working group led by the DGER (General directorate for Research and Education within the MAAF) in association with the DGPAAT- : research (INRA, IRSTEA, CIRAD), education (Agroparistech, VetAgroSup), development (APCA, ACTA, ACTIA, Coop de France) , upstream sectors (ONVAR= FRAME, FNCIVAM, INPACT), public authorities (ministries and agencies: ANSES, ONEMA). New partners joined the PEI working group : ONF, CNPF, ARF, ANIA..

And a request from the partners **of the extended GIS-RA PEI working group** : new representatives are from the downstream sectors (ANIA, UFC que choisir), the forestry sector (ONF, CNPF), stakeholders for the preservation and enhancement of natural resources (ADEME, FNE), new management authority in the RDI (ARF, DRAAF).

An expectation from some thematic networks (RMT, UMT...) and other stakeholders working through several regions (Competitiveness clusters / Pôle de compétitivité...)

This expectation was confirmed by the regional level and validated by regional Councils, within a thematic working group between the Ministry and representatives of the regional councils « Competitiveness and Innovation ».



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3. EIP : a national animation



The animation at national level of the EIP is led by the Ministry and the Association of Regional Councils and focus on three main missions :

- Ensure a mutual visibility as to the implementation of the EIP between MA of the PDRs and the stakeholders (research organisations, technical institutes, Professionals,...) at national level, with multiregional interest ;
- Ensure a mutual visibility as to the implementation of the EIP by means of the EAFRD and Horizon 2020 :
 - Articulation between EAFRD and H 2020
 - Ease the identification of partners for the multiactors groups Horizon 2020.
 - Ease the involvement of EIP actors to the works and findings of the EIP network facility (European Network) ;
- Strengthen or build up Operational groups thematic networks, work together to pool and disseminate R/D works ;

=> Knowledge, networking, dissemination

+ methodological support ...

The animation is implemented at national level by means of a national programme (or by means of the Rural National Network programme)

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4. Preparatory work for the future group learning and first priorities identified

avec le FEOADER

Task 1 : To ensure a mutual visibility of the EIP implementation between MA of the PDRs and the stakeholders (research organisations, technical institutes, professionals...), established at national level, but showing multi-regional interest

French Level :

EIP documents and work sharing : interservices list, intranet/extranet access to the future managing authorities

Working groups : interservices groups of the Ministry, GIS RA, national thematic groups on societal challenge 2 linked with H2020, training on organic farming, other structures ...

Identification of national and regional priority topics

Cross-cutting regional and national issues

=> *methods for aggregating existing networks*

=> *to set up the link between focus groups and future European thematic networks*

EU level :

EIP network facility, newsletter, focus group, Akis group, seminars...

=> *flow and transparency of information towards MS and MA to be increased*

=> *selection of focus groups, work done by focus groups (forestry for instance?)*

=> *understanding the possible links between EIP and CO+*



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4. Preparatory work for the future group leading and first priorities identified

Task 2 : To ensure a mutual visibility of EIP implementation through EAFRD and Horizon 2020 :

- Synergies between EAFRD and H 2020,
- To facilitate the identification of partners for multi-actors groups in Horizon 2020,
- To facilitate the involvement of EIP actors in the work and results of the EIP network facility

At French level :

Working group between the Directorate of Education and Research and the Directorate for Agriculture and Territories (Ministry)

Follow-up of H2020 and national thematic groups on the societal challenge 2 of H2020 = Information of actors involved in H2020

Information meetings at regional level on H2020, organised by the NCP

Points on the agenda of the thematic working group on competitiveness and innovation : art 36, selection, governance...

Concerted participation in EU events (MS and MA), participation in AKIS group (SCAR)

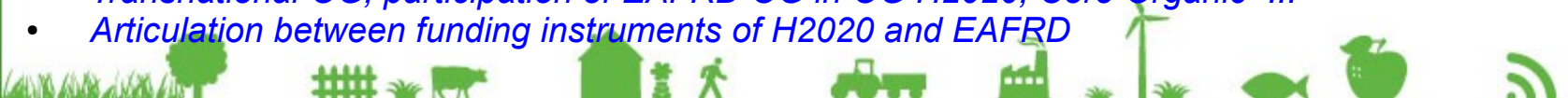
=> 18th December 2013 : Meeting scheduled between MA, GISRA (and other stakeholders) to discuss the first steps of national leading

EU level:

=> see task 1

=> Clarification, ie on H 2020 and other instruments :

- Transnational OG, participation of EAFRD OG in OG H2020, Core Organic+...
- Articulation between funding instruments of H2020 and EAFRD





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4. Preparatory work for the future leading and first priorities identified

avec le FEADER

Task 3: To consolidate or to set up thematic networks for OG, to share and to increase the value of research studies, to help during the working-out of transnational or cross-border projects

At French level :

To list existing networks

Cross-cutting identification of priority topics at national and regional level by the networks

Calls for mixed technological networks (RMT), EIP taken into account

- Which basis to select the thematic networks?
- Which basis for the OG projects? for the European focus groups?
- to rely on regional governance: EIP stakeholders, RDI networks or platforms, regional EIPs

At European level:

- to anticipate the future focus groups and thematic networks
- support of the Commission needed for the operational implementation: funding modalities; legal entities, partnership agreement, grant agreement (see H2020)

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Thank you for your attention!

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