



Subgroup on Innovation for agricultural productivity and sustainability 4th Meeting

#RNSubInnovation - @EIPAGRI_SP

18 February 2016

Subgroup on Innovation for agricultural productivity and sustainability

4th Meeting – 18 February 2016



08:30 - 09:00 Registration & welcome coffee

09:00 - 09:10 Welcome & introduction – *Rob Peters, Head of Unit AGRI H.5*

09:10 - 10:10 Session I “Rural Networking in 2016

Presentation by DG AGRI & discussion in groups

10:10 – 10:30 Session II “Supporting Operational Groups”

**EIP-AGRI implementation in RDPs: first elements from the 94 RDPs supporting
OGs through Measure 16 – Presentations by DG AGRI & EIP-AGRI Service Point**

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 13:00 Session II “Supporting Operational Groups” (continued) – *Discussion in groups*

Support for Operational Groups – DG AGRI & MAs from Austria, Spain, Sweden, England

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 15:00 Session III “EIP-AGRI Focus Groups”

State of play – EIP-AGRI Service Point & DG AGRI

*Making best use of Focus Groups’ outcomes – Presentations by Portugal, Hungary
& Spain / Presentation by Mark Redman*

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee break

15:30 – 16:40 Making best use of Focus Groups’ outcomes – *Discussion in groups*

16:40 – 17:00 Wrap up / next steps

17:00 Closing

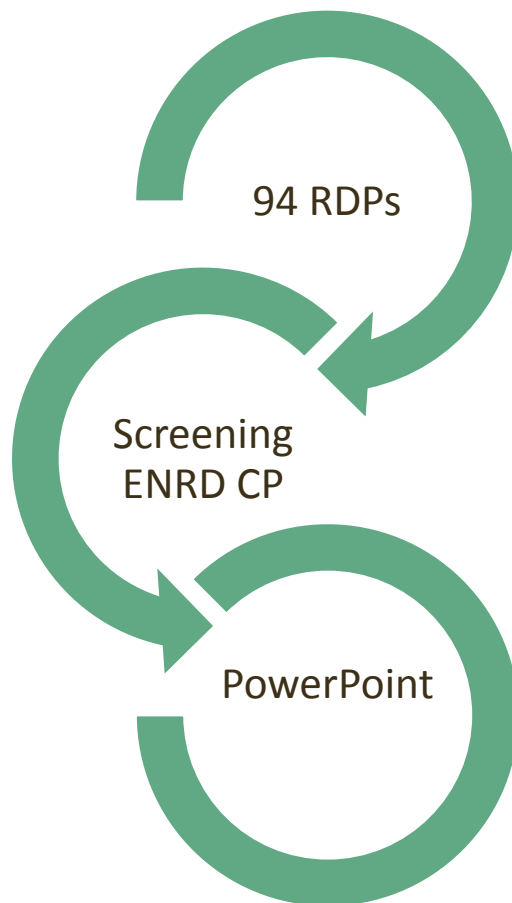


Session II. "Supporting Operational Groups"

EIP-AGRI implementation in RDPs: first elements from the 94 RDPs supporting Operational Groups through Measure 16

Elements from the RDP screening

Margarida Ambar and Sergiu Didicescu
EIP-AGRI Service Point



Source: ENRD CP screening of Measure 16



Screening exercise 1 – Eligibility Criteria

OG composition

- Most common requirement: have at least 2 partners of which 1 is a farmer/forester or entity involved in agriculture/forestry.
- Screened RDPs mention that research projects will not be financed and many RDPs say farmer participation is a priority!

Functioning of the partnership

- Many screened RDP's mention that projects have to be based on a "cooperation agreement" which can promote a joint action plan of the partners. A project plan with proper targets, time planning and expected results is often required (for example in many of the German RDP's).

Innovative angle

- Some RDPs explicit that actions must be new & there is no renewed financing for older projects. Also: requirement is that OG tackle a real practice problem for which an innovative solution can be found & tested (e.g. Slovakia)

Screening exercise 2 – Selection Criteria

Partnership

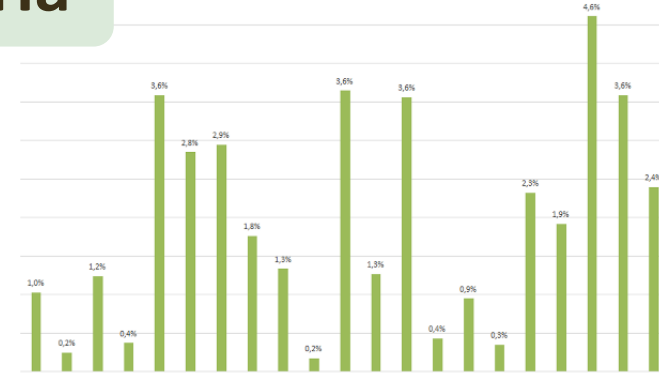
Most of the RDPs include as selection criteria that the partnership is shown to be adequate for the project objectives

Innovation

- Several RDPs explicitly refer to expected innovation
- Lower Saxony & Bremen, Germany: one of the main criteria will be the "innovation potential" – described as how far the proposed project goes beyond the already known standards in products and processes

Key objectives of the OG project

In England, UK: the farmer or producer is expected to be the main driver in determining the topic of an OG project



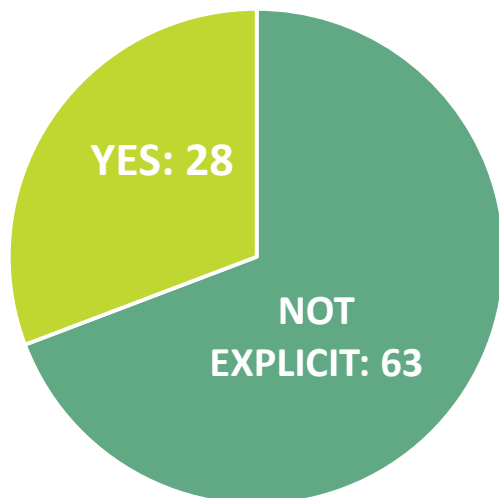


Screening exercise 3 – Beneficiaries

- **Most RDPs use quite general definitions / broad spectrum**
 - Aquitaine, France – beneficiaries can be either public or private entity, NGO or other organisation intervening in the field of agriculture or forestry, whatever its legal status
- **Few RDPs allow all the types of beneficiaries** listed after “such as” in Art 56(1) in R.1305/2013. Instead: majority indicates a focused range of beneficiaries
 - Example: Bolzano, Italy – public bodies or private enterprises active in the research and training sectors, producers organisations and professional organisations active in the agricultural sector, farmers or other actors involved in the food supply chain, advisors
- **Some RDPs include less common types of beneficiaries**, according to regional specificities
 - Bulgaria - NGOs in water conservation sector
 - Emilia-Romagna, Italy - enterprises involved in production of bioenergy
 - Wales - consumer interest groups

Screening exercise 4 – Cross-border possibilities

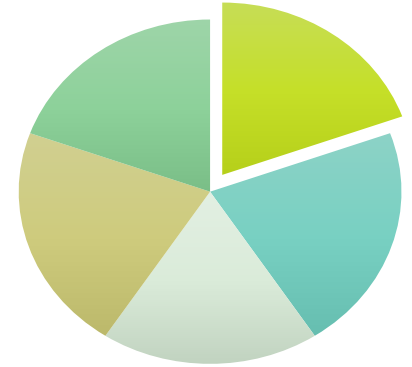
Cross border possibilities:



Even if it is not foreseen in RD legislation 2014-2020, 28% of RDPs explicitly express hope for cross-border OG arrangements, in particular:

- **Italy** (20 RDPs) = 14
- **France** (24 RDPs) = 2
- **Germany** (12 RDPs) = 5
- **Portugal** (3 RDPs) = 2

Screening exercise 5 – Specificities I

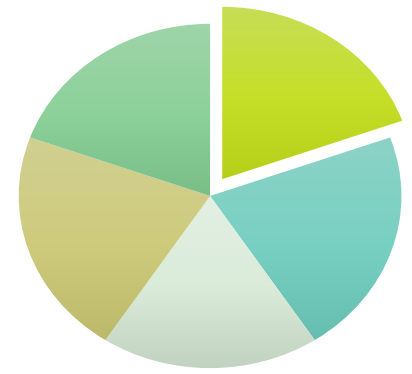


Max. project duration or max. support duration

- Most commonly: 3 till 5 years max.
- There are other limits: e.g. Champagne Ardennes & Guyane, France - max period for support is 1 year

Differentiation according to 2 phases (setting up and project)

- Example 1: Guadeloupe, France - establishment of the OG for 6-12 months and OG project for 2-3 year period
- Example 2: Campania, Italy - maximum duration is 1 year for the first phase and 4 years for the second one



Screening exercise 5 – Specificities II

Max. amount

- There's a wide range of maximum amounts set for the project funding, from 15.000 (Puglia, Italy) till 1 mil. EUR (Bulgaria)
- Specific support for 1st phase typically is low
 - Ex 1: Cyprus: max. support for the set up is 2000 €
 - Ex 2: Croatia - Lump-sum of 5.000 € for the set-up

Support rate

- Most commonly 100%.
- Can vary in same RDP, according to specific aspects.
 - Ex 1: Asturias, Spain – depending on the type of product the project is related to (Annex I or not – State Aid relevance)



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Session II - Elements from the RDP screening

Thank you for your attention!