European Commission

European Network for Rural Development

eip-agri AGRICULTURE & INNOVATION

European Rural Networks' Assembly

Subgroup on Innovation for agricultural productivity and sustainability

5th Meeting

2 June 2016

#RNSubInnovation - @EIPAGRI_SP

Subgroup on Innovation for agricultural productivity and sustainability

5th Meeting – 2 June 2016

Morning sessions

08:00 - 09:00 Registration & welcome coffee

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

09:10 - 09:30 Session I "EIP-AGRI Focus Groups

Presentations by EIP-AGRI Service Point and DG AGRI:

- Information on the state of play of FGs 6-20
- **Launch of calls for experts for FGs 21-23**

09:30 – 10:30 Session II "Operational Groups: first experiences"

Introduction *by Anikó Serégely, DG AGRI*

Feedback from workshop "Operational Groups: first experiences" (April 2016):

- *Jean-Marc Gautier, OG "Robustagno" (France)*
- *Herbert Mock, OG "Organic dock control" (Austria)*

10:30 – 10:45 Session III 'Networking for innovation'

Introduction *by Sirpa Karjalainen, DG AGRI*

10:45 – 11:15 Coffee break

11:15 – 13:00 Session III "Networking for innovation" (continued)

Discussion in groups: how to support the NRNs' role in fostering innovation & how to shape the NRN workshop planned in October 2016

13:00 – 13:45 Lunch break

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Afternoon sessions

13:00 – 13:45 Lunch break

13:45 – 15:10 Session IV "EIP-AGRI and Horizon 2020"

Introduction *by Inge Van Oost, DG AGRI*

Presentation project "Fertinnowa" *by Els Berckmoes, Research Centre for Vegetable Production (Belgium)*

Discussion in groups: how to promote synergies between EIP-AGRI activities & Horizon 2020

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15:10 – 15:30 Coffee break

15:30 – 16:30 Session V "Priorities for 2017"

introduction *by Antonella Zona, DG AGRI*

Discussion in groups: broad priorities for EPI-AGRI network activities in 2017

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16:30 – 17:00 Wrap up / next steps

Exchange of views on upcoming events

17:00 Closing

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FG 21 "Robust and resilient dairy production systems"

Question: How to create good conditions for dairy cattle husbandry in different production systems?

The group should look for approaches and practices which take into account **breeding, nutrition, fertility, health, welfare, farm level monitoring, and overall management in all parts of the life cycle of animals.** The impact on profitability and sustainability (in animal welfare terms) should be assessed

20 Members of the Innovation Subgroup volunteered to contribute to the call

5 Members contributed to the call:

- 3 EU-wide organisations: ATF, IFOAM, COPA
- 1 Researcher (Danish Centre for Food and Agriculture)
- Swedish NRN

QUESTION: How to create good conditions for dairy cattle husbandry in different production systems?

FG21 MAIN TASKS

- Identify **new or underused approaches, practices and strategies:**
  - at animal, farm-, breed- and/or production system level
  - in different production systems and regions.
- Analyse **the impact on profitability and animal welfare** of the most promising identified approaches and practices,
- Develop a clear strategy **to overcome barriers to implementation**, and explore the role of innovation and knowledge transfer in addressing these challenges.
- Propose potential **innovative actions**
- Identify remaining research and innovation **needs coming from practice and** ideas for **Operational Groups** and other innovative projects

- ✓ *Address success and fail factors*
- ✓ *Examples best practices?*
- ✓ *Barriers to implement.?*
- ✓ *Stimulate knowledge*
- ✓ *Share knowledge*
- ✓ *Inspiration for OGs and for further research*

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FG 22 "Agroforestry: pathways to integrate woody vegetation with specialised crop and livestock systems"

Question: How to develop agroforestry as a sustainable farming system which can boost agricultural productivity and profitability?

Members of the Innovation Subgroup who contributed to the call for experts:

- 3 Advisory Services: FR, IE, SI
- 2 Agricultural research institutes: FI, SK
- 4 EU-wide organisations: ECVC, ELO, EURAF, IFOAM
- 2 Managing Authorities: AT, SE
- 2 NRNs: FI, FR

Question: How to develop agroforestry as a sustainable farming system that can boost competitiveness and productivity ?

FG 22 MAIN TASKS

- Provide **relevant practices of integration** of woody vegetation with crop and livestock systems

- **Identify and analyse:**
  - Opportunities for integration and potential economic benefits derived from **additional sources of income**
  - **Limiting factors** deriving form the combination of agriculture and forestry practices at farm level
  - **Formulate strategie**s for the further development and introduction of agroforestry practices and identify **innovative approaches** (new business models, technologies, practices...)

- **Identify:**
  - Remaining research and innovation **needs coming from practice**
  - Ideas for **Operational Groups** and other innovative projects

- ✓ Examples of innovative practices
- ✓ Focus on management and profitability
- ✓ Consider the role of advisory services, and ...
- ✓ Existence of value chains
- ✓ Building on relevant EU research projects and FG work

FG 23 "Diseases and pests in viticulture"

The Focus group “Diseases and pests in viticulture” will tackle the whole cycle of diseases and pests in grape production: Their prevention, detection, management and control. The role of disease management in supporting resilience of grape vines to biotic stresses should deserve special attention.

12 people volunteered to comment the proposal of call for experts,
3 Members of the Innovation Subgroup were contributing to the call:

- 1 EU-wide organisations: IFOAM
- 1 Researcher
- 1 NRN

QUESTION: How can we increase resilience of grape vines to pests and diseases and support productivity of the sector in sustainable ways?

FG23 MAIN TASKS

- Make an **inventory of main pests and diseases** affecting grape vines (inc. distribution and economic impact)
- Take stock of **state of art**:
  - Prevention practices, early detection, diagnostics and monitoring.
  - Main current methods of control (existing problems and opportinities in pest/disease management)
  - IPM strategies (incl. Biological control)
- Explore potential solutions to manage pests/diseases based on agroecological principles such as biodiversity
- Compile examples of **good practices, case studies**
- Identify remaining research **needs coming from practice and** ideas for **Operational Groups** and other innovative projects

✓ *Address success and fail factors*
✓ *Examples best practices?*
✓ *Barriers to implement?*

✓ *Stimulate knowledge*
✓ *Share knowledge*

✓ *Inspiration for OGs and for further research needs*

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