



EIP-AGRI WORKSHOP
EIP-AGRI NETWORKING & COMMUNICATION
4-5 OCTOBER 2016 - BUDAPEST, HUNGARY



Main results of the survey

'Networking for the EIP-AGRI'

How are the NRN / NSU managed, how are they working for the EIP-AGRI and what tools are used?

24 NRN / NSU answered the survey

Does your NRN have a network support unit (NSU) at national / regional level?

The large majority of respondents indicated that the NSU is functioning at national level or in a combination between the national and regional levels.

What is the administrative status of your NSU?

Many of the NSUs are being set up as part of the MA or as part of the MA with some of the activities being delegated or outsourced.

On the other hand there are also numerous examples where the NSU is entirely outsourced to external entities or wholly delegated to government agencies, other than the MA. It can be concluded that there is a large degree of diversity and 'creativity' regarding the administrative status.

What entity has the main responsibility in your Member State / region for the networking tasks supporting implementation of the EIP-AGRI?

Most replies indicated that the main responsibility stays with the NSU of the NRN. However, there are quite a few examples where a separate EIP-AGRI support unit has been created (like for example in Schleswig-Holstein) or where the responsibility has been placed on another type of organisation (like for example the advisory body in Poland).

The rural networks have four main tasks for supporting implementation of the EIP-AGRI. For each of these tasks, we would like you to identify:

- a) How things are progressing with the planning and implementation of relevant activities, and
- b) Which of the activities being implemented are proving to be most successful

Task 1. Raising awareness of the EIP-AGRI amongst relevant stakeholders

In most RDP areas, activities have been started and are running, even though the phase can be incipient in many cases or more advanced in other cases. There is also a number of RDP areas in which the activities haven't started at all yet. This may be because no OGs will be implemented or the calls suffer major delays.

MOST USED TOOLS/ACTIVITIES

- Own website and special section about the EIP-AGRI
- Own newsletter / leaflets & social media
- Articles / advertisement in agricultural press / other press
- Events, presentations in seminars / workshops and fairs
- Tutorial video (It)
- Innovation forum, Initiative center, regional focus groups (Pt)
- Direct contacts / training with potential partners, and their networks' MA helpdesk (Fr)

The activities are often regionally targeted and/or conducted.

NB: In the examples of actions and tools, the Member State is mentioned when only 1 or 2 Member States mentioned this action. Otherwise the mentioned actions and tools were widely referred to.

Task 2. Facilitating the search for Operational Group (OG) partners

In many cases the activities have started, however this doesn't give the general picture as there are still numerous cases where the activities are just planned but have not started yet.

MOST USED TOOLS/ACTIVITIES

- Helpdesk national / regional level
- Direct face-to-face contacts with projects / networks and potential actors interested
- Match-making events / workshops / often by theme
- Special website for connecting interested partners / projects
- Events and meetings with stakeholders
- Survey, training, e-learning (Pl)
- Innovation forum, Initiative Center, regional focus groups, thematic group (Pt)
- Innovation camps, service package, partner search helpdesk in NSU (Fi)
- Innovation support group + innovation network (Se)

The activities are often regionally targeted and/or conducted.

Task 3: Networking for advisers and innovation support services

In most cases, activities have started but there are still many areas where plans are in place but where there are no concrete activities yet.

MOST USED TOOLS/ACTIVITIES

- Agric. / forestry advisory service partnership in disseminating the knowledge of EIP-AGRI
- Special seminars, meetings, workshops specially targeted for advisory actors
- Conferences on special themes (PI)
- Presentations in advisory seminars, workshops, interaction between MA and advisers
- Newsletters, web pages, journals

The activities are often nationally targeted and/or conducted.

Task 4: Collecting and disseminating examples of OG projects

In almost all cases activities are planned but only in a few cases activities have started. In the large majority of RDP areas there are no activities going on yet.

MOST USED TOOLS/ACTIVITIES

- Synthesis and publication of the approved OGs on MA / NRN webpage
- OG models and examples on the NRN website
- Official OG template translated and in use
- Reports and articles of OG best practices also from other MS (De)
- Video / social media promotion of examples and searching new methods (Fi, Pt)
- Seminars, presentations

The activities are both nationally and regionally targeted and/or conducted.

We also asked if the NRN is planning or implementing additional support for the EIP-AGRI:

Capturing the needs for innovation	13
Supporting the building of OG partnerships	17
Supporting the running of OG projects	14
Disseminating the results of OG projects	19
Facilitating the inter-regional networking of OGs	16
Facilitating the trans-national networking of OGs	12
Promoting cooperation between OGs and H2020 multi-actor projects	10

IN ADDITION TO THOSE, ALSO THESE ACTIONS / TOOLS WERE SPECIALLY MENTIONED

- Internal activities and thematic groups in order to capture needs for innovation (Fr)
- Special training "how to pass from an OG project to a project founded by EARDF"
- MA website for dissemination (Fr)
- Partnership agreement model (It)
- Innovation project template (It)
- Guideline for evaluation and monitoring (It)
- Committee of experts to help the evaluation of regional applications (It)
- Creating new national focus groups (Pt) and disseminating the results of the focus groups (Fi)
- Special events (national) for connecting OGs' thematic networks, FGs and multi-actor projects (Pt)
- "Future workshop" connecting students with farmers and SMEs (Se)

In addition to the entities with main responsibility for EIP-AGRI networking, we asked if any other organisations are currently involved in the direct practical implementation of the networking tasks and activities previously described?

RAISING AWARENESS OF THE EIP-AGRI AMONGST RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS (MENTIONED ACTORS)

Other governmental agencies	10
Advisory organisations	19
Research organisations	13
Universities / colleges	10
Farmer / forestry organisations	12

Only few mention civil society organisations, private enterprises or others.

FACILITATING THE SEARCH FOR OG PARTNERS (MENTIONED ACTORS)

Other governmental agencies	8
Advisory organisations	15
Research organisations	9
Universities / colleges	6
Farmer / forestry organisations	9

Only few mention civil society organisations, private enterprises or others.

NETWORKING FOR ADVISERS AND INNOVATION SUPPORT SERVICES

Other governmental agencies	9
Advisory organisations	17
Research organisations	8
Universities / colleges	6
Farmer / forestry organisations	5

Only few mention civil society organisations, private enterprises or others.

COLLECTING AND DISSEMINATING EXAMPLES OF OG PROJECTS (MENTIONED ACTORS)

Other governmental agencies	10
Advisory organisations	15
Research organisations	8
Farmer / forestry organisations	7

Only few mention universities / colleges, civil society organisations, private enterprises or others.

Last but not least...What are the expectations for the outcomes of the workshop in Budapest?

- Exchange experiences, good practices, information and methods
- Learn more and share skills (especially with member states with regional RDPs)
- How to organise the thematic information of different projects at European level
- How to establish contacts for H2020 MAA-projects
- How to activate the cooperation also after the project
- Success stories about public-private partnership
- Hear about possible problems in the implementation
- Progress in EIP-AGRI SP / EIP-AGRI NSU interactions
- How do more with less (too little dedicated staff)
- New contacts