

EIP-AGRI SEMINAR

EIP-AGRI: FROM OPERATIONAL GROUP PROJECT TO IMPACT

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Supporting document for the presentation

"Outlook on EIP-AGRI programming post 2020" – Inge Van Oost

This document includes an overview (first page) of how the various articles in the CAP Commission proposal form together an integrated approach for boosting modernisation, innovation and knowledge flows.

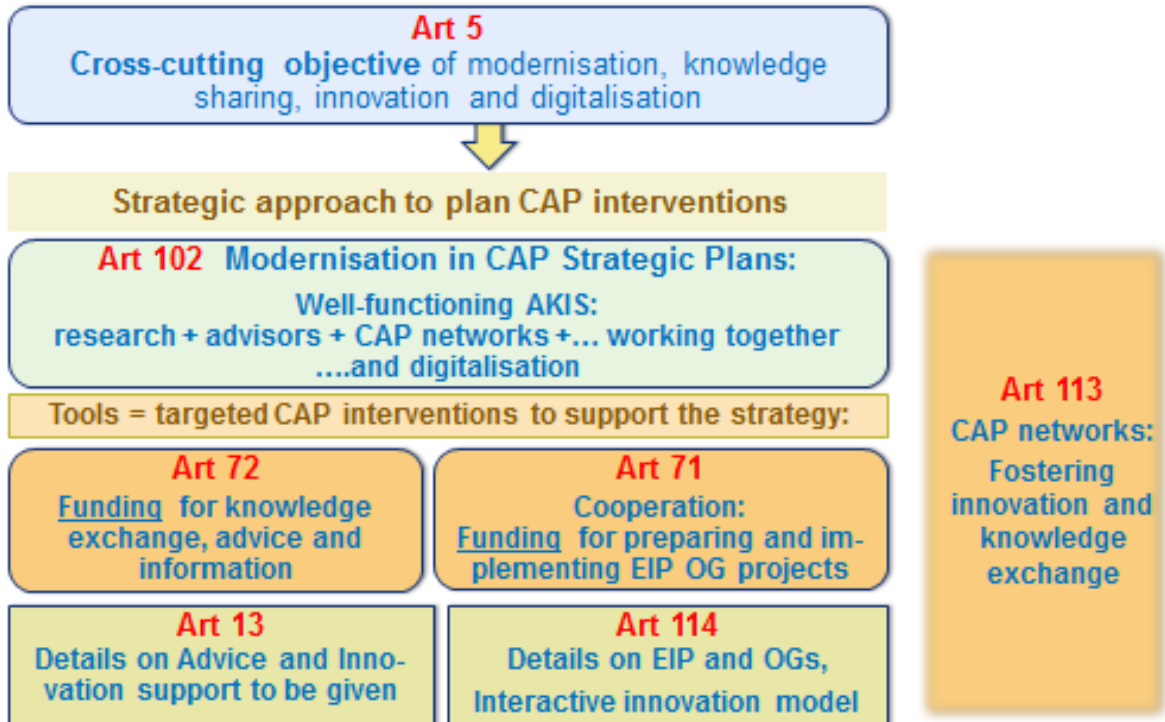
The relevant articles are in several titles, chapters and sections of the CAP regulation, therefore this overview will help you to better understand the linkages between the articles concerning the EIP and the various elements of the Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS), which together are supporting the cross-cutting CAP objective on modernisation, innovation and knowledge flows.

A well-functioning AKIS should regularly and intensively connect innovation actors, take care of training, advice and peer-to-peer learning as well as support innovation projects and effective dissemination. All this should build and promote a good innovation ecosystem in the Member States and regions, thus supporting knowledge exchange and co-creation of innovation supporting farmers'/foresters' needs.

In the following pages you can find extracts from the Commission proposal for the CAP post 2020. Here, for your easy reference, the most relevant sentences related to AKIS and the EIP have been highlighted in yellow in the specific articles.

A final page lists some further documentation which may be useful to read. For instance, the impact assessment (Annex 6), carried out in preparation of the Commission proposals at the same time provides the rationale and a better understanding of the new CAP proposal with increased attention given to knowledge sharing and fostering innovation.

**Integrated approach for modernisation, innovation and knowledge flows:
Overview of relevant AKIS provisions**



Art. 71, 72 and 113 are a key part of an integrated approach supporting modernisation, innovation and knowledge flows



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Proposal for a

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

establishing rules on support for strategic plans to be drawn up by Member States under the Common agricultural policy (CAP Strategic Plans) and financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council

{SEC(2018) 305 final} - {SWD(2018) 301 final}

TITLE II

OBJECTIVES AND INDICATORS

Article 5

General objectives

Support from the EAGF and EAFRD shall aim to further improve the sustainable development of farming, food and rural areas and shall contribute to achieving the following general objectives:

- (a) to foster a smart, resilient and diversified agricultural sector ensuring food security;
- (b) to bolster environmental care and climate action and to contribute to the environmental- and climate-related objectives of the Union;
- (c) to strengthen the socio-economic fabric of rural areas.

Those objectives shall be complemented by the cross-cutting objective of modernising the sector by fostering and sharing of knowledge, innovation and digitalisation in agriculture and rural areas, and encouraging their uptake.

TITLE III

COMMON REQUIREMENTS AND TYPES OF INTERVENTIONS

CHAPTER I

COMMON REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 3

FARM ADVISORY SERVICES

Article 13

Farm advisory services

1. Member States shall include in the CAP Strategic Plan a system providing services for advising farmers and other beneficiaries of CAP support on land management and farm management ('farm advisory services').
2. The farm advisory services shall cover economic, environmental and social dimensions and deliver up to date technological and scientific information developed by research and innovation.
They shall be integrated within the interrelated services of farm advisors, researchers, farmer organisations and other relevant stakeholders that form the Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS).
3. Member States shall ensure that the farm advice given is impartial and that advisors have no conflict of interest.
4. The farm advisory services shall cover at least the following:

- (a) all requirements, conditions and management commitments applying to farmers and other beneficiaries set in the CAP Strategic Plan, including requirements and standards under conditionality and conditions for support schemes as well as information on financial instruments and business plans established under the CAP Strategic Plan;
- (b) the requirements as defined by Member States for implementing Directive 2000/60/EC, Directive 92/43/EEC, Directive 2009/147/EC, Directive 2008/50/EC, Directive (EU) 2016/2284, Regulation (EU) 2016/2031, Regulation (EU) 2016/429, Article 55 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Directive 2009/128/EC;
- (c) farm practices preventing the development of antimicrobial resistance as set out in the Communication "A European One Health Action Plan against Antimicrobial Resistance";
- (d) risk management as referred to in Article 70;
- (e) innovation support in particular for preparing and for implementing Operational Group projects of the European Innovation Partnership for agricultural productivity and sustainability as referred to in Article 114;
- (f) development of digital technologies in agriculture and rural areas as referred to in Article 102(b).

CHAPTER IV

TYPES OF INTERVENTIONS FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

SECTION 1

TYPES OF INTERVENTIONS

Article 71

Cooperation

1. Member States may grant support for cooperation under the conditions set out in this Article and as further specified in their CAP Strategic Plans to prepare and to implement Operational Group projects of the European Innovation Partnership for agricultural productivity and sustainability as referred to in Article 114 and LEADER, referred to as community-led local development in Article 25 of Regulation (EU) [CPR], and to promote quality schemes, producer organisations or producer groups or other forms of cooperation.
2. Member States may only grant support under this type of interventions to promote forms of cooperation which involves at least two entities and which contributes to achieving the specific objectives set out in Article 6.
3. Member States may cover under this type of interventions the costs related to all aspects of the cooperation.
4. Member States may grant the support as an overall amount covering the cost of cooperation and the cost of the projects and operations implemented or they may cover only the cost of the cooperation and use funds from other types of intervention, national or Union support instruments for project implementation.

5. Where support is paid as an overall amount, Member States shall ensure that Union rules and requirements pertaining to similar actions covered under other types of interventions are respected. This paragraph does not apply to LEADER, referred to as community-led local development in Article 25 of Regulation (EU) [CPR].
6. Member States shall not support through this type of interventions cooperation solely involving research bodies.
7. In the case of cooperation in the context of farm succession, Member States may grant support only to farmers having reached the retirement age as set under national legislation.
8. Member States shall limit support to a maximum of seven years except for collective environment and climate actions in duly justified cases to achieve the specific environmental- and climate-related objectives set out in points (d), (e) and (f) of Article 6(1).

Article 72

Knowledge exchange and information

1. Member States may grant support for agricultural, forestry and rural business knowledge exchange and information under the conditions set out in this Article and as further specified in their CAP Strategic Plans.
2. Under this type of interventions Member States may cover costs of any relevant action to promote innovation, access to training and advice and exchange and dissemination of knowledge and information which contribute to achieving the specific objectives set out in Article 6.
3. Member States shall limit the support to a maximum of 75% of the eligible costs.
By way of derogation from the first subparagraph, in the case of setting-up of farm advisory services, Member States may grant support in the form of a fixed amount of maximum EUR 200 000.
4. By way of derogation from paragraph 3, in outermost regions and other duly justified cases Member States may apply a higher rate or a higher amount than that set in in that paragraph to achieve the specific objectives set out in Article 6.
5. In the case of support to the setting-up of farm advisory services, Member States shall ensure that the support is limited in time.
6. Member States shall ensure that actions supported under this type of interventions be based on and be consistent with the description of the AKIS provided in the CAP Strategic Plan in accordance with point (i) of Article 102(a).

TITLE IV

FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Article 85 *EAFRD contribution rates*

2. The maximum EAFRD contribution rate shall be:
- (a) 70% of the eligible public expenditure in the outermost regions and in the smaller Aegean islands within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 229/2013;
 - (b) 70% of the eligible public expenditure in the less developed regions;
 - (c) 65% of the eligible expenditure for payments under Article 66;
 - (d) 43% of the eligible public expenditure in the other regions.

The minimum EAFRD contribution rate shall be 20 %.

3. By way of derogation from paragraph 2, the maximum EAFRD contribution rate shall be:

- (a) 80 % for management commitments referred to in Article 65 of this Regulation, for payments under Article 67 of this Regulation, for nonproductive investments referred to in Article 68 of this Regulation, for support for the European Innovation Partnership under Article 71 of this Regulation and for the LEADER, referred to as community-led local development in Article 25 of Regulation (EU) [CPR];
- (b) 100% for operations receiving funding from funds transferred to the EAFRD in accordance with Articles 15 and 90 of this Regulation.

CHAPTER II CONTENT OF THE CAP STRATEGIC PLAN

Article 95

Content for the CAP Strategic Plans

1. Each CAP Strategic Plan shall contain the following sections:
 - (a) an assessment of needs;
 - (b) an intervention strategy;
 - (c) a description of elements common to several interventions;
 - (d) a description of the direct payments, sectoral and rural development interventions specified in the strategy;
 - (e) target and financial plans;
 - (f) a description of the governance and coordination system;
 - (g) a description of the elements that ensure modernisation of the CAP;
 - (h) a description of the elements related to simplification and reduced administrative burden for final beneficiaries.

2. Each CAP Strategic Plan shall contain the following annexes:
 - (a) Annex I on the ex-ante evaluation and the strategic environmental assessment (SEA);
 - (b) Annex II on the SWOT analysis;
 - (c) Annex III on the consultation of the partners;
 - (d) Annex IV on the crop-specific payment for cotton;
 - (e) Annex V on the additional national financing provided within the scope of the CAP Strategic Plan.

TITLE V CAP STRATEGIC PLAN

CHAPTER II CONTENT OF THE CAP STRATEGIC PLAN

Article 102 *Modernisation*

The description of the elements that ensure modernisation of the CAP referred to in point (g) of Article 95(1) shall highlight the elements of the CAP Strategic Plan that support the modernisation of the agricultural sector and the CAP and shall contain in particular:

- (a) an overview of how the CAP Strategic Plan will contribute to the cross-cutting general objective related to fostering and sharing of knowledge, innovation and digitalisation and encouraging their uptake set out in the second subparagraph of Article 5, notably through:
 - (i) a description of the organisational set-up of the AKIS designed as the combined organisation and knowledge flows between persons, organisations and institutions who use and produce knowledge for agriculture and interrelated fields;
 - (ii) a description of how advisory services as referred to in Article 13, research and CAP networks will work together within the framework of the AKIS, and how advice and innovation support services are provided;
- (b) a description of the strategy for the development of digital technologies in agriculture and rural areas and for the use of these technologies to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the CAP Strategic Plan interventions.

TITLE VI

COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE

Article 112

Technical assistance at the initiative of the Member States

1. At the initiative of a Member State, the EAFRD may support actions which are necessary for the effective administration and implementation of support in relation to the CAP Strategic Plan, including the establishing and operating of the national CAP networks referred to in Article 113(1). The actions referred to in this paragraph may concern previous and subsequent CAP Strategic Plan periods.

Article 113

European and national Common Agricultural Policy Networks

1. Each Member State shall establish a national Common Agricultural Policy Network (national CAP network) for the networking of organisations and administrations, advisors, researchers and other innovation actors in the field of agriculture and rural development at national level at the latest 12 months after the approval by the Commission of the CAP Strategic Plan.
2. A European network for the Common Agricultural Policy (European CAP network) shall be put in place for the networking of national networks, organisations, and administrations in the field of agriculture and rural development at Union level.
3. Networking through the CAP networks shall have the following objectives:
 - (a) increase the involvement of all stakeholders in the design and implementation of CAP Strategic Plans;
 - (b) accompany the Member States' administrations in the implementation of CAP Strategic Plans and the transition to a performance based delivery model;
 - (c) facilitate peer to peer learning and interaction among all agricultural and rural stakeholders;
 - (d) foster innovation and support the inclusion of all stakeholders in the knowledge-exchange and knowledge-building process;
 - (e) support the monitoring and evaluation capacities of all stakeholders;
 - (f) contribute to the dissemination of CAP Strategic Plans results.
4. The tasks of the CAP Networks for the achievement of the objectives set out in paragraph 3 shall be the following:
 - (a) collection, analysis and dissemination of information on actions supported under CAP Strategic Plans;
 - (b) contribution to capacity building for Member States administrations and of other actors involved in the implementation of CAP Strategic Plans, including as regards monitoring and evaluation processes;
 - (c) collection and dissemination of good practice;

- (d) collection of information, including statistics and administrative information, and analysis on developments in agriculture and rural areas relevant to the specific objectives set out in Article 6(1);
- (e) creation of platforms, fora and events to facilitate exchanges of experience between stakeholders and peer to peer learning, including where relevant exchanges with networks in third countries;
- (f) collection of information and facilitation of networking of funded structures and projects, such as local action groups referred to in Article 27 of Regulation (EU) [CPR], Operational Groups of the European Innovation Partnership for agricultural productivity and sustainability as referred to in Article 114(4) and equivalent structures and projects;
- (g) support for cooperation projects between LAGs or similar local development structures, including transnational cooperation;
- (h) creation of links to other Union funded strategies or networks;
- (i) contribution to the further development of the CAP and preparation of any subsequent CAP Strategic Plan period;
- (j) in the case of national CAP networks, participating in and contributing to the activities of the European CAP network.

Article 114
European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability

1. The Commission shall establish a European Innovation Partnership for agricultural productivity and sustainability (EIP).
2. The aim of the EIP shall be to stimulate innovation and improve the exchange of knowledge.
3. The EIP shall contribute to achieving the specific objectives set out to in Article 6(1).
4. The EIP shall support the AKIS referred to in Article 13(2) by connecting policies and instruments to speed up innovation. It shall in particular:
 - (a) create added value by better linking research and farming practice and encouraging the wider use of available innovation measures;
 - (b) connect innovation actors and projects;
 - (c) promote the faster and wider transposition of innovative solutions into practice; and
 - (d) inform the scientific community about the research needs of farming practice.

EIP Operational Groups shall form part of the EIP. They shall draw up a plan for innovative projects to be developed, tested, adapted or implemented shall be based on the interactive innovation model which has as key principles:

- (a) developing innovative solutions focusing on farmers' or foresters' needs while also tackling the interactions across the supply chain where useful;
- (b) bringing together partners with complementary knowledge such as farmers, advisors, researchers, enterprises or non-governmental organisations in a targeted combination as best suited to achieve the project objectives; and

(c) co-deciding and co-creating all along the project.

The envisaged innovation may be based on new but also on traditional practices in a new geographical or environmental context.

Operational Groups shall disseminate their plans and the results of their projects, in particular through the CAP networks.

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**on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy and
repealing Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013**

{SWD(2018) 301 final} - {SEC(2018) 305 final}

Article 42

Payment to beneficiaries

Member States may decide to pay advances of up to 50% under the interventions referred to in Articles 68 and 71 of Regulation (EU) No.../...[CAP Strategic Plan Regulation].

Further reading on the future CAP and the role of Knowledge and Innovation in the CAP post 2020:

- Commission proposals (published 1 June 2018):
<https://ec.europa.eu/commission/publications/natural-resources-and-environment>
- Brochure on future CAP:
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/budget-may2018-modernising-cap_en.pdf
- Impact assessment on Modernisation (made in preparation of the CAP Commission Proposal):
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=SWD%3A2018%3A301%3AFIN>

Document 3: encloses Annex 6 of the CAP Impact Assessment

<u>Annex 6: Promoting Modernisation</u>	105
1. Enhancing Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) and strengthening links with research	105
2. Strengthening of farm advisory services within the Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems.....	108
3. Enhancing interactive innovation	110
4. Supporting digital transition in agriculture.....	113

- EIP seminar on AKIS:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/event/eip-agri-seminar-promoting-creativity-and-learning>
- EIP brochure on AKIS:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/publications/eip-agri-brochure-agricultural-knowledge-and>
- EIP brochure "Operational Groups - Collaborate to innovate":
https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/eip-agri_brochure_collaborate_to_innovate_operational_groups_2018_en_web.pdf
- Commission Communication on The Future of Food and Farming (29 November 2017):
https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/sites/agriculture/files/future-of-cap/future_of_food_and_farming_communication_en.pdf