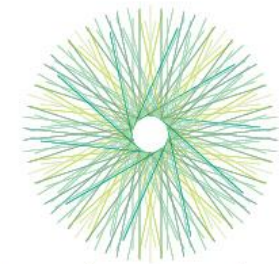


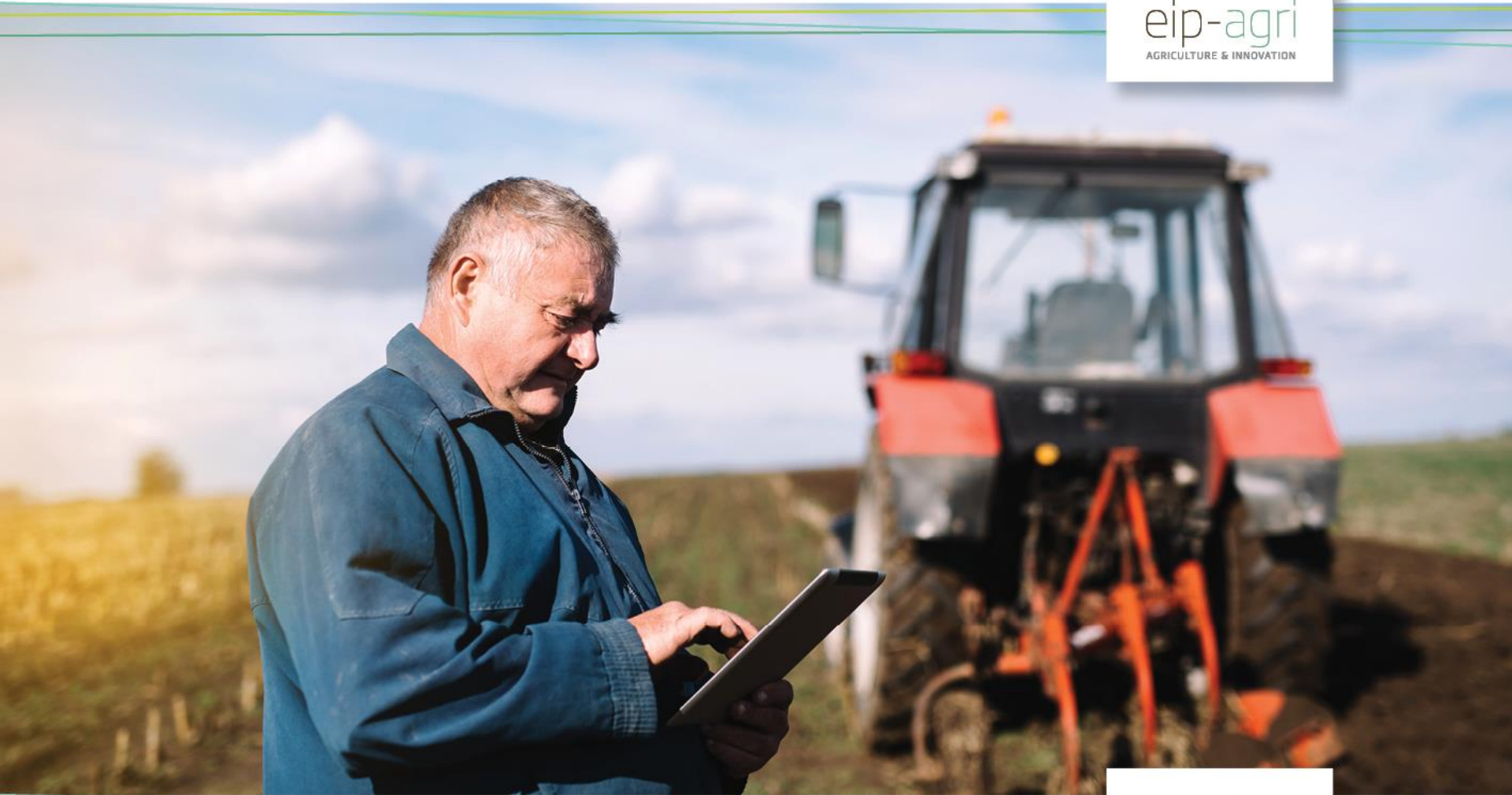
EIP-AGRI Seminar

New skills for digital farming

5-6 February 2020 – Aranjuez, Spain



eip-agri
AGRICULTURE & INNOVATION



funded by  European Commission



Programme

WEDNESDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2020

12:00 – 13:30 Registration and buffet lunch

13:30 – 13:55 Welcome

- *Luis Planas Puchades, Spanish Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food*
- *María Ángeles Benitez Salas, European Commission, DG AGRI*
- Introduction to the programme – *Esther Koopmanschap, EIP-AGRI Service Point*

Session 1: Where do we stand?

13:55 – 14:25

New skills in the face of digitalisation

- *Emily Gray, OECD*
- *Ethan Cleary, Irish Farmers Association*



Programme

WEDNESDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2020

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 14:25 – 15:25 | Working with digital technologies: the farmer experience |
| 15:25 – 15:55 | Coffee break |
| 15:55 – 17:30 | What skills for digital farming?
Breakout session |
| 17:30 – 18:15 | Wrap up and introduction to day 2 |
| 20:00 | Networking dinner |



SKILLS FOR DIGITAL FARMING:

Needs, opportunities and challenges ahead

Emily Gray

Trade and Agriculture Directorate, OECD

EIP-AGRI seminar: New skills for digital farming



Digital transformation of agriculture

“Digital farms” – farms that combine precision farming techniques with digitalisation

But **digital opportunities for agriculture** exist across a broad spectrum of low to high-tech solutions

- Mobile devices and platforms for management and advisory services
- Integrated farm systems using in-field sensors and the IoT; connected farm machinery

Interactions with governments and businesses in value chains

- Digital services (e.g. payment services); access to information (e.g. product prices and standards)
- Interactions with government (platforms and applications for agricultural extension and advisory services)



What skills do farmers need to operate in a digital world?

Farmers need **cross-cutting skills** to benefit from digital technologies:

...to adopt and implement digital technologies

- Cognitive and analytical skills: to access and process complex information, and make decisions
- Basic ICT skills to use digital tools and applications

...**digital skills** to operate safely in a digital world

- How to use digital tools as an aid to decision-making – awareness and trust of platforms
- Navigating the internet safely

...as well as complementary **soft skills**

- Problem-solving, creative thinking, management and communication skills



Upskilling agriculture – what are the needs?

Generally lower skills in the agricultural workforce

- Lower levels of formal training
- Greater reliance on practical experience (~68% of EU farmers)

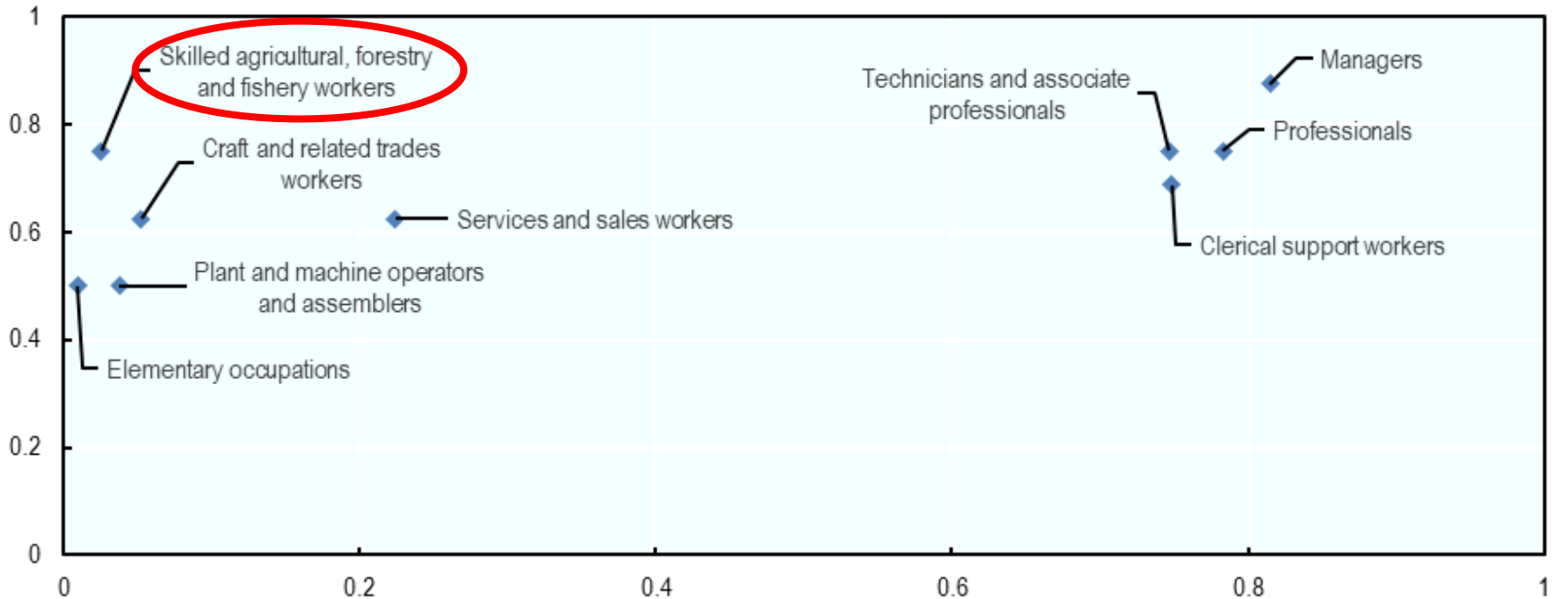
Low exposure to digital technologies on farm

...and low uptake of digital technologies?



Low uptake of digital tools in agriculture...but is this a problem?

Non-routine intensity



OECD (2019), *OECD Skills Outlook 2019: Thriving in a Digital World*, <https://doi.org/10.1787/df80bc12-en>.

ICT intensity



Build farmers' skills...to operate in a more complex world

Farmers face **complex decisions** on how to use their land, what to produce and how to buy inputs and sell their products...

...in a **complex operating environment** characterised by technological and economic change, consumer concerns, climate change and global value chains (among others!)

Agricultural education and training that builds the skills farmers need to meet these challenges and opportunities

...including by adopting and implementing digital technologies on farm



Challenge for agricultural education and VET

1. Develop cognitive and 'soft' skills, as well as technical farming skills
2. Provide opportunities for lifelong learning
3. Address barriers to participating in agricultural education and VET
4. Ensure that agricultural education and VET is aligned with the sector's needs
5. Integrate digital tools and applications into agricultural education and VET
6. Address the skills divide that can lead to some farmers being left behind



Contact us – we look forward to hearing from you

Emily.GRAY@oecd.org

<http://www.oecd.org/agriculture/topics/technology-and-digital-agriculture/>



Access all of the information from the Trade & Agriculture Directorate at:

<http://www.oecd.org/agriculture/>

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We invite you to connect with us on Twitter by following:

[@OECDagriculture](https://twitter.com/OECDagriculture)