



**EIP-AGRI SEMINAR**  
MOVING EIP-AGRI IMPLEMENTATION FORWARD  
**10-11 MAY 2017 - ATHENS, GREECE**



## **EIP-AGRI Seminar** **'Moving EIP-AGRI implementation forward'**

Wednesday 10 May – Thursday 11 May 2017  
Athens, Greece

On Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 May 2017, DG AGRI is organising a two half-day seminar dedicated to exploring and sharing the existing experiences with implementing the EIP-AGRI via Rural Development Programmes support. This event will be held with the support of the Greek RDP Managing Authority – Network Support Unit of the National Rural Network. With over 230 Operational Groups (OGs) already working on their projects and many more to come, this seminar will focus on sharing current challenges that administrations are facing and possible ways forward inspired by positive experiences. What can national and regional Managing Authorities (MAs) and Paying Agencies (PAs) do to move forward with the EIP-AGRI?

Discussions will cover the whole timeline of EIP implementation, from the early phases of launching calls for OGs and selecting OG projects, with a look at project support, management of administrative and financial requirements up until dissemination of results. Bringing in experience of some OGs during the seminar will add to the understanding of interactive approaches within OG projects and how to increase their impact.

The **overall aim of the seminar** is to further improve EIP-AGRI implementation by sharing and learning from existing experiences and practical approaches to roll out RDP funding in support to OGs.

The seminar has the **following specific objectives:**

1. **To exchange** experiences and practices among MAs and PAs in rolling out RDP support to OGs along the whole delivery chain
2. **To identify** approaches and tools that are useful for MAs and PAs in accomplishing their tasks while considering the needs of OG partners
3. **To understand** the interaction within OG projects and how partners can be incentivised to co-create solutions that are ready to use for farmers and foresters
4. **To increase** the impact of OG projects by promoting the involvement of organisations and actors with the right competences, complementing each other



## **EIP-AGRI SEMINAR**

### MOVING EIP-AGRI IMPLEMENTATION FORWARD

## **10-11 MAY 2017 - ATHENS, GREECE**



### **Final programme**

**Interpretation for the plenary sessions will be available from / to English, French, German, Greek, Italian and Spanish**

#### **Day 1 – Wednesday, 10 May 2017**

**08:50 – 12:00 Social event: guided tour of the Acropolis Museum**

**12:00 – 13:00 Registration and buffet lunch**

#### **Setting the scene – Why are we here in this seminar?**

**13:00 – 13:10** Welcome by the host and by DG AGRI

*Charalambos Kasimis, Greek Secretary-General of Agricultural Policy and Management of European Funds*

*Alexander Bartovič, Head of Unit F2, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission*

**13:10 – 13:25** The bigger picture of the EIP-AGRI

*Inge Van Oost, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission*

**13:25 – 13:30** Warm-up

*Sebastian Elbe, EIP-AGRI Service Point*

**13:30 – 14:00** What EIP-AGRI is about – examples of Operational Groups (OGs)

- DE – Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Ulrich Knaus – Aquaponics, combining plant and fish production
- SE – Sweden, Samo Grasic – Innovative planning in reindeer herding
- FR - Midi-Pyrénées, Christophe Durand – Triple performance for pig farming
- IT – Emilia Romagna, Matteo Gatti – Competitive and sustainable viticulture
- BE – Flanders, Koen Mertens – Testing the potential of sensors for GPS technology on pilot farms

**14:00 – 14:20** 1<sup>st</sup> breakout session – “Getting to know each other”

Introduction – *Sebastian Elbe, EIP-AGRI Service Point*



## **EIP-AGRI SEMINAR**

### MOVING EIP-AGRI IMPLEMENTATION FORWARD

## **10-11 MAY 2017 - ATHENS, GREECE**



### **Enabling cross-fertilisation and communication – How to facilitate good project applications?**

- 14:20 – 14:30** The Hungarian approach  
*Timea Reszkető, Head of RDI unit in the Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture*
- 14:30 – 14:40** The Catalan experience  
*Jaume Sió, Deputy Director Innovation, Department of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food in Generalitat of Catalonia*
- 14:40 – 14:45** Introduction to the session  
*Inge Van Oost, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission*
- 14:45 – 15:50** 2<sup>nd</sup> breakout session – “Application forms and partnership agreements”  
Questions for discussion:
1. What should be included in the application form?
  2. What do you think a partnership agreement should cover?
- 15:50 – 16:20** **Coffee break and networking**
- 16:20 – 16:25** Harvesting from the breakout session

### **Incentivising innovation – How to select the best OGS?**

- 16:25 – 16:35** The Romanian approach  
*Liviu Popescu – Counsellor at the Romanian RDP Managing Authority, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development*
- 16:35 – 16:45** The Flemish experience  
*Els Lapage, Director of the Extension Service at the Flemish RDP Managing Authority, the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries of the Flemish Government*
- 16:45 – 16:50** Introduction to the session  
*Inge Van Oost, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission*
- 16:50 – 18:00** 3<sup>rd</sup> breakout session – “Selection process”  
Questions for discussion:
1. What selection criteria help to choose the best proposals? How to cover farmer/foresters' needs and get the right mix of knowledge present in the project?
  2. How to secure sufficient expertise for the selection process?
- 19:00** **Networking dinner**





## **EIP-AGRI SEMINAR**

### MOVING EIP-AGRI IMPLEMENTATION FORWARD

## **10-11 MAY 2017 - ATHENS, GREECE**



### **Day 2 – Thursday, 11 May 2017**

#### **Getting back to business – Tips and tricks from Day 1**

- 08:00 – 09:00**     **Registration Day 2**
- 09:00 – 09:05**     Introduction to Day 2  
*Inge Van Oost, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission*
- 09:05 – 09:15**     Brief recap of the main results from Day 1  
*Sebastian Elbe, EIP-AGRI Service Point*
- 09:15 – 09:30**     Keeping in mind what EIP-AGRI is about – examples of OGs
- DE – Sachsen, Bernhard Jansen – innovative fertilisation and weed control in organic rapeseed
  - ES – Catalunya, Rosa Altisent – minimising pesticide use in stone fruit
  - DE – Niedersachsen und Bremen, Hubert Gerhardy – a learning factory to reduce antibiotic use in pig production

#### **Calling for innovation – bottom-up or thematic OG calls?**

- 09:30 – 09:40**     Experience from Ireland  
*Ronan O'Flaherty, Head of Division Agri-Environment (Organics and Locally-Led Schemes), Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine*
- 09:40 – 09:45**     Introduction to the session  
*Inge Van Oost, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission*
- 09:45 – 10:50**     4<sup>th</sup> breakout session – “Calls for OG projects”  
Questions for discussion:
1. How can a call with open themes and/or prefixed themes ensure you cover the needs and opportunities of farmers/foresters?
  2. Can you share good practices to help the call capturing innovative ideas and reaching the right partners at the right time?
- 10:50 – 11:20**     **Coffee break and networking**
- 11:20 – 11:30**     Harvesting from the breakout session



**EIP-AGRI SEMINAR**  
MOVING EIP-AGRI IMPLEMENTATION FORWARD  
**10-11 MAY 2017 - ATHENS, GREECE**



**Smart thinking – Is there room for simplification of procedures or forms?**

- 11:30 – 11:35** Introduction to the session  
*Inge Van Oost, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission*
- 11:35 – 11:50** The Swedish approach  
*Lena Lind, Deputy Director at Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation*
- 11:50 – 11:55** Introduction to the interactive session  
*Sebastian Elbe, EIP-AGRI Service Point*
- 11:55 – 12:45** Interactive session – “Simplification”

**Preparing to say goodbye for now**

- 12:45 – 12:55** Reflection on the seminar by participants
- 12:55 – 13:00** Closing remarks  
*Alberto D’Avino, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission*
- 13:00 – 14:00** **Light lunch and networking**
- 14:00** **End**