Subgroup on Innovation
for agricultural productivity and sustainability
16th Meeting
10 March 2020

#RNSubInnovation - @EIPAGRI_SP

Subgroup on Innovation
for agricultural productivity and sustainability
16th Meeting – 10 March 2020

08:00 – 09:00   Registration and welcome coffee

09:00 – 09:15   Welcome and introduction

09:15 – 09:35   **Session I: the European Green Deal**
- General presentation & presentation of the 'Farm to Fork' Strategy
- Q&A

09:35 – 10:35   **Session II: achievements and challenges of the Subgroup on Innovation: experiences from the members**
- General introduction
- Sharing experiences of Subgroup members
- Interactive discussions on achievements and challenges

10:35 – 11:05   Coffee break

11:05 – 12:05   **Session II: continuation**
- Sharing experiences of Subgroup members
- Interactive discussions on achievements and challenges

12:05 – 12:30   **Session II: feedback on experiences with the Subgroup**

12:30 – 13:30   Lunch break

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12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break

13:30 – 14:30 **Session II: continuation**
- Interactive discussion: translating the Subgroup experiences into future priorities

14:30 – 15:00 **Session III: Presentation of the study 'Farmers of the Future' and the symposium 'Spotlights on Young Farmers'**
- General presentation of the results of the study
- General presentation of the results of the symposium
- Q&A

15:00 – 15:20 **Session IV: the EIP-AGRI Service Point workplan 2020**
- General presentation of the workplan 2020, with special focus on the activities to be launched in the first half of the year
- Information on the upcoming seminar on AKIS

15:20 – 15:50 Coffee break

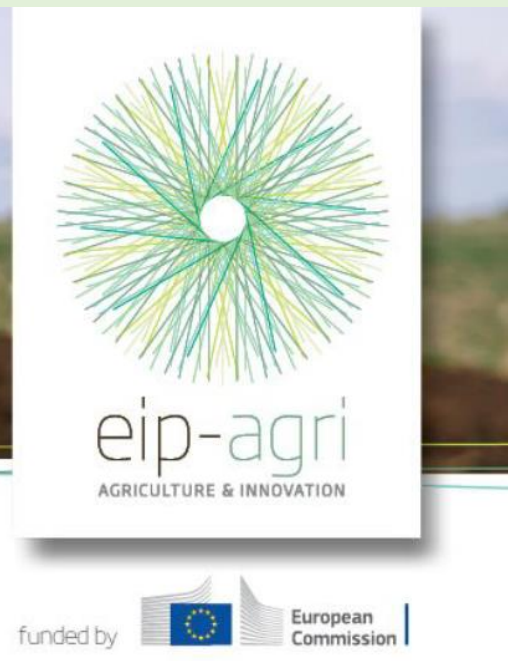**15:50 – 16:05** **Session V: Feedback on recent activities**
- Workshop 'Small is smart' – Innovative solutions for small agricultural and forestry holdings
- **Seminar 'New skills for digital farming'**

16:05 – 16:15 Next steps and closing

EIP-AGRI Seminar "New skills for digital farming"

Organised in collaboration with the **Spanish Ministry of Agriculture**

Event webpage: https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/event/eip-agri-seminar-new-skills-digital-farming

EIP-AGRI Seminar "New skills for digital farming"

AIM:

Contribute to the design and implementation of approaches and tools that can help farmers and farm advisers develop the **skills** they need in the face of the digital transition in agriculture.

Key facts and figures

Over 150 participants from 28 European Countries
Farmers, advisors and innovation support services, RDP Managing Authorities / Network Support Units, **higher education and vocational education & training** (VET) actors, technology providers, EU projects…

More than 40 speakers including: Spanish Mister of Agriculture, DG AGRI, OECD, IFA, **13 'digital' farmers**, some 27 presenters and interventions from national and European projects and initiatives

EIP-AGRI Seminar "New skills for digital farming"

The seminar's agenda in 3 key steps:

1) What skills for digital farming?

2) How to get them?

3) What role for the future CAP?

What skills for digital farming?

Input

Scene setter: the perspective of OECD and Irish farmers (IFA)

The voice of **farmers**: benefits, knowledge, skills and challenges when working with digital tools (posters and videos)

Discussion: *What knowledge and skills are mostly needed?*

Skillset and learning paths differ according to the farm's business objective

The problem is often not 'how' to use IT but for 'what'

Not only 'high-tech' (flying drones) but also 'low-tech' skillset (cross-cutting, '**soft skills**')

Not really taught at school >> *What do teachers need to know?*

Majority of farmers' skills come from practice (60%)

Low adoption of ICT not necessarily linked to skills: **confidence** is also key

How to get the right skills?

Input

An [inspirational journey](#) on how to support knowledge and skills development for digital farming

Discussion: *Where and how can farmers better find and acquire the competences they need?*

Discussion: *What means are available to bridge the skill gap? How can they work together? And with/for whom?*

A wealth of upskilling possibilities from the classroom to the field (public, private, local, national, European)

Make it easy for farmers to learn (e.g. evening classes, blended learning, open source)

Peer-to-peer and **collaboration** (researchers, advisors, educational institutions and digital technology providers) to tackle trust and confidence issues

Make money available for training and learning opportunities (CAP, ERASMUS+,…)

"Not converting farmer in a digital genius but 'digitalising' the whole system"

What role for the future CAP (and AKIS)?

Input

Breakout session 2: *What would be relevant
to include in the future CAP strategic plans?*

Some take-away's:

Use CAP tools (vocational training, demonstration, information actions, farm exchange/visits, advice, cooperation/EIP, Leader) in **targeted and synergic** way to address from basic to more advanced needs

Promote linkages between CAP and other initiatives such as **Erasmus+**

Focus on education/training as a component of digital strategies

Specific **incentives** for digital training, funding for practical education on digital issues and application

Promote **operational groups** with focus on training (train the trainers)

Support the development of **Digital Innovation Hubs**

Stimulate adoption of IT by **networking activities** (cross border visits, mobility programmes for farmers

Funding for living labs, demo farms, discussions groups

Strengthen the role and capacity of advisors including digital tools and skills