



COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY

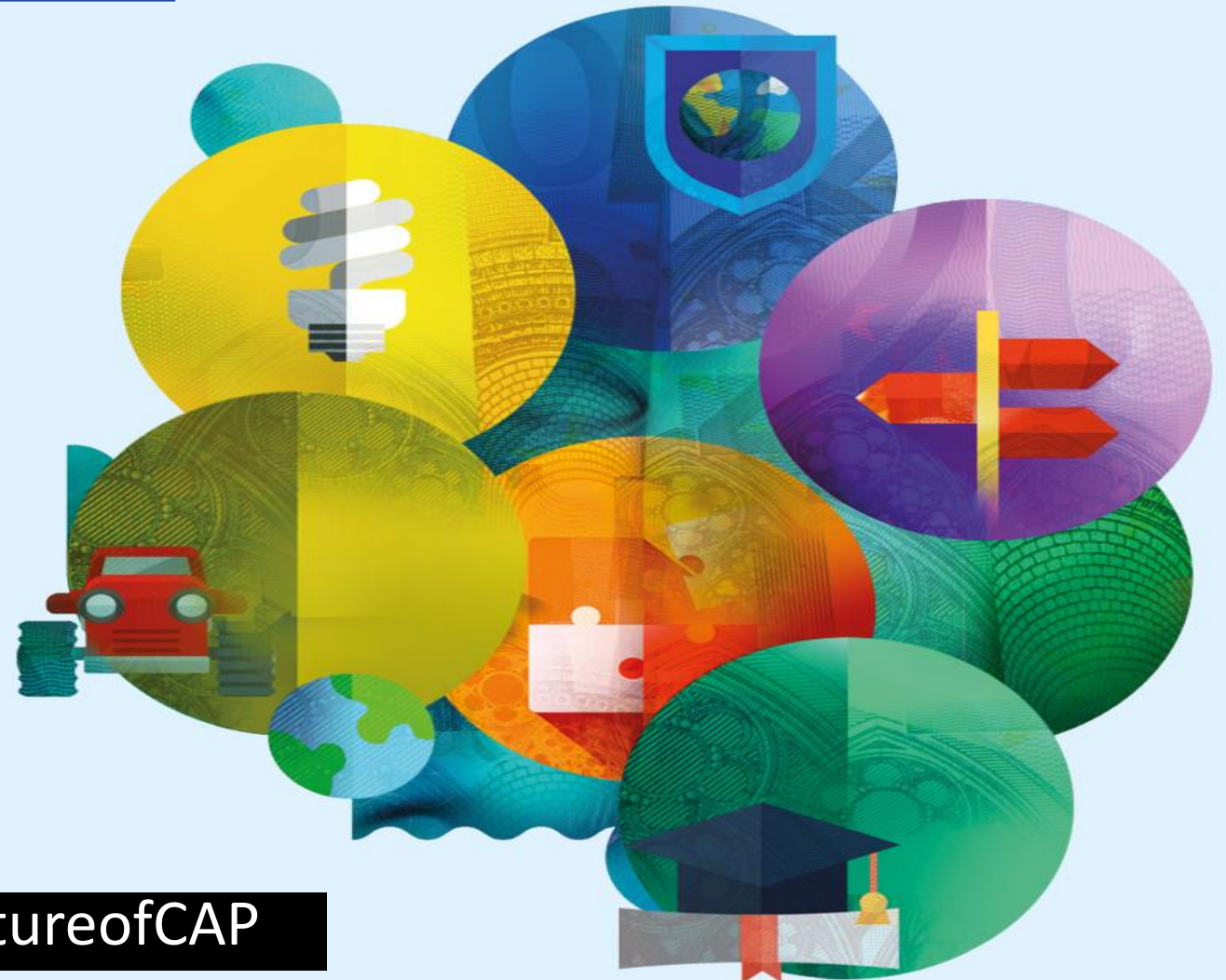
Post-2020

*The role of NRNs & CAP
networks post 2020
encouraging cross-border
cooperation of EIP-AGRI
Operational Group projects*

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Unit B2 – Research & Innovation

11 February 2021 – NRN meeting



#FutureofCAP

How can CAP networks help strengthening innovation and knowledge exchange on all 9 CAP objectives?

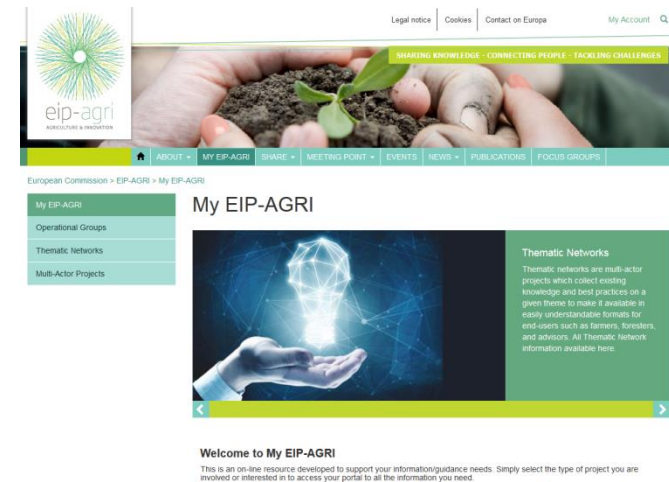
1. Collecting and sharing outcomes of 3200+ EIP OGs from current CAP
2. Collecting and sharing outcomes of 180 H2020 multi-actor projects + Horizon Europe
3. EIP website + knowledge reservoirs being prepared at nat.level + under Horizon
4. **Connecting OGs with Horizon** projects = great added value (links EU with local)
5. All this **material provides great info for local AKIS actors** (farmers, advisors, education, trainers, media, businesses, researchers,..): training for farmers and for advisors, peer-to-peer events, demonstrations, website, e-learning, ISS etc
6. **Organising events to link and network AKIS actors** for future cooperation
7. **Start now**, already testing future interventions under current period and **brainstorm in AKIS coordination platforms**

The Horizon 2020/Horizon Europe (HE) dimension of the EIP-AGRI

1. The synergies organized between Horizon projects and EIP Operational Groups induces the need for **intensifying innovation networking with Horizon Europe National Contact Points**: a monthly encounter could be useful
2. **Promote and make OGs visible: database/events** with all OGs in the MS + contacts + thematic categorisation
3. **Follow the yearly Horizon Europe calls and be pro-active**: present the topics to your OGs, make a brokering event with your OGs, advisors and researchers, think about cross-border events around specific topics in the call where OGs could join. Horizon consortia mostly do not find the OGs they would like to have in their project as they miss the contact => **AKIS platforms & coordination needed**
4. **Particular formats even more attracting OGs**: Thematic Networks and Advisory Networks
5. **Also when Horizon projects are running**, OGs or their partners may still be invited to events of their interest: NRN/CAP networks can give them support

AKIS & EIP-AGRI – preparing for EU knowledge reservoir(s) for practice **serving advisors' back-offices for innovation support and advice**

- ✓ MS already creating dbases (EIP-AGRI in DE, FR, back-office and ISS in LT etc)
- ✓ EURAKNOS project (Thematic Network of Thematic Networks, midterm Jan 2020)
- ✓ EUREKA project (feasibility EU knowledge reservoir for practice, kick-off Jan 2020)



Making **at EU level** an increasing volume of practice-oriented knowledge easy accessible, interactive and attractive!

CAP plans

State of play & interesting elements supporting cross-border OGs



CAP post 2020 – AKIS, EIP, advice and innovation – state of play negotiations – new CAP starts Jan 2023 – **be ready !!**

Council amendments which can help support EIP cross-border Operational Group projects:

- Obligation to integrate and **update advisors' competences through connections within the AKIS** (Art 13), e.g. on up-to-date R&I and economic, ecological and social domains

- **Obligation and funding to provide innovation support** (Art 13)

- Broad CAP support for almost **any type of knowledge exchange and advice** (Art 72)

↔ limitations in former FAS, as well as in Art 15 advisory support in current RD regulation

A number of further improvements since June 1018:

Art 72: **coherence: linking** the support for knowledge exchange & advice with AKIS strategies

Art 114: introduction of **funding cross-border OG projects** (*as from the start*)

Art 113: introduction of the **possibility for existing OGs to cooperate**, funded by Technical Assistance or Art 72 => CROSS-FERTILISATION

European Parliament: general partial agreement on 23/10/2020: no substantial changes on AKIS. **Trilogues have started in November, ongoing**

CAP post 2020 – Recommendations to Member States: all including an AKIS recommendation

https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/key-policies/common-agricultural-policy/cap-strategic-plans_en#documents

Press release

Link: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_2473

Short URL for twitter: <https://europa.eu/!HH89my>

Q&A

Link: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_20_2481

Short URL for twitter: <https://europa.eu/!Bm83bx>

⇒ Ongoing: SWOT analysis, CAP plan discussions will follow in spring

⇒ **Will be an incentive for cross-border OG projects**

eip-agri
AGRICULTURE & INNOVATION



16-17-18 September 2020
EIP-AGRI Seminar 'CAP Strategic Plans: the key role of AKIS in Member States'

Seminar 'CAP Strategic Plans: the key role of AKIS in Member States'

- Who?
 - Representatives of RDP Managing Authorities (national and regional levels)
 - NRNs
 - Representatives of national FAS coordinating entities
 - Advisory organisations
- The programme:
 - Concept and basic aspects of AKIS
 - Integration of advisers and the preparation of the CAP networks in strengthening the AKIS
 - Inspiration from existing tools and initiatives that may be relevant
 - Preparation of the AKIS strategic plan and AKIS interventions

All results including all recordings from the sessions stay available at the [event webpage](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/event/eip-agri-seminar-cap-strategic-plans-key-role-akis)
<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/event/eip-agri-seminar-cap-strategic-plans-key-role-akis>

EIP Seminar on AKIS strategies in CAP Strategic Plans

16-18 September 2020 (the full seminar was recorded and can be seen again)

- Inspiration from an experienced **innovation support service**, followed by a **panel discussion on AKIS policy**.
- Opening speeches from **Commissioner Polish Ministers of Agr.**, one very inspiring and **Rural Inspiration Award OG** + an **overview on the basic elements of AKIS + Q&A**.
- Section on advice: intro + 3 diverse examples of **advisory services**
- Section on role of the **national CAP network for innovation**, again with good examples
- **Online discussions** which happened in the weeks before the seminar (on advisory services, on CAP networks and on the CAP plans), summarised by **Mark Gibson**
- **10 good examples of nice AKIS interventions that can be supported by the CAP**
- **4 MS presenting their CAP plans**, already full of content
- after the breakout sessions, **our Director General Burtscher** closed with a very nice **summary on the interactive discussions** and expresses how he sees the future & AKIS.

Some highlights from the seminar

Context & AKIS

- Agriculture will become more knowledge-intensive and there will be a need for greater collaboration due to the increasingly complex challenges faced by agriculture.
- Collaboration across borders will be particularly important.
- The aim is to create an innovation ecosystem by enhancing knowledge flows.
- AKIS is a key strategy for providing support to the 9 new CAP objectives.

Integrating advisers in the AKIS

- All advisers will be integrated within AKIS in an inclusive way without the current admin burden (certification, procurement etc).
- Advisers will cover a much broader scope (econ, env and soc), improve their interaction with research, and also must provide innovation support for EIP OGs.
- Advisers will need a different skillset (training necessary) and renewed organization models (e.g. vouchers).

CAP Networks

- **CAP networks will be the cornerstone of the AKIS, and the glue between actors. Some of their most relevant roles:**
 - 1. Collecting and sharing knowledge, all the relevant input for AKIS actors;**
 - 2. Organising events to link and network AKIS actors for future cooperation;**
 - 3. Promoting and making OGs visible, and connecting them with Horizon Europe projects;**
 - 4. Helping to facilitate cross-border OGs with networking events and strong connections with HE National Contact Points.**

AKIS Strategic plans

- Develop the strategic AKIS plan in a transformative process together with different stakeholders.
- Enhance all kinds of cross-border possibilities. Different ministries in MSs need to coordinate in an AKIS coordination body.

Tips and tricks for encouraging cross-border OGs

- **Difficulties:**

- Member States (MS) having very different interests, interest to support own regions only, BUT: selection criteria are similar (Art 114)
- Problems to cooperate even between own regions: rigid bureaucracy in many countries/regions, e.g. size of a group, requirements to be eligible, not see regional vs EU collaboration in conflict

- **How to come to cross-border OGs: preparation**

- Working before the cross-border cooperation as an interactive network or in an international project has proved useful (Art 113 post 2020 for OGs! Targeted actions from the NRN e.g. DE, Horizon projects at EU level)
- Benefits for both groups! (possibly from different funding sources). Cross-border OGs can evolve into Horizon

- **Key tips:**

- **Synchronised calls:** chose a few moments **for all EU MS** (e.g. 1 Jan 2023, 1 Jan 2025, 1 Jan 2027, well in advance, so they can organize and the CAP networks can work to towards this moment), in case there are no continuous calls (as in SE)
- Give **benefits:** top ups/higher max funding, dedicated help/ innovation support, extra points during selection, maybe even make it mandatory to have 1 call cross-border, ...
- Show and **inspiration** from existing tools and initiatives that may be relevant (transnational LAGs working well?)
- **Help to interconnect actors with similar interest:** be proactive, build capacity (management skills) with actors working regularly cross-border e.g. in AKIS Horizon projects, **provide info on the OGs** in your country region (cluster according to themes, enable contact, national database...)

(Thanks to Hardi Tamm's expertise at the EIP AGRI seminar September 2020)

Questions?



AKIS animated infographic:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/new-animated-video-akis-building-effective>

Thank you for your attention