

# COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY

2023-2027

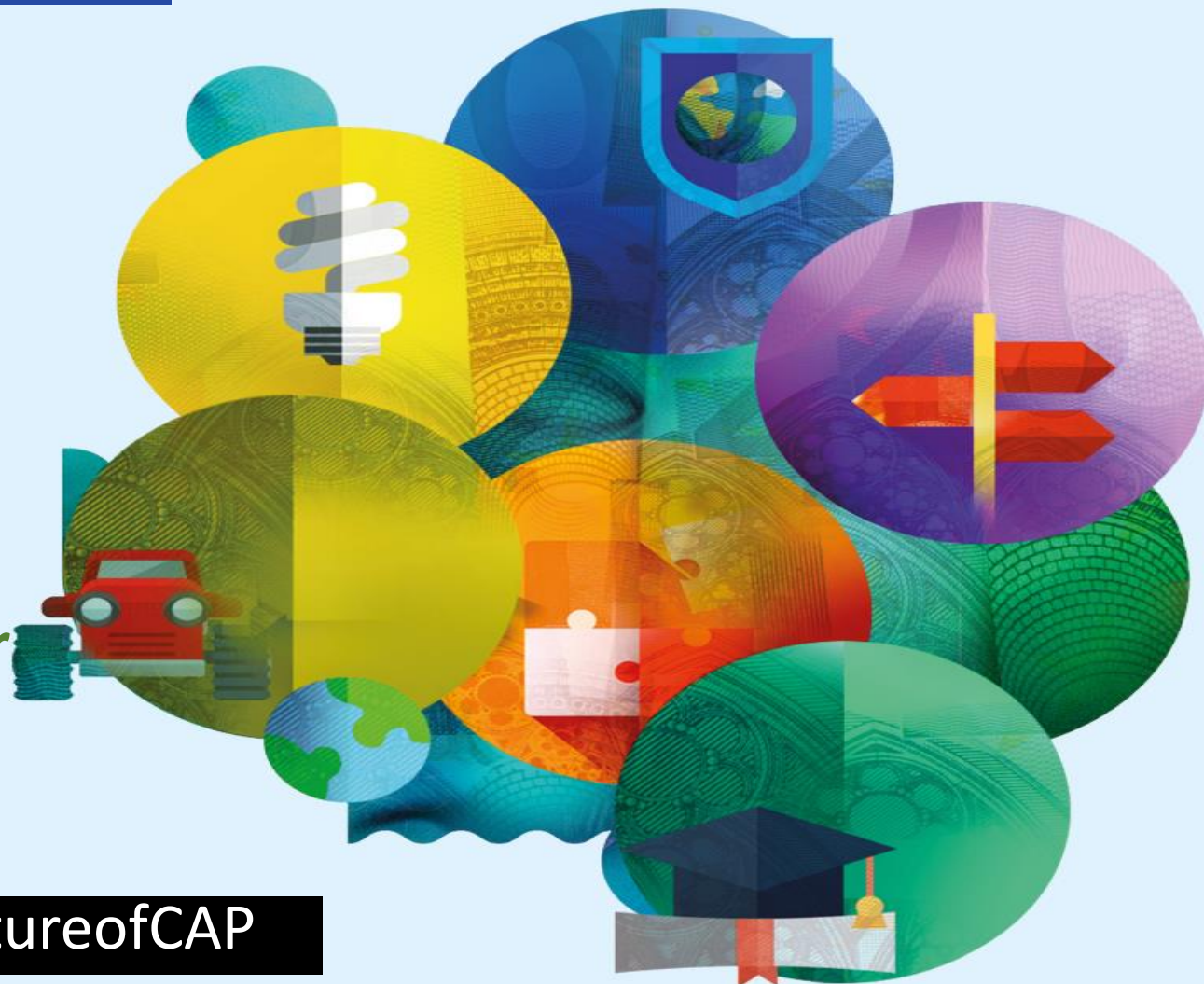


**European co-creating innovation and  
knowledge sharing for practice:**

*“Fostering grassland opportunities,  
circular business models and skills for  
resilient rural communities”*

Inge Van Oost - DG AGRI  
European Commission  
EU Green Week Partner Event  
8 June 2023

**#FutureofCAP**



## The EIP-AGRI in short: same principles in AKIS



- The EIP-AGRI applies an overarching "*Open innovation*" concept based on the **interactive innovation model** (applied in RD Operational Groups and H2020 Multi-Actor projects),

Collaboration between various actors to make **best use of complementary types of knowledge** (scientific, practical, organisational, etc) **in view of co-creation** and **quick spreading** of solutions/opportunities **ready to implement in practice.**

- **EU wide knowledge and innovation network** linking actors: communication, partnering, dissemination, knowledge flows and collecting practice needs (*Open science*)

# EIP-AGRI

## Connecting policies: the bigger picture

Common Agriculture Policy (CAP)  
(national/regional level)



### Operational Group

- ✓ OG preparation
- ✓ OG projects
- ✓ Innovation support services



National CAP  
Networks

Unique EU knowledge repository  
of contacts and practice abstracts



Spread  
the results



Horizon 2020/Europe (EU level)

- Research projects

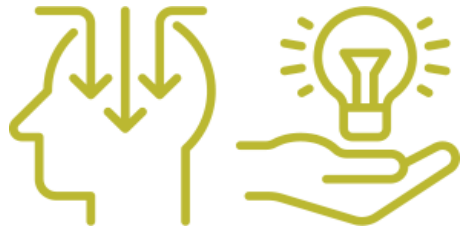
**Multi-actor projects, e.g.**

- Thematic networks
- Advisory Networks



**Involvement of OGs  
strongly recommended**

[Welcome to the EU CAP Network! | European CAP Network \(europa.eu\)](http://europa.eu)



## The AKIS at the heart of the agricultural innovation ecosystem

### What is an Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS)?

**What:** *AKIS is the organisation and interaction of persons, organisations and institutions who **use** and **produce knowledge and innovation** for agriculture **and interrelated fields.** (def)*

**Who:** *The main players of the AKIS are: farmers/foresters, advisors, researchers, (farmer) organisations, NGOs, networks, retailers, media, services, various ministries...: they all produce and need knowledge!*

**Why:** *The aim is to create a **regional/national innovation ecosystem** by enhancing **knowledge flows** between the AKIS players as well as strengthening links between research and practice.*

**Brief "What is AKIS":** [https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2019-04/building-stronger-akis\\_en\\_0.pdf](https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2019-04/building-stronger-akis_en_0.pdf)

**AKIS at the heart of the agricultural innovation ecosystem =>**

**Cross-cutting CAP support to Systematically share**

**Knowledge and Innovation in Agriculture and rural areas**

including **in whatever farming and rural activities**

**automatically relate to** (= environment, climate, biodiversity, landscape, consumers and citizens, food and non-food systems including transformation and distribution chains, etc)



## **Where does the AKIS policy come from?**

*In their 2008 declaration, the researchers of the Standing Committee of Agricultural Research (SCAR) stated that the **classical linear research model does not function anymore** to have real impact in the field. The current CAP AKIS policy and potential interventions can make use of the current formats and experiences from MS. Experts from about 24 MS from the SCAR Strategic Working Group collected this in the AKIS4 report, and based it on their discussions and own practical experiences. In the report much about AKIS in all its aspects is explained and a long series of possible types of interventions and concrete examples given. The report is available on the Europa "Future CAP" website and is called "Report: preparing for future AKIS in Europe". You can download it here: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/key-policies/common-agricultural-policy/future-cap#innovation> or ask to you a paper copy*



# WHY focus on AKIS? A reinforced AKIS integrates all AKIS actors and ensures knowledge flows inside Member States & across borders



**A good AKIS strategy will bring actors together on a structured and regular basis, creating continuous interaction to speed up knowledge exchange, knowledge flows, innovation and most of all: implementation in practice**

"I not only use all the  
brains that I have,  
but all that I can  
borrow"

Woodrow Wilson –  
President of the USA, 1913-1921



# THE 9 COMMON CAP OBJECTIVES

**OG projects will cover all 9 CAP objectives**



**Cross-cutting objective  
KNOWLEDGE & INNOVATION**

**SO8: Including circular bioeconomy =>**



European Commission

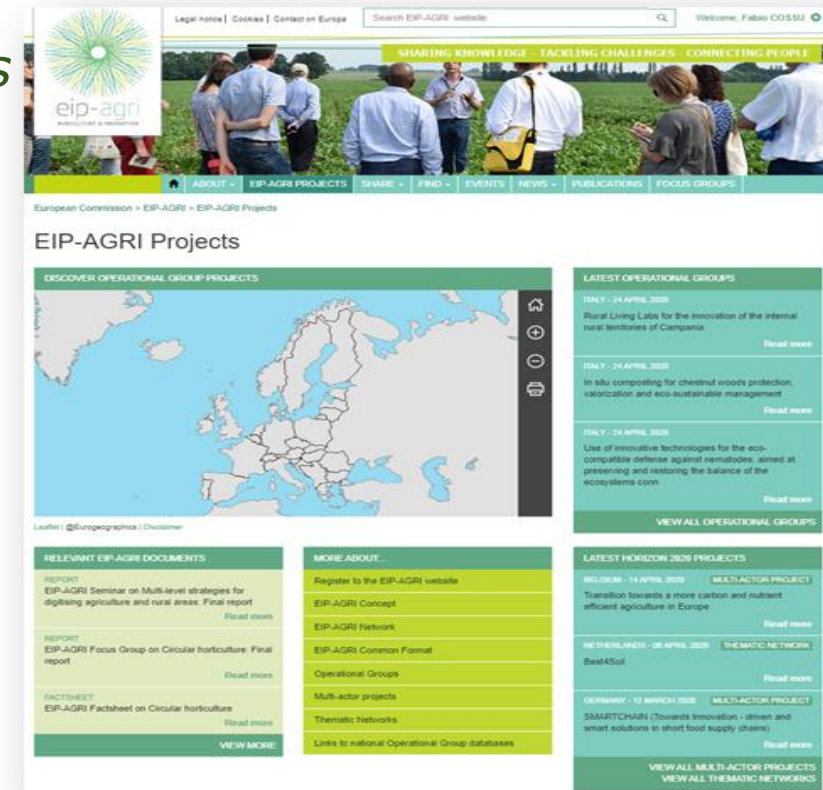


# Agriculture will be more and more knowledge-intensive



## EIP-AGRI – What did we achieve?

- ✓ 26(27) Member States, 98 rural development programmes implementing EIP Operational Group “innovative projects”
- ✓ in 2014-2022 (7 years) more than 3000 OGs running or finished (still 2,5 years to go) = **> 1 bio €**
- ✓ **Next CAP draft plans: almost 3 x more OGs for only 5 years + more variety in interventions** (not only “Agr. product.& sustainability”)
- ✓ **Total H2020 & HE: 352 MAA projects** (~49% till 2024)
- ✓ 190 multi-actor projects under Horizon 2014-2020 (two thirds of total projects) for **1 bio Euro** – many more to come.... => A growing and thriving network:



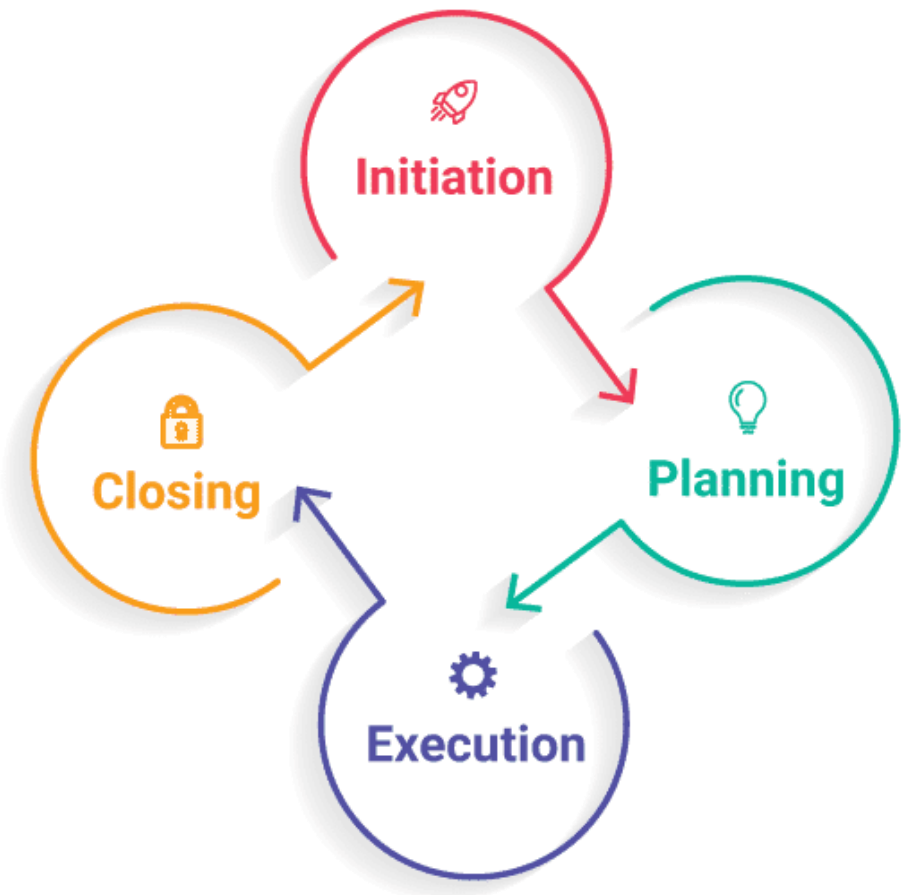
**An increasing volume of practice-oriented knowledge to be managed!**

[www.eip-agri.eu](http://www.eip-agri.eu)



# Multi-Actor Projects - introduction

- **Improved impact of MA project: outcomes are more demand-driven**, reliable and relevant to society and end-users (farmers, foresters, food businesses, etc.)
- **End-users/practitioners and intermediates are to be involved, not as a study-object, but to use their practical and local knowledge and/or entrepreneurial skills** to develop solutions and create 'co-ownership' of results for (end-) users and practitioners
- **MA speeds up the acceptance and take-up of new ideas, approaches and solutions** developed in the project!



# MA requirements in WP 23-24

- ✓ Project proposal must demonstrate how the proposed objectives and planning are targeting the **needs/problems/challenges of and opportunities** of the (end-)users;
- ✓ Project proposal must demonstrate how the description of the project concept and in particular the composition of the consortium reflects a **balanced choice of relevant key actors** who have complementary types of knowledge (scientific, practical, etc.)
- ✓ Project proposals must ensure that project results which should be ready for practice are **broadly implemented**;
- ✓ Project proposal must demonstrate how the project intends to use existing practices and tacit knowledge.

# Requirements in WP 23-24

see introduction of WP to find all detailed requirements

- ✓ Project proposal must demonstrate how the project will facilitate the **multi-actor engagement process**
- ✓ Project proposal must demonstrate the project's **added value** complementing existing research and best practices
- ✓ Project proposal must demonstrate how the project will result in **practical and ready to use knowledge/ approaches/ tools or products** that are easily understandable and freely accessible;
- ✓ Project proposal must demonstrate how these outputs ready for practice will **feed into the existing dissemination channels** most consulted by the end users of the project results in countries and regions.





# Biorefinery Glass Project: an example of an Operational Group (interactive innovation project funded by the CAP)

## Challenges:

- Livestock-heavy systems have significant environmental challenges
- Ireland has the largest share of agri-related GHG emissions in Europe
- Irish farmers are faced with the task of reducing emissions by 25% by 2030

- Green biorefineries can unlock the full potential of grass by creating protein from ruminants and monogastrics, along with additional materials and energy for the market



Succeeding Together

A solution to emissions challenges

A solution to protein challenges

Diversification – and not just grass to gas









*Having potential innovative knowledge is one thing, turning it into reality is another.*

"The value of an idea lies in the using of it."

Thomas Alva Edison –  
inventor of the light bulb

# Building and linking AKISs across the EU

*Speed up creativity and  
practice application*

*Better connectivity and  
quicker circulation of  
information*

# Speeding up knowledge exchange and innovation



**Thanks for your attention**

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[https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/support/innovation-knowledge-exchange-eip-agri\\_en](https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/support/innovation-knowledge-exchange-eip-agri_en)



# Questions?



**More info available in next slides.....**



# Info: EIP Seminar on AKIS strategies in CAP Strategic Plans

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

<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/event/eip-agri-seminar-cap-strategic-plans-key-role-akis>

- 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**
- **4 Member States 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.

<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/event/preparing-cap-strategic-plans-role-innovation>

# Use Communication material from the EIP-AGRI at EU level: filter, translate, and spread knowledge from abroad

- Use the Database of OGs to connect OGs etc within and beyond the country/region
- AKIS animated infographic: <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/new-animated-video-akis-building-effective>
- Updated overview of the Focus Groups: [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/focus\\_groups\\_state\\_of\\_play\\_november\\_2020\\_update.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/focus_groups_state_of_play_november_2020_update.pdf)
- List of EIP-AGRI Events 2013-2020: [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/eip-agri\\_factsheet\\_overview\\_eip-agri\\_events\\_2020\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/eip-agri_factsheet_overview_eip-agri_events_2020_en.pdf)
- Animated infographics: [Innovation Support Services](#), [Soil Salinisation](#), [Focus Groups](#) , etc
- [Agrinnovation magazine](#) on soil – Sept. 2020
- Monthly newsletter, press articles, Brochure on climate-smart agriculture, Thematic campaigns (social media, newsletter): animal welfare, soil, forestry, Operational Groups and new farmers



## Further info:

### **SWG SCAR AKIS 4 report: [Documents \(scar-europe.org\)](https://scar-europe.org)**

See in particular sections 1.2 What is AKIS?, 1.3 Multi-actor projects, 1.4 national thematic networks, 1.5 possible actions for CAP AKIS Strategic Plans) and chapter 4 (Advisors and advisory instruments and functions)

### **AKIS animated infographic (3 min):**

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

**June 2021 webinars on EIP-AGRI website <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en>**

**[14-15 June 2023: next AKIS seminar](#)**