The European Innovation Partnership (EIP) „Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability"

Speeding up innovation

Greece regions' conference M16– Athens – 2 March 2018

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Agriculture and Rural Development

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1. The bigger picture of EIP-AGRI

Health and Consumers

The EIP-AGRI in short

- 2010: European Innovation Partnerships want to speed up innovation through collaboration and **linking policies and instruments**: **IMPACT!!!**
- The EIP-AGRI was launched by DG AGRI in 2012: COM (2012)79
- The EIP-AGRI applies an overarching "*Open innovation*" concept based on the **interactive innovation model** (applied in CAP 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 diffusion of solutions/opportunities **ready to implement in practice.**

- **EU wide EIP network** linking actors: communication, partnering, dissemination, knowledge flows and collecting practice needs supporting facility = "*EIP Service Point*"

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

Woodrow Wilson –
President of the USA, 1913-1921

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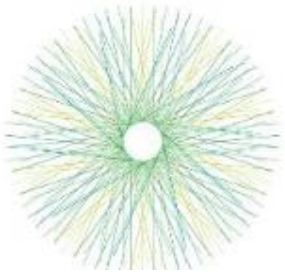
Funding for interactive innovation projects

Rural Development
(regional/national level)

- Funding for setting up of an **"Operational Group" (OG) :** farmers, advisors, agribusiness, researchers, NGOs, etc) **planning an innovation project** (M16)
- **Project funding** for the **Operational Group's project** (M16)
- Supporting **innovation support services**



EIP networks MS/regions

Horizon 2020
(European projects)

- **Research projects,** to provide the knowledge base for innovative actions
- **Interactive** innovation formats: **multi-actor projects and thematic networks** genuinely involving farmers, advisors, entreprises, etc…. "**all along the project**"

Unique EU repository of contacts and practice abstracts

Involvement of OGs is strongly recommended

Health and Consumers

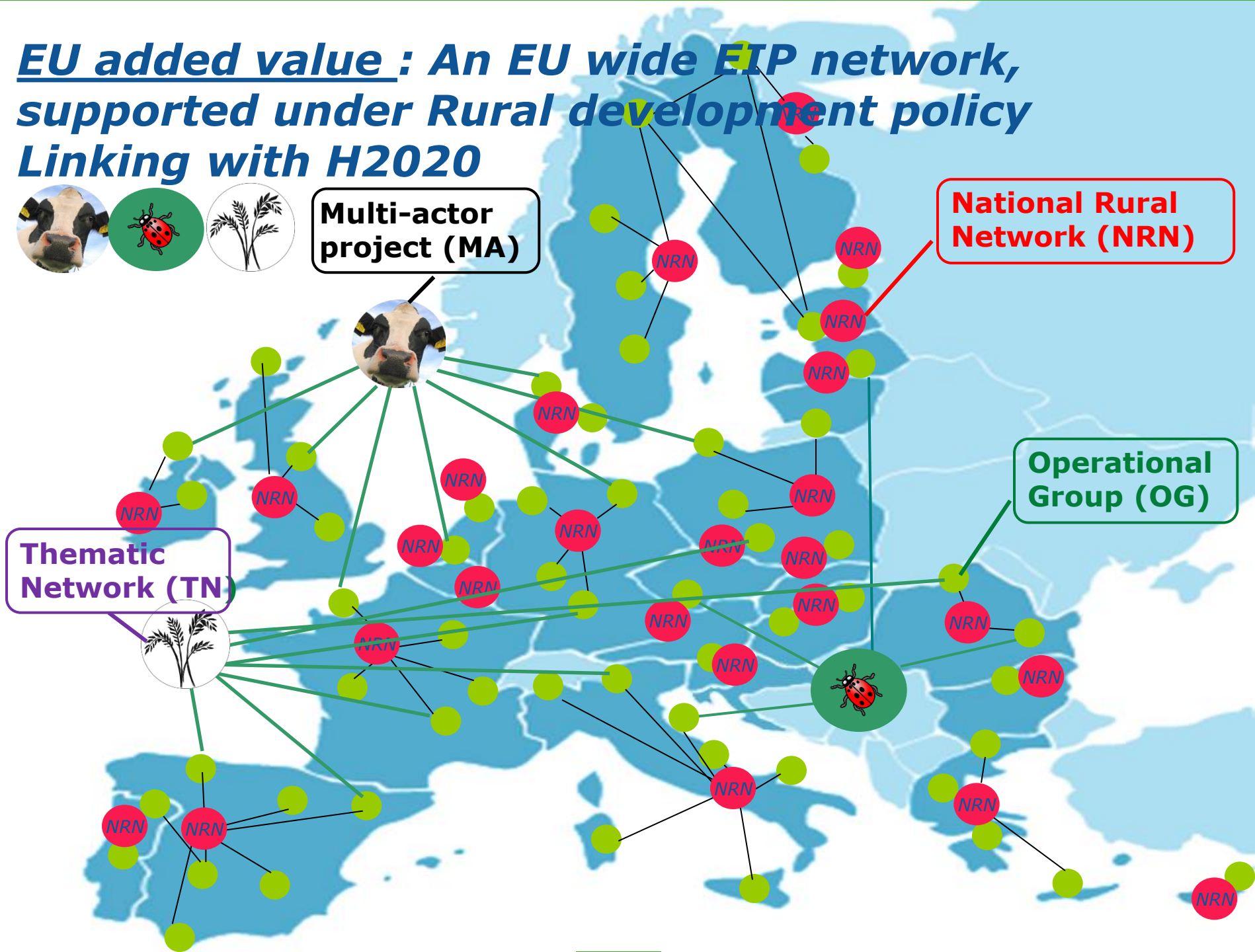
EU added value : An EU wide EIP network, supported under Rural development policy Linking with H2020

Multi-actor project (MA)

National Rural Network (NRN)

Operational Group (OG)

Thematic Network (TN)



- EIP-AGRI is not "research"
- it is **demand-driven innovation**:
- What do farmers need? Problem solving
- Where can farmers develop opportunities? (e.g. Stevia)

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2. EIP-AGRI's Rural Development side

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What is an Operational Group (OG) ?

- EIP operational group projects funded under rural development programmes are multi-actor and **tackle a certain practical problem or opportunity** which may lead to an innovation
- The operational group is **tailored** to this problem/opportunity and **makes the best use of different types of knowledge** (practical, scientific, technical, organisational, etc) in an interactive way.
- The operational group is composed of **those key actors** (farmers, **advisors**, researchers, businesses, NGOs etc) which are in the best position to realize the project's goals and **to share experiences broadly.**

Interactive innovation: Cross-fertilisation is key for tackling complex challenges and developing opportunities for innovation

Du choc des idées jaillit la lumière

Nicolas Boileau, french philosopher, 17th century

> **Enlightenment comes when views collide**
> From the clash of opposing minds, new ideas arise

EIP Operational Groups 2014-2020

- The EIP implementation aims at a **flexible and open system** for the creation of a multiplicity of operational groups (OGs)
- **27 MS and 98 RDPs** are implementing the EIP in their 2014-2020 Rural Development programmes with **regular calls for Operational Group projects during this period**
- **3200 OGs** planned in 2014-2020**,** with cooperation in innovative activities such as the development of **new products or practices**, pilot projects, **supply chain** cooperation, **environmental** projects or climate change actions, cooperation in **biomass** provision or renewable **energy**, forest management and much more
- EIP provides unique opportunity for better cooperation projects thanks to attention for **supporting environment** and through the (possible) **funding of the preparation** process of a project

The first OGs were set up in 2016 … Some examples:

- ValorInVitis – using indigenous varieties and increasing the resilience of production systems to climate change (IT-ER)
- Pig health – reducing the use of antibiotics (DE-NS)
- Robust lamb in Pyrénées (France)
- Winter harvest: seasonal, energy extensive and innovative vegetable production (Austria)
- Establishing a sustainable and environment friendly wheat value chain (Germany)
- FruitNet - control of Monilinia spp. in stone fruits (Spain)
- Aquaponics: nutrients from fish for plant growth (DE – MV)
- Organic dock control in grasslands (Austria)
- Zero herbicides in Mediterranean perennial crops (France)

http://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/content/eip-agri-workshop-operational-groups-first-experiences

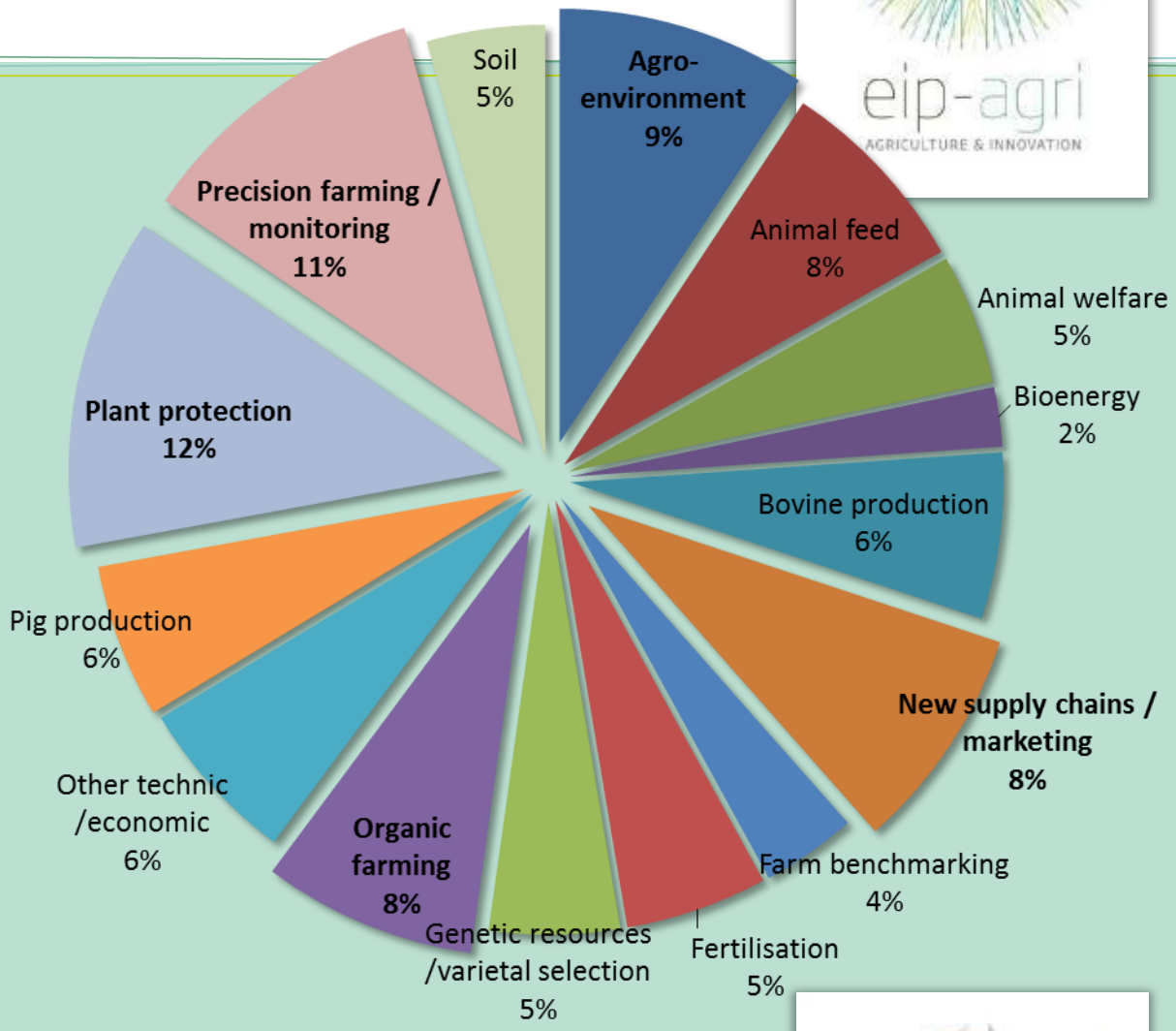
https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/og_booklet_eip-agri_sem-athens-2017_en.pdf

OG projects: first indications

In terms of **scope:**

Top 5

- **Plant protection**
- **Precision farming**
- **Agro-environment**
- **New supply chains**
- **Organic farming**



N.B. Initial clustering analysis covering 231 OGs – Oct 2016. New clustering starting now (Feb 2018)

600-700 OG projects being connected with other OGs and H2020 The EU dimension: Thematic EIP workshops starting: (speeding up since 2017)… Some examples:

- EIP-AGRI workshop for organic OGs and MA projects **"Organic is operational" (June 2017):**

https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/ws-oio-2017-projects_document_en.pdf

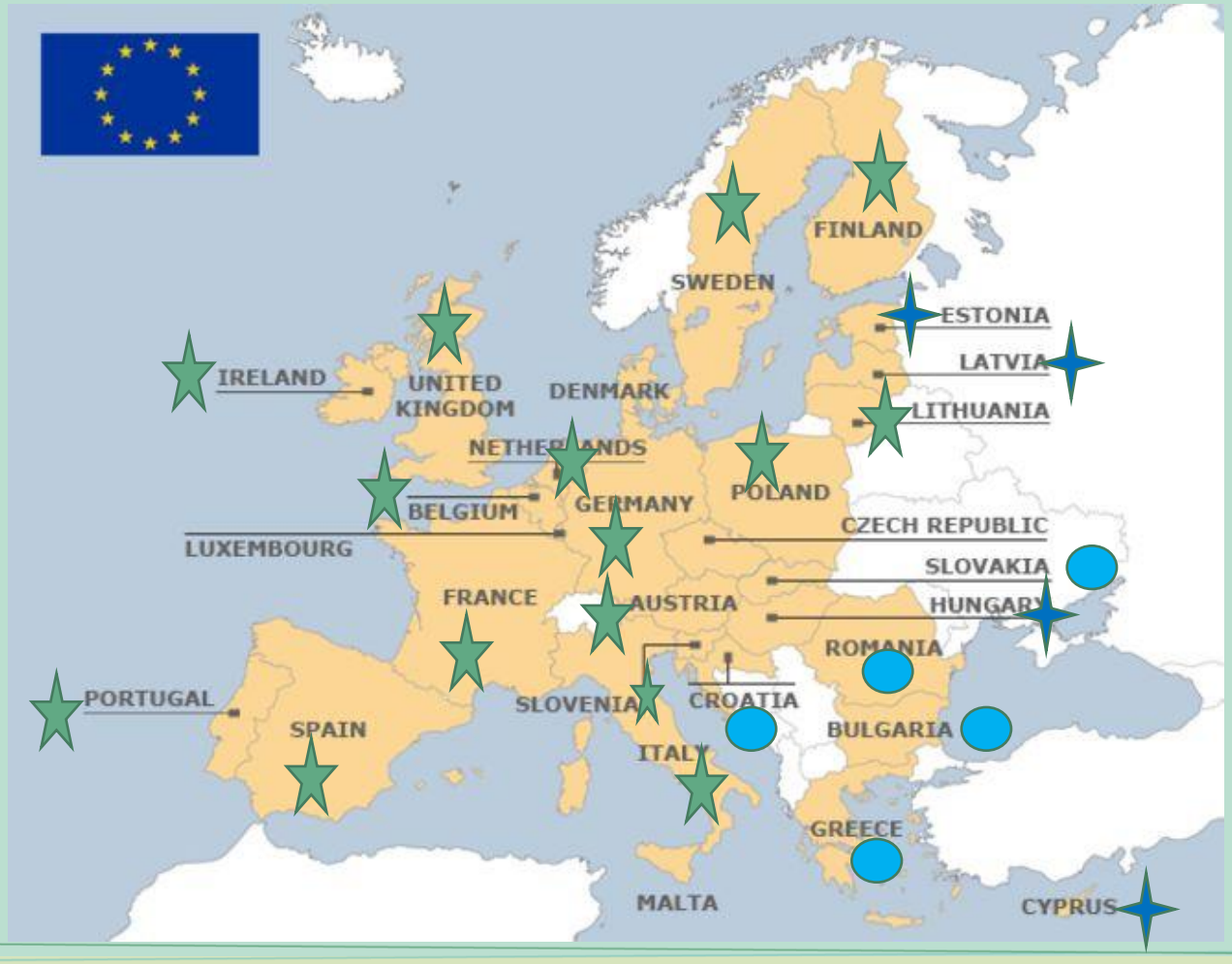
- EIP-AGRI Workshop: **"Innovation in the supply chain: creating value together" (Feb 2018)**

44 OGs and 9 MA H2020 project networking on New business models and new ways of organising the supply chain, New products and processes

https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/event/eip-agri-workshop-innovation-supply-chain-creating

- **Various initiatives (events) being taken by MS and H2020 MA & thematic networks** to connect OGs: DE, HU, SI, SE, FI Sheepnet, Eurodairy, etc

Calls for Operational Groups (OG)
(informal state of play 25 January 2018)



1st call to open soon

1st call now open

OG projects finished, selected and/or being evaluated

funded by European Commission

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3. EIP-AGRI's H2020 research and innovation side

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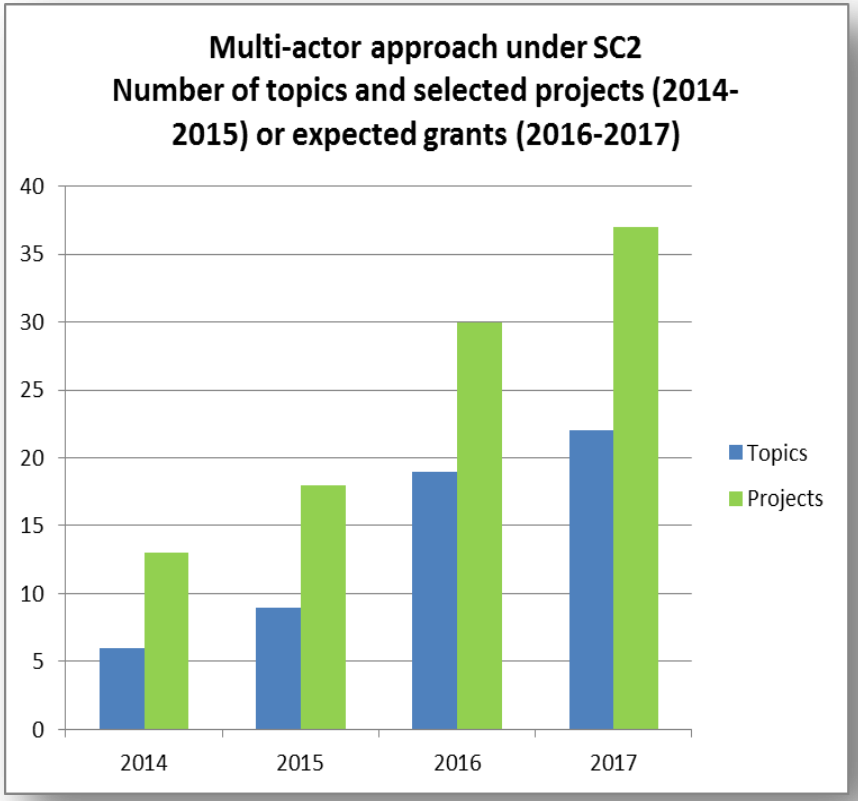
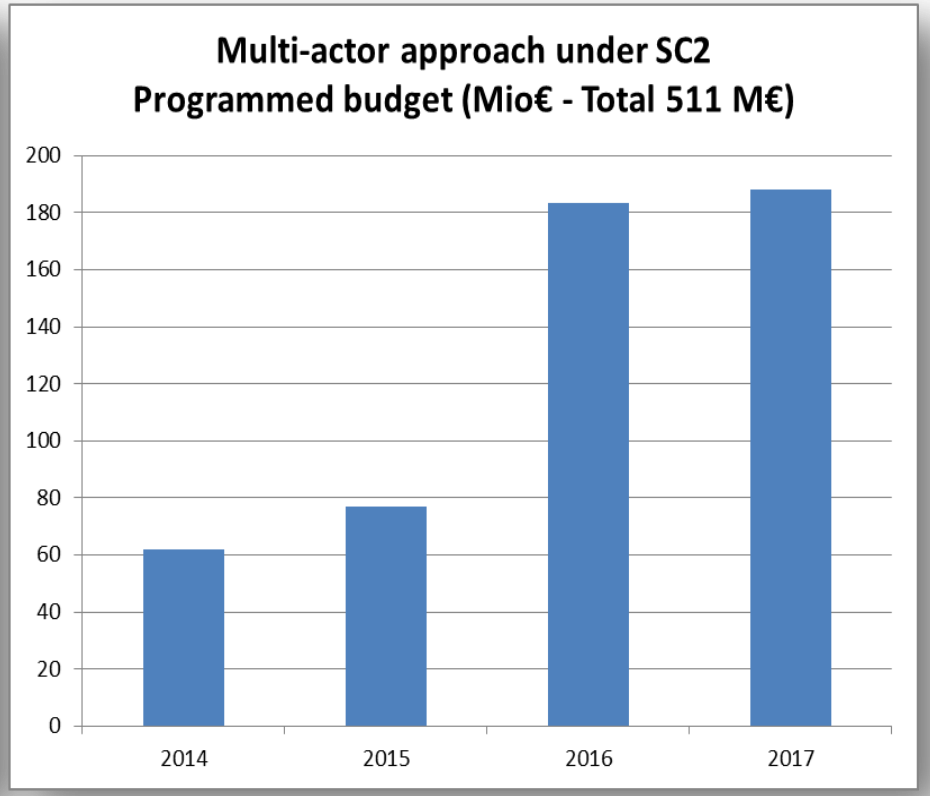
1 bio Euro H2020 Multi-actor projects in total in 7 years:

WPs 2014-2017: 500 mio Euro – 80 Multi-actor projects

WP 2018-2020: More multi-actor topics/projects in Horizon 2020

500 mio Euro – another 100 MA projects (incl TNs)





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H2020 Thematic networks **:**
Compiling knowledge ready for practice

- Multi-actor coordination action: Partners should **summarise, share and present existing scientific knowledge & best practices** that are not sufficiently known (and applied) by practitioners , **in an easy understandable concise way ready for practice**

- Themes to be chosen **bottom-up**, contributing to a more competitive sustainable agriculture and forestry

- Themes must **focus on the most urgent needs of agricultural or forestry production sectors,**

- Projects **involving the actors relevant for the chose theme** (e.g. researchers, farmers, advisors, enterprises, education, NGOs, administration, regulatory bodies, **EIP project groups**…)

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23 H2020 bottom-up Thematic Networks so far (1)

calls 2014-2016 – a complementary set of themes (sectors)

RUR 10 - 2016	CERERE	Cereals: organic/low input cereal food systems for biodiversity and quality (production, processing, marketing)
RUR 10 - 2016	Eu PiG	Pig husbandry: health management, precision production, welfare and meat quality
RUR 10 - 2016	Inno4Grass	Productive grasslands: profitability and environmental services
RUR 10 - 2016	SheepNet	Improving sheep productivity
ISIB 2 - 2014	Winetwork	Wine diseases: Grapevine Trunk Disease and Flavescence dorée
ISIB 2 - 2014	OKNetArable	Organic agriculture - arable crops
ISIB 2 - 2014	Hennovation	Animal welfare hens
ISIB 2 - 2015	4D4F	Data and sensor driven decision making on dairy farms
ISIB 2 - 2015	EuroDairy	Practice-based innovations in dairy farming: resource efficiency, Biodiversity, Animal care, and Socio-economic resilience
ISIB 2 - 2015	EUFRUIT	Fruit: cultivar development, minimize residues, storage and fruit quality, sustainability of production systems

23 H2020 bottom-up Thematic Networks so far (2)
a complementary set of themes (cross-cutting themes)

RUR 10 - 2016	SKIN	Stimulating innovation and good practices in short supply chains
RUR 10 - 2016	AFINET	Agroforestry: sylvoarable and sylvopastural systems' design, management and profitability
ISIB 2 - 2014	Agri-Spin	Innovation brokering methods
ISIB 2 - 2015	AGRIFORVALOR	Valorization of biomass side-streams from agriculture and forest
ISIB 2 - 2015	Smart-AKIS	Smart Farming Technology: Management Information Systems, Precision Agriculture and Agriculture automation and robotics
ISIB 2 - 2015	HNV-Link	Support HNV farmlands through knowledge and innovation
WATER 4B - 2015	FERTINNOWA	Optimize water and nutrient use efficiency: dbase on innovative technologies and practices for fertigation of horticultural crops

A short film explaining how a thematic network works:
https://youtu.be/mVsW4--ex0M

2017 H2020 bottom-up Thematic Networks (3)
another complementary set of themes (cross-cutting themes)

ENABLING	**Upscaling biomass production and pre-processing** for bio-based value chains
INCREdible	**Non Wood Forest Products:** Cork, Resins and Edibles in the Mediterranean basin
NEWBIE	**New Entrant** netWork: Business models for Innovation, entrepreneurship and resilience
OK-Net EcoFeed	**Organic** Knowledge Network on **Monogastric Animal Feed (pigs, broilers, hens)**
PANACEA	**Non-food Crops'** penetration path
INNOSETA	

4. Future of the EIP-AGRI:

What do we have and where do we go?

EIP evaluation study:

https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/sites/agriculture/files/external-studies/2016/eip-2016/eval_en.pdf

SWG SCAR-AKIS Policy Brief on the Future of Advisory Services:

on advisor's competences, interconnections and future more interactive roles, etc

https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/policy_brief_on_the_future_of_advisory_services_scar_akis_06102017.pdf

PROAKIS Study:

www.proakis.eu

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Jean Monnet

Father of Europe

Speech on 12/05/1954

“Ce qui nous arrête, c’est la peur du changement. Et pourtant c’est du changement que dépend notre salut”

“What stops us is the fear of change.
And nevertheless, it is on change that our salvation depends”

CAP post 2020 Communication "The future of food and farming": involves also the future for AKISs

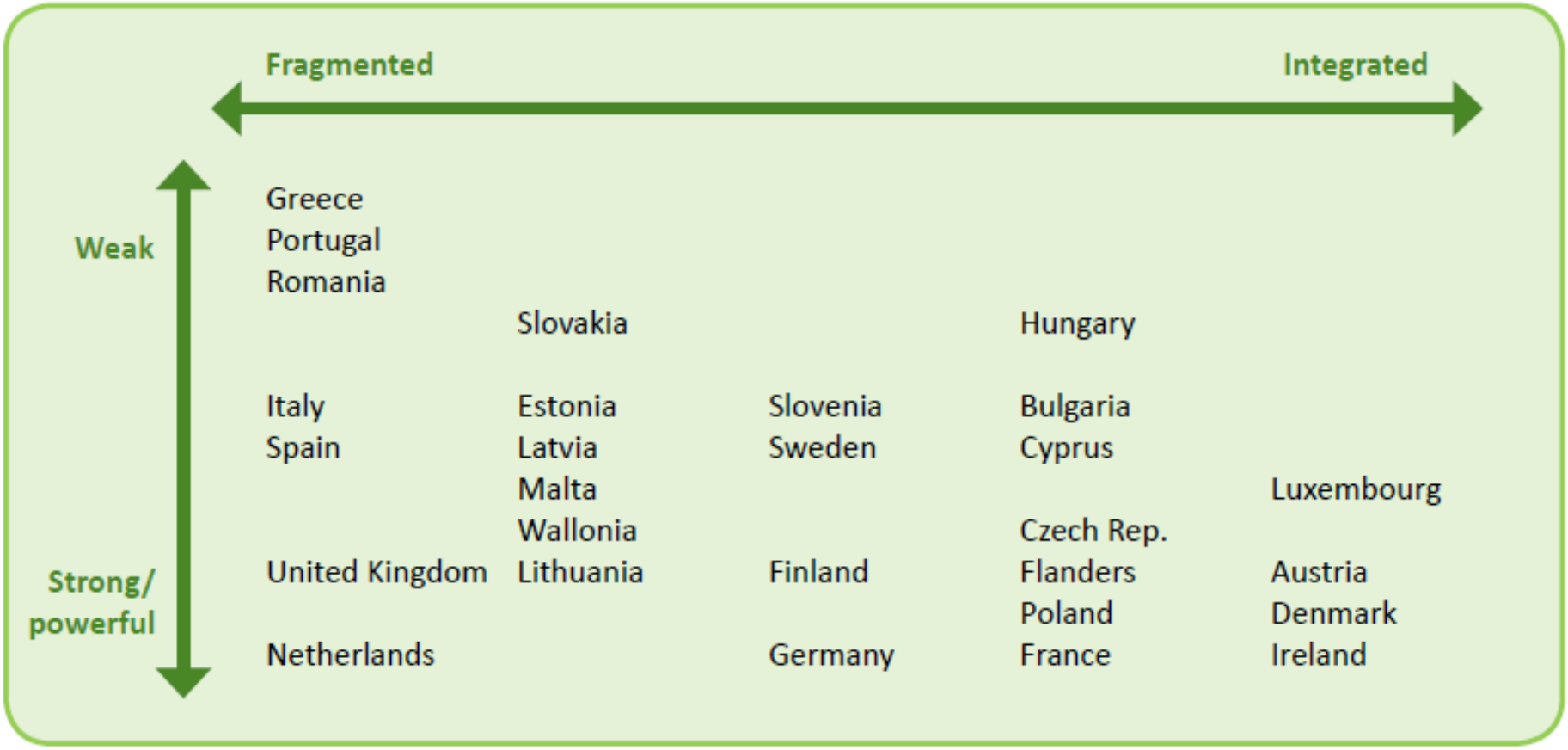
"The European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability (EIP-AGRI) *and the European Innovation Partnership on Water have proven their value in mobilising the agricultural sector for innovation. It has funded multi-participant pilot projects and is networking across Europe to make new knowledge generally available. Its success depends on the* ***combined performance*** *of advisors, agricultural training and educational systems, researchers and farmer organisations often referred to as the* ***Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS)*** *which operates very differently from one Member States to another. The role of the farm advisor stands out as particularly important.* ***A modern CAP should support the strengthening of farm advisory services within the AKIS systems. This should become a condition for the approval of CAP Strategic plans****."*

Read the Communication:
https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/sites/agriculture/files/future-of-cap/future_of_food_and_farming_communication_en.pdf

Characterising MS' AKIS

- An overview of MS' AKISs (PROAKIS, as of 2014):

  fragmented or integrated, strong or weak



CAP post 2020 Communication – The future of food and farming – Clarification memo on AKISs (1)

"Why does the CAP need to support innovation? What is the rationale?

Agriculture and our rural areas face a number of challenges for which new solutions need to be found. ***We need better advice and more innovation.*** *Public involvement in research and innovation is necessary to bridge the gap between rural areas in demand of digital innovations and* ***better connectivity*** *and providers of new technologies.*

It makes sense to cooperate on research an innovation at EU level. By learning from each other in different parts of the EU we will develop better knowledge and will adopt innovation faster.

Read the Memo:

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-17-4842_en.htm

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CAP post 2020

CAP Strategic AKIS plans

(cross-fertilisation in SWG SCAR-AKIS ongoing)

Incentivising creativity by structuring knowledge flows between key actors

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Strengthening Member States AKISs – Inspiration?

Examples of recent evolutions of strengthened AKIS, often induced by the EIP funding

(R researchers, A advisors, N networks)

- Poland EIP network: A+N
- Hungary AKIS: R+A
- Ireland: R+A
- Slovakia: N + A
- France: R + A + N
- Wales Innovation Hub (EIP seminar May 2017):R+A
- Scotland Nov 2017 Innovation support service : R+A
- Etc…

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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 an EU AKIS

Innovation is: an idea put into practice with success !

Engage in a better connected European AKIS:

To an „Agriculture of Knowledge“ .....

Thank you for your attention!

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