The European Innovation Partnership “Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability” (EIP-AGRI)

Céline Karasinski, EIP-AGRI SERVICE POINT EUROPE-INBO online Workshop on Future CAP and Water policies, 9 Nov 20
**EIP-AGRI in a nutshell**

**Aim:** To foster a competitive and sustainable agriculture and forestry sector that "achieves more from less"

**Approach:** Closing the innovation gap between research and practice by:

- using the interactive innovation model
- linking actors via the EIP Network

*Innovation itself can be considered simply as "an idea put into practice with success", and; may be technological, non-technological, or social, and may be based on new or traditional practices*
Main means to implement the EIP-AGRI

**Horizon 2020** (EU Research Policy)
- Multi-actor research projects involving the agricultural community
- Thematic networks, unlocking and exchanging knowledge across the EU

**Rural Development Programmes**
- Operational Groups
- Project funding
- Innovation support services

**EIP-AGRI Network**
What is an Operational Group?
working together for real solutions
What is an Operational Group?
What is an Operational Group?

- **Key actors** of the EIP-AGRI
- Funded under RDPs (preparation + running)
- **Different competencies** (practical, scientific, technical, organizational)
- **Project based** "hands-on group"
- Tackle a certain **practical problem** or opportunity which may lead to innovation (bottom-up)
- Benefit from the **interactions (co-creation)**
- **Disseminate** the results via EIP-AGRI network
Connecting policies: the bigger EIP picture

**CAP/Rural development** (regional/national level)
- Farmers
- NGOs
- Agri-business
- Advisors
- Researchers

**Operational Group**

**Funding for:**
- OG preparation
- OG projects

**Innovation support services**

**EIP network(s)**

**Unique EU knowledge repository of contacts and practice abstracts**

**Horizon 2020** (European projects)

- Research projects
- Multi-actor projects and thematic networks (interactive innovation)

Involvement of OGs is strongly recommended

Spread the results
Steps in Operational Groups

1. Identify the problem or innovative idea
   Find the right partners

2. Make a project plan
   Complete the partnership
   Prepare the RDP funding application

3. Start and run the project
   Share intermediate results

4. Spread final results
   Finalise project administration
Distribution of OG projects per theme

- Farming/forestry competitiveness and diversification; 175
- Agricultural production system; 198
- Farming practice; 286
- Farming equipment and machinery; 98
- Animal husbandry and welfare; 187
- Plant production and horticulture; 249
- Landscape / land management; 71
- Pest / disease control; 151
- Fertilisation and nutrients management; 145
- Soil management / functionality; 138
- Genetic resources; 37
- Forestry; 32
- Energy management; 42
- Waste, by-products and residues management; 73
- Climate and climate change; 93
- Water management; 109
- Food quality / processing and nutrition; 167
- Supply chain, marketing and consumption; 154

Source: SFC, November 2018 – N.B. one project can fall under several categories
The OG aims at transferring sustainable irrigation from a hypothesis to practice. The OG is building up with fruit growers a decision support system (DSS) providing the "irrigation advice".

The DSS requires:
1) the degree of tolerance of the species to a temporary water stress;
2) short-term weather forecasts.

The DSS allows to save: money, water resources, energy for irrigation, agro-chemicals for controlling biotic attacks. At the same time it ensures the quality at the end of the supply chain.

The success of the OG is based on the farmers’ training: tutorial activities on irrigation methods and agro-technological innovations.
Transfer of mature irrigation management technologies and protocols for irrigation optimization (T AS.IRRI.MA)

ITALY -BASILICATA  Starting date -expected end date|2018-2020

Lead partner: Asso Fruit Italia (Producers’organisation)

Research:
UNIBAS-DiCEM(University); CREA-AA (Public research centre for agriculture & environment); CNR-IMAA (National research council); ENEA (National agency for the new technologies); ALSIA (Regional agency for agriculture innovation)

Farmers:
APOFRUIT Italia; Viticoltori Associati del Vulture; Grimolizzi Nicola

SME:
RAPOLLA FIORENTE; AGREEMENT srl

Basin authority:
BASILICATA basin authority
AGIR: Efficiency assessment of water and energy in collective irrigation systems

**Portugal**  Starting date - expected end date | 2017-2020

Improving the sustainability of collective irrigation systems (CIS), through the efficient use of water and energy (W&E), is one of the concerns of the managers of water user Associations, a priority of the National Rural Development Program me 2014-2020 and a key driver addressed by the EU Common Agricultural Policy.

The project aims at establishing an innovative performance assessment system to support the diagnosis of inefficiencies and the identification of solutions for problem solving in CIS Project action plan involves:

1. Robust methodology for assessment of W&E efficiency in the primary and secondary networks of the CIS;
2. Validation and consolidation, through the implementation of three case studies;
3. Technical guides to support W&E inefficiency diagnosis and decision making about the solutions in CIS.

The preliminary results of the water balance calculation indicate that the real losses component is the most relevant in the non revenue water, regardless of the type of CIS (pressurised, channel or mixed).

These results demonstrate the importance of investing in the rehabilitation of existing infrastructures, besides the need to improve operational control of physical losses.
AGIR: Efficiency assessment of water and energy in collective irrigation systems

Portugal Starting date - expected end date: 2017-2020

Lead partner:
FENAREG Federação Nacional de Regantes de Portugal, represents the irrigation water sector in the national and international institutions concerned with water resources management for irrigation. (non profit association)

Other partners
Research
LNEC Laboratório Nacional de Engenharia Civil, IP (public research institute)
UÉ Universidade de Évora (university)
IPS Instituto Politécnico de Setúbal (university)
INIAV Instituto Nacional de Investigação Agrária e Veterinária, IP (public research institute)
COTR Centro Operativo e de Tecnologia de Regadio (NGO)

Managers of water users association
Associação de Regantes e Beneficiários da Obra de Rega de Odivelas (NGO)
Associação de Regantes e Beneficiários do Vale do Sorraia (NGO)
Associação de de Beneficiários da Obra da Vigia (NGO)

Irrigators
Agro Vale Longo
Mencoca Agricultura
Sociedade Agrícola Bico da Vela II

funded by the European Commission
Article 71: Cooperation

Member States may grant support for cooperation under the conditions set out in this Article and as further specified in their CAP Strategic Plans to prepare and to implement Operational Group projects of the European Innovation Partnership for agricultural productivity and sustainability as referred to in Article 114 (EIP-AGRI) and LEADER, referred to as community-led local development in Article 25 of Regulation (EU) [CPR], and to promote quality schemes, producer organisations or producer groups or other forms of cooperation.

Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing rules on support for strategic plans
Operational Groups and the future CAP

- **All kinds of cross-border would be enhanced**, from finding info abroad, to learning for advisors and farmers by exchange visits, to setting up cross-border OGs (timing, conditions…) but especially by promoting cooperation between OGs from different countries and regions.

- **The topics of the OGs would be extended**, not only agricultural ones but also local development themes as rural tourism …
Thank you for your attention!

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Register today!