



Creating a CAP AKIS toolbox - Input from Swedish stakeholders

Athens Meeting
28th of February to 1st of March 2017

General remarks

- ▶ The tool-box needs to be flexible, simple to use and easy to change during the programming period as the conditions and needs might change
- ▶ The tool-box should include all part of the food chain
- ▶ An strategic AKIS plan is welcomed
- ▶ Important to include the entire AKIS in the strategic plan, including access to capital, attracting labour, legal conditions etc.
- ▶ A strategic plan of the AKIS should include how it could connect to the national and regional innovation systems, e.g. Smart specialization strategies
- ▶ At the start of the programming period – there should be a ready M&E system with a baseline from which the effect of the interventions on innovation can be measured.
 - ▶ CIS-survey includes also micro enterprise

Enhance knowledge flows within the AKIS and strengthen links between research and practice

- ▶ EU-level industry PhD-students? Stimulating international cooperation platforms.
- ▶ Stimulate interaction and networking with researchers, advisors and practitioners with the entire food chain and other sectors and “non-traditional” research areas through networks, clusters and cross-sectorial funding opportunities (project funding and through the NRN)
- ▶ Possible to finance testing facilities (entire food chain), demonstration/monitoring farm
- ▶ Possible to finance up-scaling of products and ideas
- ▶ “Bridging” and “scanning” projects encouraged
- ▶ Vouchers for researchers to work as advisor, advisors to work as researchers. This opportunity should also be open to those working in the food chain.

Strengthen farm advisory services within MS' AKISs

- ▶ Allow for vouchers for farmers and food business to buy advisory service
- ▶ Enable funding for advisory development projects – methodology and sectorial, broadened and deepened.
- ▶ Analysis of available back-office support and “blind spots” that needs to be strengthened, including innovation brokering
- ▶ Increase the advisors capacity to give “holistic” advice to farmers
- ▶ Increase the innovation “scouting” ability of advisors and their knowledge of the regional and national innovation system
- ▶ Stimulate actors from the regional and national innovation system to serve the food sector

Incentivize interactive innovation projects

- ▶ Open calls with selection criteria that supports project including the best mix of competences to obtain the objective of the project (in line with the CAP-objectives)
- ▶ The benefit of the projects should be to strengthen the innovation rate and competitiveness of the agriculture sector
- ▶ Projects should be found in all parts of the food chain
- ▶ Stimulate cross-sectorial projects to enhance innovation
- ▶ Advance payment has to be allowed
- ▶ Broaden EIP-Agri to rural business to also ensure social inclusion and sustainable rural development
- ▶ As a complement to the innovation project support - Open vouchers – open in usage for advisory service, testing, commercialisation och new products etc.

Support digital transition in agriculture

- ▶ Ownership of data needs to be discussed and strategically managed, including access to open data
- ▶ “Block chain” solutions throughout the chain should be encouraged
- ▶ Capacity building in how the possibilities of digitalisations can be utilised and how the business strategy could be adopted accordingly
- ▶ Investment support for digitalisation complemented with capacity building/advisory service voucher
- ▶ Broadband should be available to all