



SWG AKIS

Strategic Working Group on Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems

ideas AUSTRIA

Athens Meeting

28th of February to 1st of March 2017

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

General remarks:

- ▶ **AKIS** is a **cross cutting theme** to support the challenges and detected measures
 - ▶ Leverage effect: cost/benefit relation of resources high
 - ▶ A **financial envelope for AKIS** is needed to take into account the importance of AKIS (see LEADER)
 - ▶ What counts for AKIS (only RD Funds, and which RD measures included (M1, M2, M16, also environmental, organic training)?
- ▶ **Measures for the national Universities of life science** (e.g. BOKU)
 - ▶ **link** more national **research** and **H2020 projects** with the national EIP network unit (**innovation broker**)
 - ▶ **Research** should take into account the **transmission** and **dissemination** into **practise** (easy reading abstract, article for end-user media)
 - ▶ beside excellence relevance is also necessary
 - ▶ more focus in **science projects on case studies** (involvement of farmers)
 - ▶ Setting up **network of farms** for training students and cooperation in research projects

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

- ▶ Strengthen the **structured exchange** between the **University** and the **advisory** services (chamber of Agriculture = info bottleneck to the farmers)
 - ▶ farmers **needs** from scientists
 - ▶ **which** new **research results** are available
 - ▶ to **present** the research **results understandable** for **farmers**
 - ▶ Open **existing formats** (platforms, conferences) for **advisors** and **researchers**
 - ▶ research **results** to certain topics will be **discussed**
 - ▶ establish a **network database (address information)**
 - ▶ = High organizational **effort, institutionalised Platform is needed**

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

- ▶ **Instalment of a platform**, maybe a **cluster** (more cooperation parties funded in M16) for **structured exchange** of **AKIS partners**
 - ▶ **result** orientated funding scheme; **high** funding **intensity** necessary
 - ▶ The **different cluster partners** (scientists, Advisors, teachers, interested farmers and companies like in an OG or Focus group) work **together**:
 - ▶ What on **research** knowledge is **available** and **necessary**
 - ▶ Install and coordinate **Focus groups** at national level (exchange to EU level)
 - ▶ Preparation of understandable **end user material** (from research and Focus groups)
 - ▶ **organize** networking events, conferences (for end-users, farmers)
 - ▶ to **develop** EIP and H2020 **projects** (seed funding)
 - ▶ **transfer** of knowledge
 - ▶ **plan** and **monitor** the **national AKIS development**
 - ▶ Organise international **exchange of advisors** (maybe via IALB and EUFRAS)
 - ▶ install **testing** which are also **demonstration farms** (e.g. machines, digitisation)
 - ▶ On existing farms which are interested or
 - ▶ on Federal institutes for education and science in Agriculture which run also a farm

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

▶ **Comments on the proposed indicators:**

- ▶ + Participation in activities/networks: ok
- ▶ - number of supporting networks: better are few but broader networks; therefore the number of output/projects produced from networks is relevant,
 - ▶ + see indicator nr. 3 (selected interactive innovation Projects produced by networks)
- ▶ + number of outputs/publications in agric. dissemination channels for end-users: better number of reached farmer

Strengthen farm advisory services within MS' AKISs

- ▶ **No public procurement system** for funding of advisory services (we had to use it this period)
 - ▶ in some MS very well established, but a limited number of advisory organisations, no artificial concurrence necessary, cooperation is needed
- ▶ to put all available seminars from different providers in a **common training plan** for advisors and teachers
- ▶ **time** Advisors spend for **collecting new research results** and **know how** and **exchange** with **researchers** and to **prepare** it understandingly for **farmers** (funding in M2 should be possible)
- ▶ to **support** in RDP M2 **cross-linked training** (basic information) **and** afterwards individual **advice** to a farmer (no need for a separate project in M1)
- ▶ To install a kind of **advisor WhatsApp**: digital exchange between advisors, researchers to help solving advisory challenges (coming soon IALB connect)

Strengthen farm advisory services within MS' AKISs

- ▶ RDP support: **Mobility Program for Advisors:**
 - ▶ for hands on training at research centres (transnational)
 - ▶ Transnational exchange between advisory service providers (e.g. Bavaria-Austria for one week)
- ▶ **Advisors** must be **included in EIP OG** (like farmers) for better dissemination
- ▶ **Comments on proposed indicators:**
 - ▶ + Number of trained advisors: quality and hours of training
 - ▶ esp. methodological training, minimum requirements (e.g. CECRA certificate)
 - ▶ + Share of farmers using support: not only RDP funded advice taking into account
 - ▶ - number of shared digital tools supporting advisory work: make sense on EU but not at national level
 - ▶ Customers Management database on advices are helpful

Incentivize interactive innovation projects

- ▶ RDP: enable **advance payments without a underlying** (bank guarantee)
 - ▶ e.g. 20% with the approval and afterwards if milestones are reached
- ▶ RDP: **Result oriented funding** schemes (simplification)
- ▶ RDP: provide **seed funding** for preparation of engagement in EIP and H2020 calls
- ▶ RDP: **start up's funding** to implement results from research and EIP projects to market
 - ▶ consider area of conflict: dissemination versus IPR (intel. property rights)
- ▶ RDP: foresee an easy accessible **mobility pool** (additional support after approval) for existing OG for the exchange between OG or H2020 on a certain topic
- ▶ **Selection criteria of projects:** more points if exchange with other OG (especially at transnational level) , or H2020 projects is foreseen

Incentivize interactive innovation projects

- ▶ **Transnational OG:** use **LEADER approach**
- ▶ install a **forum of Innovation brokers** organised by the EIP service point, use digital media
 - ▶ better know which projects are in the pipeline, bring OG transnational better together
 - ▶ exchange of **OG between MS** organised by innovation broker (e.g. AUT – GER)
 - ▶ **integrate** also the **Advisors** of the network of EUFRAS and IALB
- ▶ **Comment on the proposed indicators:**
 - ▶ + number of farmers and advisors trained in the innovative results of OGs
 - ▶ + Number of cross-border OG and OGs incorporating cross-border expertise
 - ▶ + Number of innovation cooperation agreements
 - ▶ - participants in projects: not the number but the composition is relevant to solve a challenge, also concerning education actors (dissemination)
 - ▶ - Number of support services: sometimes better one which has the overview
 - ▶ - number of young people and projects developing renewal: innovation depends not on the age and not only one challenge mention

Support digital transition in agriculture

- ▶ Digitization is a **tool** to **solve challenges** or to **communicate** between AKIS Stakeholder, advisers to end- users
- ▶ **Don't mix** Digitization in Agriculture and Digitization of knowledge transfer
- ▶ **Comment on the proposed indicators:**
 - ▶ - share of farms having access to broadband: a general indicator; important for access to information
 - ▶ + % of EIP OG working on digital innovation: better OG using Digital innovation to solve a problem
 - ▶ - share of farmers using digital technologies: not AKIS relevant
 - ▶ + in addition: digital innovative instruments that support AKIS development (e.g: WhatsApp for Advisers; IALB Connect)