

Meeting of the SWG SCAR AKIS Strategic Working Group on Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems

AKIS Strategic plans for the CAP post 2020

Webinar 24-26/3/21 - Member State:

ROMANIA

SCAR
Standing Committee
on Agricultural Research



A) Characteristics of your AKIS: SWOT

- The main **characteristics** of Romanian AKIS (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats; main actors, knowledge flows that characterize your current AKIS)

Regarding the new PAC, *the advisory services, the training services and the information services are included in AKIS;*

Advisory services: provides agricultural advisory services in the economic, social and environmental fields:

Actors involved: Professional Training Unit through the selection of advisory service providers

Characteristics of your AKIS: SWOT

Main responsibilities and actors involved

- The revitalization of agriculture, as well as specific infrastructure through investments made in the two previous programming periods 2007-2020 ***has not been accompanied by a combined and sustained effort to develop knowledge and innovation*** systems in agriculture (AKIS)
- ***The biggest challenge represents the biggest change***, because we must be able to make a connection between farmers and institutions that promote mutual learning, institutions that generate, share and use technologies applied in agriculture as well as with institutions that manage knowledge and disseminate information.

Characteristics of your AKIS: SWOT

Main responsibilities and actors involved

- The preparations include the ***developing of a digital tool for storage, data processing and provision of information*** which will contain a database with advisory service providers, examples of good practices (which can be integrated within an online platform).
- In the ***section related to education*** within AKIS, high schools with a predominantly agricultural profile will be involved, as well as agricultural universities.
- Barriers are related to the lack of communication and also the lack of interest from the other entities involved.

Characteristics of your AKIS: SWOT

Main responsibilities and actors involved

- ensures compliance with the requirements, conditions and management commitments applicable to farmers and other beneficiaries, as well as the elaboration of business plans, set out in the CAP strategic plan: Professional Training Unit
- provides ***advisory services on***: agricultural practices that prevent the development of antimicrobial resistance, risk management - Professional Training Unit
- Advisory providers (public/private)
- Agricultural Chambers

Characteristics of your AKIS: SWOT

Main responsibilities and actors involved

- ensures the implementation of ***vocational training services***, by conducting calls for project proposals in the fields of agriculture, forestry, rural business in agriculture, forestry and rural enterprises and communities, as well as for the protection of nature, environment and climate: Professional Training Unit
- relevant actions to promote innovation, access to training services- RO NRN Unit
- develops and updates training plans and studies - Professional Training Unit

Characteristics of your AKIS: SWOT

Main responsibilities and actors involved

- ensures the implementation of ***information services***, by conducting calls for project proposals, including actions of education and environmental awareness – Professional training Unit
- develops and updates plans, information studies, and the exchange and dissemination of knowledge and information that contribute to the achievement of one or more of the specific objectives:
 - Professional training Unit
 - RO NRN Unit
 - Rural Development County

Characteristics of your AKIS: SWOT

Main responsibilities and actors involved

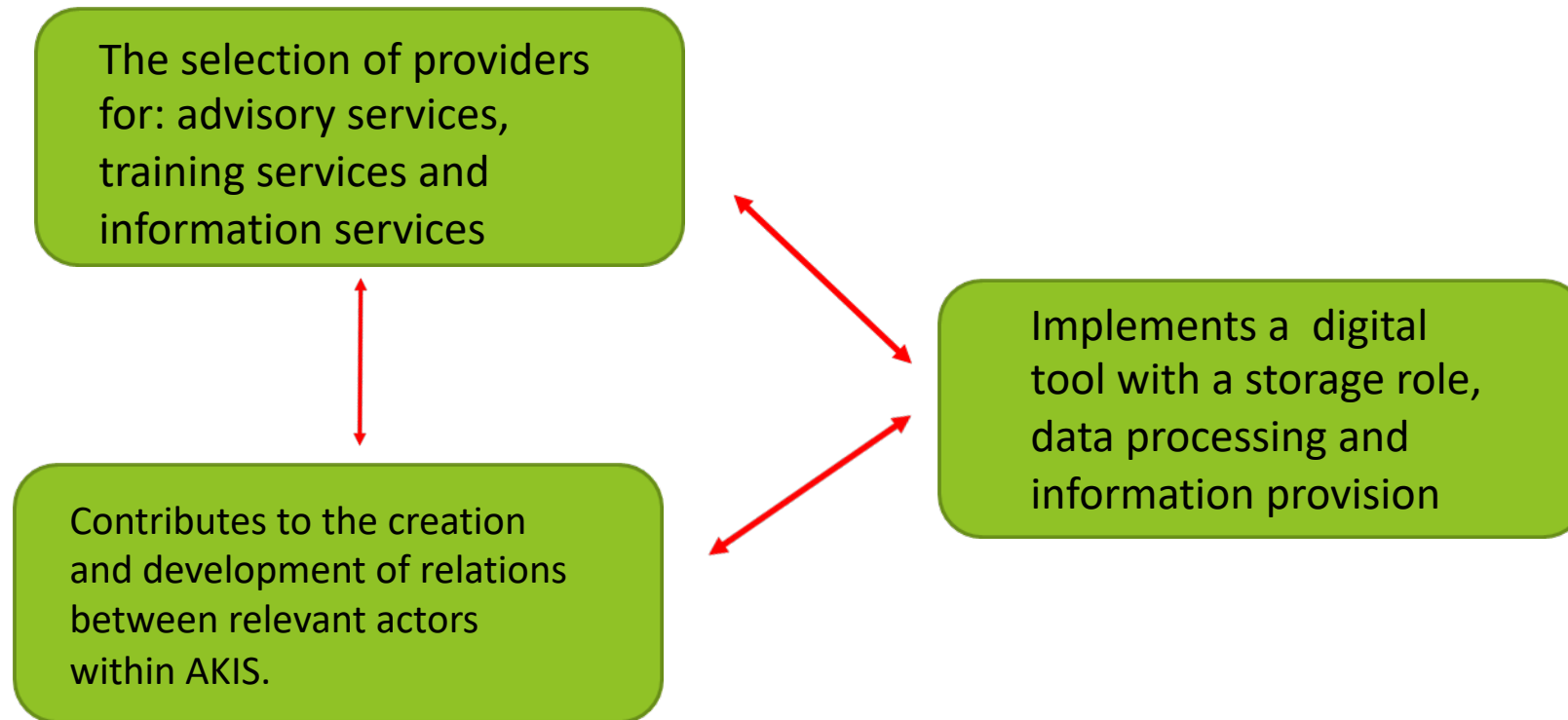
- facilitates the exchange of experience by organizing dedicated events (workshops, thematic groups, expert meetings, seminars)
 - RO NRN Unit
- collects and disseminates information on the topic, as well as the translation of relevant publications;
 - RO NRN Unit
- promotes projects, innovation activities in agriculture and forestry and their results, including in newsletters, website and social media
 - RO NRN Unit

Characteristics of your AKIS: SWOT

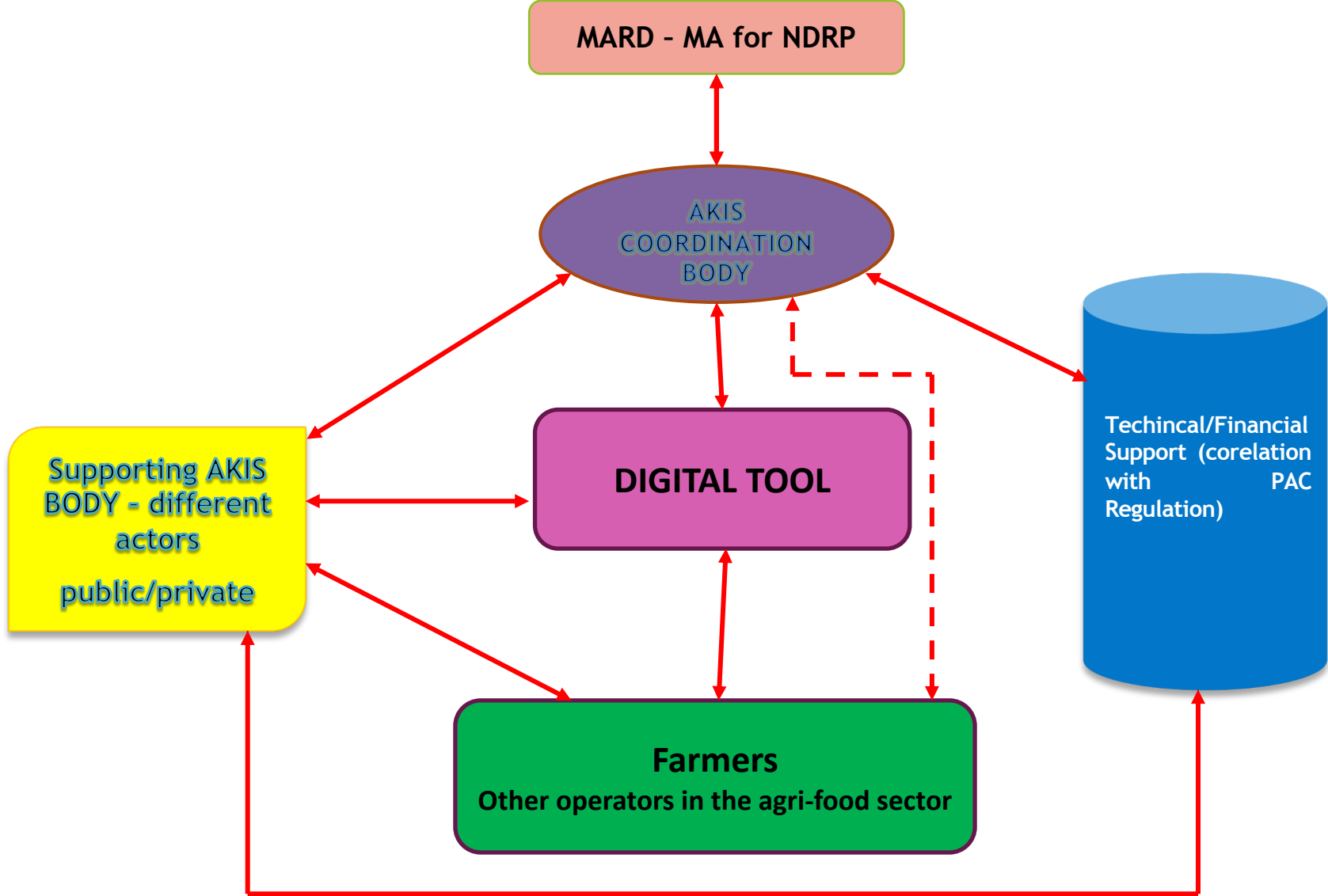
Main responsibilities and actors involved

- The preparation for the future AKIS in our country is in a full process of elaborating a way in which AKIS will be functional in Romania and we have discussions with the stakeholders and private and public actors on how to organize and operate this system in the most appropriate way;
- We also interacted with non-agricultural Ministries, in the stage of elaborating the SWOT analysis, in order to provide data to support the information described in the SWOT analysis.

A) Characteristics of your AKIS: SWOT – Professional Training Unit



ROMANIAN AKIS DIAGRAM



Relevant Actors within RO AKIS

Supporting AKIS
BODY - different
actors
public/private

- 1. Education:** - Agricultural Universities
- Agricultural High-schools
- Agricultural Vocational Schools
- 2. Research:** - Agricultural research and development Institutes
- Agricultural research centers
- Demonstrative farms
- Experimental land fields
- 3. Public advisory services:** - Agricultural Chambers
- Local Chambers
- 4. Private advisory services:** - Private advisory bodies
- Independent advisors
- 5. Organisations/ Representative Associations of farmers:**
 - Agricultural Cooperatives
 - Producers Groups
 - Agricultural Associations
- 6. Other relevant organizations:** - OG
- LAGs
- NGOs
- Customer Organisations
- Mass - Media

B) CAP AKIS plans: strategy and planned **priorities**

Starting from Art 102 in the Commission proposal, and in order to tackle the cross-cutting objective on K&I&D, please explain:

- (i) how will the **organization and structuring of the AKIS** be improved?
- (ii) in particular, how will **advisors, researchers and CAP networks improve their cooperation** and the sharing of knowledge in an integrated manner;
- how they will **provide advice, knowledge flows and innovation support services?**

B) CAP AKIS plans: strategy and planned priorities

- The organization and structuring of the AKIS can be improved by developing a digital tool for storage, data processing and provision of information, which can be integrated within an online platform;
- A **cross-cutting approach** beyond existing sectors, regions, and institutes can be done by helping single actors which might have difficulties in finding the adequate partners, enable as many advisory functions as possible and coordinate them, and welcoming new advisors and new themes, participating in and sharing knowledge from OG innovative projects

B) CAP AKIS plans: strategy and planned priorities

- **The advisors, researchers and CAP networks will improve their cooperation and the sharing of knowledge in an integrated manner** by:
- Linking different forms and methods of advisory work like: individual advice, group advice, discussion groups, provide training, work-shops, demonstration;
- Organizing thematic or cross-cutting events to improve advisors knowledge and cross-visits (learning from other advisors abroad);

B) CAP AKIS plans: strategy and planned priorities

- Having discussions with farmers and researchers, in order to link innovative investments or research facilities to advice, having a bottom-up approach to new ideas;
- By supporting advisors internships in experimental research centers and training facilities, in cooperation with international partners.

B) CAP AKIS plans: strategy and planned priorities

- **The advisors will provide advice, knowledge flows and innovation support services** by delivering an holistic advice targeted to the farm's and farmer's context and by having an innovation support (digital) in order to give advice especially on innovative techniques and outcomes of OGs;
- Setting up of farm advisory services - mobile advisory units and measurement tools will also help advising.

C) interventions planned for your future AKIS

- What are the **main CAP interventions you plan** for your national AKIS with regard to:
 - a. Enhancing knowledge flows and strengthening links between research and practice
 - b. Strengthening farm advisory services within the AKIS
 - c. Strengthening interactive innovation and EIP OGs
 - d. Supporting digital transition in agriculture
- Any issues with the **budget** needed to come to a good result?

C) interventions planned for your future AKIS

- The perspectives offered by digitalization and online infrastructure help European farmers to provide safe, environmentally friendly and quality food.
- ***Farmers can "produce more with less resources"***, but they can also help to combat climate change.

The perspectives may include:

- organization of digital hubs at the level of each region with the role of coordinating, organizing and managing the collection of digital infrastructures (platforms, tools);

C) interventions planned for your future AKIS

- ***organizing sessions*** attended by MARD representatives and providers of training, advisory, innovation and technology transfer services to achieve the concept of these digital hubs and to establish how to organize them;
- ***using the results of the studies of the SCAR AKIS group*** to achieve an efficient exchange of information on best practices, success factors, identified bottlenecks etc.;
- ***development of technology transfer centers*** at regional and national level, representing and supporting technology transfer policies at national level

C) interventions planned for your future AKIS

- ***development of common spaces*** between technology transfer centers and clusters (specific to the agri-food field);
- ***the introduction of subgroups*** involving representatives of regions with similar objectives and operating under similar conditions, for a more efficient exchange of information and for the identification of common solutions;
- ***introducing the improvement of risk management solutions***
- ***the introduction of the Internet of Things -IoT*** (technologies, ecosystem and infrastructure) in the fields of agriculture for food production and food safety from the farm to consumer.

C) interventions planned for your future AKIS

- Regarding the **budget** needed to come to a good result - it can be introduced standard unit cost for easier use and reduction of administrative burden;
- In order to support digitalization of advisory services we will have an fund establishment and maintenance cost of an IT knowledge platform, containing knowledge, to be shared by several advisory actors even across borders.

Discussion:

All comments, questions and suggestions very welcome!



SCAR

AKIS

Agricultural Knowledge
and Innovation Systems

**Thank you for your
attention!
and for your active participation
and commitment!**

Report available at:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/knowledge-and-innovation-unlocking-potential-food-and-farming-2019-sep-26_en (more paper copies can be asked to Inge.Van-Oost@ec.europa.eu)

