

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: **Austria**

SCAR
Standing Committee
on Agricultural Research



AKIS – SWOT: Austria

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- comprehensive vocational training and adult education, an extensive and high-quality range of advisory services and an agricultural research landscape
- lean and the relatively few actors are well integrated
- responsibilities are clearly defined, overlaps or competition are rare, cooperation and knowledge flow within the AKIS are good and thus the use of funds is efficient

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- no institutionalised exchange of all actors

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- improve transfer between research and practice, i.e. improve alignment, structure, coordination and speed of exchange within the AKIS
- stimulation of more communication and exchange between the actors and also between the different funding schemes (national research funds, RDP-funds) and within RDP-interventions (M1 education, M2 FAS)
- installing an AKIS coordination body
- attain a higher share of MAA-projects in national research projects

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- AKIS and its actors are largely dependent on public support, thus a continuation and expansion of the AKIS-relevant support system is necessary

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

(i) how will the **organization and structuring of the AKIS** be improved?

A co-creation workshop on “How AKIS coordination should be organized and financed” will take place on 22nd of April, involving 30 stakeholders/most relevant AKIS-actors.

At the moment the following ways on how to best provide an AKIS coordination are discussed:

- expanding the frame/tasks of the Rural Network (future CAP-network, incl. EIP National Support Unit)
- AKIS coordination through an AKIS-Cluster-project (Measure 16 cooperation) or knowledge-transfer-project (Measure 1)

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

(ii) how advisors, researchers and CAP networks improve their cooperation and how will they provide advice, knowledge flows and innovation support services?

Through the funding provided for advisory work, networks and research the exchange between those should be stimulated; e.g. the exchange with science will be funded as a necessary preparatory activity for advisory work (currently only the time when a farmer receives advice is funded, not the preparatory work).

In research funding there will be more emphasis put on the dissemination through end-user channels, advisory work and involvement of end-users or advisors.

C) interventions planned for future AKIS: Austria

What are the **main CAP interventions you plan (1/2)**

- FAS Advisory Services (M2): will be programmed again; ca. € 9 Mio/year will be used to provide advise to farmers (incl. FAS Topics)
- Knowledge Transfer Projects (M1): Further training and education projects will be funded, in the coming funding period; there shouldn't be such a strict separation between M1 and M2, as projects can contain advisory elements to a certain extent and also scientific studies will be fundable
- EIP-Agri (M16): Will be programmed again, hopefully with a bigger budget share in this period

C) interventions planned for future AKIS: Austria

What are the **main CAP interventions you plan (2/2)**

- Research: is mostly nationally funded, but here also more Multi-Actor-Approach should be implemented where applicable and an emphasis will be put on dissemination to end-users and stronger involvement of practice and/through advisors
- The participation of AKIS actors in international innovation projects at the interface between research and practice (e.g. within Horizon Europe) is also considered important in the increasingly knowledge-intensive agriculture and forestry, and should be stimulated by e.g. EIP and FAS funding.

Discussion:

All comments, questions and suggestions very welcome!



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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)

