



Subgroup on Innovation for agricultural productivity and sustainability 5th Meeting

2 June 2016

#RNSubInnovation - @EIPAGRI_SP

Subgroup on Innovation for agricultural productivity and sustainability

5th Meeting – 2 June 2016



Morning sessions

08:00 - 09:00 Registration & welcome coffee

09:00 - 09:10 Welcome & introduction – *Rob Peters, Head of Unit AGRI H.5*

09:10 - 09:30 Session I “EIP-AGRI Focus Groups

Presentations by EIP-AGRI Service Point and DG AGRI:

- Information on the state of play of FGs 6-20
- Launch of calls for experts for FGs 21-23

09:30 – 10:30 Session II “Operational Groups: first experiences”

Introduction by Anikó Serégely, DG AGRI

Feedback from workshop “Operational Groups: first experiences” (April 2016):

- *Jean-Marc Gautier, OG “Robustagno” (France)*
- *Herbert Mock, OG “Organic dock control” (Austria)*

10:30 – 10:45 Session III ‘Networking for innovation’

Introduction by Sirpa Karjalainen, DG AGRI

10:45 – 11:15 Coffee break

11:15 – 13:00 Session III “Networking for innovation” (continued)

Discussion in groups: how to support the NRNs’ role in fostering innovation & how to shape the NRN workshop planned in October 2016

13:00 – 13:45 Lunch break



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Afternoon sessions

13:00 – 13:45 Lunch break

13:45 – 15:10 Session IV “EIP-AGRI and Horizon 2020”

Introduction by *Inge Van Oost, DG AGRI*

Presentation project “Fertinnowa” by *Els Berckmoes, Research Centre for Vegetable Production (Belgium)*

Discussion in groups: how to promote synergies between EIP-AGRI activities & Horizon 2020



15:10 – 15:30 Coffee break

15:30 – 16:30 Session V “Priorities for 2017”

introduction by *Antonella Zona, DG AGRI*

Discussion in groups: broad priorities for EPI-AGRI network activities in 2017



16:30 – 17:00 Wrap up / next steps

Exchange of views on upcoming events



17:00 **Closing**




EIP-AGRI Workshop 'Operational Groups: First experiences'

20-21 April 2016
Legnaro, Italy

*Anikó Seregélyi
DG AGRI*

Purpose of the Workshop

To bring together the first already existing Operational Groups (OGs), potential actors in OGs and stakeholders creating a supporting environment for OGs in order to

- exchange and learn from the first experiences;
 - discuss the role of the various actors,
 - learn and discuss what kind of supporting environment is most useful for Operational Groups and good practices to create it;
 - disseminate those first experiences in the EIP-AGRI network.
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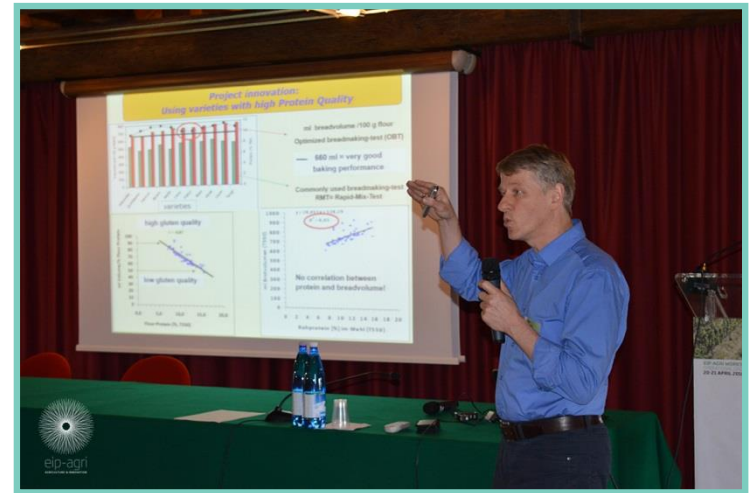
Participants

- 102 participants from 23 countries
 - ✓ Actors of Operational Groups (11 OGs)
 - ✓ MAs, EIP-AGRI network supporting units, advisors, innovation brokers, ISS



Programme Day 1 – Focus on OGs

- Presentation of 6 OG projects
 - Organic dock control (Austria)
 - Robust lamb (Midi-Pyrénées, France)
 - Winter harvest (Austria)



- Population management (Schleswig-Holstein, Germany)
- Zero herbicides in Mediterranean perennial crops (Languedoc-Roussillon, France)
- Wheat-value chain (Hessen, Germany)

Programme Day 1 – Focus on OGs (cont.)



Interactive discussions about experiences, lessons learned:

1. Partnership – Setting up an OG

How to bring the right partners together around the idea for an OG project?

2. Developing and early implementation of an OG project

What practical problems / challenges have you faced so-far?

Remaining questions → Open space discussion

Programme Day 2 – Focus on the supporting environment

Presentation of examples from MSs and regions

- The Veneto region case (Italy)
- National Rural Support Unit (DVS) Supportive Services (Germany)
- Agri-innovation network for Hungary (Hungary)
- EIP Wales – OG Development and Support (UK, Wales)



Programme Day 2 – Focus on the supporting environment (cont.)



Interactive discussions about experiences, needs and lessons learned :

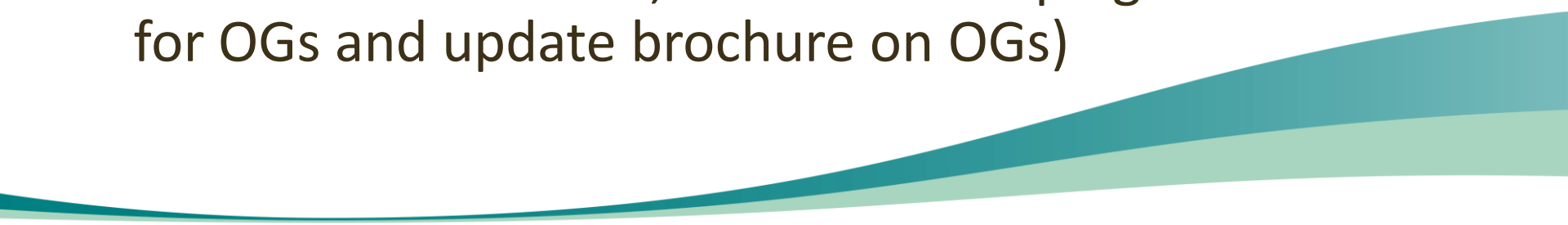
- ✓ *What kind of supporting environment is useful for Operational Groups?*
- ✓ *What have we learned in our roles as actors in OGs, MAs, NRNs and advisors?*

Some highlights

- Fantastic venue, excellent host
- Very good atmosphere during the whole event
- Very interesting presentations, enthusiastic discussions
- Main focus on OG experiences and needs – exchange and dialog between OGs and their supporting counterparts (MAs, NRNs, advisors)
- Very positive feedback from participants



Expected outcome before the WS


- Learning from the first experiences;
 - Identifying good practices for a supporting environment;
 - Learning how the various actors interact and work together;
 - Identifying needs where the EIP-AGRI network can give support;
 - Disseminating the first experiences (video, interviews, dedicated newsletter, further developing the Toolkit for OGs and update brochure on OGs)
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Learned in the WS (all)


- ✓ EIP is new & challenging for everyone (OGs, MAs, PAs...), diversity of approaches, tools
- ✓ Learned about: EIP-AGRI process, role of actors, differences btw broker / facilitator / ISS, challenges in implementing OGs, EIP-AGRI network, importance of clear and timely communication, importance of clear rules
- ✓ Stated as very important and valuable in the WS: **the practical examples, sharing different experiences & best practices, new ideas, new contacts, face to face meeting**

"I've really learnt a lot from this meeting. The presentation of practical experiences from OGs already selected in Austria, France and Germany was especially useful. It's obvious that we all face similar challenges in getting our Operational Groups up and running, but some good practices are emerging and I've a lot to discuss with my colleagues when I get home."


Further needs identified - NRNs

- **Improve communication** between Networks:
 - Promote a dialogue on activities planned by Networks
 - Identify common needs and develop common approaches
 - Improve sharing projects and networking with each other
 - Better understand the role of other NRNs in supporting EIP
 - Sharing EIP-AGRI **networking models** / approaches, best practices **in regionalised countries**
 - Issues to be further explored: H2020 / Focus Group linkages, state aid issues, LEADER LAGs – EIP links
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Further needs and activities identified - MAs

- Specific **guidance**, sharing best practices on **Cooperation agreements**
 - Further **sharing best practice** on ongoing development of EIP
 - Developing **self-assessment tools for OGs** – review progress and direction of projects (should be part of online toolkit)
 - MSs should issue a **link to the EIP-AGRI network** when issuing **calls for OGs**
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Further needs, remaining challenges identified Advisors

- More exchanges needed on how ISS work across the EU
 - Eligibility rules and aid levels need to be made clearer
 - Learning exchanges btw MAs – visiting already established OGs and innovation networks
 - Better ways to communicate effectively with stakeholders
 - Support should focus on face to face interaction
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Further needs identified - OGs

- Learn about **innovative and effective tools for managing the OG** during the full period of lifetime
 - **Training for OG managers / coordinators**
 - **Networking tools** for getting in touch with other OGs
 - Advice on the **most appropriate tools for communication** and dissemination including the publishing of results
 - **Keep in touch** and meet again!
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Coming soon...

- Report
- Video
- EIP-AGRI Newsletter special edition
- Toolkit
- Updated brochure on OGs

Workshop page on EIP-AGRI website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/content/eip-agri-workshop-operational-groups-first-experiences>

