

The European Innovation Partnership (EIP) „Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability“

Demand driven innovation under the EIP-AGRI



EIP Regional workshop – Paris – 22 May 2014

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EIP – AGRI in short

- **Commission Communication COM (2012) 79**

Innovation Union Flagship Initiative: EIPs link existing policies and instruments to speed up innovation

- **Aim:** To foster a competitive and sustainable agriculture and forestry sector that "achieves more from less"
- **Approach:** "Closing the innovation gap" between research and practice by using the
interactive innovation model
+
Link actors via an **EIP Network**: communication, partnering, dissemination, knowledge flows and collecting practice needs
- **Funding:** using existing Union policies:
CAP Rural development , interaction "Horizon 2020"

Means for Implementing the EIP - AGRI

Rural Development Policy:

- Funding the setting up of "operational groups" (key entities of the EIP AGRI)
- Funding operational group projects (cooperation, investment, knowledge transfer, advisory services)
- Establishing "innovation support services", e.g. to facilitate the formation of operational groups

European Union Research Policy (Horizon 2020)

- Funding research projects, also involving on-farm experiments, to enhance the knowledge base for innovation
- Interactive project formats where scientific and practical knowledge are combined, e.g. multi-actor projects and thematic networks

The specific decision about the implementation depends on the priorities set out by the Member State/region in their **Rural Development programmes**

State of play of rural development programmes 2014-2020

- **For EU-28:**

We expect the submission of at least 114 Rural Development programmes

Official submission programmes has started

Some elements from the state of play of preparations by MS in next slides

State of play of EIP programming: FR

- 20 of 29 RDPs formally received very recently, under examination now, so far only partial info
- 10/14 RDPs activated the cooperation measure, of which 8 for OGs (total 70 mio €), estimation 1,4 % of total EU budget
- Needs to be addressed: broad range of productivity and sustainability in agriculture and forestry, including agro-ecology, bio-resources, protein crops, climate etc
- Technical, organisational and social innovation addressed in a participatory way
- EIP OG actors: actors involved in agricultural/forestry supply chain, including interprofessional organisations, advisors and researchers
- Promotion of OGs and national coordination by NRN, making use of supporting networks (old and new) on specific themes and linking to EIP at EU level

State of play of EIP programming: BE

- Flanders: PA submitted on 22 April, formal RDP submitted 24 April. Wallonia no info
- Innovation measures used: Art. 14, 17, 20, 35, Leader (total 407 mio € EU budget incl P1->P2): submeasures innovative investments (Art. 17), demo projects & farm exchanges (Art.14)
- EIP OG projects max 2 years (Art.35), developing practices, processes and products, with a focus on stimulating interaction between research and practice: farmers getting co-ownership instead of being study-object
- Selection criteria: relevance of objectives and outcomes for practice, adequate partner mix, quality and innovation potential of the project, complementarity to existing initiatives
- No thematic orientation, may be done through calls
- Cooperation between NRN and EIP network which will connect to the EU EIP network

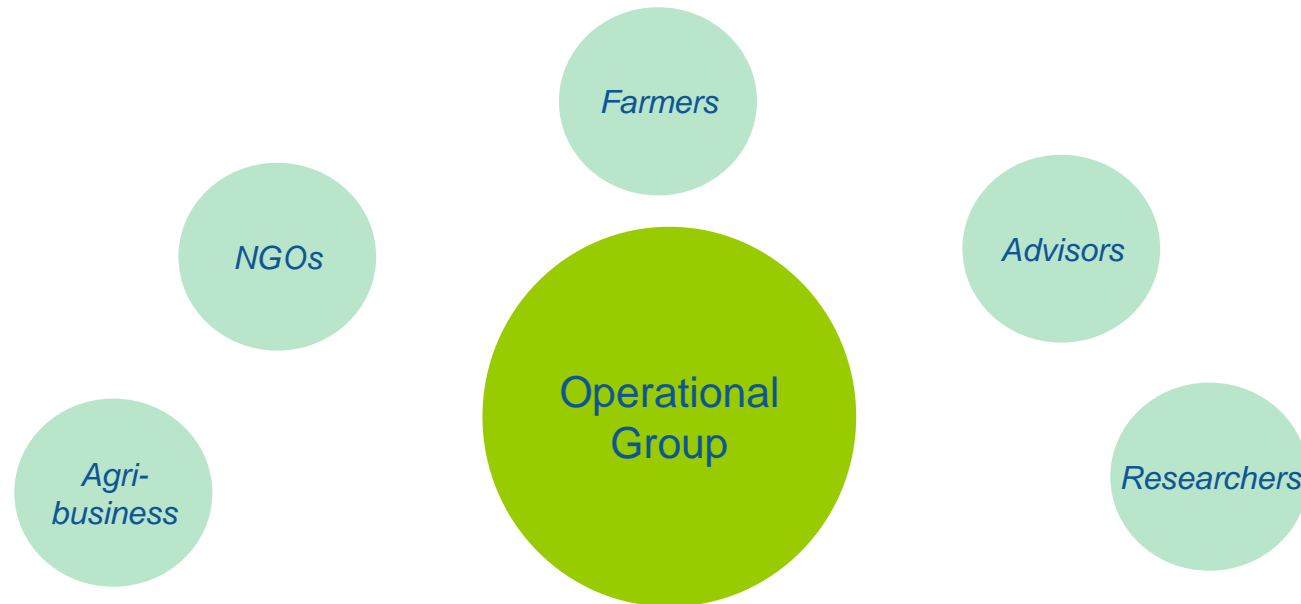
State of play of EIP programming: RO

- PA submitted on 1 April, informal draft RDP 21 March, consultations ongoing with the COM
- Cooperation measure: 28 mio € (13 + 15), 0,35 % from total EU budget
- Support for establishment and operation of EIP OGs for pilot projects & developing products, processes and practices: partners from research and agri-food/forestry
- Additional support for OGs in a thematic subprogramme on orchards (15 mio €)
- Special NRN service to promote OGs and deliver innovation support activities; promotion also through LAGs
- Dissemination of OG results through EIP network, NRN and national public advisory services

State of play of EIP programming: IT

- PA submitted on 22 April, informal programme consultations ongoing with the COM (21 regions + 1 national + 1 network)
- Agro-food/forestry innovation strategy (6 themes): EIP needs to focus on interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral activities
- Working group defining “EIP national guidelines”, e.g. concentrate calls in 2 specific sessions/year
- Use Art 35 for setting up and funding OG activities, often combined with Art 14, 15, 17, 19, 26
- Brokering costs mostly funded through Art 35(5)(b) for one of the partners of the OG
- NRN: supports MA in dissemination, coordinates communication between existing innovation centres, operates national webdatabase for partner search. NRN will also support brokering and inspiration of OGs in the initial stage of the programming period

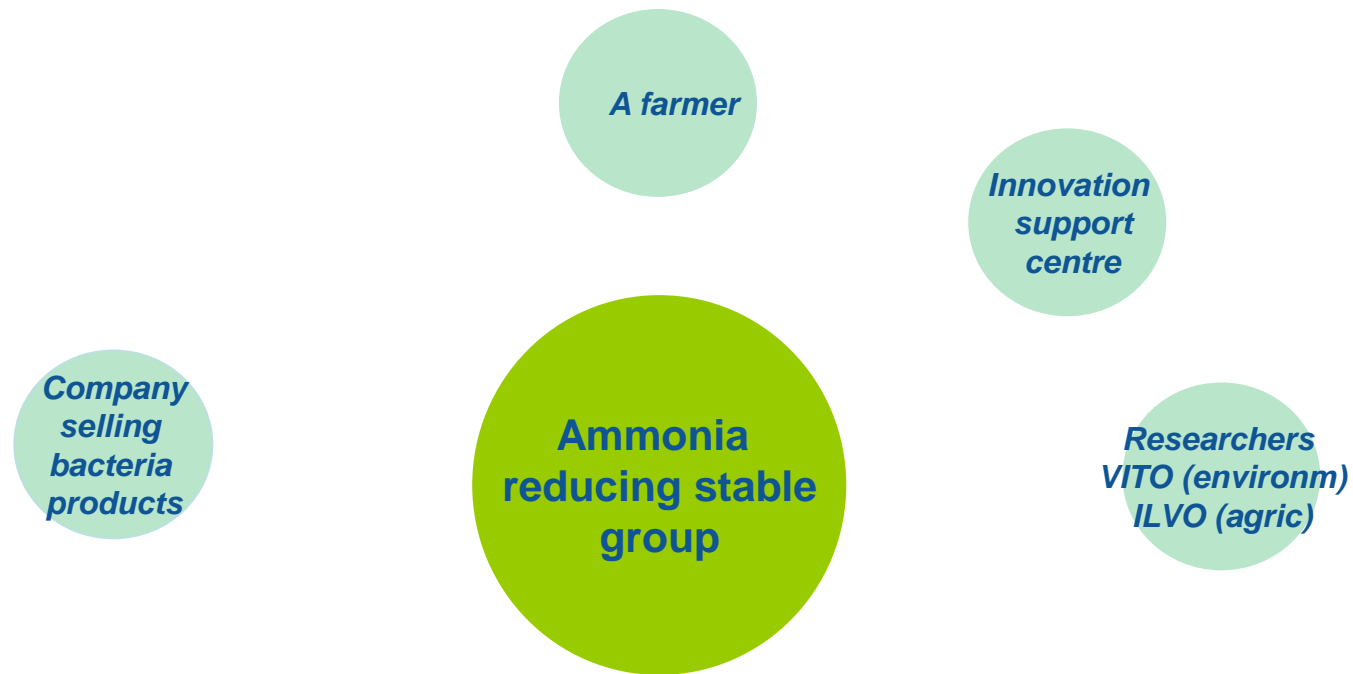
Key Acting Entities Within the EIP - Operational Groups -



- *"Operational Groups" are no stakeholder networks, no stakeholder boards, no thematic coordination groups, nor discussion groups*
- *"Operational Group" = a team composed of **actors** relevant for the project, working together in an interactive innovation project and producing concrete results*

An example of an interactive innovation group similar to future OGs:

*Project "**Ammonia reducing pig stable**" (BE)*



Project objective: develop a pig stable reducing ammonia emissions by 50 % in a more cost-efficient way than existing stable systems (idea from a farmer, brokered by the Innovation Support Centre)

Innovation Support Services

- Promoting innovation and innovation funding formats
- Brainstorming events and animation of (thematic) groups
- **Brokering function** for setting up operational group projects
- Coordination and **facilitation** of running projects as an intermediate between partners
- Dissemination of innovative results

funding:

- Art 35
- Art 15
- Technical assistance

The innovation brokering process

A plan & team for an innovation project



Searching for possible support program



Searching for adequate partners



Finding the idea & refine it

**Setting up an operational group:
Matchmaking, including the
marriage contract**

Research programme ?
All

Application year ?
All

Final report year ?
All

Search ?

Svenska | English

PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS TO ENABLE RICH AMOUNTS OF STRAW AT FARROWING

Project status: Finished

Project number: H0950218

Final report date: 2011-03-01

Main applicant: Helena Elmquist

Organisation: Svenskt Sigill Kvalitetssystem AB

Address: Franzengatan 6
10533 Stockholm

Phone: 087875966

Email: helena.elmquist@sigill.lrf.se

Co-applicant: Gunnar Ohlsson

Co-applicant: Rebecka Westin

Grant so far: 690 000 SEK

Year 1: 690 000 SEK

Application abstract

The use of a rich amount of straw at farrowing show positive effects on pig welfare, health and production result. Taking advantage of this knowledge may lead to a competitive advantage not only for the individual farmers, but also for Sweden in an international perspective. The limiting factor for many farmers though, is the manure handling systems' ability to manage rich straw content. It is important to gain an overall picture of what problems may arise and how they can be solved. This project will describe simple, robust, financially favourable and practical manure handling solutions. Data will be collected by using a survey followed by interviews and documentation. The results aim to improve occupational health as well as animal welfare in piglet production.

Summary of final report

Final report

Final report

Dissemination... may generate

**"Application
abstracts"**

A Swedish example:

Online database

1 430 projects and growing

**Project facts, summaries and
contact data**

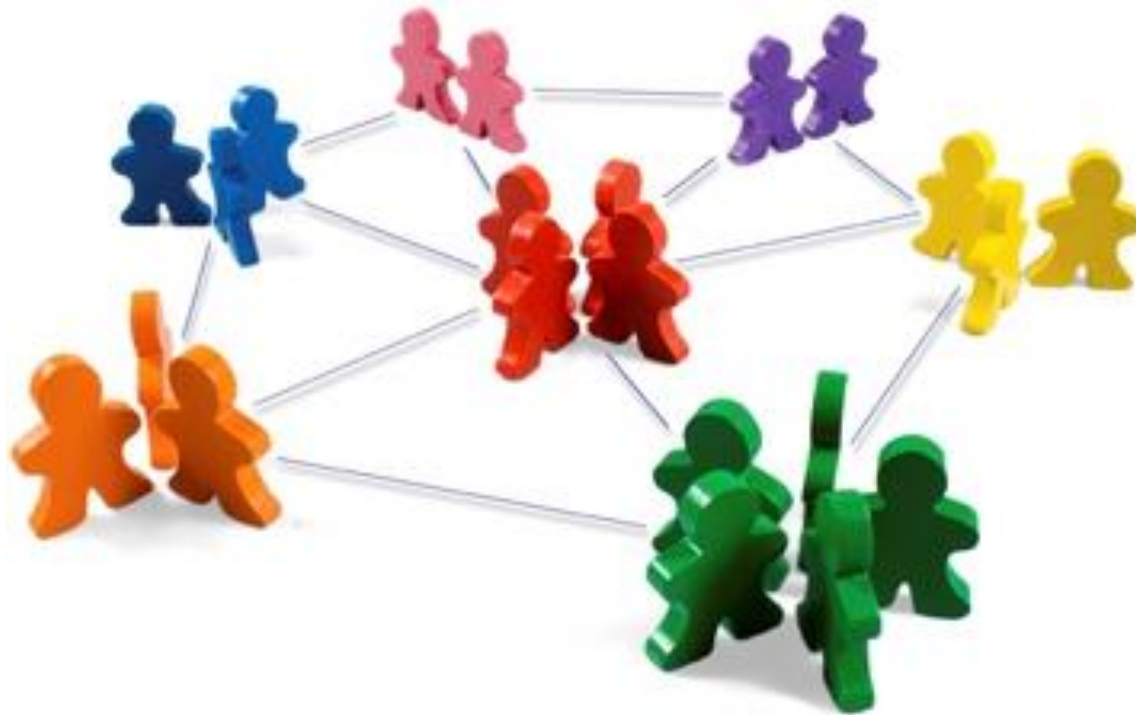
**Available to researchers,
advisors, farmers and everyone
else**

To be shared within the EIP network

Innovation is: an idea put into practice with success !

- **Interactive innovation** occurs as a result of the creativity and interplay between actors for combining new and/or existing (tacit) knowledge
- In the end, it is only when a new creation really becomes more or less mainstream that it is called an "innovation"
- EIP: bottom-up approaches linking farmers, advisors, researchers, businesses, and other actors to implement concrete innovation projects in Operational Groups
- **no "stand alone" (applied) research:** *"Researchers play a valuable role within operational groups, co-operating with other members and helping actively to achieve the aims of the group's project"* (Guidance Art. 35)

➔ **Interplay and mediation between actors is key**



What kind of project can an OG work with?

*New grouping, **new project*** ✓

*Existing grouping, **new project*** ✓

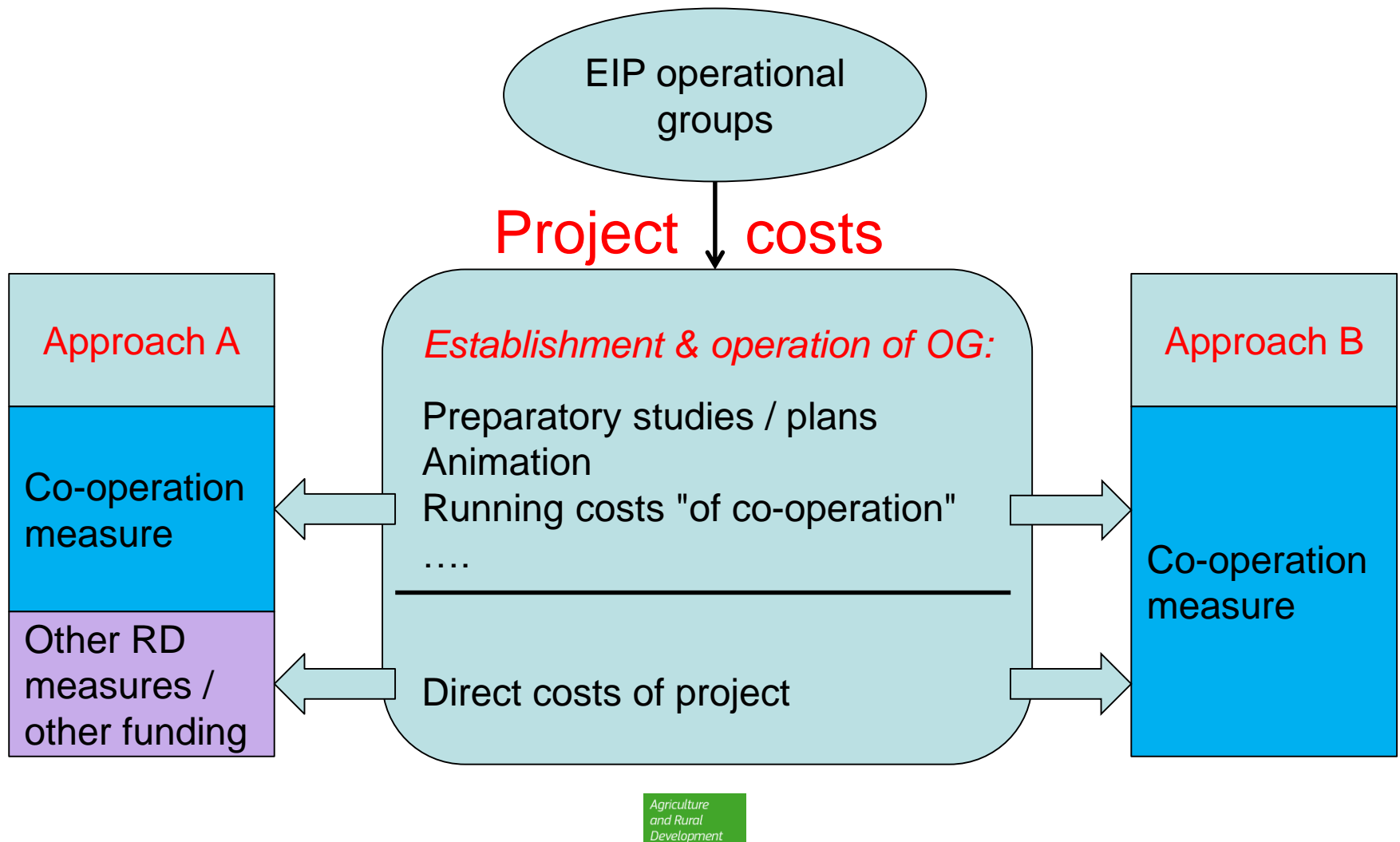
*Existing grouping, **existing project*** ✗

*The OG must **demonstrably have an active project** which will contribute to RD priorities*

** See updated innovation guidelines*

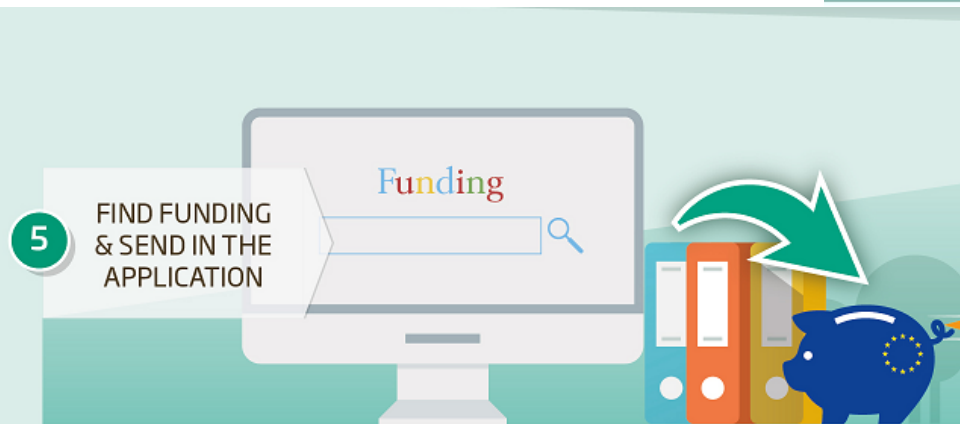
** See updated Art 35 guidance*

What can be funded?



Getting started







- Wrapping up - Operational Groups:

- Are built around concrete innovation projects targeted towards finding innovative solutions for a specific challenges or new opportunities
- Require combination of different competencies (practical and scientific)
- Are "hands-on" groups and are composed by those innovation actors relevant for the project
- Benefit from the interactions and cross-fertilisation between the participants of the group and the sharing of the respective expertise

Obligations from EU side

- *Establish internal procedures*
- *Describe the project*
- *Describe the expected results*
- *Disseminate the results*



***Innovation is: an idea put into
practice with success !***



More information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/eip/>

Thank you for your attention!