

The European Innovation Partnership "Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability": A source of opportunities



Emanuela Galeazzi

Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development





General principles

- Interlinking existing innovation-related measures and initiatives
- Achieving synergies and enhancing effectiveness of existing instruments
- Facilitating communication among stakeholders and creating workable links between science and practice
- Providing EU value added through networking and enhancing complementarity

Using a lean governance structure and based on existing mechanisms





Aims of the EIP in the "draft" Rural Development Regulation [Art. 61 (will become Art. 55)]

- Promote a resource efficient, economically viable, competitive, low emission, climate friendly and resilient agricultural and forestry sector [...]
- Help deliver a steady and sustainable supply of food, feed and biomaterials, including existing and new types
- Improve processes to preserve the environment, adapt to climate change and mitigate it
- Build bridges between cutting-edge research knowledge and technology and farmers, forest managers, rural communities, businesses, NGOs and advisory services





Challenges and Opportunities



Biodiversity Habitats



Viability Food

Economic



Bioenergy Biomass



Climate Change



Resourcemanagement

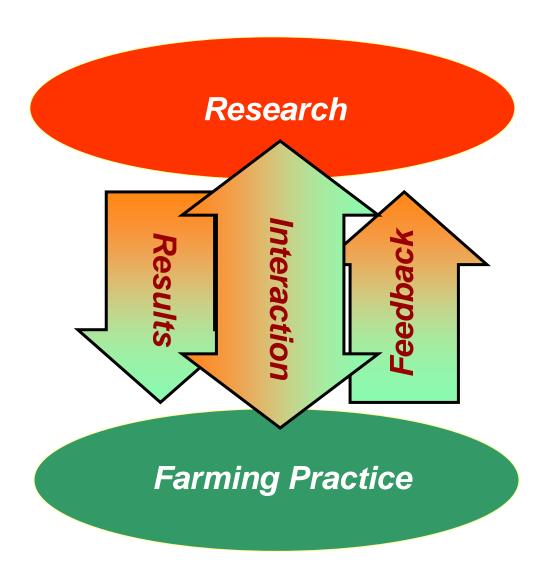




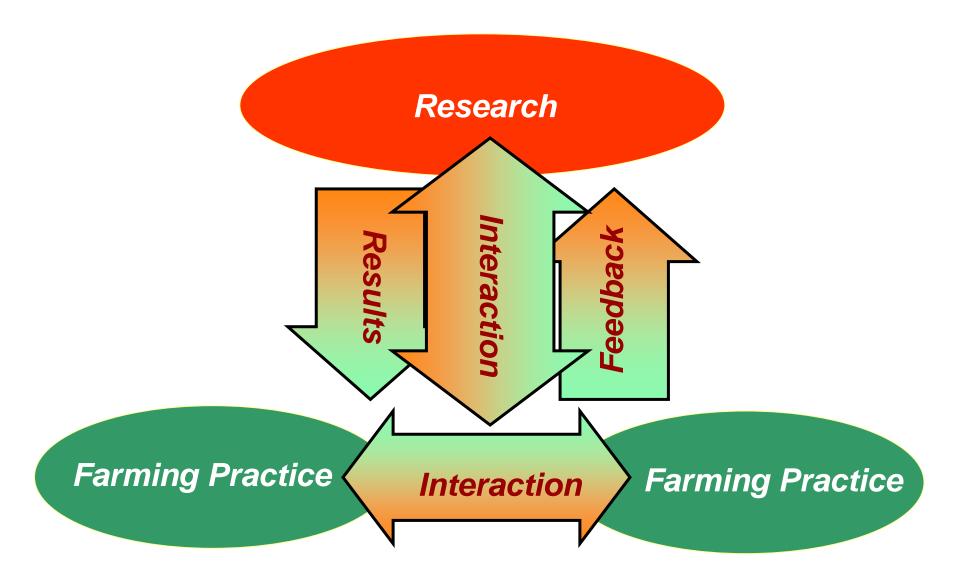




Closing The Innovation GAP









Innovation models



Linear innovation model: "from lab to practice"



Interactive innovation model:

- ✓ Bottom-up approach
- ✓ Multi-stakeholder
- ✓ Partnership & Networking





Means

Rural Development Program

- Operational groups (farmers, advisors, agribusiness, research and NGOs in "variable geometry")
- Pilote projects/ innovation brokers / investments/ knowledge transfer/ networking
- Implemented via Member States and/or regions

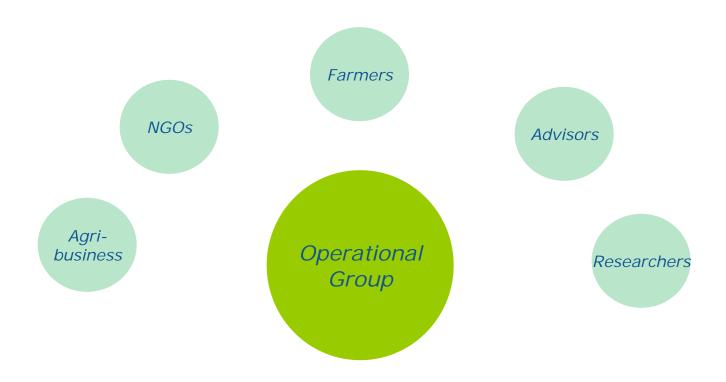
European Union Research Policy Horizon 2020

- Multi-actor approach (included on-farm activities)
- Thematic networks
- Implemented at EU level (at least 3 MS)





Key Acting Entities Within the EIP - Operational Groups -







Rural Development: Concept of Operational Groups

Operational Groups of the EIP:

- Are built around concrete innovation projects
- 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 between the participants of the group and the sharing of the respective expertise





Rural Development: steps towards establishing Operational Groups

Programming

- Article 36 (operational groups, innovation brokers)
- Possible combination with project funding (e.g. investment)

Setting up of Operational Groups

- Call for proposal
- Bottom-up approach towards forming operational groups
- Possibility of assistance by "innovation brokers"

Targeting towards certain themes and/or innovation actors

- Specification of eligibility and selection criteria

General requirements for applicants

- Project plan (objectives, outcome, approach, decision making)
- Dissemination via EIP network





Rural Development - Article 36: "Co-operation"

Support for Operational Groups (OGs) covers:

- setting up of EIP Operational Groups (OGs)
- funding of their operations

Support includes:

- Pilot projects
- Development of new products, practices processes and technologies in the agriculture, food and forestry sectors

Also supports for networks, joint activities and actions (on supply chains and local markets, on environmental matters, on biomass, linked to climate change, ...)





Support for Innovation & Knowledge Exchange

Rural Development Policy provides support for:

- Article 15: Knowledge transfer and information actions (80% co-financing)
- Article 16: Advice for farmers, the setting up of farm advisory services, and training of advisors (50% cofinancing)
- Article 18: Investments (up to 50% co-financing + 20 %points increased aid intensity for EIP-related operations)
- Article 36: Cooperation, operational groups and related projects (up to 80% co-financing)
- Article <u>53</u> and <u>55</u>: Establishment of networks to facilitate knowledge exchange, information flow, and interaction (50% co-financing)



Facilitate innovation: the role of Innovation Brokerage

An "innovation broker" is a person or organisation that acts as a go-between, helping to:

- discover innovative ideas
- articulate demand
- connect partners
- find funding
- prepare project proposal

Innovation brokerage can be supported under Rural Development Policy: Art 15, Art. 16 (1) (b), Art. 36 (5) (b), Art. 55 (2)





EIP Implementation via the European Union Research Policy (Horizon 2020)

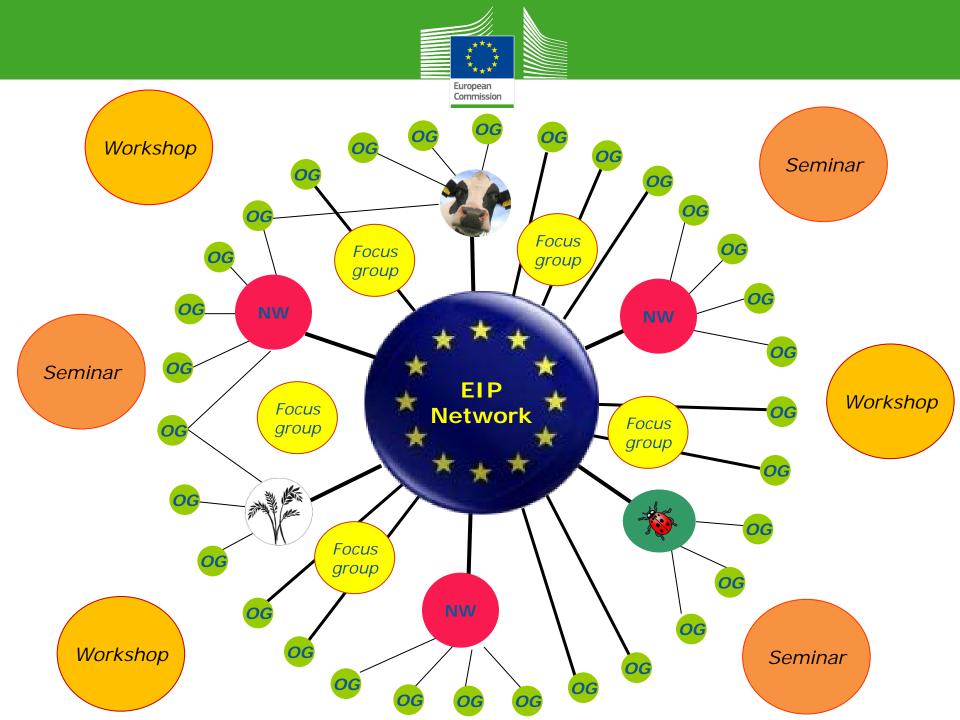
 Multi-actor projects, including on-farm experiments, to ensure a practice-oriented, multidisciplinary approach

Thematic networks

- ✓ Interlink relevant, interested stakeholders
- ✓ Share good practices and existing scientific knowledge
- ✓ Enhance dissemination

Calls for proposals via work programmes (at least 3 Member States or associated countries). Calls for Work Programme 2014-2015 to be launched on 11 December.







Network function of the EIP Service Point

- Collect & disseminate information on innovation-related activities (research projects, best innovation practices, news & events, collect needs for research, connect people, ...) => WEBSITE
- Give advice on opportunities (on policies, on funding, ...), helpdesk function
- Promote discussion on topics related to innovation (seminars, workshops)
- Share knowledge on precise, practical issues (Focus Groups)
- Provide feedback to scientific community on the needs of agricultural practice (Art.12 Horizon 2020)

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/eip/service-point/index_en.htm







Agriculture and Rural Development



EIP Focus Groups per il 2013

20 experts from different sectors

- Organic farming (optimizing arable yields)
- 2. Protein crops
- 3. Animal husbandry (reduction of anti-biotic use in the pig sector)
- 4. Genetic resources
- 5. Organic matter content of soils (Mediterranean region)
- 6. Integrated Pest Management (*Brassica spp.*)

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/eip/focus-groups/index_en.htm





What's next?

- 9-10 December: COMAGRI and December Plenary confirmation
- 16 December: Council adoption of EAFRD
- 11 December: First call for proposal under Horizon 2020
- 14 January 2014: EIP Workshop on integrating research activities and projects of Rural Development Programmes
- From 2014: Implementation of RD Programme, including the setting up of Operational Groups under RD Programmes
- From 2014: Continued implementation of Annual Work Programmes of the EIP Network Service Point
- Regional Workshops: How can stakeholders become active in the EIP? How to set up a project under the EIP?





Thank you for your attention!

emanuela.galeazzi@ec.europa.eu

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