



SCAR SWG AKIS

Strategic Working Group on Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems

"MAIN RESULTS AND FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES"

Natalia Villalobos Caballero de Rodas
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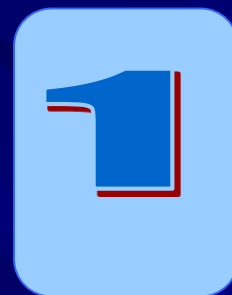
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INTRODUCTION.BACKGROUND

Background of the SCAR

- **1974:** Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR): Representatives of Member States and associated Countries that **advise** the European Commission and Member States on **coordination of agricultural research**
- **2005:** SCAR started "Foresight" exercises
- **2006:**, Krems (Austria): “ *[SCAR to] deals with **questions of advisory services, education, training and innovation in their discussions***”

Background of the SCAR

- **2007** 1st SCAR Foresight : *review of the **links** between **knowledge production** and **its use** to foster innovation*
- **2009** 2nd SCAR Foresight: Agricultural Knowledge Systems in Europe: “currently unable to absorb and internalise the structural and systemic shifts that have occurred.
- **Currently**: a changing policy context: the financial crises, global food security, the **EU 2020 strategy**: Smart, sustainable, inclusive growth”, **European Innovation Partnership** “, **CAP** post 2013



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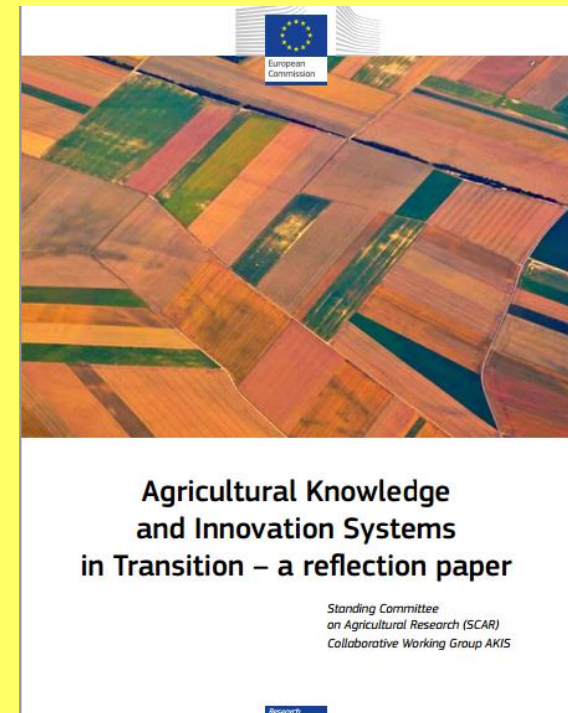
AKIS 1-4 MANDATES

SWG **A**gricultural **K**nowledge & **I**nnovation **S**ystems

- 🔗 AKIS 1: **a reflection paper**
- 🔗 AKIS 2: **towards H2020**
- 🔗 AKIS 3: **a foresight paper**
- 🔗 AKIS 4: **an ambitious mandate**

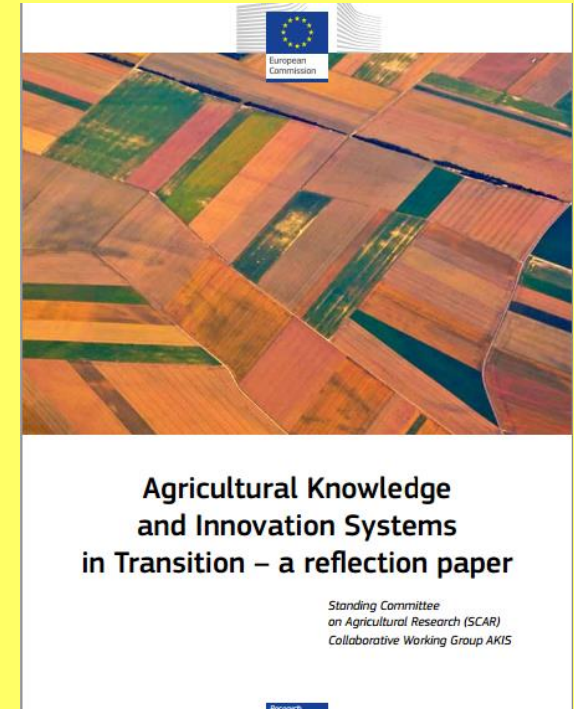
AKIS 1: a reflection paper (2012)

- **R&I Systems are very different between countries, regions and sectors.**
- **No guarantee they are fit to challenges** posed by the need to increase productivity and sustainability.
- **Different parts of AKIS face different challenges** and are governed by different incentives:
 - **Education:** weakly connected to Research, extension & Business.
 - **Applied research:** reviewed on scientific output, much less on practical relevance.
- **Networking and cooperation** between research and extension or farmers groups is crucial



AKIS 1: a reflection paper (2012)

- **Agenda setting by farmers and food business** more important than just more research dissemination
- **CAP** should **allocate budget to encourage innovation driven research**
- **H2020** could focus on science-driven agricultural Research
- **Linkage between H2020 and CAP** should guarantee the collaboration between both types



AKIS 2: Towards H2020 (2014)

Need for Innovation

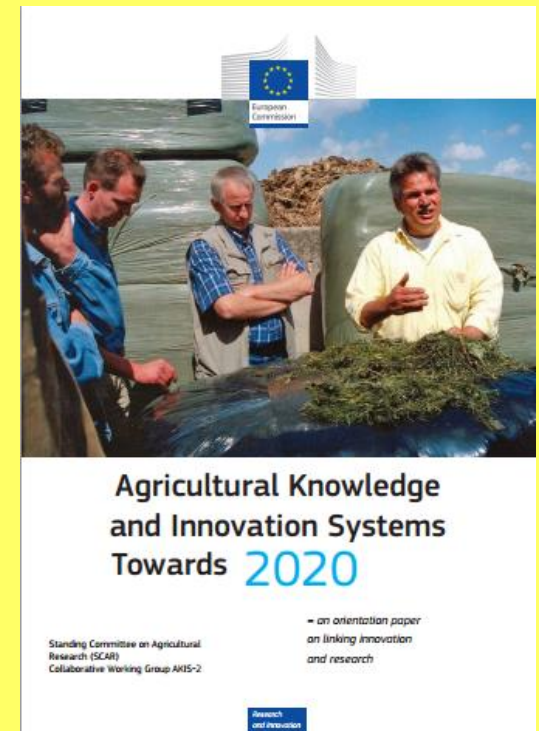
- How to feed 9 billion in 2050 in a sustainable way
- Climate change
- Agriculture and food industry as an attractive sector

Innovation is a broad concept

- The implementation of a **new** or significantly improved **product** (good or service), or **process**, a new **marketing method**, or a new **organisational method** in business practices

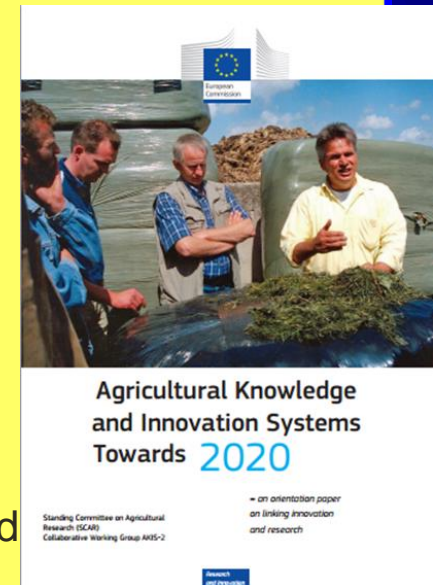
Innovation by interaction in networks

- Innovation as a **process** (**bottom-up**) / Learning aspect Thematically-focused / **wide** range of relevant **actors**.



AKIS 2: Towards H2020 (2014)

- **AKIS need to innovate** themselves and adopt new ways of working to address the challenges.
- **Governments** can stimulate **innovation** by implementing the **EIP** through operational groups that work in a participatory way. This should be translated in an instrument portfolio that:
 - **Gives incentives** for research, development and innovation;
 - **Stimulates knowledge exchange**
 - **Supports the activities of facilitators, innovation brokers** and tutoring paths for farmers to implement innovations;
 - Value the **input and knowledge of farmers**;
 - Supports operational groups also to develop **cross-border interactions**





AKIS 2: OUTCOMES

Main project paradigms of the [EIP-AGRI](#)

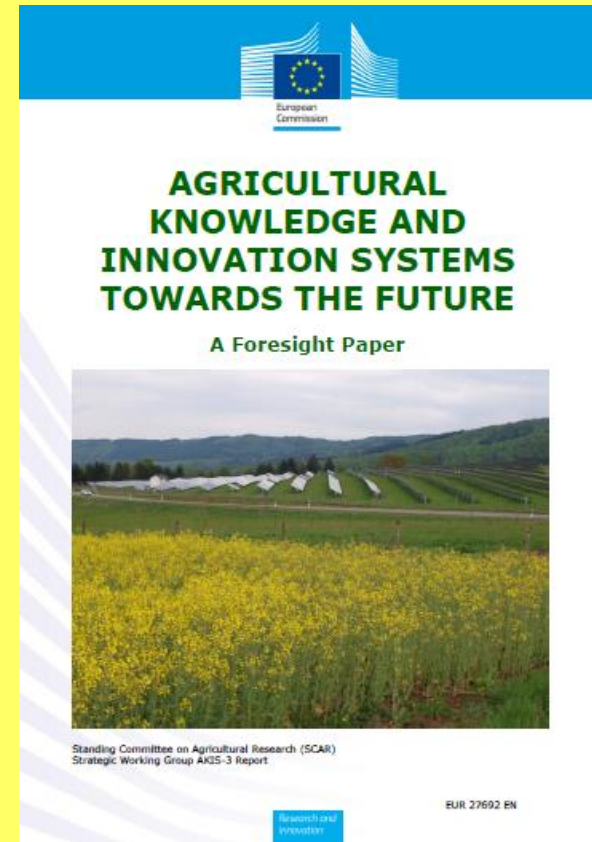
Operational Groups (OG): **EARDF** (Measure 16)

Multi-Actors Projects (MAP) - **RIA: Horizon 2020**
(40% in SC2)

Thematic Networks (TN) - **CSA : Horizon 2020**

AKIS 3: a foresight paper (2016)

- **Innovation** and the role of AKIS
- **AR** and **ARD**: worlds that could come together
- **ICT** as a drivers of change in the agri-food sector
- The role of **e-science** in agriculture: how e-science technology assists participation in agricultural research
- A **changing role** of **advisory services** is needed



AKIS 3: a foresight paper **(2016)**

AKIS Organisation

- **Public authorities have a range of responsibilities** and many options for action when it comes to organization and governance of AKIS
- **Farmers in pluralistic AKIS need support for “finding their way around”** (among public and private providers of advice)
- **Big Data** and other **ICT** developments will not only **influence agriculture** but also **science**, research and development and the innovation processes within the AKIS.
- Agriculture should not be treated as an isolated entity, but **AKIS should identify cross-overs** (ICT, Food and other bioeconomy related sectors).



AKIS 3: a foresight paper

Policy framework for AKIS governance

- Research funding should facilitate cross-overs to other research field
- Further explore **Public – Private Partnerships** in research and innovation programs for agriculture
- Excellent Research **Infrastructures** are relevant.
- **International collaboration** is attractive for **cross-fertilization**
- A real **European Research Area** is needed

Research issues

- Research on **ICT** including **E-Science**, and especially its governance and **interoperability** is needed.
- **Social sciences**, including **economics**, are an important discipline, not to be neglected in programming research

AKIS 4: an ambitious mandate

1. Improve the integrated approach within the European AKIS and the implementation of the EIP

Emphasize on the **connection** between

EU
National
Regional

- **Complementarities** and **synergies** among EU funds
- **Thematic interconnection** and collection of expertise of **interactive innovation projects** at different levels
- Further **development** of the **EIP approach**. With a consideration to cross cutting issues:
 - New approaches for **agricultural education systems** (Policy brief)
 - **Future of Advisory services** (Policy brief)

H2020
EAFDR
EFRD
ESF

AKIS 4: an ambitious mandate

1. **Learning and feedback from interactive project approaches**
(multi-actors projects, thematic networks, operational groups)
2. **Reflection on more “integrated” approach along the hole value chain**, working together with **SCAR SWG Food systems**
3. **Cross-fertilization** with other **EIPs** and sectors
4. **Analysing the perspective of AKIS in Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture across developing countries** (together with **SCAR ARCH Group**)
(explore successful experiences from other countries that could be scaled up and investigate how to influence the common research agendas)



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EIP-AGRI in SPAIN

Implementation EIP-AGRI SPAIN

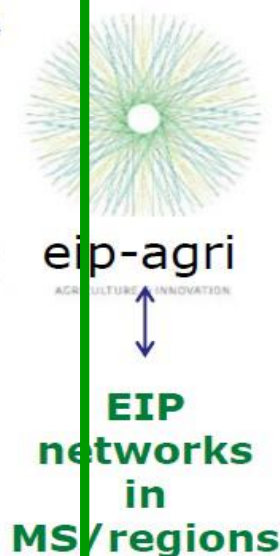
CAP Rural Development.....EIP AGRI.....H2020

MINISTRY of
AGRICULTURE/AUTONOMOUS
REGIONS

Rural Development

- **Funding for setting up of an "Operational Group"**: farmers, advisors, agribusiness, researchers, NGOs, etc) planning an innovation project (Art 35)
- **Project funding** for the Operational Group's project (Art 35). This co-operation could be combined with other RD measures (e.g. investment, knowledge transfer, advice)

Supporting **innovation support services**



European
Commission

European Innovation Partnership

Horizon 2020

- **Research projects**, to provide the knowledge base for innovative actions
- **Interactive** innovation formats such as **multi-actor projects and thematic networks** genuinely involving farmers, advisors, enterprises, etc.... **"all along the project"**

AEI/CDTI

Agriculture
and Rural
Development

First call Multiregional Operational Groups. Ministry of Agriculture

FOCUS AREA	Subvention applied (€)	Number of proposals	Subvention applied (average, €)
Modernization of farms	5.580.268	107	52.152
Industry and competitiveness	4.835.333	92	52.557
Biodiversity and natural resources	1.437.941	35	41.084
Irrigation	353.947	8	44.243
Renewable energy. Circular economy	1.242.941	25	49.717
TOTAL	13.450.430	267	50.376

OG: Autonomous regions

Rural Development Programs at regional level



- Andalucía: 73
- Galicia: 49
- Extremadura: 31
- Cataluña: 24
- La Rioja: 18 proposals
- País Vasco: 6





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CONCLUSIONS



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CONCLUSIONS

This kind of SCAR groups serve as a **forum** for **sharing** experiences on how we do develop our research&innovation agenda for facing the challenges to adapt to a changing landscape that demands **resilience** not only for the soils, animals and crops, but also for the **R&I policy framework**

Overcome the bottlenecks/fill gaps/roadmap
policy tools available/tackle the demand side

Thank you for
your attention

roda@inia.es