

## modernAIKS – SoMe – Update AKIS Denmark

SEGES Innovation, 27.06.2023

- **AKIS Overview:** Please provide a brief overview of the structure and functioning of the AKIS in your member state. This should include key stakeholders, coordination mechanisms, and any notable initiatives or projects.

### Characteristics of AKIS in Denmark

#### 1 Ministries

At governmental level the main official institutions of the Danish AKIS system are the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries of Denmark, the Ministry of Environment of Denmark and the Ministry of Higher Education and Science who set out the general framework and research strategies which have a profound impact on the direction of the knowledge and information system for Danish farmers.

In Denmark the administration at state level is managed by The Danish Agricultural Agency. At the regional and local levels, much of the administrative responsibility has been delegated to the municipalities. The Ministry is responsible for policy development and implementation of the CAP and its administration and departments provide advice on legal matters.

The Danish Environmental Protection Agency is organised into five centres: Centre for Rich Nature, Centre for Clean Water, Centre for Safe Chemistry, Centre for Green Production and Centre for Staff.

The Ministry of Higher Education and Science's Department is within these areas primarily responsible for ministerial and management services, quality assurance and coordination of cases, strategy and development, media and press activities, and finance and legal affairs.

#### 2 Universities

The two main universities with agricultural related research and education are the Aarhus University (AU) and the University of Copenhagen (KU). The Technical University of Denmark (DTU) carries out the food and agricultural research at the National Food Institute. The last two universities with agricultural and spatial planning activities are the University of Southern Denmark (SDU) and Aalborg University (AAU).

#### 3 Agricultural colleges

There are 11 agricultural colleges organised as boarding schools. These traditional agricultural educational institutions are today mostly placed in Jutland. Previously they were scattered all over Denmark. They teach modern farmers and offer special courses in farm management and economics. In addition to the 11 traditional agricultural colleges, 8 vocational schools are offering agricultural educations.

#### 4 Knowledge centres

SEGES Innovation is the main knowledge centre for agriculture in Denmark with expertise within all areas of agricultural activities and issues. The employees transfer the newest national and international research results into new knowledge for all Danish farm advisers and farmers; participate in research and innovative projects and develop new advisory methods and practices for implementation.

#### 5 GTS-institute

Many business sectors have a GTS-institute, which stands for Authorised Technological Service Institute. All GTS-institutes are non-profit organisations who have the task of supporting the creation of more innovative and competitive Danish companies. The GTS-institute, Danish Technological Institute develop, apply and disseminate research- and technologically-based knowledge for the Danish and International business sectors. One of the business sectors, AgroTech, delivers research-based consultancy and technological services for the farm and the agro-business industry.

### 6 Advisory service centres

The 29 existing independent local farmer owned agricultural advisory centres form together with SEGES Innovation the Danish Agricultural Advisory Service (DAAS).

Patriotisk Selskab is likewise a farmer owned advisory service traditionally servicing the large estate landowners.

Veterinarian services and advising is performed by the farmer owned “LVK – Landbrugets Veterinære Konsulenttjeneste” and by a large number of individual and private veterinarian companies.

The horticulture sector is served by the advisory company HortiAdvice, which is owned by SEGES Innovation, the Dutch advisory company Delphy and the management of HortiAdvice.

### 7 Private advisory companies

A relatively small number of small private advisory companies, typically between 1 to 8 employees/owners, offer advisory services. Most of them have specialised in one or a very few advisory subjects.

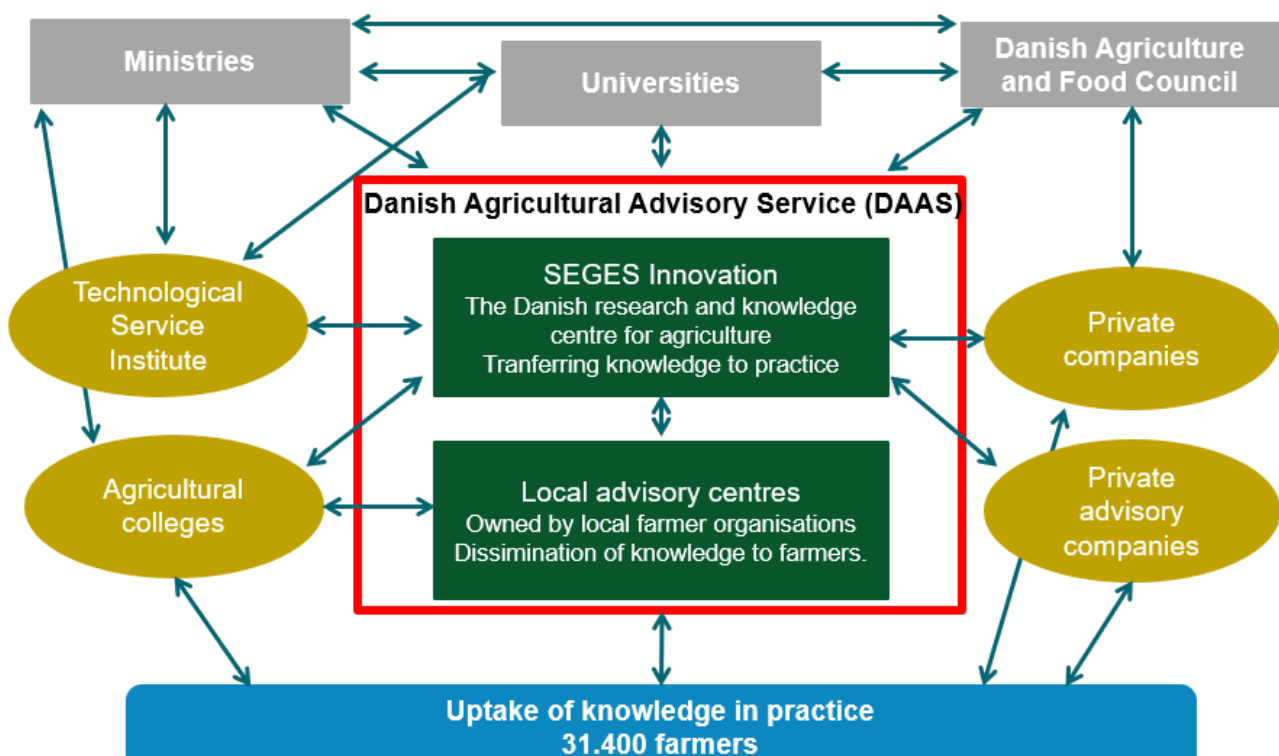
### 8 Upstream industries

Suppliers for agriculture also often provide some form of advisory services as an integrated part of their supplies to the farmers. Among the major of those are farmer owned companies within feedstuff, nutrients and seed.

### 9 Danish Agriculture and Food Council

The Danish Agriculture & Food Council represents the farming and food industries of Denmark including companies, trade and farmers’ associations.

Agriculture and food is Denmark’s largest competency cluster, employing some 120,000 people and exporting agricultural products, food and equipment to an annual value of around EUR 23 billion (2021), corresponding to 22 percent of total Danish export.



**Figure 1.** The knowledge channels of the Danish AKIS.

- **AKIS Coordination Bodies:** Please share information about the AKIS Coordination Body in your member state, including its role, composition, and responsibilities.

There has been established an AKIS Coordination Body in Denmark by The Danish Agricultural Agency in the unit Green Development and New Knowledge. The Coordination Body is anchored in the research part of team Research and Foundations. The team is part of the unit that is responsible for research, Green Development and Demonstration Program, Plant Foundation and the agricultural funds. The Coordination Body will secure cooperation and coordination between the actors in AKIS, which is done through funding of cooperation projects, etc. The contact person for the Commission and EIP Agri is Mr. Bjarne Thomsen.

- **CAP Strategic Plan Priorities:** We would appreciate it if you could outline the top five priorities identified in your member state's CAP strategic plan. These priorities can encompass various areas such as environmental sustainability, innovation, digitalization, rural development, or other key focus areas.

Link to CAP Strategic Plan at a glance for Denmark [https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-04/csp-at-a-glance-denmark\\_en.pdf](https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-04/csp-at-a-glance-denmark_en.pdf)

Link to all CAP Strategic Plans at a glance [https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/cap-my-country/cap-strategic-plans/approved-csp-0\\_en?page=2](https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/cap-my-country/cap-strategic-plans/approved-csp-0_en?page=2)

Objective 1) To promote an intelligent, competitive, robust and resilient agricultural sector and thus guarantee food safety in the long term.

The efforts under this objective aim to contribute to Danish agriculture continuing to stand strong in the international competition. With the implementation of the CAP, priority has been given to schemes that contribute to maintain sustainable agricultural production, increase competitiveness, support ecology, strengthen market orientation and food safety, as well as improving the position of farmers in the value chain.

It is important for the green transition to ensure economic robustness in the agricultural industry. A national expert group with a focus on the economy of agriculture came up with a number of recommendations in June 2021 that can contribute to ensuring the robustness of the agricultural economy.

Objective 2) To support and strengthen environmental protection, including biodiversity, and climate action and contribute for the fulfilment of the Union's environmental and climate objectives, including its obligations under The Paris Agreement.

There is a need to increase agriculture's contribution to climate action. Danish agriculture has a high climate efficiency per produced unit. However, the total greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture are high compared to other countries, as animal production constitutes a large part of total production.

There is a central need to support efforts that can contribute to reductions of nitrogen and phosphorus. Furthermore, it will continue to be a priority to improve the conditions for biodiversity. With the CAP plan, the effort to maintain and promote the positive trends in the environment and nature area continue. Therefore, the CAP plan also largely contributes to the implementation of a number of national environmental and climate action plans, including the national climate action plan, the water area plans, the nitrate action plans, the Danish forest programme, the nature and biodiversity package and Natura 2000 Plans.

Objective 3) To strengthen the socio-economic structure in rural areas.

Agriculture is an important occupation for the economy in rural areas, not least in relation to jobs. Agriculture as a profession is supported by a well-functioning advisory and research system, as well as a well-functioning education system. Also, other occupations, including industry and for certain rural areas tourism, are essential for employment in rural areas. Among the challenges in rural areas is that maintaining and promoting employment, as well as ensuring local growth and development. For agriculture it is also a significant challenge to ensure the generational change. Furthermore, it is important that the agricultural sector improves its ability to meet demand for certain foods such as organic, as well as production of sustainable food and high food safety.