

AKIS Overview:

The current political and territorial organization of Spain (based on Spanish Constitution), shape a decentralized system in which the regions (NUTS-2 according to Eurostat) have much of the responsibilities and decision-making powers.

On the one hand, the Spanish Constitution establishes that the regions may assume competences in the promotion of research but the central government has exclusive competences in the promotion and general coordination of scientific and technical research, as well as international –scientific- relations. And on the other hand, all regions have established, in their Statutes of Autonomy (the main legal reference in each region) the assumption of competences in the field of agricultural research.

Finished the public participation procedure for the royal decree of the Spanish AKIS Coordination Body. It will shortly be published in the Official State Gazette (www.boe.es).

Key AKIS stakeholders:

1. Public Authorities.
2. Research and Education
 - 2.1. Education and agricultural training.
 - Higher education.
 - Vocational training.
 - 2.2. Research
3. Private sector
 - 3.1. Agrifood industries
 - 3.2. Input and services companies
 - 3.3. Public-private partnerships
 - Tech platforms
 - Agrifood clusters or Innovative Enterprise Clusters (IEC)
 - 3.4. Private financial entities
4. Farmer based organization
 - 4.1. Agri food cooperatives
 - 4.2. Farmers professional organizations (FPO)
 - 4.3. Other farmers and forester organizations
5. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO).

AKIS Coordination Bodies

The Spanish AKIS Coordinating Body will function in **Plenary** or in **Institutional Commission**.

Plenary

The Plenary of the AKIS Coordination Body will be formed by the following members:

Chair: The body will be co-chaired by the heads of the General Secretariat of Agriculture and Food of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the General Secretariat of Research of the Ministry of Science and Innovation.

Vice-presidency: The vice-presidency will correspond to the holders of the general directorates of Rural Development, Innovation and Agri-food Training of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and of Research Planning of the Ministry of Science and Innovation.

Vocals:

1st. A person representing the General Subdirectorate who, within the General Secretariat of Agriculture and Food of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, has assigned the competences in matters of Management Authority of the Strategic Plan and coordination of the CAP network, designated by its holder, with the level of Deputy Director General or assimilated.

2nd. The head of the General Subdirectorate of Innovation and Digitalization of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

3rd. A person representing the Directorate-General for Agricultural Production and Markets, appointed by its holder, at the level of Deputy Director-General or equivalent.

4th. A person representing the Directorate-General for Health of Agricultural Production, appointed by its holder, at the level of Deputy Director-General or equivalent.

5th. A person representing the Directorate-General for the Food Industry, appointed by its holder, at the level of Deputy Director-General or equivalent.

6th. A person representing the Directorate-General for Rural Development, Innovation and Agri-Food Training, appointed by its holder, at the level of Deputy Director-General or equivalent.

7th. A person representing the General Secretariat for Research, appointed by its holder, with the level of Deputy Director General or equivalent.

8th. A person representing the General Secretariat for Innovation, appointed by its holder, with the level of Deputy Director General or equivalent.

9th. A person representing the State Research Agency and a representative of the Center for Industrial Technological Development, at the proposal of the Management of these entities.

10th. Two people representing the CSIC, the director of the INIA National Center and the second, at the proposal of the Presidency of CSIC.

11th. A person representing the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Digital Transformation, appointed by its Undersecretariat.

12th. A person representing the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, appointed by its Undersecretariat.

13th. A person representing the Ministry of Universities, appointed by its Undersecretariat.

14th. A person representing the Ministry of Labour and Social Economy, appointed by its Undersecretariat.

15th. A person representing the Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, appointed by its Undersecretariat.

16th. A person representing the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism, appointed by its Undersecretariat.

17th. The head of the body with competences in matters of innovation, advice and transfer of agri-food knowledge of the rank of general director or equivalent, of each of the autonomous communities.

18th. A representative, appointed by the competent authority in agri-food matters of each of the Autonomous Communities, of an institution of its Autonomous Community of a technical-scientific nature of recognized prestige in the agri-food field.

19th. Representatives of the agricultural sector, in accordance with Article 106.3.b of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 December 2021 on procedural requirements for drawing up CAP Strategic Plans

i) One person representative for each of the most representative agricultural professional organizations at the state level in accordance with Law 12/2014, of July 9, which regulates the procedure for determining the representativeness of agricultural professional organizations and creates the Agrarian Council.

(ii) a representative proposed by other professional organisations in the agricultural sector at national level, who have actively participated in the discussions on the preparation of the Strategic Plan through the partnership with authorities and stakeholders referred to in Article 106 of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 December 2021; Selected among those who submit their candidacy within ten working days from the date of publication of this Royal Decree.

20th. A person representing Agri-food Cooperatives of Spain.

21st. One person representing the Federation of Food and Beverage Industries.

22nd. A person representing the technological platforms of the agri-food sector, appointed by agreement between them.

23rd. A person representing companies in the agri-food industry and digital services sector.

24th. A representative of the Presidency or Vice-presidency of the Conference of Directors and Deans of centers that teach in Spain the degrees of, Agricultural Engineer, Agricultural Technical Engineer, Forestry Engineer and Forest Technical Engineer

25th. A representative of the Conference of Deans of Veterinary Medicine of Spain

26th. A person representing the Presidency of the campus network of agri-food excellence.

27th. A person representing the General Council of Official Colleges of Agricultural Engineers.

28th. A person representing the General Council of Official Colleges of Agricultural Technical Engineers and Agricultural Experts of Spain

29th. One person representing the General Council of Official Veterinary Colleges.

30th. A person representing the entity with the greatest implantation in the manufacture and distribution of means of plant defense

31st. A person representing the entity with the greatest presence in the manufacture and distribution of veterinary medicinal products

32nd. A person representing the entity with the greatest implantation in the manufacture and distribution of agricultural machinery

33rd. A person representing the entity with the greatest implantation in the production and commercialization of propagating material of agricultural species

34th. A person representing the manufacturers and distribution of fertilizers in Spain from among the associative entities with the greatest implantation in Spain by agreement between them.

35th. A person representing the entity with the greatest presence in the manufacture and distribution of feed, raw materials and other products involved in animal feed

36th. A person representing organizations or associations representing Plant Defense Groups (ADV); Groups of Integrated Treatments in Agriculture (ATRIAS), and other advisory structures established for the defense of plant health, (ASV, ATESVE ...) by agreement between them.

37th. A person representing organizations or associations representing Livestock Health Defense Groups (ADSGs).

38th. A person representing the National Federation of Irrigators Communities of Spain.

39th. Two persons representing the most established environmental organizations and expert organizations in the field of agroecology designated by agreement between them.

40th. A person representing consumer representative organizations with greater establishment, appointed by agreement between them.

Secretariat: the holder of the deputy subdirectorate of the Subdirectorate of Innovation and Digitalization of the General Directorate of Rural Development, Innovation and Agrifood Training of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Institutional Commission

The Institutional Commission will be composed of a co-presidency exercised by the heads of the General Directorates of Rural Development, Innovation and Agri-Food Training and Research Planning. The persons referred to in points 1st to 17th shall take part.

The Secretariat of the Institutional Commission will be the same as that of the Plenary.

The Institutional Commission will exercise the powers and functions of the Plenary, but limited to the scope of competence or interest of the participating administrations.

Working Groups

The Plenary and the Institutional Commission will be supported by three working groups;

- ✓ Advisory Working Group.
- ✓ Working Group of the Coordination of Agri-food R + D + i.
- ✓ Working Group of Agrifood Training.

Roles of the Spanish AKIS Coordination Body:

1. Collect needs from the actors of the agri-food sector that use knowledge with the aim of channeling it towards actors that generate it or institutions that finance public policies of R + D + i, both nationally and regionally, through the Spanish Strategy of Science, Technology and Innovation and the corresponding associated plans of the General Administration of the State and the autonomous communities.
2. Promote strategies and efforts in innovation of the General State Administration and the autonomous communities in the agri-food sector to optimize efficiency in the use of resources and their impact, in order to promote the transformation of the agri-food sector towards competitive and sustainable production models.
3. Promote joint actions between autonomous communities, or between them and the General State Administration, to promote synergies in research programs and projects, with the shared objective of avoiding overlaps and sharing good practices.

4. Promote the integration of research staff in activities related to knowledge transfer, demonstration events, thematic networks, technical conferences for the exchange of knowledge and good practices, among others.
5. Share information, statistics and comparable data on the situation of counselling in Spain.
6. Promote the identification of good practices for the provision of agricultural advisory services, with the aim of increasing their quality.
7. Ensure compliance with the obligations laid down in Article 15(2), (3) and (4) of Regulation 2021/2115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 December 2021 laying down rules on support for strategic plans to be drawn up by Member States under the common agricultural policy (CAP Strategic Plans), financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1305/2013 and (EU) No 1307/2013.
8. Provide the necessary support for the autonomous communities, competent in advice, to facilitate and validate the list of advisory entities or advisors active in their territories that comply with the provisions derived from article 15 of Regulation 2021/2115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of December 2, 2021 and integrate this information into the AKIS Consulting Professionals Platform that will be launched by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food as a support tool for the promotion of the integration of advisors in the Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System in Spain, as well as to strengthen the interrelation of the different actors of the same.
9. Analyze the needs and opportunities in terms of training for advisors in the agri-food sector.
10. Facilitate the exchange of information and collaboration with the autonomous communities and professional organizations of the sector, about the demands and training opportunities for professionals in the agri-food sector.
11. Promote and disseminate initiatives to promote the acquisition of professional skills in the agri-food sector.
12. Promote the recognition of professional skills acquired through work experience of workers in the agri-food sector.
13. Monitor the implementation of innovation, knowledge transfer and advice interventions, both at national and regional level, analyzing the substantial modifications of the CAP Strategic Plan on these areas when they occur.
- ~~14.~~ Promote a culture of evaluation in the Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System.
- ~~15.~~ Promote synergies in terms of dissemination of knowledge transfer and innovation in the agri-food sector between the R + D + i Policy Network and the CAP Network.
- ~~16.~~ Promote good practices in the dissemination of innovation actions, knowledge transfer and advice so that they are properly captured within the CAP Network.
17. Propose, once the National PAC Network has been established, with the temporality and periodicity to be determined, an Action Plan (events, conferences, studies, tools) in the field of innovation and knowledge transfer for its transfer and subsequent execution in the National PAC Network.
18. Provide relevant information to the AKIS Advisors Platform, which will act as an open platform for the exchange and dissemination of knowledge generated in the scientific and academic field in a simple and understandable language by other actors of the Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System and in an interoperable format, such as:
 - a) new knowledge or innovations generated in the field of intervention (regional or supra-autonomic) cooperation within the framework of the European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability, known as EIP-Agri (Articles 77 and 127 of Regulation 2021/2115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 December 2021), Horizon Europe, State Plan of R + D + i, Complementary Plans of R + D + i, or Regional Plans of R + D + i.

- b) Events of interest.
 - c) Training of advisors.
19. Report its conclusions to the Sectoral Commission of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development and to the Delegate Commission of the Council of Scientific, Technological and Innovation Policy.
 20. Identify information gaps regarding the situation of agri-food R+D+I, contributing to the adequate reflection in the SICTI (Information System on Science, Technology and Innovation) of the financing flows of agri-food innovation from the Common Agricultural Policy.
 21. Ensure that there is a key vision of the agri-food sector of the credits allocated annually to projects and actions of R + D + I within the framework of the State Plan for Scientific and Technical Research and Innovation.

CAP Strategic Plan Priorities

