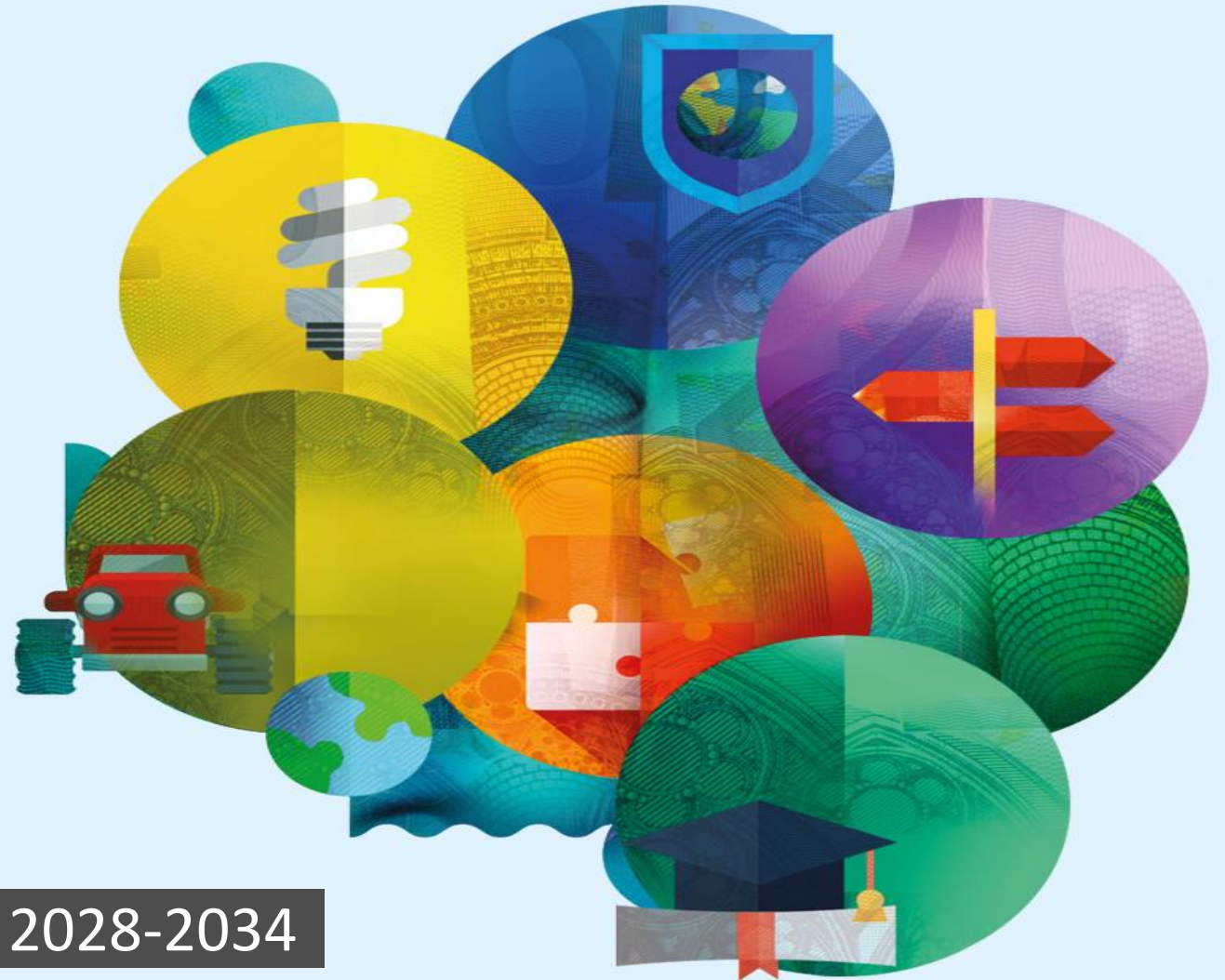


COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY

CAP post 2027 – What will be the impact on AKIS?

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International AKIS Conference
22 Oct 2025 - Budapest



CAP 2028-2034

AKIS in CAP post-2027: Impact to be expected

1. Improved understanding building on:

- **Experience from the first AKIS strategy period 2023-2027:** Understanding of Authorities has clearly improved and is further improving as time goes by and more and more AKIS actors become fully involved. How to build a good strategy: various EU AKIS seminars (2020, 2023 Vilnius, 2024 Tallinn, 2025 Reims, ...) and at national level (e.g. DE Hannover Nov 2025),...
- 2020 EIP Seminar on AKIS strategies in CAP Strategic Plans was recorded and can be seen again: <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/event/eip-agri-seminar-cap-strategic-plans-key-role-akis>
- **Exchange of best practices of EIP innovation projects:** now already > 4700 OGs, CAP networks really active on innovation and knowledge exchange, connecting OGs across borders,...(Baltic cross-border OGs: LV+EE+FI)

Playlist: AKIS Seminar presentations



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AKIS Seminar - Presentations
by EU CAP Network • 3/21

- 1 Seminar 'Fostering an effective and integrated AKIS in Member States': Opening by Wolfgang EU CAP Network
- 2 Day 1 AKIS Seminar: Rimtautas Petraitis EU CAP Network
- 3 Day 1 AKIS Seminar: Inge Van Oost EU CAP Network
- 4 Day 1 AKIS Seminar: Natalia Brzezina - 1 EU CAP Network
- 5 Day 1 AKIS Seminar: Elena Teodora Miron EU CAP Network
- 6 Day 1 AKIS Seminar: Helena Pärenson EU CAP Network
- 7 Day 1 AKIS Seminar: Monika Csonkova EU CAP Network
- 8 Day 1 AKIS Seminar: Ewa Grodzka EU CAP Network

AKIS in CAP post-2027: Impact to be expected

1. Improved understanding building on:

- **Exchange of best practices in Horizon MA projects:** Thematic Networks, Advisory Networks, I2Connect, ModernAKIS, ATTRACTISS, EU Farmbook EU wide reservoir for sharing knowledge for practice (currently > 7000 knowledge objects, all 23 EU languages, AI assisted search robot, free and individual website available for all OG and multi-actor projects), etc
- **COM non-paper 6296/24 guidance on advisory interventions** (April 2024): various interventions forming an integral part of the Member State's AKIS strategic approach: vouchers, on-farm demonstrations by advisors, mobility budget for advisors, public advisory back-offices, thematic knowledge hubs (SWG SCAR AKIS)
- **Improved view on positive achievements so far** (keep AKIS rules as similar as possible) + **specific action points for the future** thanks to evaluations (last one presented in Estoril May 2024, e.g. with **emphasis on communication and dissemination activities** as eligibility condition for OG projects, and on **simplification of administrative burden** both for projects and administration)

AKIS in CAP post-2027: Impact to be expected

2. Improved AKIS organization in MS and regions:

- **Appointment/installation of AKIS Coordination Bodies** fully achieved, they became the driving force for moving to a better functioning AKIS
- **AKIS units/departments merged and better organized** in connection with national CAP networks and regions (e.g. SI and many other)
- **MS' AKIS coordination models vary greatly**, from implementation mainly being done by the Ministry, or by the public advisory body, or by the CAP network, or by a research organisation
- **Exchange of best practices bilateral among MS**, comparing interventions and structures



AKIS in CAP post-2027: Impact to be expected

3. Improved legislation: better organization of articles, simpler wording, and nothing out of the blue = a small evolution, not revolution, based on lessons learned and wrapping existing concepts in a simplified jacket

- we need more dissemination and scaling up: use of Art 78 was possible but now integral part of EIP article 19.1
- obligation to provide advice as part of AKIS strategy: art 15 on advice referred to the support for advice in art 78 (“AKIS integration”) which referred to art 114 on AKIS strategy => simplified
- Improved guidance on interactive innovation model in Guidance document Annex VI of IA R. 2022/1475 (grex committee)
- Monitoring e.g. in FSDN of innovation actions
- Need to ringfence AKIS funding to be done by MS themselves in their NSP

AKIS in CAP post-2027: small evolution, not revolution

The new articles on knowledge sharing and innovation are a **continuation of the current regulation with continued emphasis on well-functioning Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems.**

Concentration of knowledge and innovation in 2 key articles (CAP Art. 19 and 20), replacing current 5 articles spread over the CAP regulation

- Support for the preparation and implementation of EIP-AGRI operational groups and for knowledge sharing (Art.19) – replacing current Art. 77, 78 and 127
- Provisions on Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS) to support innovation and knowledge sharing (Art. 20). Member States need to ensure provision of advice & transparency on advisors – replacing current Art. 15 and 114
- CAP networks activities continued under NRP Art. 57 - replacing current Art. 126: objective/tasks again to foster innovation, peer-to-peer learning and knowledge sharing, build capacity and network OGs

Beware, this is a **proposal currently being discussed** in
by Member States in the Council and the Parliament



Details of the proposals on next slides....

CAP post-2027 – Structure of the proposals:

1. BUDGET (current prizes): 2 trillion Euro

Single NRP fund: 865 bio Euro (44%) for **National and Regional Partnership Plans**: including the former Interreg, Regional funds (EFRD), Cohesion Funds, Fisheries Fund, etc

Art. 3 of **COM(2025)565** final lists the objectives of the fund:

- (a) Support the **Union's sustainable prosperity** (by fostering the attractiveness of territories, integrated development of rural and urban areas, accelerating clean industrial transition, integrating env./climate ambitions, Digital Decade Policy Programme, Union Transport infrastructure, tourism, housing etc).....
- (b) Supporting the **Union's defence capabilities and security**
- (c) Strengthening **social cohesion** (employment, labour, education,...)
- (d) **Sustaining quality of life => the 5 CAP objectives**
- (e) **Protecting fundamental rights, democracy, rule of law,...**

CAP post-2027 – structure of the proposals:

1. BUDGET

- **One NRP plan** for Interreg (10,2 bio ringfenced), fisheries (2 bio ringfenced), agriculture (of which **294 bio Euro ringfenced CAP “income support”** incl. safety net/agricultural reserve for crisis), Frontex, Europol and other agencies (Home affairs 34 bio Euro ringfenced), etc,
- **453 bio Euro not ringfenced** (for? => see NRP objectives in Art 3)
- **One set of rules, NRP plan tailored to MS’ national and regional needs**
- **Commission providing guidance to each MS for the plan with CAP national recommendations**

European Competitiveness Fund: 409 bio Euro (21%) mainly for Horizon Europe FP10, of which 19,7 mio Euro for collaborative **research on “Health, biotech, agriculture and bioeconomy”**

CAP proposal COM(2025) 560 final:

2a. Ringfenced CAP “income support” interventions:

- Degressive area-based **income support** (DABIS)
- **Coupled income support**
- Crop-specific payment for cotton
- Payment for natural and other area specific constraints
- Support for disadvantages resulting from certain mandatory requirements
- **Agri-environmental and climate actions**
- Payment for small farmers
- Support for risk management tools
- Support for **investments** for farmers and forest holders
- Support for the **setting-up of young farmers**, new farmers, rural businesses and start-ups and development of small farms
- Support for **farm relief services**
- Intervention in certain **sectors**

⇒ **Article 35(4)NRP: Minimum national contribution 30%** of estimated costs of the **intervention** (except sectorial interventions)

(was 43% developed, 60% transit, 85% less developed regions in 2023-2027 CAP regulation)

CAP proposal COM(2025) 560 final:

2b. Not under CAP ringfenced budget but in CAP proposal:

- LEADER
- **Support for knowledge sharing and innovation in agriculture, forestry and rural areas**
- Territorial and local cooperation initiatives
- Interventions in outermost regions
- Interventions in smaller Aegean islands
- EU school scheme
- Crisis payments

⇒ For these: **General rule in Article 20(1)NRP:**

Minimum national contribution 60% of estimated costs of the intervention for more developed regions (40% for transition regions, 15% for less developed regions)

2. CAP objectives in Art 3(1)(d) NPR:

(d) to sustain the quality of life in the Union by:

(i) supporting fairer and sufficient **income for farmers** and their long-term **competitiveness**, including the farmers' position in the value chain;

(ii) contributing to long-term **food security**;

(iii) improving the **attractiveness and living standards, including access to healthcare, in rural areas and fair working conditions and fostering generational renewal**; improving farmers' preparedness and ability to cope with crises and risks; enhancing the access to knowledge and innovation and accelerating the digital and green transition for a thriving agri-food sector;

(iv) ensuring sustainability, competitiveness and resilience of the Union **fisheries and aquaculture** sector, boosting the sustainable and competitive blue economy in coastal, island and inland areas, enhancing the socioeconomic opportunities and the resilience of the local communities and ensuring strong ocean governance in all dimensions, with safe, secure, clean and sustainably managed ocean;

(v) enhancing **sustainable agriculture and forestry management practices to promote resilient climate action, provision of multiple ecosystem services, supporting efficient water management, quality and resilience, the implementation of nature-based solutions, strengthening sustainable development, environmental protection, enhancing the conservation and restoration of biodiversity, soil and natural resources, and improving animal welfare.**

CAP post-2027 – Article 19 CAP COM(2025) 560 final:

1. a) **Support** to **prepare** and **implement** the projects of the EIP-AGRI operational groups as well as actions to **ensure broader uptake** of projects' results (*EIP OGs*)
(b) **Support** for actions to **promote innovation, training and advice**, skills development, advisory services and **other forms of knowledge sharing** and dissemination of information. (*KNOW*)
2. Aims of the EIP-AGRI: **results of EIP OG** to be disseminated and multiplied through AKIS
3. Projects implemented by the EIP-AGRI OGs based on the '**interactive innovation model**':
 - a) develop innovative solutions **focusing on the specific needs of farmers, forester holders and rural actors**;
 - b) bring together partners with **complementary** knowledge such as academia, researchers and the farming community, and where relevant, **actors of the food chain** and ensure their active involvement in projects;
 - c) the projects are **co-created and co-decided** among the actors involved in the projects and implemented in a consultative manner, including ensuring the potential for scale up

Member States shall ensure that **the key results ... are disseminated through practice-oriented channels**, including the national and Union CAP networks.with **focus on the practical innovative solutions** developed.

AKIS: Having potential (innovative) knowledge is one thing, turning it into reality is another.

"The value of an idea lies in the using of it."

Thomas Alva Edison –
inventor of the light bulb

CAP post-2027 – Article 19 CAP clarifications

- Covers costs for each of the **3 steps** of an EIP innovation project: preparation, implementation, uptake of results
- **Up to 100% support** for OG projects, must comply with **CAP objectives** Art.3 NRP, State aid rules may set limits and conditions (to be followed up)
- Cross-border **OGs? Yes, no specific rules or procedures**
- Yes, EIP innovation may still be **based on new practices but also on traditional practices in a new geographical or environmental context**
- No State aid exemption up to 500.000 Euro per project (yet)
- No advanced payments (yet)
- No ringfenced CAP budget, so Art. 20(1) NRP = minimum 60% national contribution rate (40-15) instead of current 20% under EAFRD
- **75%** (85% young) **support for investment only for farmer** as partner in the group (=> ringfenced CAP), not for other actors (= not ringfenced budget under NRP)
- **Obligatory Simplified Cost Options** (lump sums, unit costs, flat rate) below 100.000 Euro (Art.78 NRP)

CAP post-2027 – Article 20 “Agricultural knowledge and innovation systems and farm advisory service”

1. Each Member State shall ensure that farmers and forest holders have **access to innovation and that new knowledge reaches them in a timely and effective manner**, enabling them to deploy innovative and sustainable solutions effectively and profit from up-to-date knowledge in the agricultural sector.
2. To meet the requirement laid down in paragraph 1, **each Member State shall establish in the NRP Plan** how innovations and up-to-date knowledge reach farmers, in particular through **the Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (the AKIS)**.
3. **As part of the AKIS**, Member States shall describe in the NRP Plans, and implement, a system for **provision of farm advisory services** to be established to support access to knowledge and wider deployment and use of innovations (*organization of advice integrated in the AKIS*).

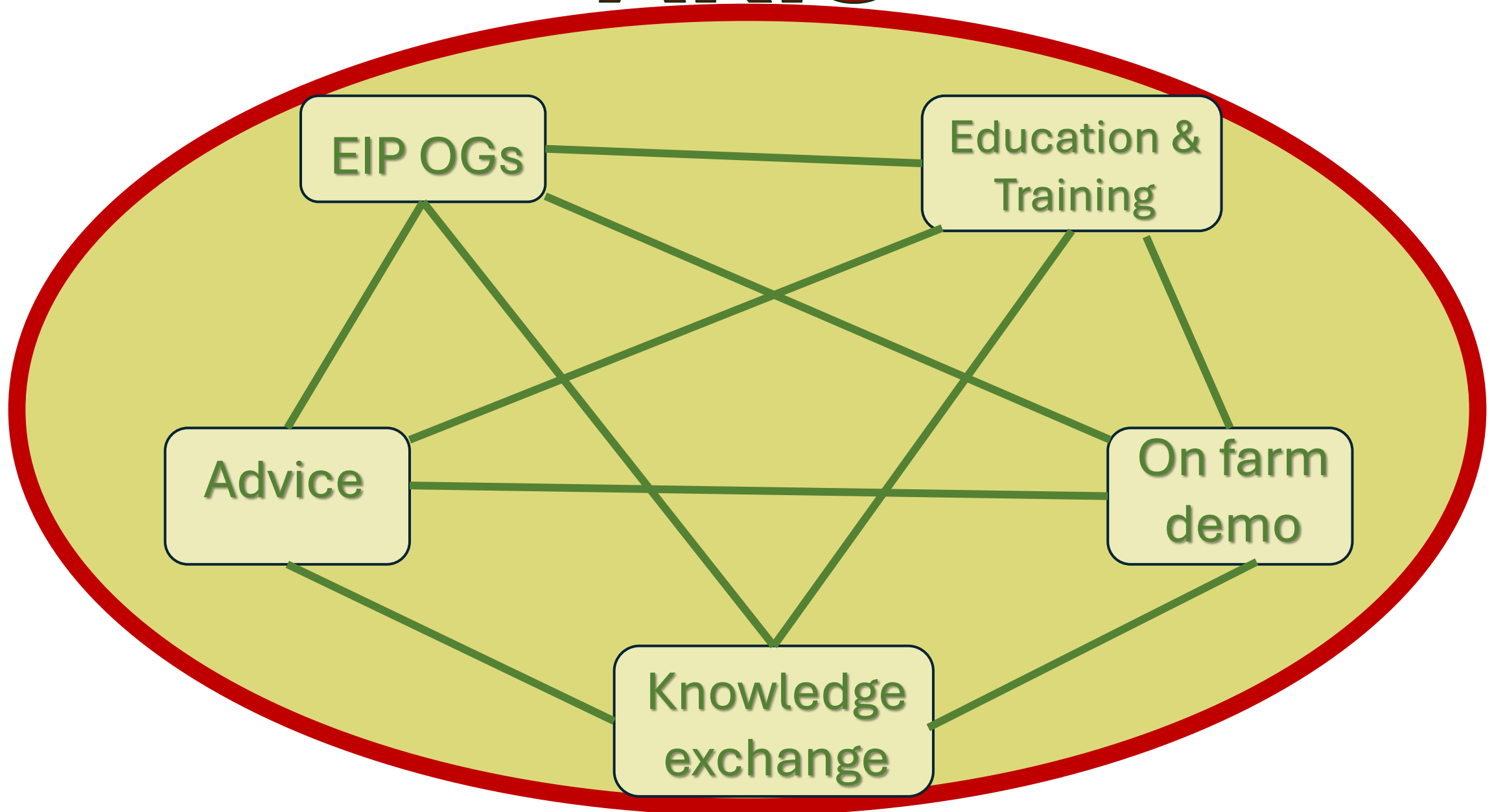
CAP post-2027 – Article 20: Advice elements

3. The farm advisory services shall cover all the following elements:
 - (a) **Tailored advice** to farmers and forest holders on sustainable and resilient management of land, farms and forests ..., as well as on the **requirements for support set out in the NRP Plans, including farm stewardship**, setting-up and transfers of holdings and start-ups; business management, access to **social support**, raising awareness about **mental health** issues and availability of the relevant services; and the use of **innovations**, data-driven solutions and digital tools;
 - (b) targeted advice for **young farmers**, in particular as regards business management, access to finance, access to public support, access to knowledge and innovation.
4. Member States shall ensure that farmers and forester holders have **direct access to advisers**, such as by **providing public databases of advisers**. Member States shall ensure that the advice provided to farmers and forest holders is **impartial**, and that advisers are **suitably qualified** and free from **conflict of interest**.

CAP post-2027 – Article 20 - AKIS strategies (= *organization*)

2. (ctd) **The AKIS (strategy) shall include** (see Art 22(2)(i)(ii) NRP on content of plans):
- a) arrangements to **ensure effective knowledge flows and synergies** between **advisors**, researchers, practitioners, national CAP networks and other relevant stakeholders;
 - b) actions to improve access for farmers and forest holders to **impartial and qualified advice**;
 - c) support for innovation as a part of the farm advisory services, particularly support for the EIP-AGRI operational groups (=> **innovation support services**)
 - d) a plan to improve **dissemination and demonstration of research outcomes and innovative and sustainable solutions** to farmers, forester holders and other end-users at a large scale;
 - e) **interventions** set out in the NRP Plan supporting AKIS operation, in particular those referred to in Article 19, and their complementarity and coherence with relevant national initiatives and other relevant measures set out in the NRP Plan;
 - f) a **system** for **provision of farm advisory services**, established in accordance with paragraph 3. (=> *organization of advice*)

AKIS



CAP post-2027 – Synergies between EIP-AGRI and FP10

Recital 15 to CAP proposal:

In line with the need to boost innovation and more sustainable practices, the European Innovation Partnership for agricultural productivity and sustainability (the ‘EIP-AGRI’) should remain a key policy tool, to support interactive innovation, enhancing the exchange of knowledge between actors with a view to spreading solutions ready for practice (see *EIP Commission Communication 2012*).

Synergies between the CAP and the Union Research Framework Programme (FP10), established by Regulation (EU) .../... of the European Parliament and of the Council, should encourage agriculture to make the best use of research and innovation results, in particular those stemming from projects funded by FP10 and the EIP-AGRI, leading to innovations in the farming and bioeconomy sector and rural areas.

Multi-actor approach requirements in Horizon Europe projects WP 2025-27 (eligibility condition): “it is **strongly recommended to involve interactive innovation groups such as the EIP-AGRI operational groups funded under the CAP**”.

Thank you for your attention

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Commission Notice – Guidelines on the use of simplified cost options within the Funds covered by Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 (Common Provisions Regulation)

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:C_202407467