



# Diagnosis of the AKIS

Webinar in the context of T4.4.:  
Help the AKIS CB to monitor the CAP  
implementation

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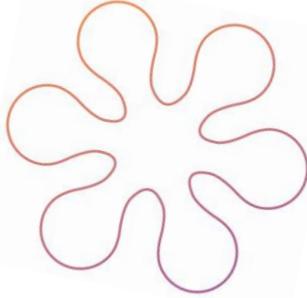


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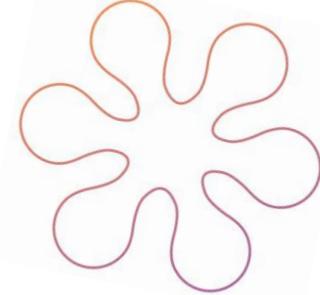
# Objectives



Participants...

- 1** Understand what AKIS diagnosis is;
- 2** Understand the importance (benefits, expected results) of an AKIS diagnosis;
- 3** Know the different steps applied in an AKIS diagnosis.

# What is “diagnosis”



...often related to illness,

= health check

...in the context of AKIS, evaluation: how well / **in what condition is our AKIS?**

... and we want to know and describe the current state of the AKIS along:

- the actors, and the linkages
- subsystems and their functions
- its environment (policies, resources, ...)
- strong & weak points → capacity development

An AKIS diagnosis is the process of providing an overview of the organised actors, structures, institutions and policy instruments involved in the provision and use of knowledge in relation to a spatial unit (e.g. national) or a particular sector (e.g., horticulture or organic agriculture)

# The different perspectives of an AKIS diagnosis



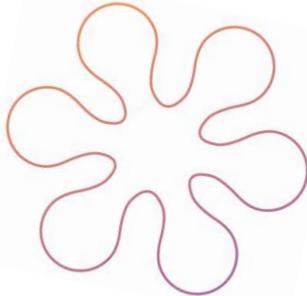
the **infrastructural perspective**, by means of which an overview is provided of the organised actors, structures, institutions and policy instruments involved in the provision and use of knowledge in relation to a spatial unit (e.g. national) or a particular sector (e.g., horticulture or organic agriculture) (see for example, Hermans et al., 2015; Klerkx et al., 2012; Lamprinopoulou, 2014; Toillier et al., 2022);

the **process or procedural perspective**, by means of which knowledge exchange and learning are brought into focus as communication and interaction between actors who are independent of each other and across different levels of intervention and governance, often operationalised using network thinking (e.g. Ingram, 2015; Moschitz et al., 2015);

the **functional perspective**, which introduces a normative component, namely requirements for an AKIS that must be met in order to grant satisfactory performance (e.g. Nagel, 1979). In this area in particular, general innovation systems research has also provided impetus (Faure et al., 2019; Hekkert et al., 2007), and finally;

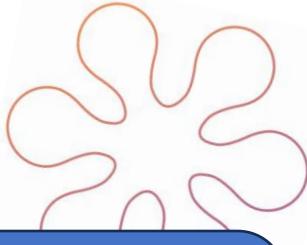
the **capacity-oriented perspective** where the individual actors' abilities to shape promising transformational change through intentionally targeted strategic planning and decision-making in the AKIS or AIS contexts take centre place

# Usefulness / benefits of the AKIS diagnosis



- a means to give an overview of all (important) **actors** in your AKIS
- to obtain **divers perspectives** on knowledge exchange and innovation processes
- to reveal the **degree of linkages** among actors and coordination mechanisms such as networks and programs that bring actors together
- The output of this AKIS diagnosis is a means for **stimulating discussions** among the diverse AKIS actors
- for **identifying capacity development needs**

# Important questions around the AKIS diagnosis



Which objectives  
do we have?

Which  
perspective should  
we take?

What results can be obtained,  
how to use them (best)?

What will be the  
different steps you  
have to undertake

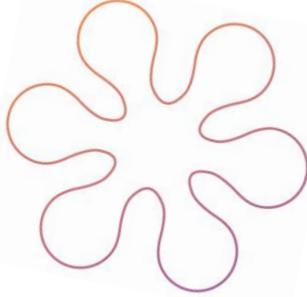
How to conduct the  
diagnosis?

What is an AKIS diagnosis,  
why is it useful?

What limitations and  
shortcomings need to  
be taken into account?



# What results can be obtained?

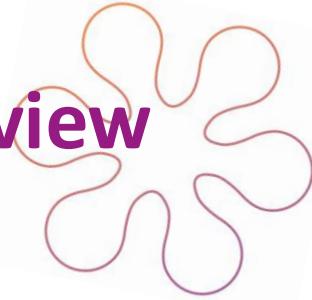


- Outstanding AKIS actors**
- The **diversity** of actors within the AKIS
- Linkages** and their characteristics among actors,
- Description of **AKIS related policy instruments**
- AKIS **strengths** and **weaknesses** based on the empirical findings and actors' observations

## Provided....

gaps, lack of links and coordination, insufficient empirical evidence and potential biases are mentioned!

# Steps and procedure of an AKIS diagnosis – infrastructural view



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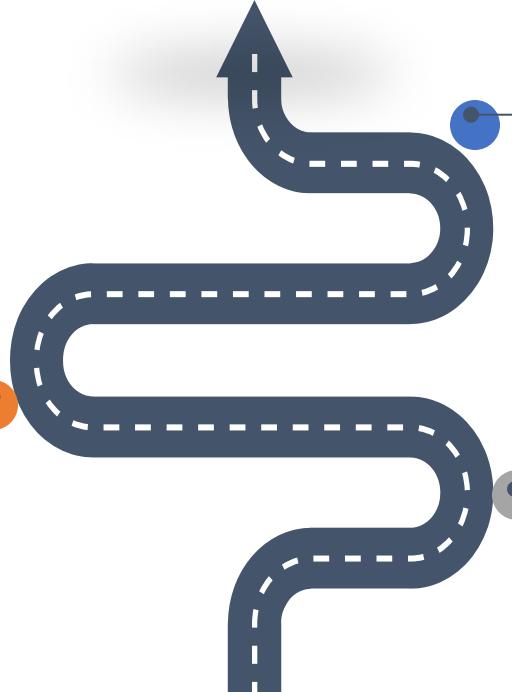
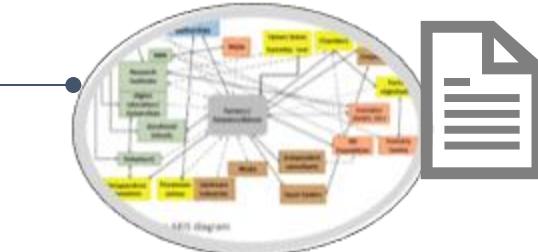
## Draw judgements & conclusions

Validate findings with key actors (interactive event) → Create the consolidated report with AKIS diagram

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## Collecting evidence

Conduct (semi-structured) interviews with experts, key informants; survey with key actors



Decide on the objectives, setting & perspective

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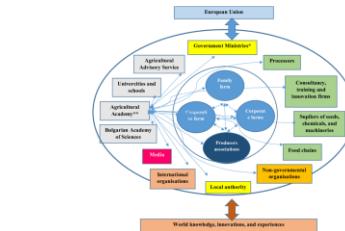
## Analysis and integration of information

Complement, update, remove → updated version of the draft report

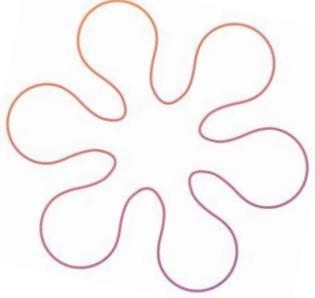
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## Current state

Gather, screen available documents; elaborate a first draft (text and visualised)



# To keep in mind....- limitations



AKIS diagnosis...

- ...is a **snapshot** in time,
- ...strongly depends on its **sources** of information
- ...is an aggregation of **subjective** perspectives, observations and judgements

➤ **transparency** has to be created!



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# Questions and Discussion



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# Thank you



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