



modern **AKIS**

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Acronyms

AKIS	Agricultural and Knowledge Innovation Systems
CB	Coordination Body
cbCoP	Country-based Community of Practice
ccCoP	Cross-country Community of Practice
CoP	Community of Practice
Dx.x	Deliverable x.x
GA	General Assembly
KOM	Kick-off meeting
MS	Member State
TAJ	Transformative AKIS Journey
Tx.x	Task x.x
WPx	Work Package x

1. Executive Summary

The **main aim of the modernAKIS network** is to provide a space for peer-to-peer and best practice exchange on amongst others:

- the (future) organisational set-up and improvement of the AKIS,
- current developments with relevance for AKIS
- the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the CAP Strategic Plans / AKIS section.

Setting-up of the modernAKIS network is significantly marked by the development of the community platform. Setting up procedures are divided in the following **two phases**:

1. Setting up the network **before the launch of the digital community platform** from June 2023 to February 2024

In this phase, registration happens via an **online registration form** using the online tool JotForm. WP2 prepared an information package for the communication with potential network members, consisting of a **network flyer** (Annex III) to show to potential members what the modernAKIS network is about and the key benefits they can expect from joining and an **invitation letter**. The invitation letter aims at addressing key AKIS actors known by the project partners. It is an addition to the network flyer, providing further information on the network and its benefits. Moreover, WP2 prepared **network registration guidelines** for internal use only, directed at the project partners. They consist of a step-by step guide to network registration, and initial list of roles, which corresponds to the typology of key AKIS actors and selection criteria, according to D1.1.

WP2 shared the information package with the **project partners** requesting them to register themselves and to **invite and motivate key AKIS actors** in their country to register. In order to increase the outreach beyond direct invitation and word-of-mouth, the possibility to register for the modernAKIS network was **promoted on the modernAKIS website and social media channels**.

As a result, **270 key AKIS actors** have registered for the modernAKIS network. The **distribution of countries varies** depending on the contact that the project partners have had so far with key AKIS actors in the framework of modernAKIS. While some countries, like Spain have already started their Communities of Practice and thus show high numbers of network members, other countries are establishing first contact points with the modernAKIS project. Moreover, currently registered network members belong to a **variety of actor types** with advisory services (19%) and researchers / scientists (17%) being the biggest groups.

In parallel, an **exchange with** the Horizon Europe project **ATTRACTISS** is going on to define synergies in creating the modernAKIS and the ATTRACTISS network. Since Innovation Support Services are key AKIS actors of change, the coordinators of both projects agreed to create a joint network and a joint digital community platform.

2. Setting up and implementing the network **via the digital community platform** from March 2024 to August 2029

The **community platform** will launch in February 2024. It will be the **major networking facility**. It will facilitate knowledge exchange and act as a one-stop-shop for all modernAKIS network members. Once the community platform is launched, already registered network members will be informed. They will be asked their consent to transfer their data to the platform. All networking activities will be promoted via the community platform visible to everybody. As networking activities are an exclusive offer for network members, people who want to participate in a networking activity will be invited to register to the network.

The most important networking event under Task 2.2 are the **AKIS Coordination Bodies (CBs) General Assemblies (GAs)**. The AKIS Coordination Bodies (CBs) are the ones to coordinate, either alone or with supporting teams/national AKIS networks/platforms/competence centres, the AKIS in their respective country/region by providing the framework as well as the means for interconnecting all key AKIS actors. They

are the **main target group** of the modernAKIS project and thus at the centre of the modernAKIS network. The AKIS CBs GAs serve to **facilitate peer-to-peer and best practice exchange** between AKIS CBs and other key AKIS actors. They are biannual networking events, held once online and once face-to-face.

The 1st AKIS CBs GA took place **online on March 21-22, 2023** each day from 10 am – 1 pm CET. The agenda of the event was co-created with the Executive Board. The first session was dedicated to introducing AKIS CBs **to the modernAKIS project** and the requirements of the CAP. The second session invited participants to co-create a **common understanding of the role of an AKIS CB** and share their needs towards the modernAKIS project regarding AKIS coordination and topical priorities in an interactive group work session.

The first part of the second day aimed at fostering participants' **understanding of the concept of CoPs within modernAKIS** and inviting them to co-create ways of integrating modernAKIS CoPs with already existing ones and share their needs towards the modernAKIS project regarding the implementation of CoPs in an interactive group work session. In the second part of the second day **working modalities** like the participation model were discussed, **next steps** outlined and feedback on the 1st GA collected.

In total **91 people** participated in the 1st AKIS CBs GA, out of which 38 are AKIS CBs, 50 project partners and 3 staff members of the European Commission (DG AGRI) and EIP-Agri Service Facility. Participants from **all 27 EU Members States** were present, AKIS CBs from 25 countries (Sweden and Czech Republic were absent).

The most important conclusions of the working sessions and the feedback round were that participants really want and need **time to exchange with each other**. Being an AKIS CB is a new role and they want to learn from each other on how to best fulfil it, which includes deepening their understanding and competences on how to set-up and operate a well-functioning AKIS. Moreover, it became clear that they want to **deep-dive into the systems thinking of AKIS** and understand better how to integrate the different actors in the AKIS. The agenda of the 1st AKIS CBs GA is provided in Annex IV and the minutes in Annex V.

Another important outcome of the 1st AKIS CBs GA was a **change in the participation model** to the AKIS CBs GA. While according to the Description of the Action (DoA) it was planned that one staff member of the respective project partner and one AKIS CB participate in the AKIS CBs GA, it was decided that this should be amplified to include additional key AKIS actors, if necessary. According to the new model, each country can send up to 6 participants. The amount of budget available for each country remains the same.

During the 1st AKIS CBs GA, the **communication channels** between modernAKIS and the AKIS CBs were discussed and established. The modernAKIS project partners are the central point of contact between the modernAKIS project and the AKIS CBs.

WP 2 is currently preparing the **2nd AKIS CBs GA**. It will take place on **November 7-8, 2023 in Zagreb, Croatia**. The invitation letter is provided in Annex VII.

The first day of the 2nd AKIS CBs GA will focus on guiding the participants through the Transformative AKIS Journeys (TAJ), **setting the learning agenda for 2024**, deep-dive into the **set-up of AKIS and AKIS CBs in the MS and systems thinking**. There will be a balanced mix between theoretical input via presentations and interactive working sessions.

The second day of the 2nd AKIS CBs GA will strongly focus on **strengthening and improving knowledge flows** as well as having a clear outlook for the future and defining **next steps**. It will be even more interactive than Day 1.

The bi-yearly GAs will continue to be the most important networking activity for AKIS CBs until the end of the project. In between the GAs, the community platform will play an important role to connect the AKIS CBs with each other via a special feature for them. Apart from that, AKIS CBs are part of the Communities of Practice and that way connect with key AKIS actors in their country.

According to the Grant Agreement, Task 2.2 focuses on the AKIS CBs GAs as major networking events. In order to provide additional benefits to network members, particularly regular members that are neither part

of the AKIS CBs GAs nor of the Communities of Practice as the Core members are, **additional networking activities** are being envisaged.

Networking is about **building relationships**, or in other words about forming nodes between people. In the networking events, WP2 aims at providing the space so that people can come together and form nodes and interdependencies with each other – in short to connect.

modernAKIS offers capacity building events in WP3 and WP4. As the capacity building events will bring people together and have them interact with each other, thus providing a conducive environment for networking, allowing participants to connect with like-minded individuals or individuals occupying similar roles or having similar responsibilities, share knowledge and build relationships that can lead to further opportunities and collaborations in the future. Hence, **all capacity building events are networking events as well**.

However, **not all networking events are capacity building events**. While networking focuses on bringing people together and facilitate the building of relationships, capacity building aims at the development of knowledge and skills. Networking events will thus put emphasis on relationship building and do not necessarily fulfil the function of capacity building. In some cases, networking events might further contribute to capacity building, in the case that peer-to-peer exchange enhances the knowledge and skills of participants.

modernAKIS will structure networking and capacity building events in a way that they **complement each other**. Networking events will facilitate access to capacity building events as in each networking event modernAKIS will inform about related capacity building opportunities. Networking complements the capacity building process by extending its impact beyond the immediate event and facilitating continued growth and development. It is intended to have quarterly networking events, which are available to **all network members**. These events will give all WPs the possibility to bring together key AKIS actors and share relevant content with them, focusing on needs-based practical knowledge. They will be online webinars and workshops.

2. Introduction

Deliverable D2.1 outlined objectives, concepts, types of network members, networking activities, facilities, setting-up procedures and timeline of the modernAKIS network.

The aim of Deliverable D2.2 is to provide information on the implementation and operation of the modernAKIS network, particularly on:

- Setting up of the modernAKIS network: Initial results
- Report on AKIS Coordination Bodies General Assemblies
- Definition of networking as well as the overall framework for implementing networking activities

3. Setting up the modernAKIS network: Initial results

One of the objectives of the modernAKIS project is to

- **build and foster a European network of at least 1.000 key AKIS actors**, including AKIS Coordination Bodies (AKIS CBs) from all EU MS, who will spearhead the transformation of the AKIS systems towards a more effective governance and modernised European agri-food sector.

As outlined in D 2.1. the modernAKIS network consists of three layers (see Figure 1):

1. The AKIS Coordination Bodies (CBs) at the centre of the network
2. Key AKIS actors
3. Wider network

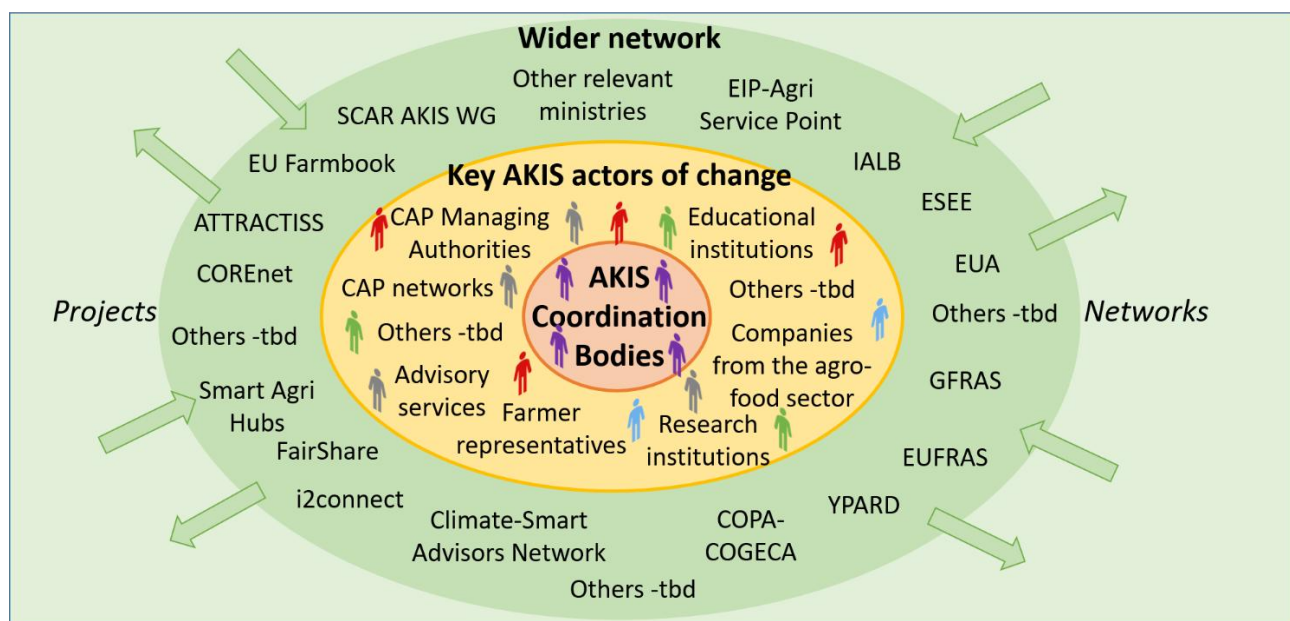


Figure 1: modernAKIS network layers

While the AKIS CBs and the key AKIS actors are actively invited to register for the modernAKIS network, this is not the case for the wider network. The wider network focusses on strategic partnerships with other projects, networks and / or organisations. The modernAKIS network, however, addresses individuals. Hence, employees of organisations being part in other projects or networks might be part of the key AKIS actors and are thus directly addressed by the modernAKIS network. The wider network will be addressed via the widening the network activities that will be outlined in Deliverable D 2.13: *Report on networking activities for widening the network* (M18, February 2024).

The modernAKIS network will provide a space for peer-to-peer and best practice exchange on amongst others:

- the (future) organisational set-up and improvement of the AKIS,
- current developments with relevance for AKIS
- the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the CAP Strategic Plans / AKIS section

More specifically, network members will have the following benefits:

- Develop knowledge on AKIS
- Share experiences and learn from other agricultural and rural actors across Europe
- Co-create and co-design the modernAKIS learning agenda
- Participate in networking events to meet other AKIS actors and exchange on AKIS in other EU Member States as well as specific AKIS-relevant topics
- Participate in capacity building events to increase the capacity to act as a key actor within the respective AKIS
- Be part of the modernAKIS community platform
- Receive invitations to events, capacity development and training opportunities

3.1. Initial procedure for setting up the network

Setting-up of the modernAKIS network is significantly marked by the development of the community platform. Setting up procedures are thus divided in the following two phases:

Phase 1: Setting up the network before the launch of the digital community platform from June 2023 to February 2024: In this phase, a way had to be found to set up the network via an intermediary solution, collecting the members' data in a manner that permits easy transition to the community platform. Moreover, the community platform cannot yet be used for facilitating networking, hence other forms of networking had to be found.

Phase 2: Setting up and implementing the network via the digital community platform from March 2024 to August 2029: in this phase, the community platform becomes the central networking infrastructure. Registration happens via the community platform and it will serve for digital networking as well as the promotion of networking events.

In both phases, the registration to the modernAKIS network is open to everybody. The underlying assumption is that people register for a network if it is useful for them. As the modernAKIS network targets key AKIS actors, the hypothesis is that naturally it will be key AKIS actors to join the network without the need to be restrictive.

The following paragraphs will outline the setting up procedures in more detail.

Phase 1: Setting up the network before the launch of the digital community platform

Procedures for setting up the network before the launch of the community platform correspond to the phases Emergence and Initialisation of the modernAKIS network lifecycle outlined in Chapter 3.5 of D 2.1. In this phase it is all about initiating the network, exchanging with the project partners, particularly the Executive Board, on how to set up the network and its key functions. The registration is started, promoted via the project partners, the modernAKIS website and social media and first networking events are carried out. The following steps have already been implemented:

1. Preparation of the registration form

WP2 in coordination with the Executive Board developed an online network registration form as an intermediary way to register until the launch of the community platform: <https://form.jotform.com/modernAKIS/network-registration>. JotForm is an online tool compliant to GDPR. Contact details are saved in the JotForm database and shared with all the partners via the modernAKIS SharePoint. This is important so that partners can monitor the progress of network registrations in their respective country.

Together with the input of the project partners, the online registration form was translated to 21 languages to facilitate the network registration of key AKIS actors with limited English skills.

2. Preparation of an information package

For the communication with potential network members, an information package was developed consisting of:

- Network Flyer (Annex III)

The network flyer serves to communicate in a short and precise manner to potential network members what the modernAKIS network is about and key benefits they can expect from joining. It is presented in A5 format so that it is easy to carry around in a printed form. The main message of the network flyer is that the network will support key AKIS actors from all 27 EU Members States in their pursuit of implementing the AKIS part of their CAP Strategic Plans 2023-2027. For this, the network will provide opportunities to exchange with peers, obtain expert knowledge, participate in trainings, use the facilities of the community platform and contribute their expert knowledge.

- Invitation letter for key AKIS actors to join the network (Annex II)

The invitation letter aims at addressing key AKIS actors known by the project partners. It is an addition to the network flyer, providing further information on the network and its benefits. It provides a personal note, which is considered important in a direct invitation to the network via the project partners. Moreover, it aims at showing key AKIS actors that their expertise and expert knowledge is valued and being a network member gives them the opportunity to share their expertise as well as benefit from the expertise of other network members.

Both the invitation letter and the network flyer invite potential members to join the network right away. A QR code is used to provide potential members direct access to the registration form and facilitate an easy access.

3. Preparation of network registration guidelines

The network registration guidelines are for internal use only, directed at the project partners. They consist of:

- Step-by-step guide to network registration: which aims at giving project partners a concise guidance on the steps to take in order to invite key AKIS actors to the network. It guides them on what to do when and how to use the invitation letter and the network flyer.
- Initial list of roles which corresponds to the typology of key AKIS actors, according to D1.1
- Selection criteria, according to D 1.1.: which guide project partners to evaluate which of the AKIS actors in their country would be of particular interest for the modernAKIS network. This is meant to assist project partners in the selection, without limited network membership. As mentioned earlier, the modernAKIS network is open to everybody with the underlying assumption that it will be most interesting for key AKIS actors.

4. Invitation of project partners

WP2 shared the information package with the project partners requesting them to register themselves and to invite and motive key AKIS actors in their country to register.

5. Project partners invite key AKIS actors

Project partners invited key AKIS actors within their country to join the network using the invitation letter and the network flyer.

6. Key AKIS actors register for the network

Following these invitations, several network members registered.

7. Promotion of network via social media

In order to increase the outreach beyond direct invitation and word-of-mouth, a news post on the modernAKIS website is supposed to motivate further AKIS actors to join the network. Apart from that, a posting for social media (Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn) and the modernAKIS newsletter are being prepared. The modernAKIS newsletter is part of a joint newsletter with other AKIS-related Horizon Europe projects EU-FarmBook, ATTRACTISS and Premiere. This way, the outreach is even larger.

8. Key AKIS actors register for the network

The registration form will stay open until the launch of the community platform. Thus, key AKIS actors will constantly register for the modernAKIS network.

Coordination with ATTRACTISS

In parallel, an exchange with the Horizon Europe project ATTRACTISS is going on to define synergies in creating the modernAKIS and the ATTRACTISS network. Since Innovation Support Services are key AKIS actors, the coordinators of both projects agreed to create a joint network. This has several benefits:

- Greater outreach
- The network will offer more activities as both projects contribute
- Avoiding stakeholder fatigue
- The focus is on AKIS and its actors instead of projects



Figure 2: registration procedure before the launch of the community platform

Phase 2: Setting up the network via the digital community platform

Procedures for setting up the network via the community platform correspond to the phases growth and self-organisation of the modernAKIS network lifecycle outlined in Chapter 3.5 of D 2.1. In this phase it is assumed that the network will experience a natural growth as more members join and it becomes more and more known. Promotion of the community platform and networking events will assist this natural growth. Self-organisation addresses a phase after the end of the project where the network will sustain itself. For Phase 2 of setting up the network the following steps are planned and prepared:

1. Launch of the community platform

The community platform will be launched in February 2024. It will be the major networking facility. It will facilitate knowledge exchange and act as a one-stop-shop for all modernAKIS network members. It will serve as

1. virtual interaction space between AKIS network members
2. ticketing system for the “flying AKIS doctors”
3. digital repository of the project including event streams and recordings from local level workshops
4. delivery space for online courses

A network registration form will be integrated on the community platform. The current intermediary solution via Jotform will be discontinued. With the registration, members will be invited to create a profile to be visible to other members on the platform.

The development process of the platform is ongoing. In May and June 2023 all modernAKIS project partners had the possibility to participate in an online survey. The results of the survey give an overview of the main target groups of the platform and their specific needs. Three co-creative design workshops have been implemented with the project partners between June and August 2023 to finetune the user needs, content and structure of the platform. In the third co-creative session feedback from the project partners on first mock-ups were collected. Based on the feedback the mock-ups will be improved and project partners will have another opportunity to give feedback via an online form. More information on the development process of the community platform will be provided in D 5.5.

Migration of existing network to community platform

Once the community platform is launched, already registered network members will be informed. They will be asked their consent to transfer their data to the platform. The existing data will be used to prefill their profile. However, the profile on the platform will include more information than is currently asked from the network members in the registration form. Therefore, network members will be asked to complete their profiles. Members' profiles will include information about their expertise and interest areas. This simplifies connecting with each other. It is intended that members will be able to search for other network members with similar interests. Moreover, it is foreseen that network members will be able to make an announcement for a working group. This means that they can start a working group which lies within their responsibility and use the community platform to generate members for it.

2. Promotion of networking activities via the platform

All networking activities (see Chapter 5.2) will be promoted via the community platform visible to everybody. As networking activities are an exclusive offer for network members, people who want to participate in a networking activity will be invited to register to the network.

3. Promotion of the community platform

WP2 will hold an information session with project partners about the launch of the community platform and invite them to promote it within their networks. For this, WP2 in coordination with WP5 will provide corresponding promotional material. Moreover, WP5 will inform about the launch of the community platform on social media and the modernAKIS website.

4. Key AKIS actors register via the community platform

Both the promotion of the community platform and of networking activities will attract further key AKIS actors to join the modernAKIS network and register directly via the platform.



Figure 3: Registration procedure via the community platform

The community platform will be a common platform with ATTRACTISS. Both modernAKIS and ATTRACTISS partners are being involved in the currently ongoing co-creative platform development process (see Chapter 4.4).

3.2. Status of network registrations

Until handing in the current Deliverable a total amount of 270 key AKIS actors have registered for the modernAKIS network. This chapter gives an overview of the countries where the network members live and the actor types they belong to.

Figure 4 shows the amount of network members that have registered per country of their location. Some countries like Poland (49 registered network members) and Spain (40 registered network members) already have comparatively high numbers of registered network members. The reason for this is that the situation in each country is quite different. Spain has already had a first meeting with their Community of Practice, while other countries are just starting to get in touch with key AKIS actors and introduce them to the modernAKIS project. From WP2-side, project partners are encouraged to invite network members according to the pace that makes sense for their country. Trust building with key AKIS actors is crucial, hence the timing of sending out the invitation to key AKIS actors has to be well chosen.

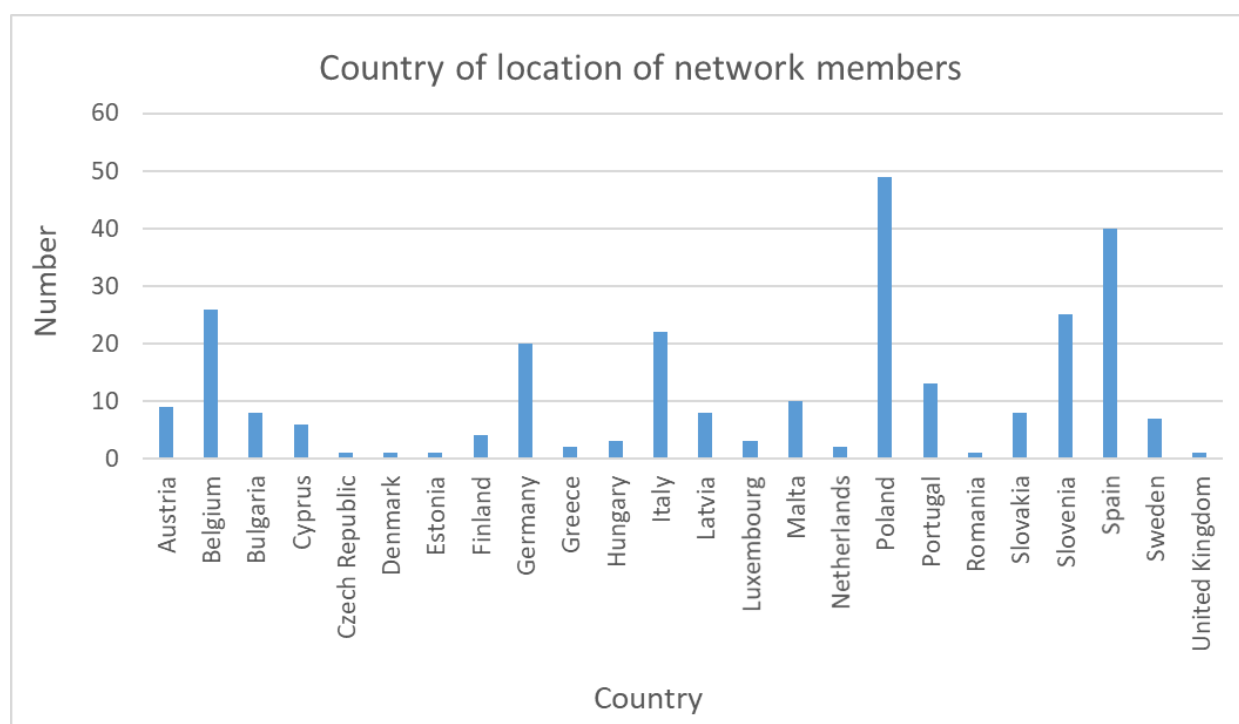


Figure 4: Country of location of network members

Figure 5 shows the amount of network members per actor type in percentage. The biggest group of registered network members so far are advisory services with 19% and researchers / scientists with 17%. For the actor type, network members can choose several types since key AKIS actors often have several roles. The 270 registered network members correspond to 453 actor types.

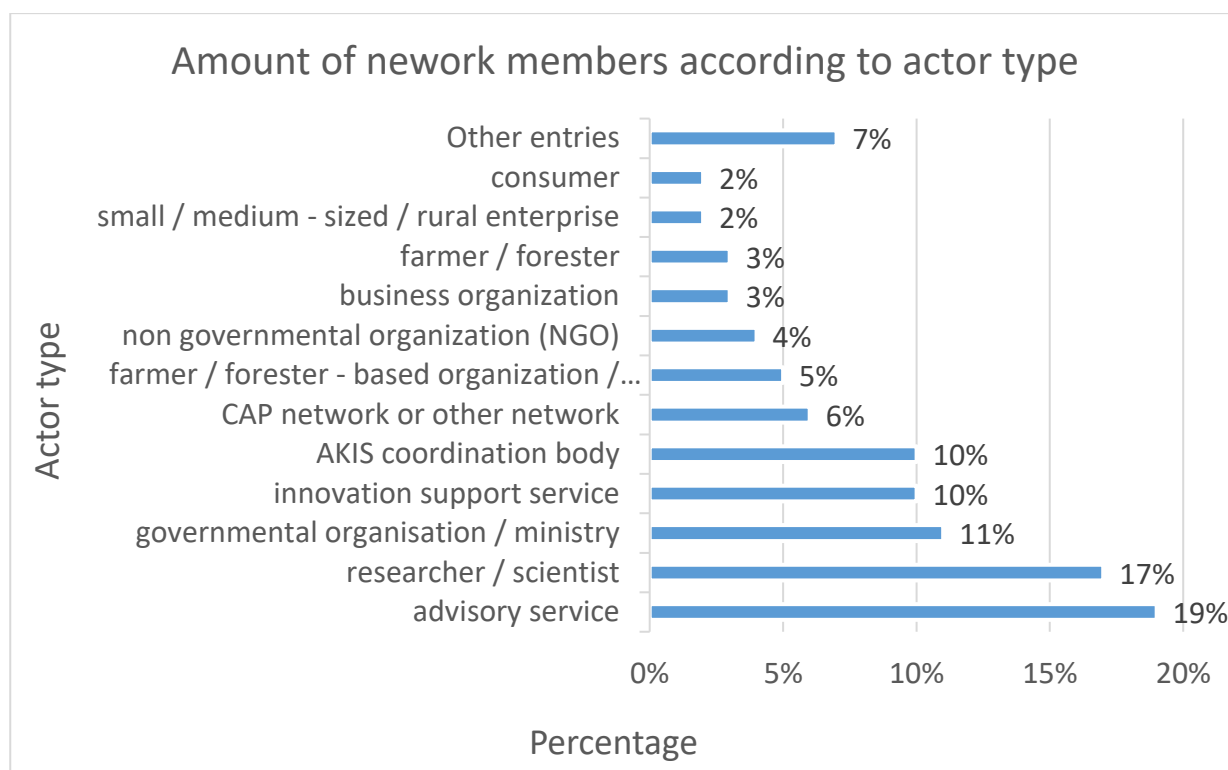


Figure 5: Amount of network members according to actor type in percentage

4. AKIS Coordination Bodies General Assemblies

The **AKIS Coordination Bodies** (CBs) are the ones to coordinate, either alone or with supporting teams/national AKIS networks/platforms/competence centres, the AKIS in their respective country by providing the frameworks as well as the means for interconnecting all key AKIS actors. AKIS CBs are at the centre of the network, making up its first layer (see Chapter 3.2 of D2.1). Under the framework of modernAKIS, a biannual networking event – referred to as the AKIS CBs General Assembly (GA) is planned - with the AKIS CBs as its main target group. The overarching aim of the AKIS CBs GAs is to foster peer-to-peer exchange among AKIS CBs. The role of an AKIS CB is new since the beginning of 2023 with the start of the CAP 2023-2027. As often there is only one AKIS CB per country, it is necessary to learn from each other beyond borders. More precisely, the AKIS CBs GAs aim to facilitate peer-to-peer and best practice exchange on, among others:

- the (future) organisational set-up and improvement of the AKIS,
- current developments with relevance for AKIS
- the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the CAP Strategic Plans / AKIS section

Regarding the format of the AKIS CBs GAs, they are biannual networking events, once online and once face-to-face. A face-to-face exchange is important for real peer-to-peer learning as people connect differently when they meet in person and more easily establish connections that go beyond the meeting. A face-to-face meeting once a year was considered reasonable given the busy agendas of the AKIS CBs as well as budgetary efficiency. However, in order to build meaningful relations with each other, it is necessary to stay in touch on a regular basis and more often than once a year. For this purpose an online meeting takes place in between the face-to-face meetings and exchange possibilities e.g. via discussion fora, will be provided on the digital community platform.

The following sub-chapters give an overview of the already held AKIS CBs GA and the upcoming one.

4.1. 1st AKIS CBs General Assembly (GA)

The 1st AKIS CBs GA took place online on 21-22 March 2023, each day from 10 am – 1 pm CET. Participation was possible via invitation and consequent registration only. Invitations were sent out according to the participation model outlined in the grant agreement, meaning that all AKIS CBs as well as the main contact from each partner organisation were invited.

Preparation

The most important decision to take during the preparation of the 1st AKIS CBs GA was whether to hold the event in person or online. There were several reasons for holding the 1st AKIS CBs GA online:

- The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-2027, which defines the set-up of an AKIS CB in each MS, has started on January 1, 2023. Hence, when modernAKIS started in September 2022, only some countries had already nominated an AKIS CB. Organizing a face-to-face event needs several months of preparation. Invitations need to be sent well in advance so that participants can block their agenda and make their travel arrangements. An online event offered more flexibility as people can join more on a short notice without having to make travel arrangements and thus made it possible for AKIS CBs to participate who were nominated only the beginning of 2023.
- An online meeting lowers the participation barrier
- For the majority of the AKIS CBs the GA was the first in-depth contact with the modernAKIS project. Hence, the assumptions were that an online meeting would facilitate getting to know the project and building trust in the project which is an important factor prior to people being willing to invest 2 days of their time for upcoming face-to-face meetings.

The agenda of the 1st AKIS CBs GA was co-created together with the Executive Board. The first part of the first day was dedicated to give the AKIS CBs a good introduction to the modernAKIS project and the requirements of the CAP. The second part of the first day invited participants to co-create a common understanding of the role of an AKIS CB and share their needs towards the modernAKIS project regarding AKIS coordination and topical priorities in an interactive group work session.

The first part of the second day aimed at fostering participants' understanding of the concept of CoPs within modernAKIS and inviting them to co-create ways of integrating modernAKIS CoPs with already existing ones and share their needs towards the modernAKIS project regarding the implementation of CoPs in an interactive group work session. In the second part of the second day working modalities like the participation model were discussed, next steps outlined and feedback on the 1st GA collected.

Moreover, the agenda included an overview of the modernAKIS project with specific information on each work package regarding the content and the WP-leaders. This was considered important as the 1st GA was the first contact of the majority of the AKIS CBs with the modernAKIS project. The agenda and the project information are provided in Annex IV.

Implementation

In total 91 people participated in the 1st AKIS CBs GA, out of which 38 are AKIS CBs, 50 project partners and 3 staff members of the European Commission (DG AGRI) and EIP-Agri Service Facility. Participants from all 27 EU Members States were present, AKIS CBs from 25 countries (Sweden and Czech Republic were absent). The number of attendees exceeds the number of registered participants, which was 80.

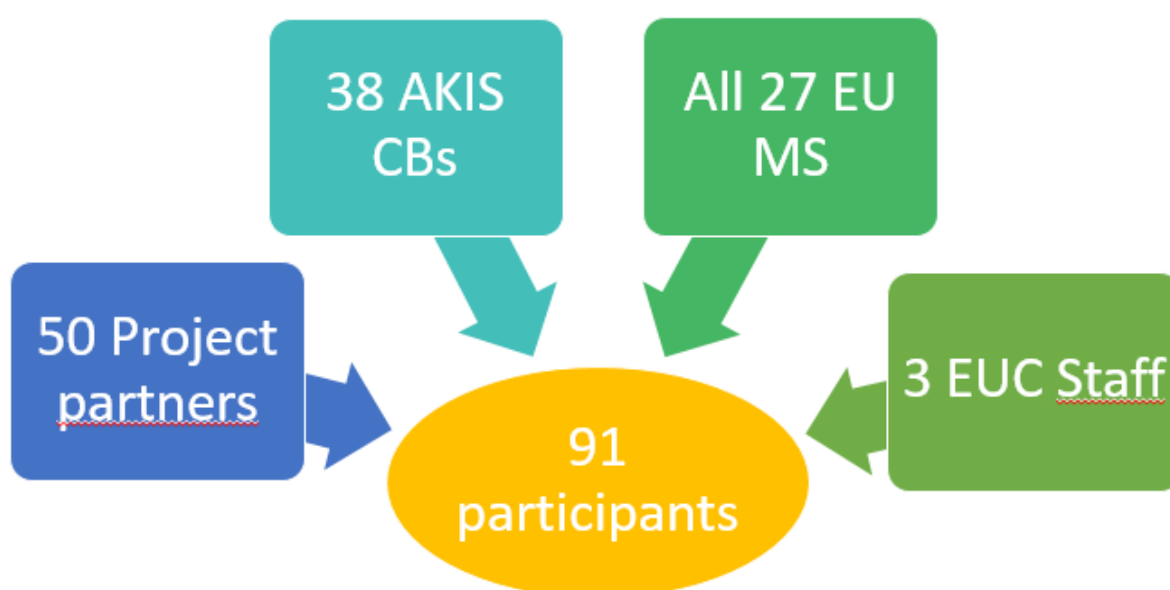


Figure 6: Participants of the 1st AKIS CBs GA

During the GA, participants:

- Exchanged and discussed current activities as an AKIS CB and as a key AKIS actor at national and European level;

- Explored the expectations from the European Commission (EC) / CAP towards AKIS CBs;
- Presented the relevance of the modernAKIS project and the support it aims to provide to the AKIS CBs and AKIS actors;
- Learned about AKIS CBs' needs regarding support in fulfilling their role as an AKIS CB and the further development of their country's AKIS;
- Discussed together working modalities and planned the next steps.

Results

The results of the 1st AKIS CBs GA were shared with all participants via email and uploaded on the Sharepoint in the specific folders accessible by the AKIS CBs (see paragraph below on the communication channels). The following section describes the results of the two co-creative group work and the feedback session.

Group work 1: Current activities and role of the AKIS CBs

The co-creative group work on Day 1 was about the current activities and the role of the AKIS CBs. The session started with two testimonials, one by the Polish AKIS CB and one by the Flemish AKIS CB. The most important conclusions of this working session are:

- AKIS CBs have a **wide range of responsibilities and tasks** to fulfil, among others:
 - Conceptualisation and set-up of the AKIS coordination and definition of responsibilities
 - Design AKIS strategic approach: governance, action plan, communication strategy, etc.
 - Evaluation and implementation of AKIS strategy in the CAP Strategic Plans
 - Implementation of calls for different AKIS interventions based on the integration between different subjects and actions
- The most frequently mentioned **support needs** from the modernAKIS project to coordinate the AKIS are:
 - Defining roles & functions of AKIS CBs, exchanging on challenges for AKIS CBs in the new CAP
 - Monitoring and evaluation of AKIS
 - AKIS measuring impact and improvement
 - Networking
 - Integration of (private) advisory services, innovation support services (ISS) and research institutions, operational groups
 - Communication of AKIS to stakeholders triggering cooperation
 - Cross-border exchange and collaboration
 - Framing the AKIS strategic approach
 - Provision of good practices (related to AKIS, CoPs, etc.)
 - Systems thinking of AKIS
- The most frequently mentioned **priority topics** on which participants would like to exchange on in the future are:
 - Networking and knowledge exchange
 - Integration of (private) advisory services, innovation support services (ISS) and research institutions, operational groups
 - Involvement of AKIS actors in AKIS
 - Communication on AKIS
 - Monitoring and evaluating AKIS activities
 - System thinking of AKIS
 - Cross-border exchange

Group work 2: Setting up the Communities of Practice (CoPs)

The co-creative group work on Day 2 was about setting up the Communities of Practice. The most important conclusions of this working session are:

- A vast majority of EU MS has at least **similar structures to a CoP** in place. The participants from Malta and Belgium stated that there are no CoPs or something that resembles CoPs in their countries.
- Participants shared **relevant experiences with the existing CoPs** in their respective countries:
 - Some MS plan to set-up and run the AKIS CoP in the frame of the CAP network
 - Some MS have multiple, small scale CoPs for different actor types, e.g. associations, NGOs, farmers
 - Some MS have informal exchange groups as part of EIP projects, demonstration farms or educational schools
 - A leading and motivating person is needed to manage the CoP
 - Members need to have enough time to be active in the CoP
- Participants anticipated / have experienced the following **challenges when setting up a CoP**:
 - Having a common definition of a CoP
 - Identification of suitable key participants and definition of their function in the CoP
 - Limited time of key AKIS actors
 - Ensuring active engagement of key AKIS actors
 - Gaining trust of participants
 - Lacking facilitating competences
 - Creating complementarities and synergies between different forms of existing CoPs
 - Challenge to manage broad CoPs, smaller specialized groups will be needed
 - Ensuring participatory approach in topic selection
 - Financing the meetings, activities and time of participants
 - Getting real practical inputs from CoPs that would help the AKIS CBs in facilitating knowledge flows
- Participants shared their ideas on how to **combine existing CoPs with the modernAKIS CoPs**:
 - Have a clear definition of the modernAKIS CoPs and a tailor-made individual approach for each MS
- Participants stated their **expectations towards the modernAKIS CoPs**
 - Have specialized CoPs on specific AKIS-relevant topics
 - Platform to overcome working in silos
 - Overcoming the regional focus of existing CoPs
 - Tailored upon the specific needs of each MS
 - Close collaboration with the CAP networks
 - Have a clear definition of a CoP
 - Define a common goal and clear benefits for the CoP members
 - CoPs as inspiration and resources from and for practice

Feedback Session

A feedback session at the end of the 1st AKIS CBs GA gave participants the possibility to share their thoughts and express their wishes and needs for the next AKIS CBs GA. They were asked about what they most appreciated, what they would like to see more of, what the modernAKIS partnership can do better next time and what they are most looking forward to during the next AKIS CBs GA. The most frequently mentioned needs and wishes were:

- Networking
- Testimonials from other AKIS CBs
- Practical examples
- Time for discussion

Results Summary

In summary, the most important conclusions of the working sessions and the feedback round were that participants really want and need time to exchange with each other. Being an AKIS CB is a new role and they want to learn from each other on how to best fulfil it, which includes deepening their understanding and competences on how to set-up and operate a well-functioning AKIS. Moreover, it became clear that they want to deep-dive into the systems thinking of AKIS and understand better how to integrate the different actors in the AKIS. The minutes of the 1st AKIS CBs GA are provided in Annex V.

Participation model to the AKIS CBs GA

Another important outcome of the 1st AKIS CBs GA was a change in the participation model to the AKIS CBs GA. The change was requested by the Executive Board, presented, discussed and agreed upon during the AKIS CBs GA. The original participation model according to the grant agreement was that each country would send one AKIS CB or external expert and one staff member of the project partner organisation to the AKIS CBs GA. For each person there was a budget of 1200 Euro and the hosting organisation pays the meeting venue, lunches, coffee breaks and one social dinner. Table 1 provides an overview of the participation model according to the Grant Agreement.

Table 1: Participation model for the AKIS CBs GA according to the Grant Agreement

Participation model - AKIS CBs GA – Grant Agreement



General Assembly	max. 54
Participants	max. 2 per country 1 AKIS CB, 1 project partner staff
AKIS CBs	min. 1 AKIS CB per country
Nomination of delegates	AKIS CBs in cooperation with modernAKIS project partners
Key AKIS actors	Project partners
Duration	2 days (1/2 day + 1 full day)
Activities	Capacity building and networking in the form of plenary sessions, parallel discussion groups Field visits at selected AKIS examples
Budget for travel and accommodation	€ 1.200 per person
Lunches paid by	modernAKIS
Coffee breaks paid by	modernAKIS

The Executive Board considered this participation model as too restrictive and requested a more inclusive approach so that additional key AKIS actors that are not part of a project partner organisation can participate. Additionally, during the registration process for the 1st AKIS CBs GA, several countries requested participation by more people than one AKIS CB and one project partner staff member, which was granted, as during the online meeting there were no budgetary limitations.

A new participation model has budgetary implications as each country will cover the cost of all participants with a total budget of 2400 Euros. Moreover, the hosting organisation cannot cover organisational costs for additional participants with the provided budget. Hence, it was decided that participants would pay their lunches themselves to reduce the costs for the hosting organisation. Tables 2 and 3 provide an overview of the new participation model.

Table 2: Overview of possible participants to the AKIS CBs GA

Participation model - AKIS CBs GA



General Assembly	min. 54	max. 162
Participants per country	min. 2	max. 6
AKIS CBs per country	min. 1 AKIS CB	MANDATORY min. 1 AKIS CB
Nomination of delegates for each country	AKIS CBs in cooperation with modernAKIS project partners	
Key AKIS actors	e.g. project partners, CAP network managers, policy officers in Managing Authorities, managers of advisory organizations and innovation support services, educators	
Duration	2 days (1/2 day + 1 full day)	
Activities	Capacity building and networking in the form of plenary sessions, parallel discussion groups Field visits at selected AKIS examples	

Table 3: Overview of available budget and distribution according to amount of participants per country

Budget for AKIS CBs face-to-face General Assembly (per country)

- Annual
- 7 in total

Participants	2 PAX	3 PAX	4 PAX	5 PAX	6 PAX
Access	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full
Travel and accommodation paid by modernAKIS up to	€ 1.200	€ 800	€ 600	€ 480	€ 400
Lunches paid by	Participants	Participants	Participants	Participants	Participants
Coffee breaks paid by	modernAKIS	modernAKIS	modernAKIS	modernAKIS	modernAKIS
Travel applications	Follow the rules of the organisation where the participant is employed				
Reimbursement	(1) Pre-financing: Booking through partner institution OR (2) Reimbursement of costs incurred				

Communication channels with AKIS CBs

During the 1st AKIS CBs GA, the communication channels between modernAKIS and the AKIS CBs were discussed and established. The modernAKIS project partners are the central point of contact between the modernAKIS project and the AKIS CBs. The Executive Board communicates in the majority of cases through the project partners with the AKIS CBs. There are a few direct interaction ways between the Executive Board and the AKIS CBs:

- Project newsletter

All AKIS CBs who sign up for the project newsletter will receive it directly from modernAKIS. It is a joint newsletter with the Horizon Europe projects ATTRACTISS, EU-FarmBook and Premiere.

- SharePoint / community platform

Until the community platform is launched, the modernAKIS Sharepoint will serve as a means to share relevant documents with the AKIS CBs. These include relevant information on the modernAKIS project, all information around the AKIS CBs like agenda, venue information, presentations and minutes and all modernAKIS deliverables. Once the community platform is set up it will take over the current function of the Sharepoint.

- Invitation to the AKIS CBs GA

For the 1st AKIS CBs GA the invitation of the AKIS CBs was coordinated via the project partners. Since the first contact with the AKIS CBs has been established during the 1st GA, invitations to all subsequent GAs will be sent directly by the Executive Board. An exception would be a case of a change in the person responsible for the AKIS CB role, in which case he/she would be introduced to the modernAKIS coordinators/community via the project partner.

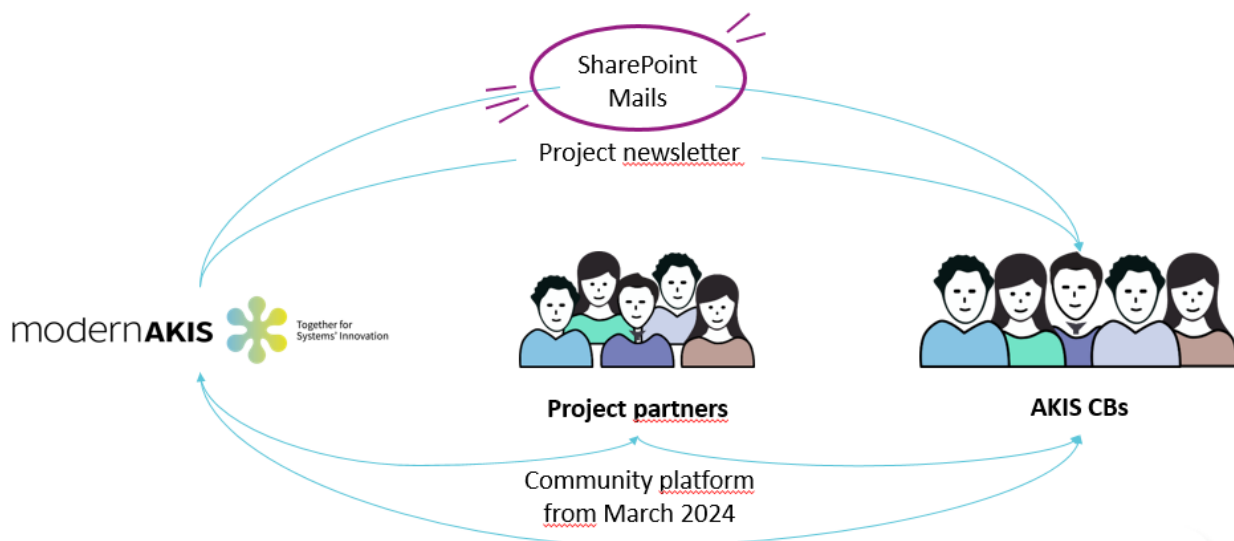


Figure 7: Communication channels between modernAKIS and the AKIS CBs

Communication with the wider public

The 1st AKIS CBs GA was announced a few weeks in advance via the website and the social media channels to keep the wider public informed about ongoing project activities. Most relevant results, particularly the activities of the AKIS CBs as presented in Figure 6, were shared via the social media channels.



Figure 8: Social media posting graph on the AKIS CBs' activities

Both for internal and external communication, WP5 has developed different colour palettes for different target audiences to ensure a clear and consistent project image. More details on the colour palettes and internal and external communication are described in *D5.1: C, D & E plan - Design and implementation of a detailed C, D & E Plan*. Figure 7 shows the modernAKIS colour palettes with the colours for the following actors from left to right: AKIS CBs and Managing Authorities, national and European networks, research and education sector, farmers and advisors. Hence, the yellow and pink colours represent AKIS CBs and Managing Authorities. The colour of the social media posting shown in Figure 6 reflects this colour palette.



Figure 9: modernAKIS colour palette (graph taken from D 5.1)

4.2. 2nd AKIS CBs GA

WP 2 is currently preparing the 2nd AKIS CBs GA. It will take place on 7-8 November 2023 in Zagreb, Croatia. The invitation letter is provided in Annex VII.

According to the needs and preferences expressed by the participants during the 1st AKIS CBs GA, the overall objectives of the 2nd GA are:

- Deepen peer-to-peer and best practice exchange on well-functioning AKIS
- Exchange on Knowledge flows
- Setting of learning agenda for 2024
- Networking

Following the above-presented participation model, the Second AKIS CBs GA addresses a variety of key AKIS actors. The following paragraphs present an overview of the types of key AKIS actors for whom the Second AKIS CBs GA is particularly relevant and the value that it provides for them.

AKIS CBs

- Overview and results analysis on how AKIS CBs in Member States are set-up and operate
- Peer-to-peer experience exchange on working as an AKIS CB
- Insights into strengthening knowledge flows according to CAP Strategic Plans
- Methods, processes as well as good practices for improving knowledge flows
- Decision on the topics and learning agenda to be addressed in 2024 by modernAKIS
- Networking

Policy makers responsible for cooperation and knowledge transfer interventions

- Overview and analysis on cooperation and knowledge transfer interventions across Member States
- Insights into strengthening knowledge flows according to CAP Strategic Plans
- Methods, processes as well as good practices for improving knowledge flows
- Workshop on how to involve all actors into the AKIS
- Networking

Organisations supporting knowledge flows in AKIS (CAP Networks, Innovation Support Services, Digital Innovation Hubs, Clusters, etc.)

- Insights into strengthening knowledge flows according to CAP Strategic Plans
- Methods, processes as well as good practices for improving knowledge flows
- Workshop on how to involve all actors into the AKIS
- Methods and tools in communicating AKIS for impact
- Networking

The first day of the 2nd AKIS CBs GA will focus on guiding the participants through the Transformative AKIS Journeys (TAJ), setting the learning agenda for 2024, deep-dive into the set-up of AKIS and AKIS CBs in the MS and systems thinking. There will be a balanced mix between theoretical input via presentations and interactive working sessions. The detailed agenda is outlined in Table 1.

Table 4: Agenda First Day of the 2nd AKIS CBs GA

Tuesday, Nov. 7	
09h00	Arriving and registration
09h30	Welcome and getting-to-know each other
10h30	Be the actor of your Transformative AKIS Journey

12h30	LUNCH
13h30	AKIS analysis from different perspectives
14h15	AKIS CBs – first year experience & going forward
15h45	COFEE BREAK
16h15	AKIS – A systems approach to supporting innovation in your country
17h45	Wrap up and closing of Day 1
18h00	END
19h00	DINNER + social evening program

The second day of the 2nd AKIS CBs GA will strongly focus on strengthening and improving knowledge flows as well as having a clear outlook for the future and defining next steps. It will be even more interactive than Day 1. The detailed agenda is outlined in Table 2.

Table 5: Agenda Second Day of the 2nd AKIS CBs GA

Wednesday, Nov. 8		
08h00	Introduction to Day 2 & Interactive Exercise	
08h30	How do they flow, the knowledge flows? - Knowledge flows within and beyond the CAP – Part 1	
10h00	COFFEE BREAK	
10h30	How do they flow, the knowledge flows? - Knowledge flows within and beyond the CAP – Part 2	
12h30	LUNCH	
13h30	Communicating for Impact: Building stronger AKIS Connections	Parallel session: Workshop how to involve all actors into the AKIS
15h00	COFFEE BREAK	
15h30	Closing of AKIS CBs GA: Feedback, Outlook & next steps	
16h30	END	

4.3. Networking of AKIS CBs beyond 2023

For 2024, an in person meeting is planned to be held in Spain at the end of April and an online meeting in autumn. This allows to go back to the originally planned rhythm of having a face-to-face meeting in spring every year and an online meeting in autumn. The face-to-face meetings are important for setting the learning

agenda for the next project year. Since the project year is from September – August it is important to have the face-to-face meetings in spring.

The bi-yearly GAs will continue to be the most important networking activity for AKIS CBs until the end of the project. In between the GAs, the community platform will play an important role to connect the AKIS CBs with each other via a special feature for them. Apart from that, AKIS CBs are part of the Communities of Practice and that way connect with key AKIS actors in their country. The majority of networking events will be open to all members, thus also for AKIS CBs (see Chapter 4.3).

5. Additional benefits for network members

According to the Grant Agreement, Task 2.2 focuses on the AKIS CBs GAs as major networking events. In order to provide additional benefits to network members, particularly regular members that are neither part of the AKIS CBs GAs nor of the Communities of Practice as the Core members are, additional networking activities are being envisaged. Prior to giving more information on such networking activities, it is important to understand how modernAKIS defines networking and how these connect with capacity building.

5.1. Definition of networking

Networks and networking are terms that are used in many different contexts. IT uses it for computer networks, while social science describes people / human / social networks. For our context, the latter are important.

According to Serrat (2017, p.39) *“Social networks are nodes of individuals, groups, organizations, and related systems that tie in one or more types of interdependencies: these include shared values, visions, and ideas; social contacts; kinship; conflict; financial exchanges; trade; joint membership in organizations; and group participation in events, among numerous other aspects of human relationships.”*

Gibson et al. (2014, p. 146) define networking as *“goal-directed behaviour which occurs both inside and outside of an organization, focussed on creating, cultivating, and utilizing interpersonal relationships.”*

Baker (1994, p.xiii) defines networking as the *“active process of building and managing active relationships.”*

The previous definitions clearly show that networking is about building relationships, or in other words about forming nodes between people.

In the networking events, WP2 aims at providing the space so that people can come together and form nodes and interdependencies with each other – in short to connect.

modernAKIS offers capacity building events in WP3 and WP4. The question arises whether these capacity building events are networking events as well and what differentiates the two.

The Development Assistance Committee (DAC, 2010) of the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) have defined capacity and capacity development the following way:

“Capacity: the ability of people, organisations, and society as a whole to manage their affairs successfully.

Capacity development: the process by which people, organisations and society as a whole create, strengthen and maintain their capacity over time.”

According to the World Health Organisation (2021) capacity building *“is the development of knowledge, skills, commitment, partnerships, structures, systems and leadership”* to effectively address specific challenges.

Following the above-mentioned definitions, networking events are all events where people come together and form relationships. The modernAKIS capacity building events will bring people together and have them interact with each other, thus providing a conducive environment for networking, allowing participants to connect with like-minded individuals or individuals occupying similar roles or having similar responsibilities,

share knowledge and build relationships that can lead to further opportunities and collaborations in the future. Hence, all capacity building events are networking events as well.

However, not all networking events are capacity building events. While networking focuses on bringing people together and facilitate the building of relationships, capacity building aims at the development of knowledge and skills. Networking events will thus put emphasis on relationship building and do not necessarily fulfil the function of capacity building. In some cases, networking events might further contribute to capacity building, in the case that peer-to-peer exchange enhances the knowledge and skills of participants.

modernAKIS will structure networking and capacity building events in a way that they complement each other. Networking events will facilitate access to capacity building events as in each networking event modernAKIS will inform about related capacity building opportunities. Networking complements the capacity building process by extending its impact beyond the immediate event and facilitating continued growth and development.

5.2. Additional networking activities

According to the Description of the Action (DoA) as well as the detailed budget planning T2.2. has three main components:

- Building and managing the modernAKIS network during the 7 years
- The AKIS CB General Assemblies (a mix of capacity building and networking activities)
- the prioritization/planning of activities for the next year in collaboration with the AKIS CB

Consequently, the AKIS CBs GAs are the main planned networking activities under T2.2. As explained under Chapter 5.1 the capacity building events carried out by WP3 and WP4 are networking events as well. Acknowledging that additional networking activities, targeting the other network members who are not AKIS CBs nor part of the country-based CoPs (Task 2.3) and cross-country CoPs (WP4), would be an important benefit for network members, WP2 is planning to carry out additional networking activities. The current chapter will outline these additional networking activities, building upon Chapter 3.4 of D2.1, which provides a rough overview of networking activities and facilities according to the different network member types.

Core members

Core members are those key AKIS actors (see Annex I for the possible categories of key AKIS actors) (layer two) who participate in country-based (cb) and cross-country (cc) CoPs. Participation in these communities happens exclusively upon invitation. Membership as a core member is bound to the role the person has within their organisation. If the person changes their job position and consequently stop participating in the cbCoP / ccCoP, they stay as a regular member within the network, but lose their status as core member.

Activities for core members are planned under Task 2.3 (meetings of the cbCoPs) and WP4 (meetings of the ccCoPs). Thus, these activities are part of the DoA and included here to give a complete picture of networking activities for the different member types. The cbCoPs are coordinated by national CoP managers. For these CoP managers three Coaching Sessions, one in Copenhagen, Denmark, one in Zagreb, Croatia and one in Prague, Czech Republic have taken place. A fourth one is planned on 5-6 September 2023 in Paris, France. The aim of these Coaching sessions is to discuss in depth questions and concerns about CoPs in different countries, as well as possible models to set up and organise them. More information on the Coaching Sessions and the implementation of the CoPs will be part of the Deliverable D 2.7: Report on the implementation of AKIS Communities of Practice, due in Month 24.

Same as for the AKIS CBs, the community platform will offer a special feature for core members to connect with each other.

Regular members

Everybody can become a regular member of the modernAKIS network via registration to the community platform, although key AKIS actors (layer two) and the wider network (layer three) will be targeted specifically.

All activities targeting regular members will be available for AKIS CBs and Core members as well. modernAKIS offers the following networking activities for all members:

- **Quarterly networking events**

The quarterly networking events will give all WPs the possibility to bring together key AKIS actors and share relevant content with them. The topic selection for these events will be based on the capacity needs assessment carried out by WP1. While WP4 addresses strategical and policy topics, the networking events will focus on practical-applicable topics. The other WPs as well as other related projects and external experts will provide content for these networking events. For other projects and external experts there will be contribution calls by invitation.

The format of the networking events will be online webinars and workshops. They will start with one or more keynote speeches / practical examples to introduce the topic, followed by peer-to-peer exchange in smaller groups.

WP2 considers networking events as an entry point to the modernAKIS project activities. People who participate in networking events become part of the network and will be informed about further networking activities as well as capacity building events during the networking events and via notifications on the community platform.



Figure 10: Concept of networking events

Currently ideas for networking events are being collected. A first idea for a possible topic is: AKIS in action: Fostering knowledge flows in practice. The idea is to have three practical examples provided by experiences of project partners for the start. Later on, external experts and other projects will be invited to provide practical examples as well. The presentations are followed by an interactive discussion and experience exchange in break-out groups and a summary of the discussion results in the plenum.

Table 6: Exemplary program for the first networking event

AKIS in action: Fostering knowledge flows in practice	
00h00	Welcome and Introduction
00h10	Building knowledge flows on the road: the inspiration bus trip Marleen Gysen, Innovatiesteunpunt, Belgium
00h25	Linking research to practice: the Speeding Up Innovation event series Florian Herzog, Austrian Chamber of Agriculture, Austria
00h40	Bringing new knowledge to practice: the Latvian demonstration farms Linda Sarke, LLRATC, Latvia
00h55	Introduction to interactive experience exchange
01h00	Interactive experience exchange
01h45	Reports from break-out groups
01h55	Closing and outlook to future networking and capacity building events
02h00	END

- **modernAKIS newsletter**

The modernAKIS newsletter is a joint publication with ATTRACTISS, EU-FarmBook and PREMIERE as other AKIS-centring projects. The first newsletter was sent out the beginning of April 2023, the second newsletter the beginning of July 2023. The newsletter serves to better connect the involved projects and is a way to keep network members up to date on ongoing activities and achievements. Network members need to sign up for the newsletter additionally to the network registration.

- **International AKIS conferences**

There are two international AKIS conferences planned through the project duration, one in month 36, August 2025 and one in month 82, June 2028. These are face-to-face events with the aim of sharing the most relevant project results with a wider public. The one in month 36 will furthermore serve to obtaining feedback from participants, particularly on communication and dissemination of projects results in the respective country and getting input from key AKIS actors on specific project issues. The conference in month 82 will also serve to communicate project results. Moreover, it will be an important part of defining exploitation strategies to ensure that the project results will be taken up after the end of the project and guarantee a positive impact in the long-term. The international AKIS conferences are part of Task 5.3 and are included here for completeness.

- **Networking events with other projects**

There are several AKIS-related projects and projects related to vertical agricultural fields, which are thematically relevant for modernAKIS and partly address the same stakeholders, e.g. ATTRACTISS, EU-FarmBook, PREMIERE, ClimateSmartAdvisors as well as the Horizon 2020 project i2connect.

An example of a networking event with other projects is the ATTRACTISS and modernAKIS consortium meeting. In order to foster synergies between ATTRACTISS and modernAKIS the coordinators of both projects decided to combine their consortium meetings, using the opportunity to discuss the common community platform as well as the network.

Networking events with institutions, organisations, networks and other relevant projects are part of the widening the network activities and will be outlined in more detail in *D 2.13: Report on networking activities for widening the network*.

6. References

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7. Annex

ANNEX I: Network registration guidelines

modernAKIS network¹: Step-by-step guide for the registration

As a modernAKIS project partner, we kindly ask you to support in identifying key AKIS actors and motivating them to join the network.

You have received from us an information package via email, including the following documents:

- Invitation letter for key AKIS actors to invite them to join the network
- Network Flyer to share with key AKIS actors to provide them information on the network and their benefits as a member

These documents are also uploaded on the modernAKIS Sharepoint: [Network registrations](#)

What is going to happen next?

1. Please **register yourself** to the modernAKIS network using the link or QR code:

<https://form.jotform.com/modernAKIS/network-registration>

- The initial language of the form is English. Additionally and with your support, we translated it into several EU languages. Please **verify the quality of your national language** and **give us feedback** in case **any corrections** are needed. To facilitate the evaluation of the registrations, we kindly ask you to register preferably in English.
2. **Read pages 3-5** of this document to better understand the selection criteria and possible categories of key AKIS actors
 3. Motivate and invite key AKIS actors to join the modernAKIS network via the online registration form
 - Use the **invitation letter** and the **network flyer**
 - The invitation letter is in an editable format so that you can translate it into your language
 - Make sure to address people, not organisations. Network membership is individual
 4. **First milestone deadline for registration:** ensure that 20 key AKIS actors from your country are registered by July 17th, 2023
 5. **Continue** to motive and invite key AKIS actors to join the modernAKIS network throughout the whole project's lifetime



For any questions, please refer to Ms. Mara Lindtner (m.lindtner@lk-oe.at).
For technical issues with the registration form, please refer to modernakis@lfi-oe.at.

¹ For further details on the network concept, please consult [D2.1 Framework, methods and instruments for successful AKIS Communities of Practice and an international AKIS CB network.](#)

Categories of key AKIS actors

AKIS coordination bodies, at different levels of AKIS strategies that are designed and implemented in MSs. For example, in regionalized MSs the regional level must be included as well as the national level. The plurality of individuals within the AKIS coordination bodies should be also taken into account. For example, other individuals composing the AKIS coordination body (unit) should be engaged in this project.

Farmers/Foresters and their representatives. There are farmers that are actual protagonists of their AKIS and should be involved in this project. As well their representatives (farmer-based organizations) should be engaged because they will act as multiplier of this project, through involving associated farmers that it is difficult to intercept.

SMEs and rural entrepreneurs

New entrants in agricultural activities

Young farmers and Women

Advisors, innovation support services and other providers of specialized services. Networks and professional bodies of advisors should be also engaged in order to act as multiplier and facilitate this project enlarging the scope. For example, in Italy the representatives of the professional orders of agronomists, vets, foresters and agro-technicians should be include

Researchers and academics.

Business organizations and suppliers.

Financial bodies. They are normally neglected (instead they were mentioned in literature) but they are crucial in enabling innovations across the AKIS and, particularly, in supporting investments under the AKIS strategies of the CAP SPs.

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

Consumers: it is important to intercept consumers that still are not well represented nor engaged in AKIS strategies

CAP Networks and other networks. They play a role of facilitating interconnections and disseminating innovations.

Students and schools: we are co-constructing the AKISs where they will be actors (as farmers, advisors,).

Selection criteria for key AKIS actors

Guiding principles



Inclusive approach: key actors are expected to help the smooth identification of all (the types of) the actual/future key AKIS actors of change across EU MSs. Criteria are not meant to be selective/discriminatory with regard to the type of actor. On the contrary, inclusive criteria are aimed at identifying actors based on what they actually do within a certain AKIS in a MS. Besides, some relevant typologies of hard-to-reach actors need to be captured by modernAKIS in view to help them become actors of change (e.g. consumers, students).

Continuity in actors' identification: AKISs reflect the dynamics of relations among actors and these may change over time as AKIS may do as well (also due to the AKIS strategies that will support their strengthening). Additionally, the positions of the different actors within an AKIS may change over time. It is then crucial to monitor the engagement of key actors of change on a continuous basis, in order to ensure the on-going recruitment and engagement of relevant actors and inclusiveness.

Win-win approach: while contacting the key actors of change, some important messages about mutual benefits of their active participation (multi-actor approach) in our project must be clarified (see results of the KOM on the topic "Motivation of the actors of change")

Plurality of levels: actors of change at different levels of the respective AKIS must be engaged and, particularly, grassroots actors. It is fundamental not to engage only "institutional" bodies and representatives of the different typologies of actors activated within the AKIS.

Individuals: key actors of change of this project are individuals that reflect some of the personal criteria listed below. Networking and capacity building activities need to be conducted with individuals. However, it must be acknowledged that associative bodies/organizations (es. University, farmers unions) are not neglected under this project as they can act as multiplier of the project's activities and results through helping to enlarge the scope of modernAKIS beyond its direct participants. This means that representatives of these associative bodies must fulfil the selected personal criteria.

Flexibility: the list of identified criteria is to be considered as flexible to allow plasticity in identifying actual actors of change during the project implementation and across changes in AKISs dynamics.

Motivation-related abilities of key AKIS actors of change



Self-motivation to act as agent of change, through actively participating within the project and contributing to enhance the respective AKIS	Energizing , the ability to show vitality, force and determination that will help the network collaborating
Enthusiasm , being interested and willing to participate to the project activities	Motivating as able to stimulate the other actors by influencing their thoughts and behaviors
Personal abilities of key AKIS actors of change 	
Brave and or “Crazy farmer”/front farmer, having the courage to face the risks and challenges related to becoming/being an actor of change within the AKIS.	Open minded : able to be receptive to new ideas and knowledge by being creative and opening own mind in scope, ways of collaboration (co-working) and ways of communication.
Well-interconnected between AKIS , meaning that the key actor has a good degree of interconnections within the AKIS, so that it can bring impact through echoing the activities and results of modernAKIS.	Collaborative as able to co-work with other actor in a peer-to-peer way
Cross-generational and Intergenerational relationships: ability to get engaged in peer-to-peer relationships with individuals that belong to different generations for mutual learning and growth.	Critical thinker as able to be active listener, skeptical and curious, to value fair-mindedness, to respect evidence and reasoning, to be humble when looking at different points of view and be open/flexible but root about own positions.
Leadership : this ability includes some of the other ones, but it specifically concerns determination, charisma and team building skills.	Transdisciplinary approach to work within a multi-actor contest; being able to cross border own discipline as able with actors that have different backgrounds/expertise/languages
Trustiness : ability to be loyal and reliable.	Professional /Good level of knowledge on methods and tools for multi-actor facilitation
Impartiality : being able to maintain integrity in decision making and in supporting the others' decisions, based on objective criteria and avoiding bias or preferences that, particularly, relate to own positions within the AKIS.	Well-structured organizations/bodies to bring to impact. Associative organizations or bodies that can act as multiplier of modernAKIS activities and results within the respective AKIS

ANNEX II: Invitation letter for network registration

Austrian Rural Educational Institute
modernAKIS Project
Schauflegasse 6, A-1015 Vienna
T +43-699-14035497
E modernakis@lfi-oe.at
W www.modernakis.eu

Vienna, June 20th, 2023

Invitation to join the modernAKIS network

Dear Sir or Madam,

I have the great pleasure to invite you to be part of the modernAKIS network, interconnecting key AKIS actors. modernAKIS stands for Modernisation of Agriculture through more efficient and effective Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS). It is a multi-actor Horizon Europe project with a duration of seven years, from September 2022 to August 2029. As a coordination and support measure for key AKIS actors, its main aim is to connect them with each other and improve their capacity to leverage individual, organizational and systemic resources needed to accelerate the transformation towards more coherent, effective and efficient AKIS systems and the transition to a more sustainable management and use of natural resources in farming and forestry.

The modernAKIS network will provide a space for peer-to-peer and best practice exchange on amongst others:

- the (future) organisational set-up and improvement of the AKIS,
- current developments with relevance for AKIS
- the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the CAP Strategic Plans / AKIS section

Given your expertise and experience as a key AKIS actor, our partnership is honoured to invite you to contribute actively to the modernAKIS network. This will involve the co-creation and co-design of the modernAKIS learning agenda and networking events where you can meet other AKIS actors and exchange on AKIS in other EU Member States as well as specific topics relevant to you and your AKIS. Moreover, the modernAKIS networks offers you to participate in capacity building events to increase your capacity to act as a key actor in your AKIS and being part of a community platform to be launched in March 2024 which facilitates widening your network, exchanging with other AKIS actors and be informed about current developments and events with relevance for AKIS.

Throughout the duration of the project, we will keep you informed about all our activities and events. At this stage, we invite you to join the modernAKIS network via our online registration form (scan the QR-Code below).

Scan to register

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need clarifications about the project and the modernAKIS network.

We are looking forward to connecting with you!

On behalf of the modernAKIS partnership,

Elena-Teodora Miron

Project Coordinator



ANNEX III: Network flyer



ABOUT THE NETWORK

modernAKIS is a multi-actor Horizon Europe project, that started in September 2022. Its main goal is to support key AKIS actors from all 27 EU Member States in their pursuit of implementing the AKIS part of their CAP Strategic Plans 2023-2027. To this end, it aims to strengthen the AKIS community by, among others, creating a network of key AKIS actors.

SIGN UP NOW!

Register yourself via the online registration form.



YOUR BENEFITS



Develop your knowledge on AKIS



Share experiences, and learn from other agricultural and rural actors across Europe



Receive invitations to events, capacity development and training opportunities



Contribute your expertise via surveys on AKIS related topics



Be part of the community platform



Voluntary participation in activities; free to unsubscribe anytime

For further information,
on our **Website** and
Social Media scan here!



GET IN TOUCH

modernAKIS@lfi-oe.at
0043 676 83441 8610



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ANNEX IV: Agenda 1st AKIS CBs GA

AKIS Coordination Bodies 1st General Assembly

ONLINE, 21 & 22 March 2023 from 10AM – 1PM CET



HEurope modernAKIS


modern
AKIS
Together for
Systems' Innovation



EVENT DATA



Date: 21 & 22 March 2023

Time: 10 AM - 1 PM CET

Where: ONLINE

Link: **Join meeting**

Technical support: modernAKIS Team

Phone: +43 676 83441 8619

E-Mail: modernakis@lfi-oe.at

WELCOME!

ESTEEMED GUESTS AND DEAR COLLEAGUES,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the **First AKIS Coordination Bodies General Assembly**, a European-forum for AKIS policy and decision-makers!

The event offers a space for discussion and exchange with the overall objective of supporting the newly designated AKIS Coordination Bodies in addressing well-functioning **Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS)** and thus contributing to the implementation of CAP policies.

The General Assembly is set up and supported by **the Horizon Europe project modernAKIS**, which strives to offer practical knowledge and on-the-job value for AKIS CBs and other key AKIS actors.

We invite you during this first event to:

- exchange and discuss current activities as an AKIS CB and as a key AKIS actor at national and European level
- explore the expectations from the EC / CAP towards AKIS CBs
- understand the relevance of the modernAKIS project and the support it aims to provide to you
- allow us to learn more about your needs regarding support in fulfilling your role as an AKIS CB and the further development of your country's AKIS
- discuss together with us working modalities and plan the next steps.

modernAKIS will host 14 General Assemblies, from 2023-2029. They are scheduled twice per year, once online and once as on-site meetings. The agenda of the future General Assemblies will be driven by the needs of the AKIS CBs. Initial topics we propose are the organizational set-up and improvement of AKIS, current developments with relevance for AKIS and the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the CAP Strategic Plans. Further topics will be included as needed by the AKIS CBs.

We hope these events will become a valuable source of knowledge, experience exchange and motivation for your activities and we invite you to co-create with us an exciting journey towards well-functioning AKIS systems!

Your modernAKIS coordination team

SPEAKERS



Elena-Teodora Miron

Project Coordinator,
Austrian Chamber of Agriculture



Florian Herzog

Head of Unit on Knowledge Transfer and
Innovation, Advisory Management,
Austrian Chamber of Agriculture



Inge Van Oost

Policy officer at the European
Commission, Directorate General
Agriculture and Rural Development



Mara Lindtner

Expert on Innvations in Agriculture and
Forestry, Austrian Chamber of
Agriculture



Marleen Gysen

Consultant Energy and Climate,
INNOVATIESTEUNPUNT



Ewa Grodzka

Head of Unit Knowledge Transfer and
Advisory Unit, AKIS CB, Ministry of
Agriculture and Rural Development



Katharina Schobersberger

Project manager modernAKIS
Austrian Rural Education Institute



Rui Almeida

Operational Director at CONSULAI

1st AKIS CBs General Assembly

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AGENDA

Day 1, Tuesday, 21.03.23

Moderator: Mara Lindtner

10:00 – 11:25: Block 1: Introduction



10:00 – 10:10	Welcome & Introduction	Mara Lindtner
10:10 – 10:20	Getting to know each other	Rui Almeida
10:20 – 10:35	AKIS CBs in the new CAP	Inge Van Oost
10:35 – 10:45	Sharing modernAKIS	Rui Almeida
10:45 – 11:00	modernAKIS: Vision and implementation	Elena-Teodora Miron
11:00 – 11:20	Q&A session	All
11:20 – 11:30	Break	

11:30 – 13:00: Block 2: Role of the AKIS CBs

11:30 – 11:35	Online energizer	Rui Almeida
11:35 – 11:50	A day in an AKIS CBs life	Ewa Grodzka
11:50 – 11:55	Introduction to group work session	All
11:55 – 12:45	Group work on current activities of AKIS CBs	All
12:45 – 12:55	Group flashlights	Group moderators
12:55 – 13:00	Wrap up	All

1st AKIS CBs General Assembly

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AGENDA

Day 2, Wednesday, 22.03.23

Moderator: Mara Lindtner

10:00 - 11:25: Block 3: Communities of Practice

		
10:00 – 10:05	Welcome	Mara Lindtner
10:05 – 10:25	Introduction to the Communities of Practice	Marleen Gysen
10:25 – 10:30	Introduction to group work session	All
10:30 – 11:20	Group work on Communities of Practice	All
11:20 – 11:30	Group Flashlights	Group moderators
11:30 – 11:40	Break	

11:40 – 13:00: Block 4: Working modalities, next steps

11:40 – 11:45	Energizer	Rui Almeida
11:45 – 12:05	Working modalities	Mara Lindtner Katharina Schobersberger
12:05 – 12:25	Q&A session	All
12:25 – 12:35	Coordination with other projects and activities, next steps	Florian Herzog
12:35 – 12:50	Feedback & expectations for future meetings	All
12:50 – 13:00	Wrap up and closing	All

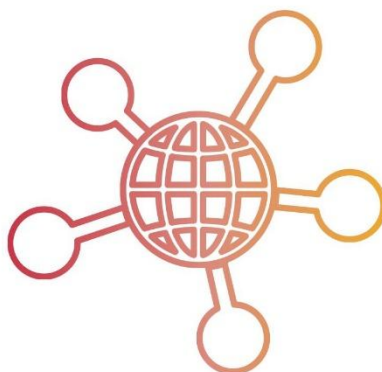
1st AKIS CBs General Assembly

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Working session: The role of AKIS Coordination Bodies

QUESTIONS WE WILL DISCUSS

- Who is in this group?
- Did you recognize yourself in the presented AKIS CB day?
- What kind of activities do you expect to implement for the AKIS coordination in your country? Which responsibilities do you have regarding the AKIS coordination in your country?
- Where do you need support from the modernAKIS project to coordinate the AKIS in your country?
- What are priority topics for you on which you would like to exchange on with the other AKIS CBs?



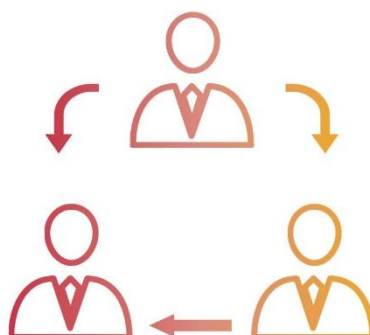
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Working session: Communities of Practice

QUESTIONS WE WILL DISCUSS

- Do you have any Communities of Practice or something that resembles it in your country?
- Could you elaborate on your experience with the existing CoPs in your country?
- Which challenges do you predict to confront / have you faced in the past when wanting to set up a CoP?
- How could the existing CoPs be combined with the modernAKIS CoPs?
- How could the modernAKIS CoPs be of best use for you?
- What would you like to get out of the CoP as an AKIS CB?



1st AKIS CBs General Assembly

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the modernAKIS project



The modernAKIS project

The Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS) is a central part of the cross-cutting CAP key objective on knowledge and innovation. AKIS Coordination Bodies (CBs) are at the heart of the AKIS, interconnecting all key AKIS actors. Given the novelty and complexity of designing, implementing and monitoring the AKIS, the European Commission (EC) launched a project call to support the AKIS CBs and AKIS communities in the Member States in improving the AKIS. This is the modernAKIS project - Modernisation of Agriculture through more efficient and effective agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems.

KEY DATA ON THE PROJECT:

Objective: modernAKIS aims to improve key AKIS actors' capacities to leverage individual, organizational and systemic resources needed to accelerate the transformation towards more coherent, effective and efficient AKIS systems and the transition to a more sustainable management and use of natural resources in farming and forestry.

Duration: 7 years,
01.09.2022 – 31.08.2029

Budget: approx. €10 Mio.

Partner organisations:
37 partners from all 27 EU
Member States (see map)



1st AKIS CBs General Assembly

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WORK PACKAGE 1

IMPACTFUL FRAMEWORK FOR TRANSFORMATIVE AND EVOLUTIONARY AKIS JOURNEYS

Develops

- a methodology and practical tools for co-creating with multi-actor groups pathways to evolve/transform the AKIS on a regional/national level
- benchmarking indicators and a benchmarking tool for a well-functioning AKIS

Collects

- good examples for policy interventions for a well-functioning AKIS in the CAP
- best practices on how to integrate advisors, innovation support services and researchers into the AKIS
- other practical knowledge to improve regional/national AKIS

Results provide

- high-quality knowledge and tools that can be used by policy and decision makers, and key AKIS actors to evolve/transform the AKIS from design, to implementation up to evaluation and reflexive monitoring
- innovative methodology that provides guidance on how to implement the evolution/transformation process for an AKIS



**Simona
Cristiano**

CREA,
Work package leader



**Patrizia
Proietti**

CREA,
Work package leader

1st AKIS CBs General Assembly

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WORK PACKAGE 2

FRAMING AND SETTING UP A NETWORK OF AKIS COORDINATION BODIES AND OTHER ACTORS

Facilitates

- the AKIS Coordination Body General Assembly, a European-forum of AKIS policy and decision makers
- regional/national multi-actor Communities of Practice
- pan-European expert networking in cross-country Communities of Practice

Builds

- a pan-European network for key AKIS actors
- a digital platform for virtual exchange and access to practice-oriented knowledge

Results provide

- structures for knowledge exchange and capacity development at regional/national and European level



**Mara
Lindtner**

LKO,
Work package leader



**Marleen
Gysen**

ISP,
Work package leader

1st AKIS CBs General Assembly

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WORK PACKAGE 3

ENABLING AKIS THINKING AND SYSTEMS CONCEPTUALIZATION

Develops and provides

- online basic and advanced learning modules for AKIS thinking and systems conceptualization; topics will be defined by the needs of the regional/national Communities of Practice
- capacity building events for understanding and using AKIS concepts in practice
- capacity building events for organizing, coordinating and governing AKIS actors and aligning/connecting infrastructures
- capacity building events for monitoring, assessing and benchmarking AKIS

Facilitates

- regional/national multi-actor workshops to conceptualize valuable, relevant and credible AKIS models
- regional/national multi-actor workshops to enable innovative intervention, coordination and governance solutions for the AKIS evolution/transformation

Results support

- better-informed and engaged actors for the AKIS design and implementation process
- competences of key AKIS actors to apply appropriate frameworks, methods and tools to improve knowledge flows, network governance as well as assessment and evaluation for AKIS



**Mark
Gibson**

TEAGASC,
Work package leader



**Kevin
Heanue**

TEAGASC,
Work package leader

1st AKIS CBs General Assembly

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WORK PACKAGE 4

AKIS STRATEGY PLANNING, MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION

Facilitates

- interaction between different key AKIS actors – policy makers, AKIS Coordination Bodies, advisors, educators, researchers, farmers, CAP networks, NGOs etc. – at European level (cross-country)
- Pan-European expert exchange in cross-country Communities of Practice addressing:
 - Policy, governance and CAP interventions
 - Advisors and innovation support services
 - Connecting research and practice
 - Knowledge access and knowledge flows
 - Education
- Digitalization is included in all cross-country Communities of Practice as a horizontal topic.

Results provide

- Experience exchange between Member States and key AKIS actor groups
- Insights, good practices and models for designing and deploying impactful AKIS Strategic Plans
- Insights into selecting, designing and adapting AKIS interventions tailored to regional/ national needs and objectives



Nuria Rodriguez

FUEGA,
Work package leader

1st AKIS CBs General Assembly

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WORK PACKAGES 5 & 6

COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND EXPLOITATION

Develops

- Communication materials and Practice Abstracts for online, print and social media

Facilitates

- Yearly AKIS online workshops in Member States
- 2 international AKIS conference

Results provide

- Information about AKIS concepts and project results



Rui Almeida

CONSULAI,
Work package leader

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Coordinates

- collaboration with sister-projects AtractISS and EU-FarmBook, as well as EIP Agri Service Facility to provide streamlined interaction with AKIS stakeholders
- with high-level international experts in the Strategic Advisory Board expert advice regarding project and AKIS development



Katharina Schobersberger

LFI,
Work package leader

1st AKIS CBs General Assembly

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ANNEX V: Minutes 1st AKIS CBs GA

AKIS Coordination Bodies online General Assembly

MEETING DOCUMENTATION




modern
AKIS
Together for
Systems' Innovation



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INTRODUCTION

From March 21st to 22nd 2023, the first modernAKIS online General Assembly of AKIS Coordination Bodies (CBs) took place. We are pleased to have welcomed numerous AKIS Coordination Bodies, project partners and other key AKIS actors. The aim of the event was to support the newly designated AKIS Coordination Bodies in addressing well-functioning Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) and thus contributing to the implementation of Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

Within this first AKIS CBs General Assembly, we:

- a. Exchanged and discussed current activities as an AKIS CB and as a key AKIS actor at national and European level;
- b. Explored the expectations from the European Commission (EC) / CAP towards AKIS Cbs;
- c. Presented the relevance of the modernAKIS project and the support it aims to provide to the AKIS CBs and AKIS actors;
- d. Learned about AKIS CBs' needs regarding support in fulfilling their role as an AKIS CB and the further development of their country's AKIS;
- e. Discussed together working modalities and planned the next steps.

We thank all the participants for contributing to a successful first General Assembly of AKIS Coordination Bodies.



Day 1

March 21st 2023

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Mara Lindtner (LKO), the moderator, welcomes all participants and panel speakers, introduces the agenda and wishes a fruitful two-days meeting.

INPUT PRESENTATIONS

Presentation title	Presenter	SharePoint link
Introduction and Welcome	Mara Lindtner (WP2 Co-lead)	Link
The role of AKIS CBs in the new CAP	Inge Van Oost (European Commission)	Link
Sharing modernAKIS	Rui Almeida (Communication manager of modernAKIS)	
modernAKIS Vision and implementation	Elena-Teodora Miron (Project coordinator)	Link
A day in an AKIS CBs life	Ewa Grodzka (AKIS CB in Poland)	Link
A day in an AKIS CBs life	Els Lapage (AKIS CB in Flandern, Netherlands)	Link

Q&A SESSION

Sylvain Sturel: informs about the i2connect database and advisor network.

Inge van Oost: There is great interest in Horizon Europe project in cross-border visits, the EU data base in i2connect brings together advisors across Europe very well. Stakeholders within the agricultural sector can also be linked through (the participation in) multi-actor projects.

Q Petra Hanulikova: *Shall every MS have a national reservoir and where are the responsibilities?*

A Inge van Oost: The regulation does oblige to have a good AKIS strategic approach, connect agricultural stakeholders and share knowledge. Besides a knowledge reservoir, there can also be other tools and ways to implement this. The EU-FarmBook policy day connects several stakeholders and can provide information and support in making results interoperable. Therefore, the EU-FarmBook is not compulsory but strongly recommended. As an example, the Netherlands have a well-developed knowledge development platform. It just needs to become more practical.

Q Florian Herzog: *Often it is claimed that the A in AKIS stands for "anything" that happens in rural areas, not only related to agriculture. How far should or can the AKIS go, also in view of the modernAKIS network?*

A Inge van Oost: In the presentation on slide 2, it is explained that the "A" refers to everything that naturally relates to agriculture. This can be the supply-chain, food- or non-food chains, biodiversity, climate adaptation and mitigation measures, connecting short supply chains with citizens, but there is always the need to be connected with the farmer. As in multi-actor projects, there will be the farmer, social innovation in rural areas is possible, but farmers and foresters should be in connection with the role. AKIS does not relate to the whole economy in rural areas, there are other instruments for that.

Q Markus Stadler: *Are you planning to share the list of contact data of AKIS CBs and modernAKIS project partners?*

A Elena-Teodora Miron: With the distribution of the meeting documentation via E-Mail, you will have the opportunity to opt-out of being in the list, should you not be comfortable with sharing your contact data. As the aim of the project is to build a community, whoever is okay with sharing the contact data will be in this list as a first step towards this network.

Q Sylvain Sturel: *On the presentation it says "importance of showing the public list of advisors and their field of expertise on the ministry's website". Could the European-wide database be linked to these national websites? It is a vague idea, but it is already the case in the Netherlands. Could there be an exchange between the national websites and this database?*

A Inge van Oost: EU-FarmBook can support to promote the same standard and guarantee interoperability. The national knowledge reservoirs and the ministry's website will be interoperable with the i2connect database, but Member States now need time to implement this.

GROUP WORK ON CURRENT ACTIVITIES OF AKIS CBS

Most participants could relate to the presented roles of AKIS CBs, presented by Ewa Grodzka and Els Lapage.

**What kind of activities do you expect to implement for the AKIS coordination in your country?
Which responsibilities do you have regarding the AKIS coordination in your country?**

- | | |
|--|--|
| ■ Conceptualisation and set-up of the AKIS coordination and definition of responsibilities | ■ Running a knowledge reservoir |
| ■ Design AKIS strategic approach: governance, action plan, communication strategy, etc. | ■ Provision of a platform together with the RNR |
| ■ Evaluation and implementation of AKIS strategy in the CAP Strategic Plans | ■ Organisation of trainings for advisors |
| ■ Implementation of calls for different AKIS interventions based on the integration between different subjects and actions | ■ Establishment of a regional centre for advisory services |
| ■ Establishment of the monitoring committee | ■ Facilitation of working groups |
| ■ Linking and managing different AKIS interventions | ■ Organisation and financing networking or informational events with different stakeholders (farmer associations, advisory services, public and private organisations, research institutes, ...) |
| ■ Discussions with AKIS actors on how to integrate them in the AKIS | ■ Set-up and observation of thematic networks |
| ■ Define selection criteria for OG calls | ■ Networking with regional AKIS CBs and connection of AKIS actors on regional level |
| ■ Cooperation and experience sharing with existing AKIS CBs on national and cross-country level | ■ Provision of advice and feedback to the ministry |
| ■ Conceptualising AKIS implementation plans and legislation | ■ Organisation of cross-border exchange |
| ■ Provision of resources for the CAP network | ■ Accreditation of advisory bodies |
| ■ Provision of a register of advisors | ■ Promotion of multi-actor approach (MAA) in research projects |
| | ■ Coordination of CAP measures |

Where do you need support from the modernAKIS project to coordinate the AKIS in your country?

- | | |
|---|---|
| ■ Defining roles & functions of AKIS CBs, exchanging on challenges for AKIS CBs in the new CAP | ■ Cross-border exchange and collaboration |
| ■ Sharing of research results, approaches and good practices on topics of interest to agriculture and rural development | ■ Integration of farmers in AKIS and operational groups (OGs) |
| ■ Sharing good practice examples of other countries | ■ Framing the AKIS strategic approach |
| ■ Overcoming cultural barriers (e.g. research vs. practice) | ■ Benefit from synergies with related projects, avoid overlaps |
| ■ Provide support on how to break down barriers between organisations (e.g. different managing authorities) | ■ Keep clear focus to all actors as activities and projects overlap |
| ■ Monitoring and evaluation of AKIS | ■ Implementation of tools like EU-FarmBook |
| ■ AKIS measuring impact and improvement | ■ Provision of good practices (related to AKIS, CoPs, etc.) |
| ■ Networking | ■ Show testimonials from AKIS CBs activities, similar to the presentations of Els Lapage and Ewa Grodzka |
| ■ Integration of (private) advisory services, innovation support services (ISS) and research institutions, operational groups | ■ Addressing common agricultural topics across several European countries, e.g. plant production without neonicotinoids |
| ■ Involvement of ministries with competences on environment or rural development to the ministry of agriculture | ■ Information on the modernAKIS Communities of Practice (CoPs) |
| ■ Communication of AKIS to stakeholders triggering cooperation | ■ Creation of a sustainable network of demo farms |
| ■ Exchange platform for all AKIS actors | ■ Provision of a roadmap of modernAKIS activities |
| ■ Involvement | ■ Provision of an agenda with planned calls |
| | ■ Systems thinking of AKIS |



Sentences in *pink* were highlighted by several participants across the groups.

What are priority topics for you on which you would like to exchange on with the other AKIS CBs?

- | | |
|---|---|
| ■ Networking and knowledge exchange | ■ Framework for countries at different levels of AKIS coordination |
| ■ Integration of (private) advisory services, innovation support services (ISS) and research institutions, operational groups | ■ Cross-border exchange |
| ■ Involvement of AKIS actors in AKIS | ■ Cross-sectoral collaboration |
| ■ How to organize the back office | ■ Exchange of practices on the AKIS coordination with countries with similar AKIS structure or neighbouring countries |
| ■ Communication on AKIS | ■ Inspiration by examples of national platforms |
| ■ Support AKIS CBs in overcoming language barriers | ■ Good-practice examples for AKIS-related interventions |
| ■ Monitoring and evaluating AKIS activities | ■ National knowledge reservoirs |
| ■ Benchmarking tool | ■ Ensuring the quality of advisory services |
| ■ Methodology of CoPs in different countries | ■ Certification of advisors |
| ■ System thinking of AKIS | ■ Identify topics for interoperability between tools in different MSs |
| ■ Implementation of a well-functioning AKIS | |

[The Murals for the group discussions are available in Annex I](#)



Day 2

March 22nd 2023

GROUP WORK ON COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

Do you have any Communities of Practice or something that resembles it in your country?

A vast majority of participants has at least similar structures than a CoP in place. Two countries, Malta and Belgium do not have CoPs or something that resembles CoPs.

Could you elaborate on your experience with the existing CoPs in your country?

- | | |
|--|--|
| ■ Living labs could be a good starting point | ■ Providing recommendations for policy makers |
| ■ Use thematic examples in Member States | |
| ■ Some MSs plan to set up and run AKIS CoP in the frame of the CAP network | ■ High number of diverse working group of advisory services |
| ■ Similar structures but highly fragmented | ■ Understanding of CoP is different |
| ■ Having different CoPs (associations, NGOs, farmers) | ■ Definition of common objectives and targeted topics that are not too broad |
| ■ Multi-actor groups | ■ Inspiration from smaller existing projects and evaluation of their success criteria |
| ■ Meetings of existing CoPs take place informally (EIP, demonstration farms support) | ■ A leading and motivating person is needed, similar to the community manager in modernAKIS CoPs |

Which challenges do you predict to confront / have you faced in the past when wanting to set up a CoP?

- | | |
|---|---|
| ■ Having a common definition of CoPs, when is a CoP called a CoP? | ■ Identify nationally relevant and existing CoPs |
| ■ Understanding actual activities of CoPs | ■ Limited resources of key AKIS actors |
| ■ Understanding the essence of AKIS and translating the acronym into national languages | ■ Identification of suitable key participants and definition of their function in the CoP |
| | ■ Different levels of experience of actors |

- | | |
|--|---|
| ■ Facilitating competencies | ■ Creating complementarities and synergies between different forms of existing CoPs |
| ■ Involvement of representatives and how to actively engage actors | ■ Challenge to manage broad CoPs, smaller specialized groups will be needed |
| ■ Institutionalization of participation | ■ How to link EU and national project to the CoPs |
| ■ How to identify support needs of CoPs and their members | ■ Establishment of CoPs in parallel with the AKIS conceptualization |
| ■ Depending on topics, some members will be more interested and active than others | ■ Maintaining a holistic view of different actors |
| ■ Financing of activities for long-term engagement and solid CoPs establishment | |

How could the existing CoPs be combined with the modernAKIS CoPs?

- | | |
|---|---|
| ■ Complementary CoPs to existing structures | ■ Have a strong link with modernAKIS and CAP networks |
| ■ Maintenance and integration of existing CoPs and active interaction | ■ Specify definition of CoPs and tailor it to each country |
| ■ Involvement of the CAP network | ■ Ensure a diversity of stakeholders and include them in feedback loops |

How could the modernAKIS CoPs be of best use for you? What would you like to get out of the CoP as an AKIS CB

- | | |
|--|---|
| ■ Platform to overcome working in silos | ■ Focus on general and specialized knowledge flow as topic for ccCoPs |
| ■ Overcoming the regional focus of existing CoPs | ■ Improved transfer of knowledge between science and farmers and vice-versa |
| ■ Exchanging knowledge and experience sharing regardless structures | ■ Support cross-border collaboration to exchange good practice examples |
| ■ Benefitting from experience exchange and knowledge sharing on EU level | ■ Increased visibility of CoPs |

- CoPs as inspiration and resources from and for practices
- Incentivise transformation in AKIS
- Have an AKIS mapping
- Provide a pathway to address the phases and specific actions of CoPs
- Provide methodological tools towards the set-up and management of CoPs
- Connecting CAP interventions and CoP activities
- Need of topic-specific networks

[The Murals for the group discussions are available in Annex II](#)



PRESENTATIONS

Presentation title	Presenter	SharePoint link
Introduction to the Communities of Practice	Marleen Gysen (WP2 Co-lead)	Link
Working modalities	Katharina Schobersberger (Project manager)	Link
Coordination with other projects and activities, next steps	Florian Herzog (Task-Lead widening the network)	Link

Q&A SESSION

Q Sylvain Sturel: *Until when do persons as country representatives (AKIS CBs and key AKIS CBs) for the physical General Assembly have to be nominated?*

A Elena-Teodora Miron: This is due to mid-May to enable early booking travel and accommodation.

Q Sarah Camilleri: *Are project partners also attending face-to-face AKIS CBs General Assemblies along with AKIS CBs?*

A Mara Lindtner: Yes, there is the possibility for project partners to attend the face-to-face AKIS CBs General Assembly. There is a maximum of 6 attendees that can be distributed among AKIS CBs, project partners and key AKIS actors with the obligation to send at least one AKIS CB for each country. Also other key AKIS actors can be nominated.

NEXT STEPS UNTIL THE PHYSICAL AKIS CB GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 2023

Capacity needs assessment

May 2023:

Network members are invited to participate in the survey on capacity needs assessment, that will further complement the list of topical matters

June/July 2023:

10-20 key AKIS actors will be approached for interviews regarding the capacity needs assessment, further expanding on the survey results

Country-based Community of Practice (cbCoP)

March – April 2023:

- Conceptualisation of cbCoPs: project partners responsible for setting-up the cbCoPs in their respective countries discuss with the AKIS CB on the number and concept of the COP in their country.
- Nomination of the community manager for the cbCoP by end of April 2023, for nomination criteria, please refer to D2.1

May – October 2023:

- The coaching sessions for the cbCoP managers (mostly out of the project partner staff) are foreseen to take place from May – October 2023. WP2 Co-lead, Marleen Gysen (marleen.gysen@boerenbond.be), coordinates the coaching sessions and contacts project partners with the dates and further information.
- In cooperation with the AKIS CB, the community manager and project partner identify and invite members for the cbCoP. For selection criteria, please refer to D1.1, chapter 3.1.
- cbCoP community managers keep record of and validate the roles of each cbCoP member. For facilitation, modernAKIS will provide the according infrastructure.
- Nomination of representatives and additional experts for cross-country CoPs (ccCoP)

Project management:

March 2023:

- The final meeting documentation will be uploaded to the SharePoint, complemented by the participants list of the first online AKIS CBs General Assembly. If you do not want your contact details to be shown, please inform modernakis@lfi-oe.at by Wednesday, April 17th 2023.
- The project coordinating team will send you the meeting documentation and invites you to join the project SharePoint section for AKIS CBs, complemented by a step-by-step instruction.

April – May 2023:

The project coordinating team will propose dates for the physical AKIS CBs GA in Spain via E-Mail, asking you to indicate your availabilities. Registrations will be opened in May 2023 and closed by the end of this month.

FEEDBACK & EXPECTATIONS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS



Figure 1: Feedback results: What was most useful for you during the past two days?



Figure 2: Feedback results: What do you most look forward to regarding the physical GA in autumn?



Figure 3: Feedback results: What can we do better next time?

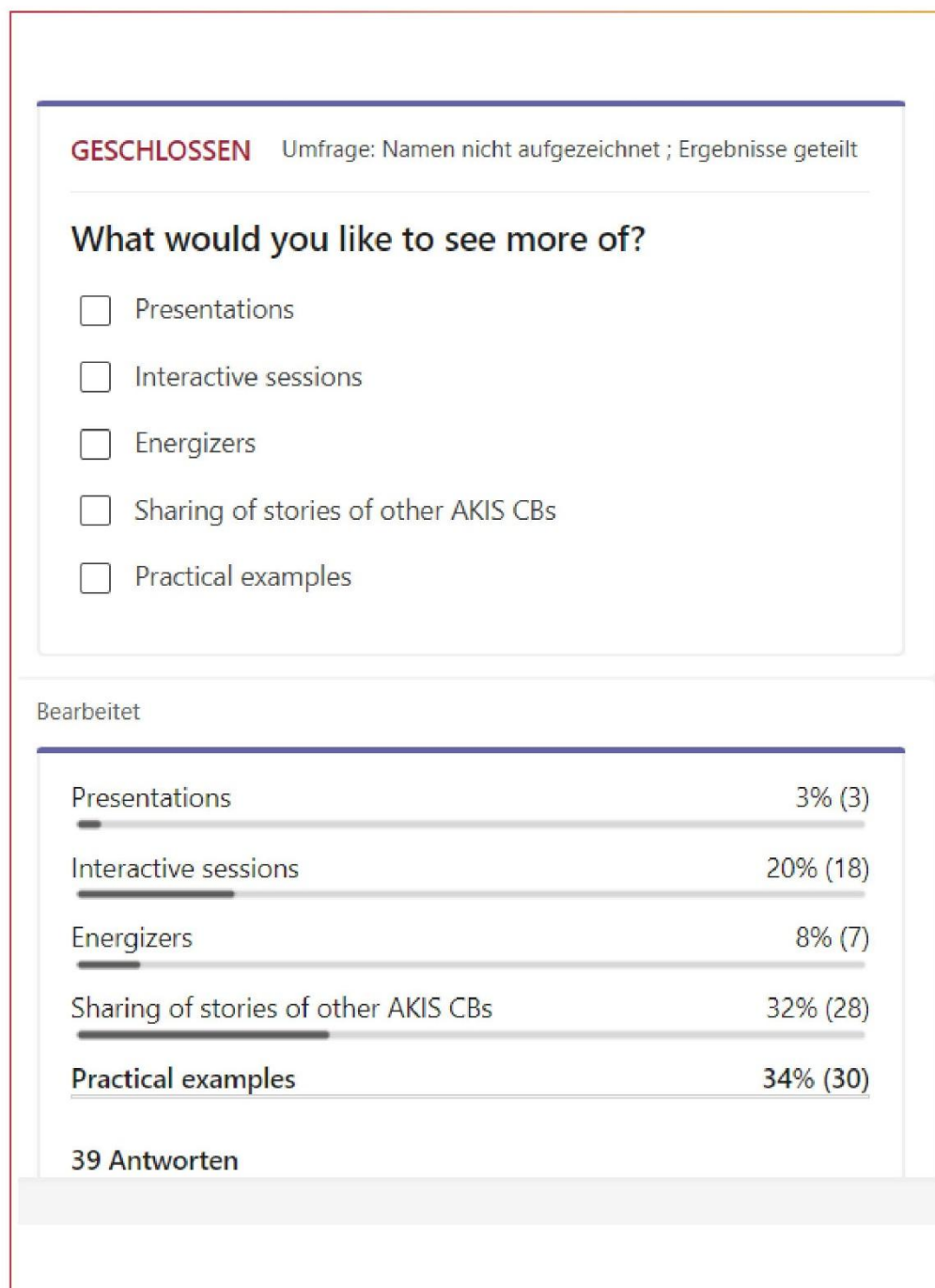


Figure 4: Feedback results: What would you like to see more of?



Figure 5: Current activities of AKIS CBs: Italy, Finland.



Figure 6: Current activities of AKIS CBs: Hungary, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Germany.



Figure 7: Cyprus, Spain, Poland, Denmark.

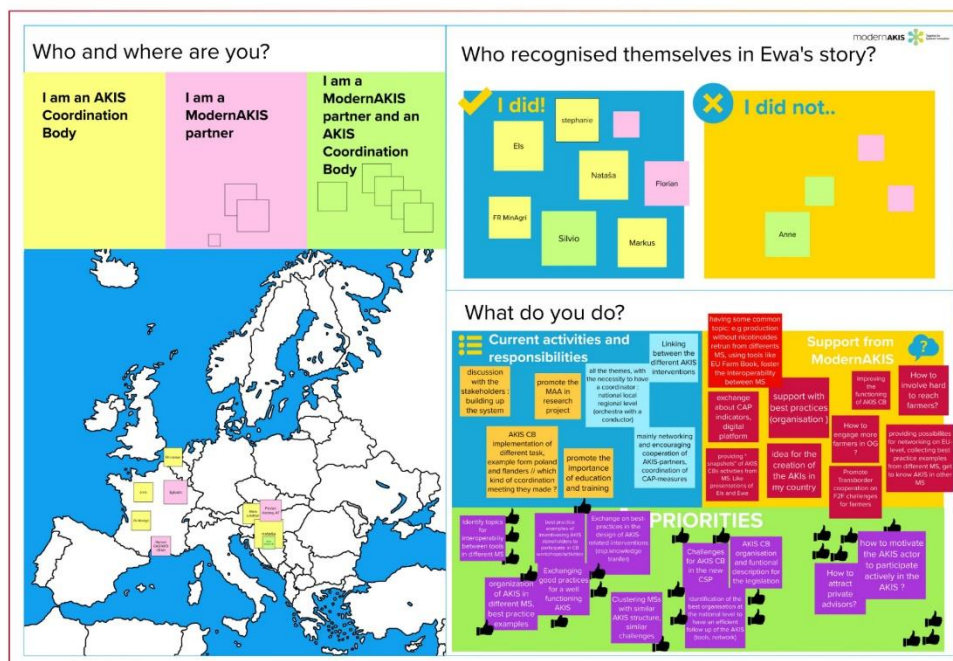


Figure 8: Current activities of AKIS CBs: Croatia, Austria, France, Belgium.

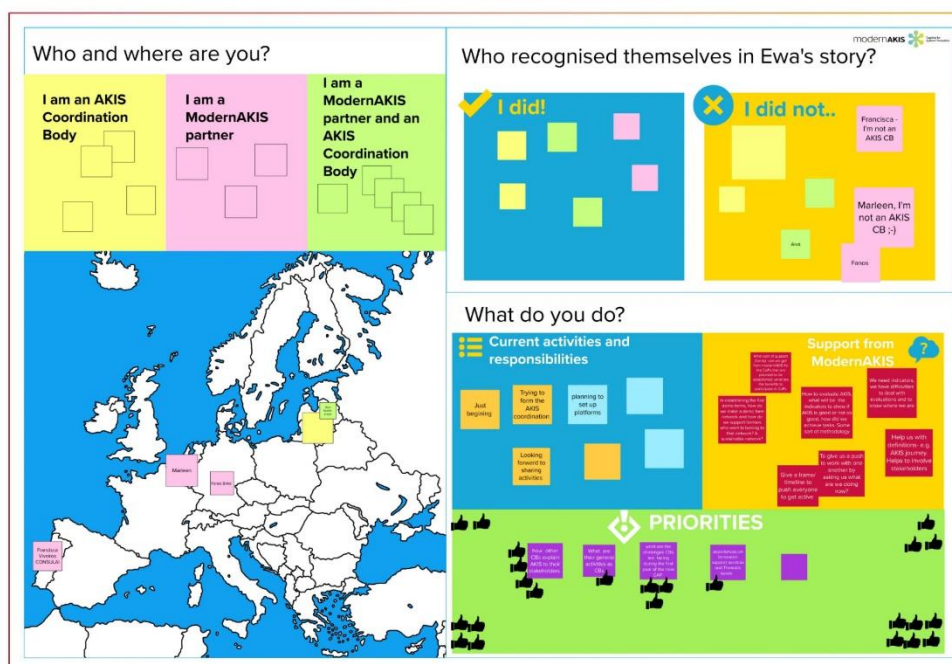


Figure 9: Current activities of AKIS CBs: Portugal, Germany, Belgium, Latvia.

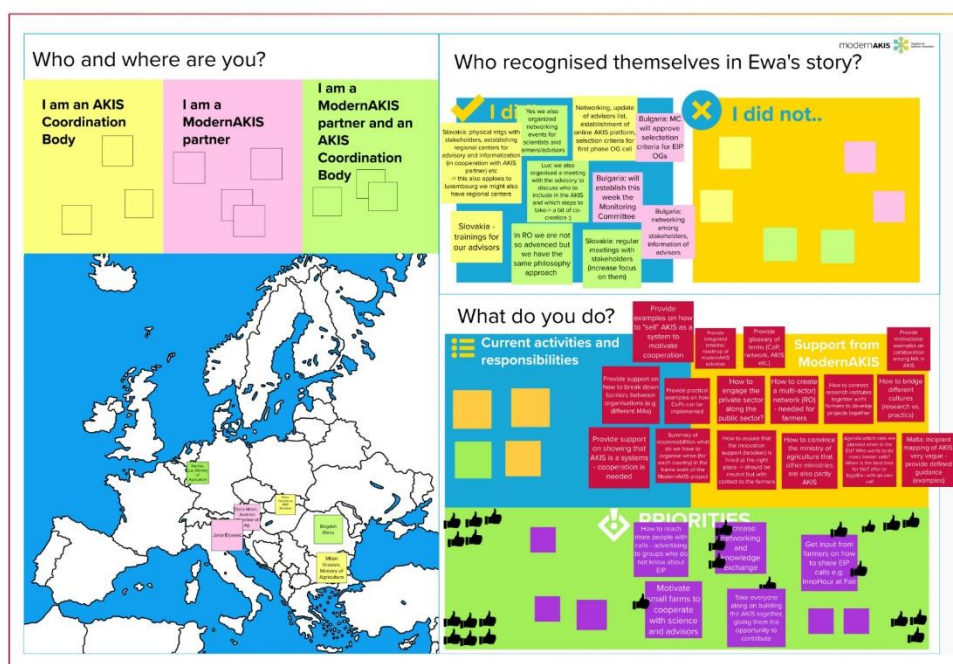


Figure 10: Current activities of AKIS CBs: Bulgaria, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Luxembourg.



Figure 11: Current activities of AKIS CBs: Austria, Ireland, Norway.

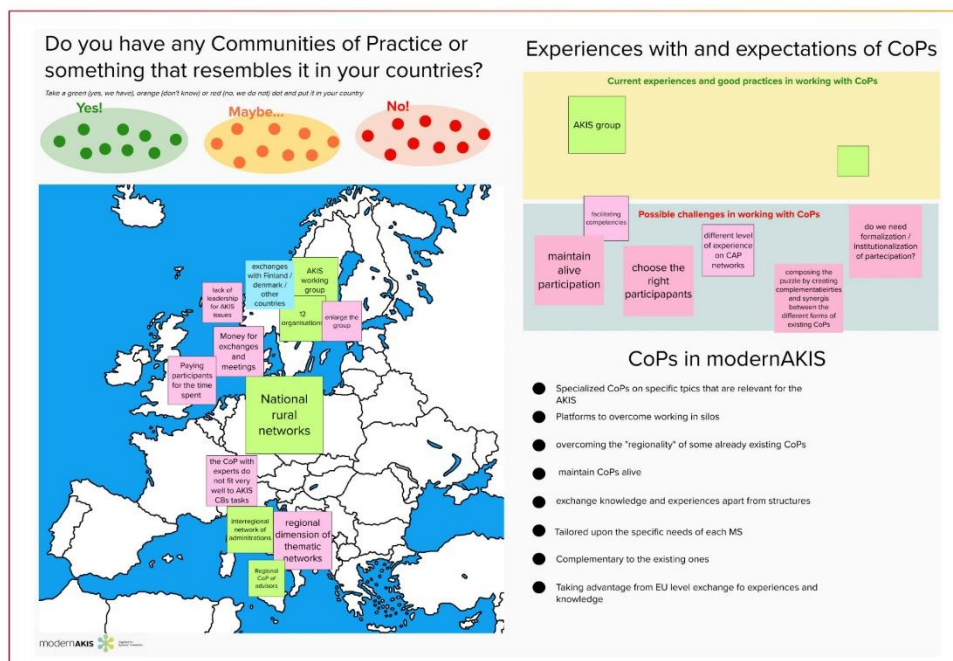


Figure 12: Experiences with Communities of Practice in Italy, Sweden, Bulgaria.

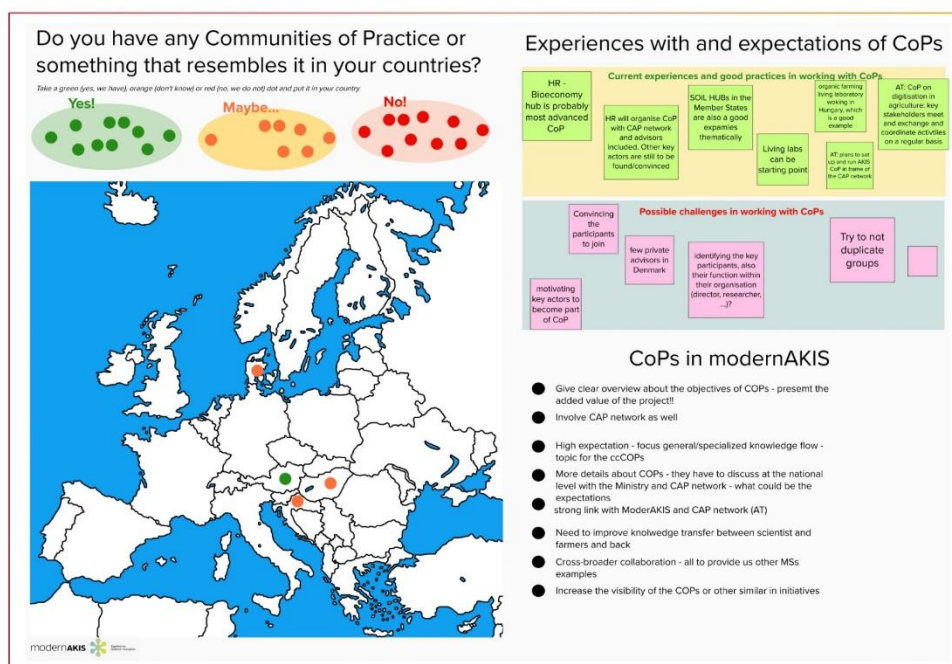


Figure 13: Experiences with Communities of Practice: Croatia, Hungary, Austria, Denmark.

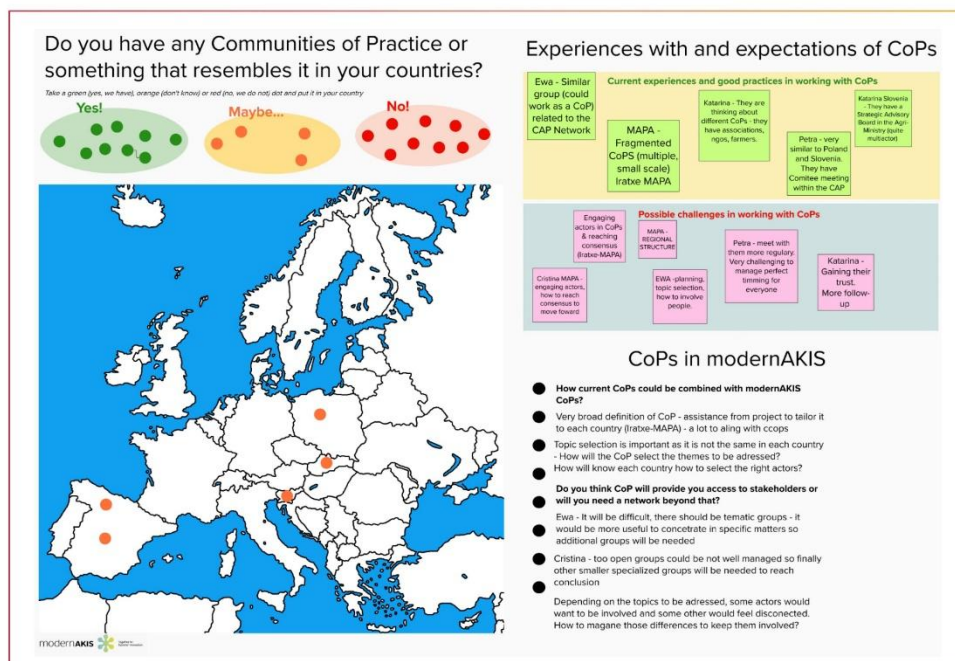
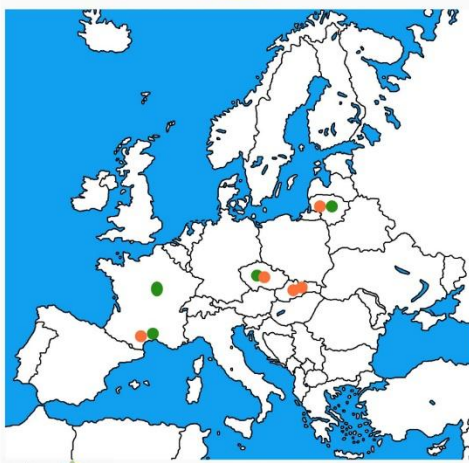


Figure 14: Experiences with Communities of Practice: Spain, Slovenia, Slovakia, Poland.



Information and Communication

- 11 groups involved in a reference way: the groups are different in capacity and in the way they work, so we cannot address all groups in the same way
- 12: we need to adapt solutions for specific social actors

Financial and Resource

- Enable Coops to compete on global markets
- groups ERP (Personal, social, food, context, education)

Organizational and Operational

Current experiences and good practices in working with CoPs

- 13: informal groups are organized in the ERP or in the demonstration farms. There are a lot of farmers and they are in line with the objectives of the farmers' advisors. They sell their own milk as self-organized CoPs
- 14: there is a lot of information exchange among the groups
- 15: we have a lot of useful facilities to share (products, services, knowledge) which new CoPs can benefit from

Social and Cultural

- 16: informal CoPs e.g. educational school can share practices with formal CoPs and learn all around it. The coordination of the mind is a challenge. There is a very diverse

Other Challenges

- 17: definition for the CoPs focus on 7 we know that they exist but we don't know them
- 18: to connect groups forming by the United in EU funding but also to have a broader border CoPs
- 19: SK: correct topic or key actors? How to motivate them to join to this CoP?
- 20: 7 they are already involved in a lot of NGOs. If I have effects, I will have to integrate a question from MAMIS
- 21: the structure of different communities (age, able topics, ...)

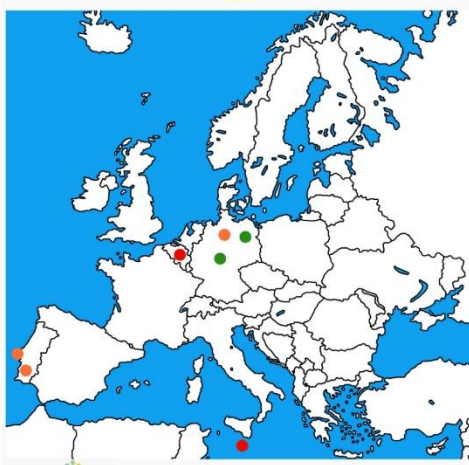
- T: COP is inspiration and resources from / for practices: How they could be supported by the policy? How we could support them, communicating in the details the intention to know how it could work and what they need.
- We also have technological platforms (on organic farming and other topics) from the national subsidies.
- but still wait what MAKIS needs from them; interaction
- FR: benefits from sharing good and best MS and regions. Enable cross border cooperation benchmark for the issue we face to improve the efficiency of the MS and cross border cooperation public policy to encourage interactive innovation, support the innovation, encourage the researcher to work with farmer (they are rewarded from publication)
- At ok with FR and T, as representatives of their MS and expert.
- cooperation is always a good tool for better results in all activities, in case the need is organic.

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Figure 15: Experiences with Communities of Practice: France, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Lithuania.



The diagram is divided into two main horizontal sections. The top section, titled 'Current experiences and good practices in working with CoPs', has a light yellow background. It contains three green rectangular boxes. The first box on the left says 'Different groups exist, maybe not termed CoP'. The middle box says 'Experiences of groups: associations including different types of AKIS in Germany'. To the right of this box is a small, empty green square. The bottom section, titled 'Possible challenges in working with CoPs', has a light pink background. It contains three pink rectangular boxes. The first box on the left says 'Finding common goals and topics that are broad enough'. The middle box says 'planning out activities and mainstreaming'. The third box on the right says 'Getting real practice inputs from CoPs that would help the GPs in facilitating Knowledge flows'.

Current experiences and good practices in working with CoPs

- Different groups exist, maybe not termed CoP
- Experiences of groups: associations including different types of AKIS in Germany

Possible challenges in working with CoPs

- Finding common goals and topics that are broad enough
- planning out activities and mainstreaming
- Getting real practice inputs from CoPs that would help the GPs in facilitating Knowledge flows

- mixing the actors of the different groups/ making sure it is a real plural group
- incentive for changing things: new CAP is more result oriented (farmers also need to be involved to give their input)
- feedback loops involving different actors lead to better results
- AKIS needs to be challenged-based
- common goal brings people together, focusing on a topic? e.g. climate, biodiversity -> motivation for becoming a member in the modern AKIS CoPI

start with an AKIS mapping exercise

- pathway or plan to address specific actions (e.g. climate actions)
- methodological tools: set up CoPs and how to manage them?

inputs on how to strengthen flows within the different CoPs in Germany

Figure 16: Experiences with Communities of Practice: Portugal, Malta, Germany, Belgium, Ireland.

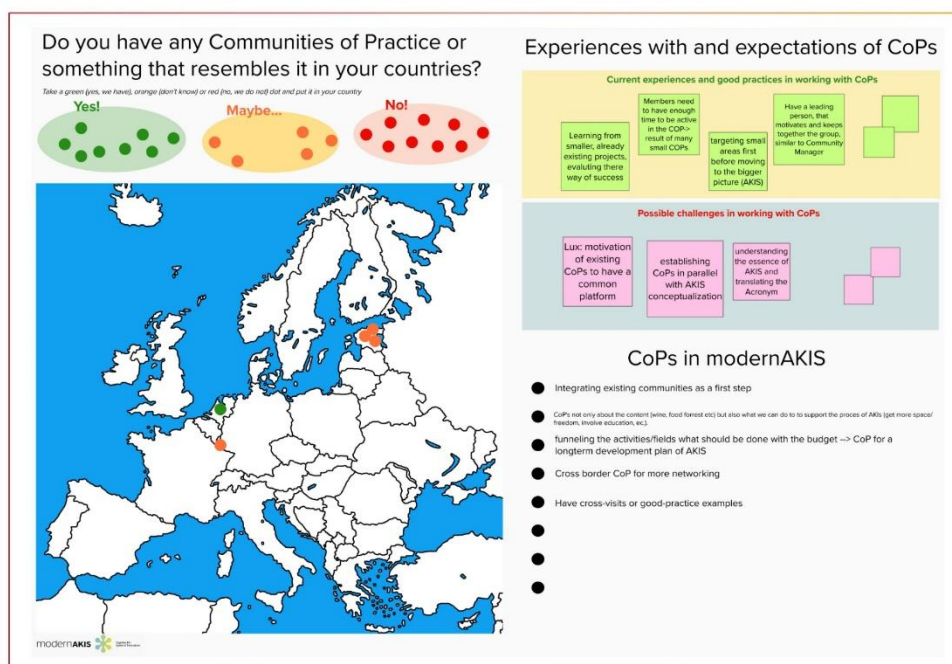


Figure 17: Experiences with Communities of Practice: Luxembourg, Netherlands, Estonia.

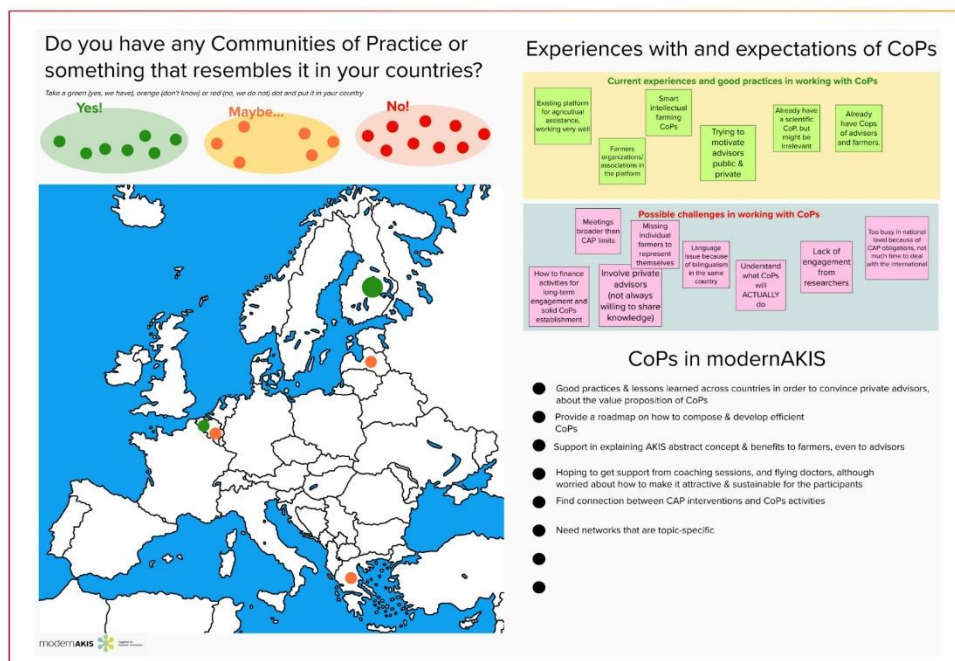


Figure 18: Experiences with Communities of Practice: Greece, Belgium, Latvia, Finland.



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ANNEX VI: List of attendees 1st AKIS CBs GA

AKIS CBs are marked in yellow. The rest are project partners.

Index	Country	Organisation		First name	Surname
1	Austria	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water management	Mr.	Markus	Stadler
2	Austria	Austrian Rural Education Institute	Ms.	Elena-Teodora	Miron
3	Austria	Austrian Rural Education Institute	Ms.	Katharina	Schobersberger
4	Austria	Chamber of Agriculture	Mr.	Florian	Herzog
5	Austria	Chamber of Agriculture	Ms.	Mara	Lindtner
6	Belgium, Flanders	Flemish Government - Department of Agriculture and Fisheries	Mrs.	Els	Lapage
7	Belgium, Wallonia	Service public de Wallonie	Mrs.	Lelong	Stéphanie
8	Belgium	Boerenbond	Mr.	Wim	Ceulemans
9	Belgium	Boerenbond	Mrs.	Marleen	Gysen
10	Bulgaria	Ministry of agriculture, RDP directorate	Mr.	Hristo	Todorov
11	Bulgaria	Ministry of agriculture, RDP directorate	Mr.	Milen	Krastev
12	Bulgaria	National Agricultural Advisory Service	Mr.	Dimitar	Vanev
13	Croatia	Ministry of Agriculture	Mrs.	Nataša	Puhelek Puština
14	Croatia	Ministry of Agriculture	Mr.	Silvio	Šimon
15	Cyprus	Department of Agriculture	Mrs.	Eftychia	Snow
16	Cyprus	A.M. FILAGROTIKI SYMVOULEFTIKI LTD	Mr.	Savvas	Maliotis
17	Czech Republic	UZEI	Ms.	Marta	Mrnušík Konečná
18	Denmark	Danish Agricultural Agency	Mr.	Bjarne	Thomsen
19	Denmark	SEGES INNOVATION PS	Ms.	Kirsten	Klitgaard
20	Estonia	Ministry of Rural Affairs	Mrs.	Helena	Pärenson
21	Estonia	Centre of Estonian Agricultural Research and Knowledge	Mrs.	Hanna	Tamsalu
22	Estonia	Centre of Estonian Agricultural Research and Knowledge	Mrs.	Pille	Koorberg
23	Finland	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Ms.	Tiina	Hartman
24	Finland	Natural Resources Institute  Funded by	Ms.	Susanna	Lahnamäki-Kivelä
25	France	Ministry of Agriculture	Mrs.	Anne	Portier-Maynard
26	France	Ministry of Agriculture	Mr.	Eric	Demmerle
27	France	Ministry of Agriculture	Ms.	Nezha	Chachia
28	France	Chamber of Agriculture	Mr.	Sylvain	Sturel

29	France	Regional Chamber of Agriculture Occitanie	Ms.	Myriam	Gaspard
30	Germany	Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft	Mrs.	Miriam	Ehret
31	Germany	German CAP Network (DVS)	Mrs.	Leonie	Göbel
32	Germany	Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL)	Ms.	Teresa	Münch
33	Germany	Association of Chambers of Agriculture	Mrs.	Karin	Ellermann-Kügler
34	Germany	University of Hohenheim	Mrs.	Fanos	Birke
35	Greece	Elgo dimitra	Mr.	Ioannis	Dimitriadis
36	Greece	Implementing Authority for CAP SP	Mr.	Athanasios	Theodoropoulos
37	Greece	Elgo dimitra	Mr.	Athanasios	Ragkos
38	Greece	Agricultural University of Athens	Mrs.	Sofia	Mouseti
39	Hungary	Ministry of Agriculture	Mr.	Ákos	Kristóf
40	Hungary	Institute of Agricultural Economics	Mr.	Szabolcs	Vágó
41	Hungary	Institute of Agricultural Economics	Ms.	Livia	Kránitz
42	Hungary	Institute of Agricultural Economics	Ms.	Somaya	Aboelnaga
43	Ireland	Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine	Mr.	Patrick	Barrett
44	Ireland	The Agriculture and Food Development Authority	Mr.	Mark	Gibson
45	Italy	Regione Toscana	Mrs.	Fausta	Fabbri
46	Italy	Veneto Region	Mr.	Giorgio	Trentin
47	Italy	regione campania	Mr.	Ferdinando	Gandolfi
48	Italy	Tuscany region	Mrs.	Laura	Bartalucci
49	Italy	Council for Agricultural Research and Economics	Mrs.	Simona	Cristiano
50	Italy	Council for Agricultural Research and Economics	Mrs.	Patrizia	Proietti
51	Latvia	Ministry of Agriculture, Republic of Latvia	Mrs.	Natalja	Silicka
52	Latvia	Latvian Rural Advisory and Training Centre	Mrs.	Aiva	Saulīte-Liniņa
53	Lithuania	Ministry of Agriculture	Ms.	GODA	VAINIENĖ
56	Luxembourg	Ministry of agriculture	Mrs.	Martine	Huberty
57	Luxembourg	Administration des services techniques de l'agriculture	Mrs.	Martine	Claus
58	Malta	Agriculture Directorate	Mr.	Marco	Dimech
59	Malta	Malta College of Arts, Science & Technology	Mr.	Massimo	Pierucci
60	Malta	Malta College of Arts, Science & Technology	Ms.	Sarah	Camilleri
61	Malta	Malta College of Arts, Science & Technology	Mr.	Clyde	Falzon Bouvett

62	Netherlands	Ministry of agriculture Nature and Foodquality (LNV)	Mr.	Jan	van Esch
63	Netherlands	Regieorganisatie GLB	Ms.	Erika	Frankhuizen
64	Netherlands	Regieorganisatie GLB	Mr.	Kees	Anker
65	Poland	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Mrs.	Ewa	Grodzka
66	Poland	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ms.	Józefina	Król-Nowinski
67	Poland	Agricultural Advisory Centre in Brwinow	Mr.	Krzysztof	Janiak
68	Poland	Agricultural Advisory Centre	Mr.	Leszek	Żukowski
69	Poland	Agricultural Advisory Centre	Ms.	Anna	Pietruczuk
70	Portugal	Directorate-general for Agriculture and Rural Development	Ms.	Maria	Centeno
71	Portugal	CONSULAI	Mr.	Rui	Almeida
72	Portugal	CONSULAI	Ms.	Francisca	Viveiros
73	Romania	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Mr.	Bogdan	Alecu
74	Slovakia	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic	Ms.	Dominika	Príbelová
75	Slovakia	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic	Ms.	Alena	Bujďáková
76	Slovakia	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic	Ms.	Petra	Hanulíková
77	Slovakia	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic	Ms.	Katarina	Tóthová
78	Slovenia	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food	Ms.	Joži	Cvelbar
79	Slovenia	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food	Ms.	Jana	Erjavec
80	Slovenia	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food	Ms.	Katarina	Žagar
81	Spain	Ministry of Agriculture, F, F, Spain	Mrs.	Maria Teresa	Ambrós
82	Spain	Ministry of Agriculture, F, F, Spain	Mrs.	Cristina	Simón Palacios
83	Spain	Ministry of Agriculture, F, F, Spain	Mrs.	Iratxe	Díez Delgado
84	Spain	Galician Business-University Foundation	Mrs.	Nuria	Rodríguez Aubo
85	Spain	Galician Business-University Foundation	Mrs.	Lucia	Braña
86	Spain	Galician Business-University Foundation	Mrs.	Rebeca	Diez
87	Sweden	Swedish Rural Network	Ms.	Frida	Sporre
88	Sweden	Swedish Rural Network	Ms.	Jennie	Cederholm Björklund

89		DG AGRI	Mrs.	Inge	Van Oost
90		DG AGRI	Mrs.	Klavdija	Ramsak-Noemi
91		EIP Agri	Mrs.	Rasa	Pakeltiene

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W www.modernakis.eu

Vienna, July 13, 2023

**Invitation to the second AKIS Coordination Bodies General Assembly
November 7 – 8, 2023 in Zagreb, Croatia**

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

We are pleased to invite you to the second AKIS Coordination Bodies (CBs) General Assembly (GA), which is a meeting of the AKIS Coordination Bodies and key AKIS actors from all EU Member States, that will take place from **November 7 – 8, 2023 at Kraš Hrvatska – Auditorium, Ravnice 48, Zagreb, Croatia.**

The objectives of the second AKIS CBs GA are to deepen our exchange on the set-up and operation of AKIS and AKIS CBs, to learn and exchange about knowledge flows both from a policy but also a practical experience level, and to define the priorities and co-create the learning agenda for 2024.

To facilitate the planning of the meeting we kindly ask you to **register until September 10, 2023** using the following link: <https://form.jotform.com/modernAKIS/AKIS-CBs-GA>

We have provided some information on SharePoint in the [AKIS Coordination Bodies folder](#), particularly the documentation of the [First AKIS CBs GA](#).

We kindly ask you to identify relevant key AKIS actors of your country together with the modernAKIS project partner to join the second AKIS CBs GA. In total, each country can send up to a maximum of six persons to the AKIS CBs GA with a budget of in total 2.400 Euro per country. Please consult the enclosed two slides for more information.

In case of any questions, please do not hesitate to address the modernAKIS coordination team or the project partner in your country.

We look forward to welcoming you to the meeting!

Sincerely yours,

Elena-Teodora Miron

Project Coordinator



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