

The European Innovation Partnership „Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability“

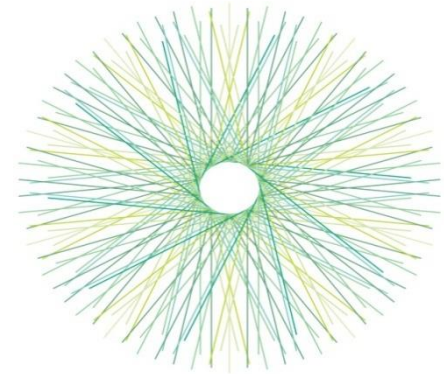


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Origins of the EIP - AGRI

- New approach under the **Europe 2020 Strategy** for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth (COM (2010) 2020)
- Flagship Initiative: "**Innovation Union**":
"European Innovation Partnerships" to address major societal challenges of today
(climate change, energy and resource efficiency, health, as well as demographic change)
- **EIP AGRI**: Part of a group of five EIP´s
(Other EIP´s: Active & Healthy Ageing, Smart Cities and Communities, Water, Raw Materials)



EIP – AGRI in short

- Commission Communication (COM (2012) 79)
- **Aim:** To foster a competitive and sustainable agriculture and forestry sector that "achieves more from less"
- **Approach:** "Closing the innovation gap" between research and practice by using the **interactive innovation model**
+
Link actors via an EIP Network
- **Funding:** Existing Union policies
-> "Rural development regulation" and interaction with "Horizon 2020"

Means for Implementing the EIP - AGRI

Rural Development Policy:

- Setting up "operational groups" (key actors of the EIP AGRI)
- Combining the setting up of operational groups with project funding (investment, knowledge transfer, advisory services)
- Establishing "innovation support services", e.g. to facilitate the formation of operational groups

European Union Research Policy (Horizon 2020)

- Funding research projects, also involving on-farm experiments, to enhance the knowledge base for innovation
- Interactive formats such as multi-actor projects and thematic networks

Art. 55 of the Rural development regulation Aims of the EIP - AGRI

- (a) promote a **resource efficient, economically viable, productive, competitive, low emission, climate friendly and resilient agricultural and forestry sector**, working towards **agro-ecological production systems** and working in harmony with the essential natural resources on which farming and forestry depend;
- (b) help deliver a steady and sustainable supply of **food, feed and biomaterials, including existing and new types**;
- (c) improve processes to **preserve the environment**, adapt to **climate change** and mitigate it;
- (d) **build bridges** between cutting-edge research knowledge and technology and farmers, forest managers, rural communities, businesses, NGOs and advisory services.

- > The specific decision about the implementation of the EIP depends on the priorities set out by the Member State/region in their **Rural Development programmes**

State of play of rural development programmes 2014-2020

- **For EU-28:** We expect the submission of at least 114 rural Development programmes
- The submission of draft programmes has started.
- The majority of drafts is expected to arrive in spring 2014 (**informal phase**)

State of play of EIP programming

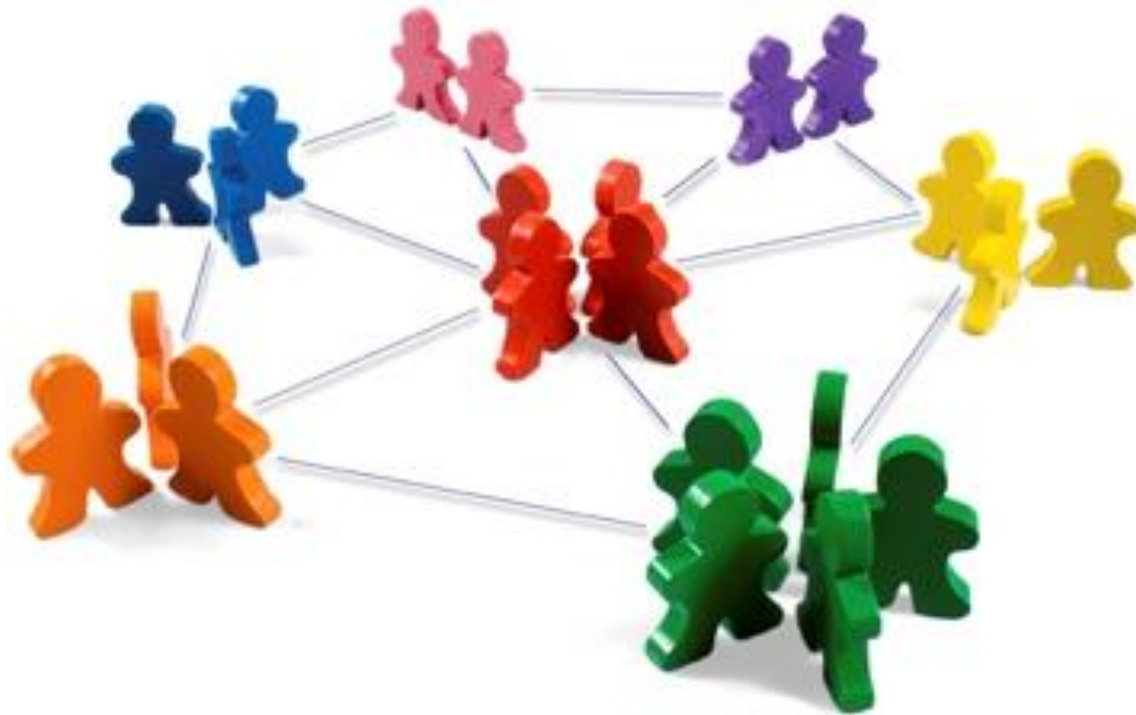
- **Germany:** Regionalised country with 13 rural development programmes for 16 "Länder"
 - > 11 Länder programmes will include the EIP
 - > 1 Land does not plan to implement, 1 still considering

- **Austria:** one national programme, EIP included (Art. 35)

Operational groups, pilot projects, new processes (e.g. short food supply chains), cooperation in processing and marketing of tourism services, cooperation of actors in agriculture and forestry, land users and SME's to create/develop social services in rural areas

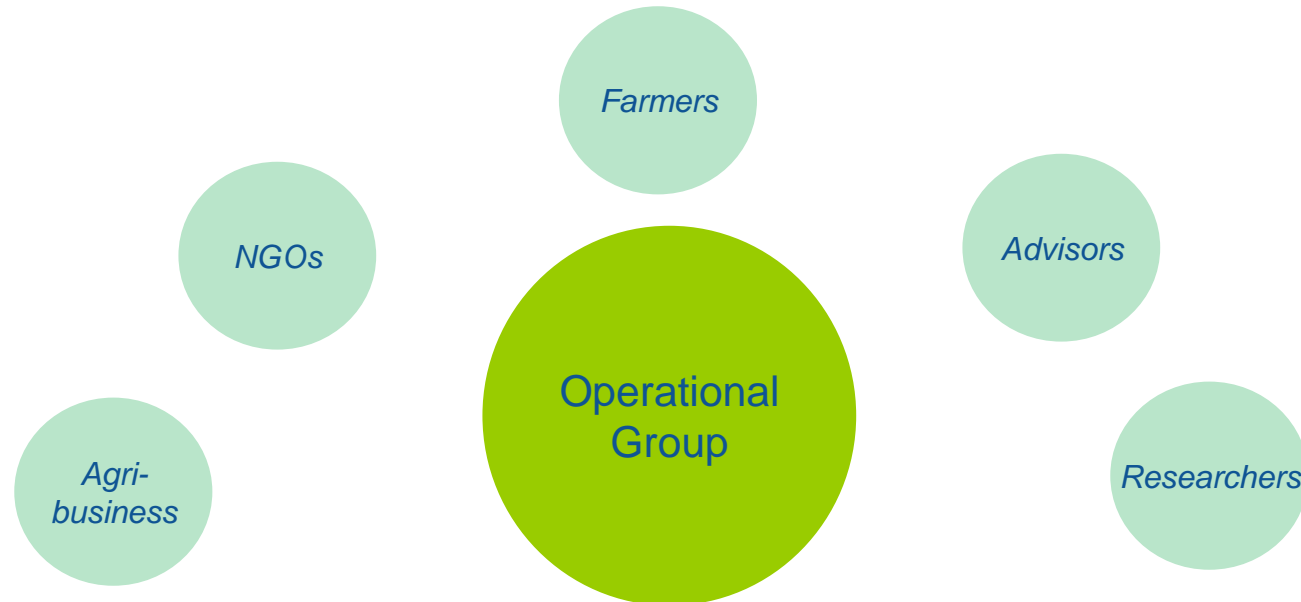
- **Croatia and Hungary,** respectively: one national programme EIP included, with special focus on the establishment and operation of operational groups under the "cooperation measure" (Art. 35 Rural Development Regulation)

Setting up an Operational Group



Key Acting Entities Within the EIP

- Operational Groups -



- *"Operational Groups" are no stakeholder networks, no stakeholder boards, no thematic coordination groups, nor discussion groups*
- *"Operational Group" = a team composed of those stakeholders relevant for the project, working together in an innovation project and producing concrete results*

What kind of projects can OGs work with?

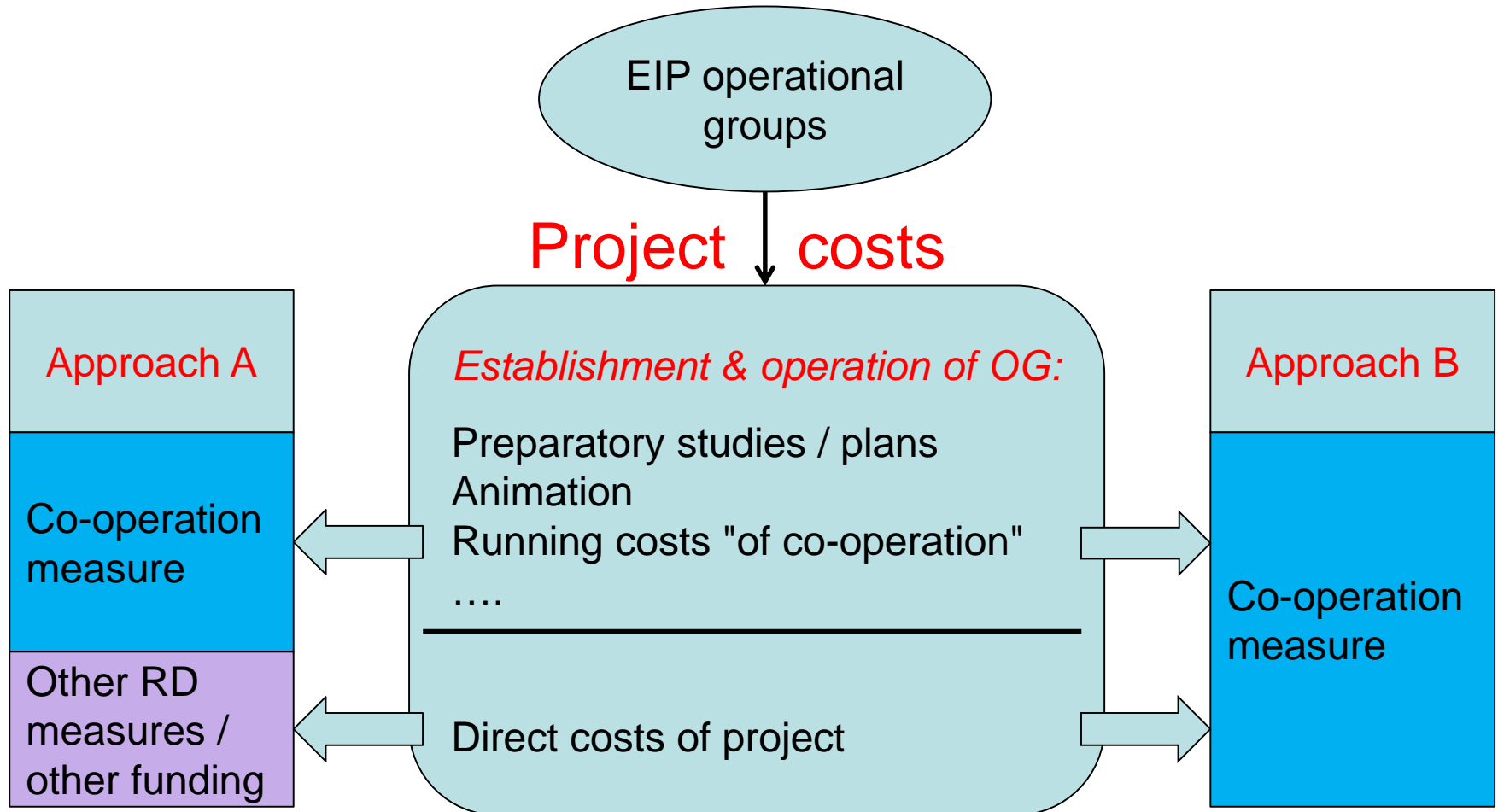
*New grouping, **new project*** ✓

*Existing grouping, **new project*** ✓

*Existing grouping, **existing project*** ✗

*The OG must **demonstrably have an active project** which will contribute to RD priorities*

What can be funded?



Getting started



4 BUILD A ROAD MAP WITH GOALS, TIMING BUDGET ETC.



The illustration shows a hand holding a yellow pencil, drawing a road map on a piece of paper. The map features three circular icons on the left: a target symbol, a clock symbol, and a Euro symbol. Arrows from these icons point towards a lightbulb icon on the right, which represents an idea or goal.

5 FIND FUNDING & SEND IN THE APPLICATION



The illustration shows a computer monitor with the word 'Funding' on the screen. Below the monitor are three colorful folders (blue, orange, yellow) and a blue piggy bank with the European Union flag on it. A large green arrow points from the piggy bank towards the folders.





- *Wrapping up* - Operational Groups:

- Are built around concrete innovation projects targeted towards finding innovative solutions for a specific challenges or new opportunities
- Require combination of different competencies (practical and scientific)
- Are "hands-on" groups and are composed by those innovation players relevant for the project
- Benefit from the interactions between the participants of the group and the sharing of the respective expertise

Obligations from EU side

- *Establish internal procedures*
- *Describe the project*
- *Describe the expected results*
- *Disseminate the results*





More information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/eip/>

Thank you for your attention!