Agroecology & EIP ‘Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability’

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Conference on Agroecology

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Closing the Innovation Gap

- Research
- Interaction
- Feedback
- Advisors
- Farming Practice
Innovation according to Commission

- Ideas put into practice with success
- Products, production methods, processes or services, opening to new markets and new forms of organization
- More than dissemination of research results
- Results of the creativity and interplay between actors
EIP Network

Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR)

Operational Groups

Rural Development Committee

Member States Programmes

Research & Innovation Framework:
- Research projects
- Multi-actor projects
- Pilot project clusters
- Innovation brokers
- On-farm experiments

EIP Network facility

Rural Development Policy: Innovation guidelines
- Knowledge transfer
- Cooperation
- Pilot projects
- Demonstration
- Advisory services
- Investment

Steering Board
European Innovation Partnership
Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability

SIP & Sherpas

Horizon 2020 Programme Committee

ETPs, ERA-Nets, JPIs, etc.

AKIS CWG
Implementation under rural development

- Operational groups
Implementation under Horizon 2020

• Thematic networks
  • connect Operational Groups around specific themes
  • involve all concerned stakeholders

• Multi-actor projects
  • targeted composition of the partnership
  • relevance of the research for end-users
  • refining during the project (knowledge exchange, cross-fertilisation)
Agroecology & EIP

• EIP is promising on paper
  • Focus on mutual learning, sharing of information, multi-actor approach
  • Recognition of diversity of agricultural sector
  • Link with sustainable consumption and supply chain
  • Recognition that farming contributes to public goods
  • Recognition of sufficiency narrative as alternative for productivist agenda
• BUT... also input industry has its shopping list included
Implementation?

• How will EIP be implemented in regions? (budget restrictions!)
• How will EIP be implemented in Horizon 2020 (DG Research less interested in agroecology than DG AGRI)
• Focus Groups: good themes, but which experts will be selected, what will be outcome and impact?
Our demands

- Holistic approach combining:
  - Food production based on ecosystem services
  - Fair food chains empowering rural areas
  - Responsible food habits

- Multi-actor projects:
  - Diversity of approaches: big AND small projects
  - Practitioners should receive fair recompense for their contributions to research and research policy
  - Preparatory phase to build trust is prerequisite of broad stakeholder participation

- Transparency in the process
Cooperation IFOAM EU, ARC 2020 and TP Organics

- Promote agroecological innovation in the EIP for Agriculture at EU and regional level
- Inform members and support them to form operational groups
- Action Plan for Innovation and Learning
- Cooperate with European regions
Thanks for your attention

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