



Implementation of the EIP in RDPs and First experiences with Operational Groups

CDG on Rural Development
20 September 2016

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Contents outline

- *RDP support to Operational Groups - update*
- *First experiences with Operational Groups*
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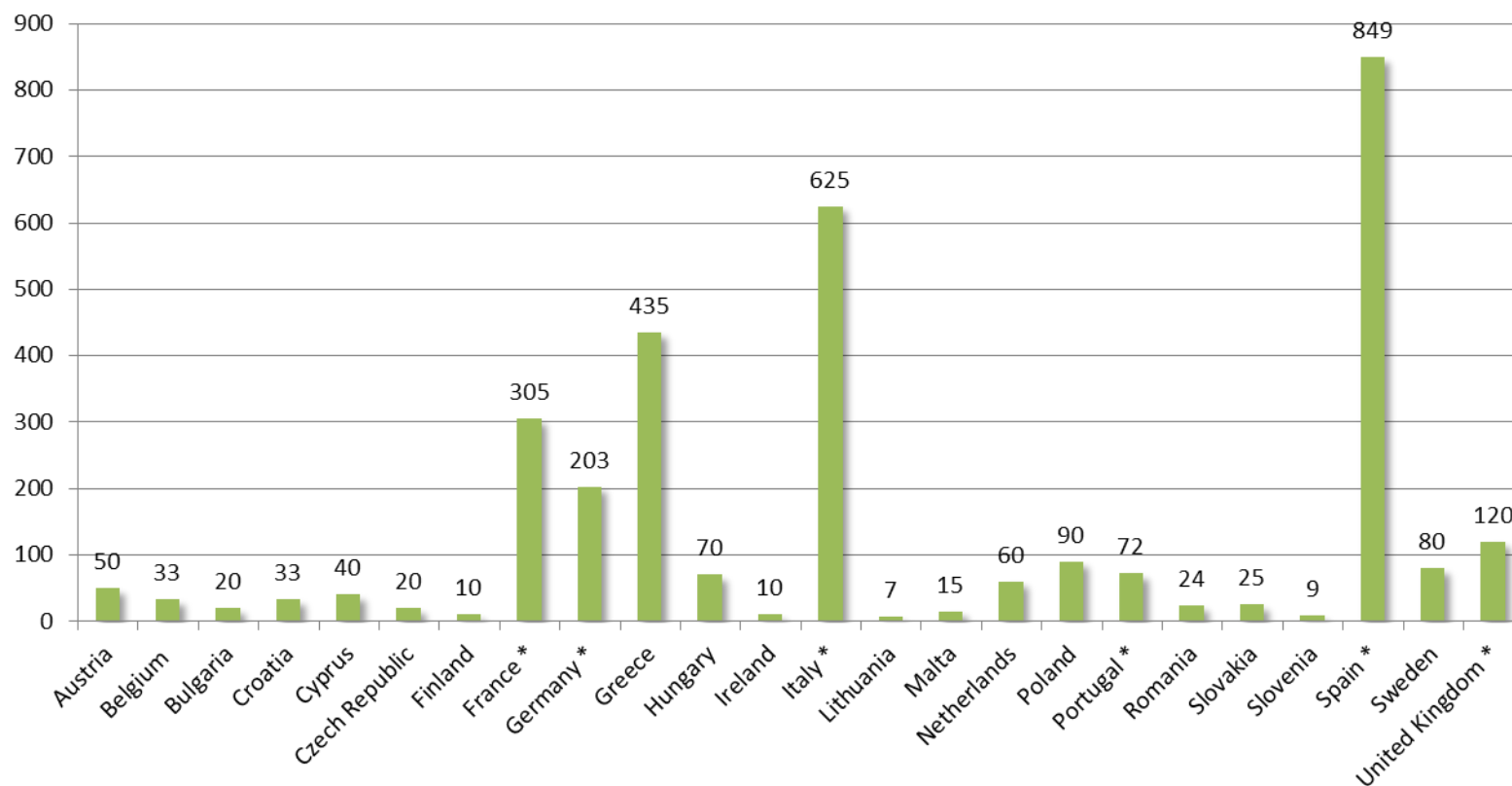
RDP support to EIP Operational Groups

118 Rural Development Programmes 2014-2020

- **94 MS/regions** will be implementing the EIP in their 2014-2020 Rural Development programmes(+ LV, DK,...)
- **3 205 planned OGs** in 2014-2020 (~ 20% of total n. of cooperation projects)
- On average: **1,8% of the total RDP budget*** (total public expenditure) will be spent on M16 cooperation (or **2,8 billion EUR**)

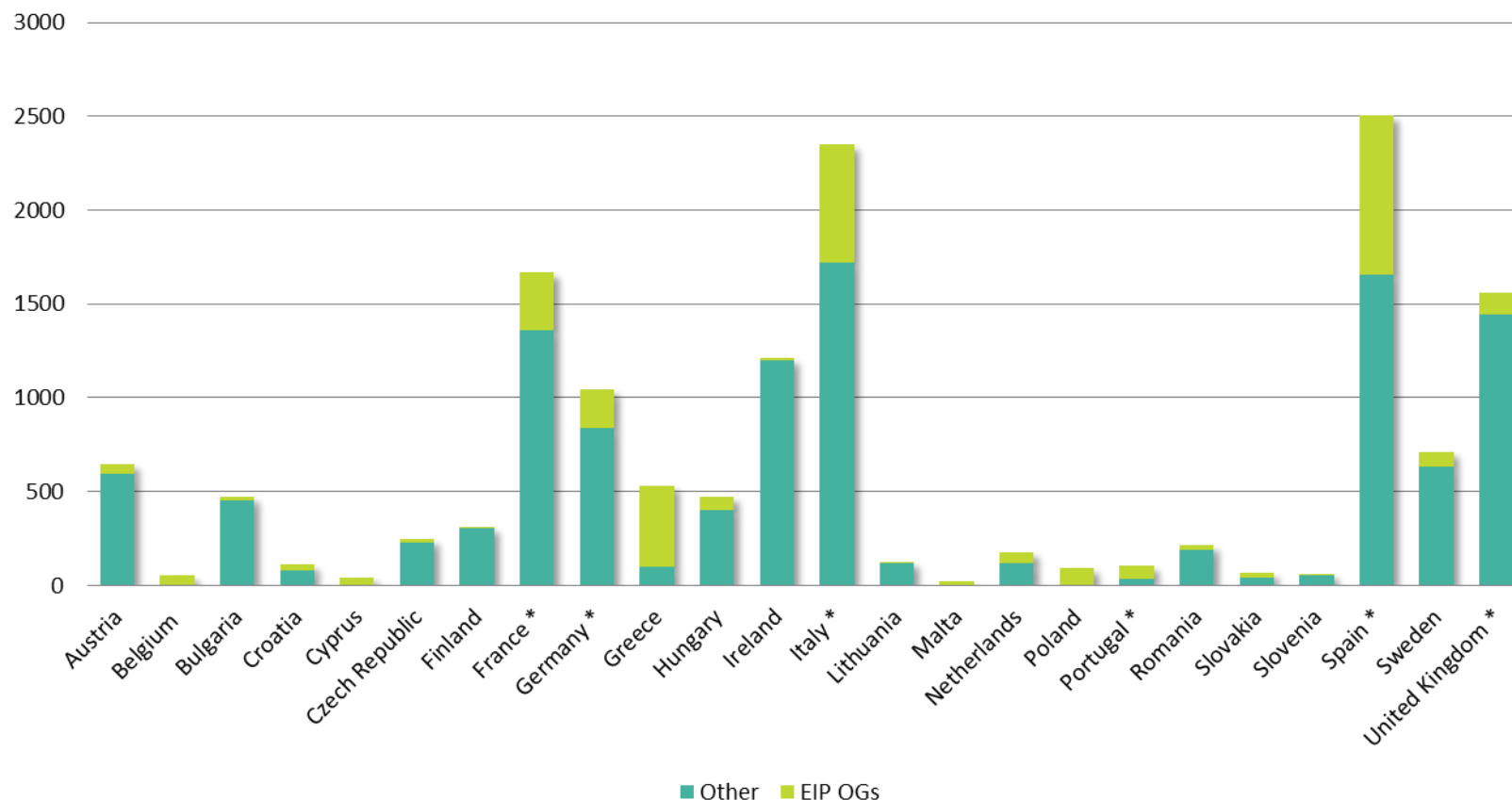
* Average: only RDPs providing support to EIP operational groups

Number of planned EIP Operational Groups RDPs 2014-2020



* Sum at national level

Number of planned cooperation projects under M16 RDPs 2014-2020



* Sum at national level



EIP workshop 'Operational Groups: First experiences'

20-21 April 2016 – Legnaro, Italy

Purpose:

- Bring together OGs, potential actors, stakeholders to:
- Exchange and learn from the first experiences
- Discuss the role of the various actors involved
- Learn and discuss what kind of supporting environment is most useful for OGs and good practices
- Disseminate those first experiences in the EIP-AGRI network



Some facts about the workshop:

- ✓ 102 participants from 23 countries
- ✓ 11 Operational Groups
- ✓ MAs, EIP-AGRI network supporting units, advisors, innovation brokers, Innovation Support Services (ISS)

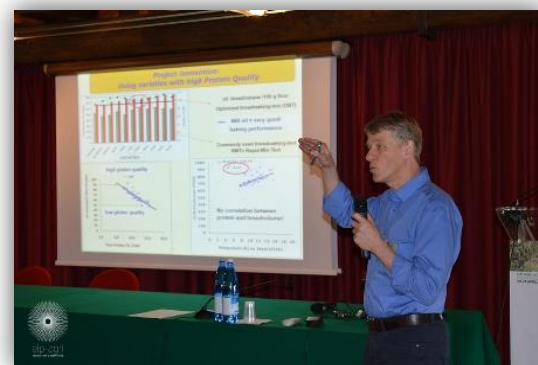


Focus on OGs

Presentation of 6 OG projects

- Organic dock control (Austria)
- Robust lamb (Midi-Pyrénées, France)
- Winter harvest (Austria)
- Population management (Schleswig-Holstein, Germany)
- Zero herbicides in Mediterranean perennial crops (Languedoc-Roussillon, France)
- Wheat-value chain (Hessen, Germany)

11 OGs projects represented (*see brochure*)



https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/field_event_attachments/20160420-21_ws-legnaro-2016_ogs_represented_final_25042016.pdf

Organic dock control – Austria

Started in January 2016 (three years)

The problem: broad-leaved dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*) significant weed in grassland. It has a strong taproot that can cause heavy loss of cattle fodder quantity and quality. To date no effective measures for dock control are available for organic grassland farmers.

The project: develop and evaluate the application of native clearwing moth species to control docks in Austrian grassland. The project brings together organic farmers and scientists in a multi-actor approach.

Highlights:

- Knowledge transfer, and cooperation between research and practice during the development and implementation of the project
- Results will be disseminated through field workshops, presentations, a website and articles
- Key involvement of agricultural professional schools will to enable a broad transfer of knowledge



ROBUSTAGNO – Midi-Pyrénées, FR

Started in March 2016 (three years)

The problem: lamb mortality critical factor for sheep productivity. Despite the acquisition of technical and scientific knowledge in the past 10 years, lamb mortality is not declining.

The project: identifying transferable and reproducible innovative solutions to reduce lamb mortality by making lambs more robust at birth; agro-ecological approach taking into account the tripod of sustainability (economic, environmental, social).

Highlights:

- Multi-actor approach (farmers, researchers, advisers, innovation broker) to ensure wide and quicker take up of innovations
- Develop communication and training tools: open farms, seminars, press articles, factsheets
- Objective: reduce lamb mortality rate by 5% (bring it below 10%)



ENU-WHEAT - Hessen, DE

Started in January 2016 (two years)

The problem: addressing groundwater pollution linked to excessive N fertilisation of wheat while keeping high protein quality.

The project: demonstrate the feasibility of producing sustainable and environmentally friendly wheat with less fertilisation.

Highlights:

- Participation of the whole value chain
- Achieving a good baking performance by using wheat varieties with high protein quality
- Produce a 'regional water protection bread' to secure income for all partners





Some lessons and needs:

- ✓ **EIP is new & challenging for everyone** (OGs, MAs, PAs...), diversity of approaches, tools
- ✓ **Learned about:** EIP-AGRI **process**, **role of actors**, differences between broker / facilitator / ISS, **challenges in implementing OGs**, EIP-AGRI **network**, importance of clear and timely **communication**, importance of **clear rules**
- ✓ Stated as very important and valuable: **practical examples**, **sharing different experiences & best practices**, **approaches and tools**, **new ideas**, **new contacts**, **face to face meeting**



Further needs, specific to:

- ***RDP Managing Authorities:*** guidance, best practices (e.g. cooperation agreements), exchange information about OG calls
- ***Advisors:*** exchanges on models of ISS, effective communication with stakeholders,...
- ***Operational Groups:*** tools for management (training), networking, communication and dissemination of results,...

More info - workshop page on the EIP-AGRI website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/content/eip-agri-workshop-operational-groups-first-experiences>



From needs to action: EIP Network's next steps

Focus on

Communicating about/connecting OGs (now!)

- EIP-AGRI project database
- *Updated brochure on OGs*
- *EIP-AGRI Newsletter special edition (Oct 2016)*

Capacity building: OG video, OG 'toolkit'

***Networking for the EIP: Workshop with NRNs
(Budapest 4-5 October)***



Thank you for your attention!
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Questions?