





## Experiences from innovation support service and EIP projects in Schleswig-Holstein

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## "Inspiring examples on the roles and tools supporting advisors in the AKIS"



Experiences from Innovation Support Service and EIP projects in Schleswig-Holstein 2014-2023



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- 2. Chamber of Agriculture as advisory organization

Impulses and challenges New topics Changes

3. New tasks and roles for agricultural advisors





## 1. Development of the funding and EIP support structure in Schleswig-Holstein

- Already in 2014 an external EIP -Agrarian Innovation Office was established as regional Innovation Support Service (ISS) at the Chamber of Agriculture (1.5 manpower).
- The ISS supports stakeholders and groups in all steps of the project
- SH funded 34 projects from 3 calls (12 M. EURO) in 2015-2022, several advisors were involved
- EIP-Network and organization of knowledge transfer





## 2. The Chamber of Agriculture SH - Agricultural Advisory Organization

- Project executing agency for the Innovation Office EIP Agrar SH
- Most frequent actor in EIP projects, involved as lead partner, as research and testing institution and with experts for animal and plant production as active OG member





## 3. New tasks and roles for agricultural advisors in interactive projects

- Support in discovering and articulating grassroots ideas and innovative solutions for practice
- Partner agency for project actors
- Explainer/translator for practitioners and researchers
- Moderator in Operational groups
- Motivator and caretaker



#### Impulses and challenges



- The collaboration has brought new perspectives and contacts for participating employees and departments of the Agricultural Chamber
- Existing contacts have been strengthened, trust has grown
- Access to up-to-date expert knowledge has been made possible on this new basis, which in turn has been incorporated into the consultancy and training work of the Chamber
- New project ideas, also outside EIP funding, have emerged with EIP actors in the network



#### Impulses and challenges



- Technical impulses arose above all in the areas of animal welfare/animal health and grassland management
- Methodological impulses arose in project coordination through training and learning from good and less good examples in different projects
- The own cooperation was individually adapted to the requirements of the projects, or designed according to the requirements of the lead partner.



#### **Changes in the Chamber SH**

Some departments could benefit in EIP projects from interactive collaboration:

Chamber's staff and other actors from outside (e.g. Universities, Services, SMEs) started to work better together after they were involved in a common EIP project. They better know each other and trust could grow, common topics are often identified. In practice they mostly continue working together in other kinds of projects even outside EIP

- Administration of EIP projects is challenging and competes with other funding measures with lower requirements
- Temporary project positions are seen as a hurdle
- Interactive collaboration with other actors and institutions has developed positively in recent years



#### 3. New tasks and roles for Advisors



#### Involvement in different Innovation Phases

#### Phase 1:

Ideas, initiatives and impulses for innovations; partner and group identification; application process

#### Phase 2:

Implementation of innovation testing and development processes; Group collaboration; Administrative handling;

#### Phase 3:

PR and knowledge transfer, adoption and diffusion processes

Funding period



#### 3. New tasks and roles for Advisors

#### Phase 1:

Ideas, initiatives and impulses for innovations; partner and group identification; application process



### How to capture grassroots ideas, initiatives and impulses for innovations from farmers?

- Listen to farmers needs
- Joining kitchen- table- meetings for identifying new ideas
- Organizing Round- Tables- discussions on farm relevant topics with farmers and other experts to get potential solutions
- Working with farmers groups on creating relevant project ideas
- Supporting farmers individually with their ideas and on finding solutions
- Connecting farmers with experts from other sectors and other regions
- Building Operational Groups



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