



1st European CAP Network workshop 'National networking for innovation'

Tallinn, Estonia
30 November – 1 December 2023

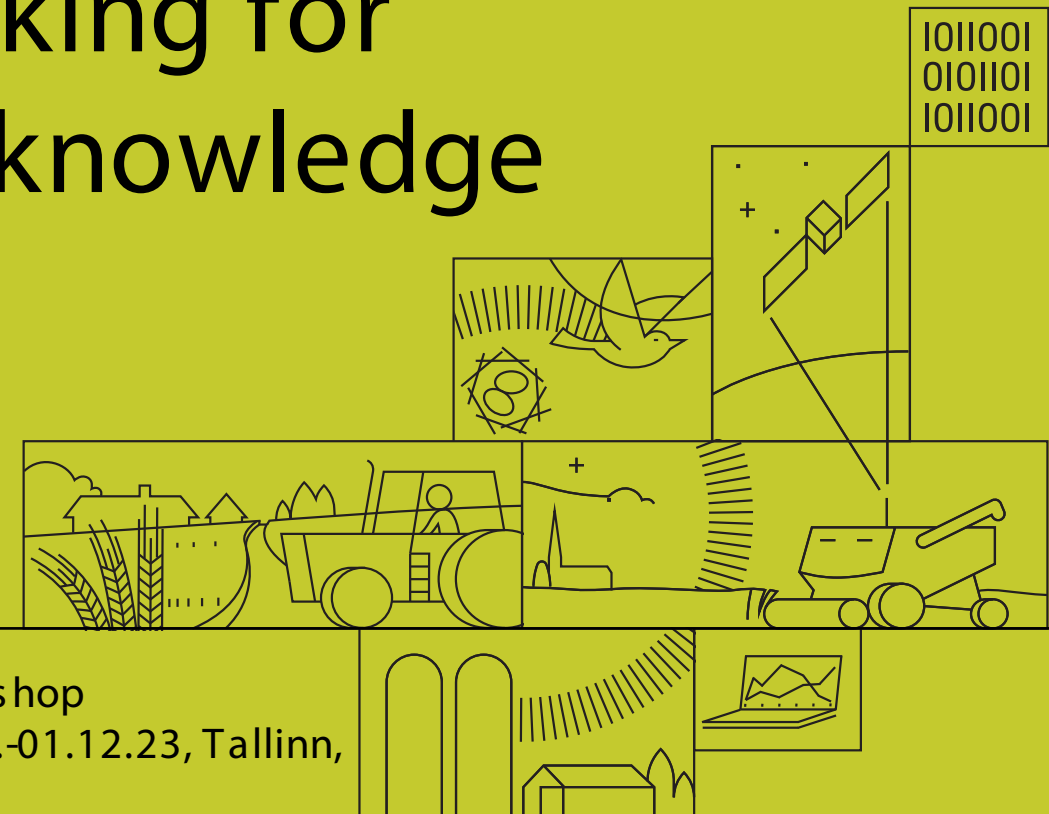
Estonian approach to national networking for innovation and knowledge exchange

Pille Koorberg
CENTRE OF ESTONIAN RURAL RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE (METK
– ESTONIAN CAP NETWORK)

Estonian approach to national networking for innovation and knowledge exchange

Pille Koorberg,
Director of Innovation
and Entrepreneurship

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European CAP Network workshop
'National networking for innovation', 30.11.-01.12.23, Tallinn,
ESTONIA

METIK

Centre of Estonian
Rural Research
and Knowledge

Estonia
Positively surprising



<https://www.visitestonia.com/en/>



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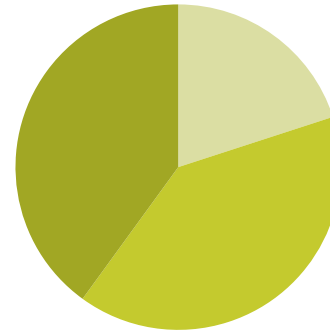


ESTONIA

The smallest of
Baltic countries
45 227 km²



1,33 million of inhabitants
60% is urbanised
40% around the capital city



Number of farms is
decreasing

~13 300
single area
payment
applications

Average size of
a farm – 87 ha

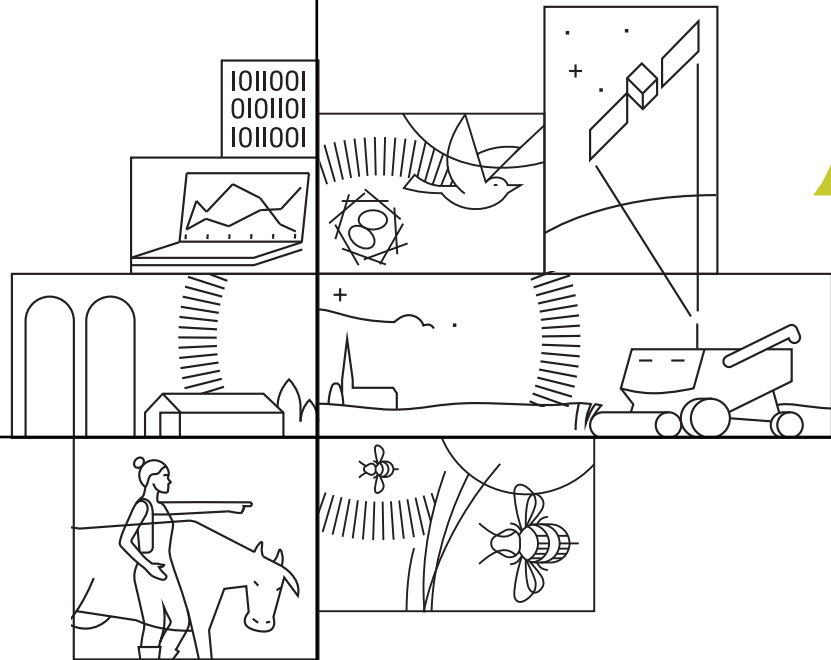


METK

Centre of Estonian
Rural Research
and Knowledge

Centre of Estonian Rural Research and Knowledge (METK)

– Pioneers of Estonian Rural Life



FACTS ABOUT METK (1)

- Established in 01.01.2023 by merging:
 - Agricultural Research Centre (ARC)
 - Estonian Crop Research Institute (ECRI)
- State managed research and development institution operating under the governance of the Ministry of Regional Affairs and Agriculture
- Over 100 years of knowledge and experience
- 8 different locations
- 300+ employees



www.metk.agri.ee
www.maainfo.ee
www.pikk.ee

Mission is to help the Estonian rural sector with science based knowledge, products/services and by connecting actors

FACTS ABOUT METK (2)

Three main focus areas of activities:

- Research activities (plant variety breeding, plant protection, biotechnology, gene bank, soil HUB, CAP evaluation, rural economy incl FADN)
- Laboratory and experimental/field testing activities
- **Networking activities in the field of agriculture and rural life:** „AKIS Coordination Centre“, National CAP Network, knowledge transfer actions, advisory services, Innovation Support Services incl EIP-AGRI

www.metk.agri.ee
www.maainfo.ee
www.pikk.ee





Saku
Laboratory Service
Centre



Jäneda
Office



Kuusiku
Field Testing Centre



Jõgeva
Science Centre



Viljandi
Field Testing Centre



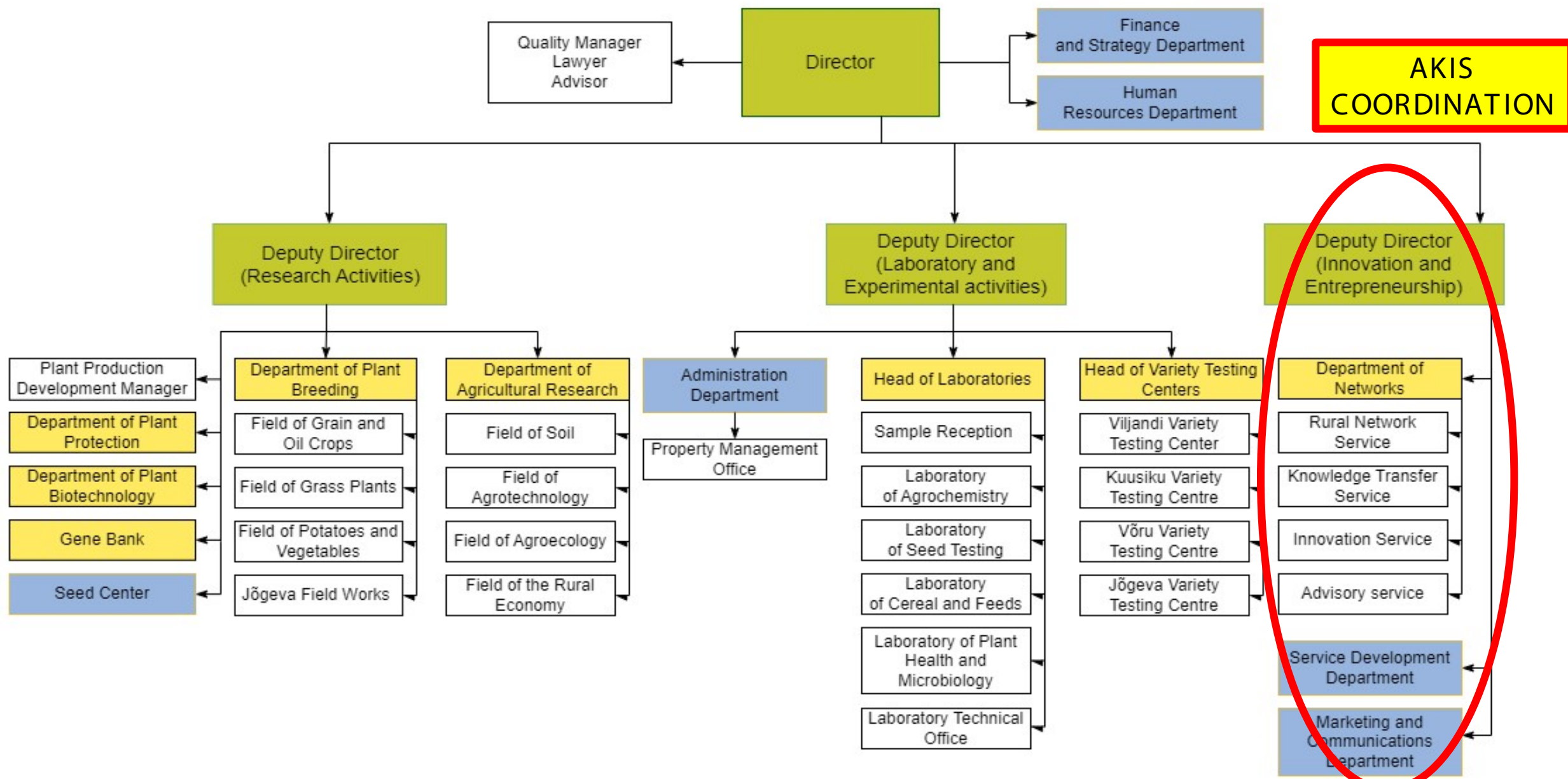
Tartu
Office



Kuessaare
Office (SOIL HUB)



Võru
Field Testing Centre



AKIS PRIORITIES IN ESTONIAN CAP STRATEGIC PLAN 2020+

AKIS COORDINATION

- Facilitating a coherent AKIS - less fragmented AKIS ecosystem thanks to an integrated approach to advisory services and knowledge transfer/information exchange, run by the AKIS Centre
- Strengthening advisory services – a well functioning support unit for advisory and extension services for an easier access to knowledge
- Coordinating knowledge transfer and advisory services holistically, to provide a back office for advisors and safeguard continuity of the service
- Continuing support for innovation cooperation - more flexibility
- Encouraging the advisors' participation in innovation projects
- AKIS vouchers and an online knowledge reservoir for an easy access to knowledge flows
- Making more use of ICT solutions

AKIS interventions:

- 0.1. Support for developing knowledge exchange and innovation system (AKIS)
- 0.2. Support for rendering advisory service
- 0.3. Support for innovation cooperation/EIP

INSTITUTIONAL REFORM TOWARDS AKIS IN 2023

ECRI – mainly crop-related applied research

ARC – lab services, field testing, CAP evaluation, FADN, NRN, coordinator of long-term programmes for knowledge exchange, accreditation of agricultural advisors, etc.



METK - research, networking and AKIS related activities, including the overall coordination of AKIS.

„AKIS Centre“ – not a structural unit with such name, but a cluster of AKIS-related responsibilities working in close cooperation with NRN at the Department of Networks

MINISTRY

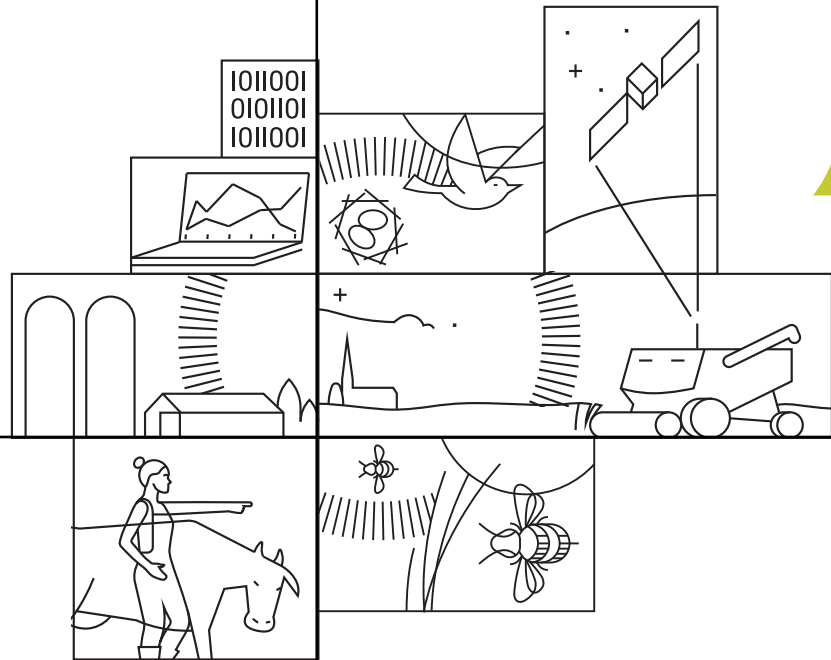
AKIS CENTRE

AKIS
Coordination
Bodies:

REGULATING
vs OPERATING

- Enabling legislation – Strategic Plan, CAP regulations, support schemes
- Research and knowledge transfer council(s) + informal discussions (incl NCP)
- Reporting the indicators back to EC and in SCAR-AKIS SWG, SolKE etc
- Boundaries within the ministry?

- Operating the support schemes (procurements; AKIS activities, incl vouchers, advisory)
- AKIS Council + other groups (modernAKIS, Climate Farm CoP)
- Assessing regularly (needs-actions, surveys, i2connect country report)
- Networking (within and outside) METK



AKIS Center brings together the expert knowledge of researchers and the needs of companies

Daily organization of knowledge transfer and advisory activities and the mapping of future needs

FUNCTIONS OF THE AKIS CENTRE (METK)

Minister's mandate since
30.05.2023

AKIS development

- Strategic planning of Estonian AKIS as a whole
- Mapping trends and needs
 - Promotion
 - Facilitation
- Cooperation in Estonia and abroad

Advisory Service (back-office)

- Maintains the database of advisors
- Filters research information for field advisors
- Plans and organises training of the existing as well as new advisors
- Networking of advisors

Knowledge Exchange

- Coordinates and organises various activities for knowledge exchange
- Monitors the needs for information and training
 - Manages the distribution of AKIS vouchers (incl reporting)

Digital Solutions

- Maintaining and updating the Knowledge Reservoir (online platform)
- Helpdesk for all AKIS actors on using digital solutions



CORE MEMBERS OF DEPARTMENT OF NETWORKS

METK

Centre of Estonian
Rural Research
and Knowledge

AKIS
network



CAP
network

METK - DEPARTMENT OF NETWORKS (co-called AKIS COORDINATION CENTRE)

Head of department + AKIS development manager

NATIONAL RURAL
NETWORK

INNOVATION
SUPPORT SERVICE

ADVISORY
SERVICE

KNOWLEDGE
TRANSFER SERVICE

Cross-border cooperation, Nordic-Baltic focus, shared online portals, project examples and database, newsletters, events, training, dissemination, stakeholder database...

NATIONAL CAP NETWORK

AKIS CENTRE (METK)



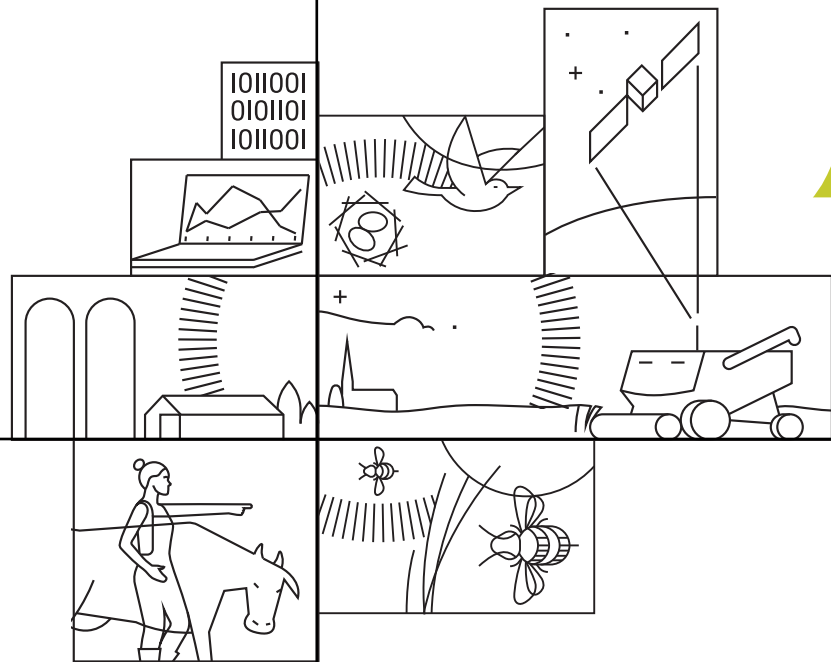
- Tasks from the regulation, incl supporting EIP OG, LAG or similar local development structures
- Guidance of the EU-CAP Network
- General support to the AKIS – contacts, dissemination of good practices and project examples, joint events

- Chapter in CAP strategic plan
- Guidance from the tool 8.1 (cross-cutting objective) + 5.3.8 (Knowledge Exchange and information)
- Guidance from SCAR-AKIS etc.

„Since the CAP network operates under the same authority as the AKIS center, their daily cooperation is both inevitable and appropriate. CAP network focuses on all CAP measures as a whole, while the focus of the AKIS center is primarily on AKIS (going beyond CAP), including AKIS' points of contact and connections with Horizon Europe.“



Long history of networking
rural actors and managing
platforms...



National CAP Network in Estonia - „NATIONAL RURAL NETWORK“

NRN activities have always been carried out „independently“ from policy design/control systems

Position in ARC/METK – closeness to information and knowledge sources

Main objective is to improve the implementation quality of Estonian RDP/CAP by:

- increasing involvement of stakeholders;
- informing beneficiaries and the public;
- disseminating knowledge and good practices;
- providing and promoting innovation support activities related to agriculture, food systems, forestry and rural areas.



National CAP Network in Estonia - „NATIONAL RURAL NETWORK“

– First steps:

- 2004-2005 - Village Movement „Kodukant“ – contract with Ministry for LEADER information services around Estonia;
- 2005-2007 - LEADER Infopoint – open call to outsource LEADER infoservices to prepare regions for LEADER

– National Rural Network (Support Unit, since 2007):

- 100% financing from Technical Assistance measure
- Since 2012 additionally activities related to innovation network
- Cooperation with ENRD, EIP-AGRI and Evaluation Helpdesk
- Nordic-Baltic NRN meetings
- Since 2019 additionally AKIS activities



ESTONIAN CAP NETWORK 2023-2027



ACTIVITIES (EXAMPLES) – PUBLICATIONS, EXHIBITIONS...



ETTEVÖTLIK MAANOOR

Noorte julge peelehakkamine muudab küla arukaks!

Europe Komisjon kuulutas 2022. aasta Euroopa noorte aastaks, et näidata, kui sõltis osa on Euroopa noortel osavõtu - rahuldama, kasvatama ja digitaaloma-üheliku loomist.

Eesti maaspirkonnas on palju tegusid ja ettevõtlikke noori. Ettevõtte saab olla mitmel viisil: hakata ettevõtet, liita kaasa oma kodukoha arendamisel, algatada või osaleda põlvkonna tegevustes.

Kaasake meid, kui arutate maale arengut!

Noorte ettevõtlus on uuenduslik ja vajab digiloendusi!

Näitame „Ettevõtlis maanoor“ osumärki on esile tõsta ettevõtte maanoori läbi noorte osalusega projektide ning näidata, mida Eesti maale arengukava 2014-2020 (MAG) toetuste abil ni põlvkondades kui ka maalis tehtud on. Nende lapude kaudu on soov ettevõtteid ja noori esile tõsta ning samal ajal lemmata ka teisi noori.

Noored hoolivad rohelisest elukorraldusest!

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Notice Innovative Agriculture 2.0

Estonian Rural Development Plan 2014-2020

Cooperation Measure Project Examples

me oleme maal

Kirgime üheskoos Eestiile 100 maale toetamise näidet!
www.maainfo.ee/100MAKnaidet

ROHELINE LEADER 2014-2020

Nelja Valla Kogu

Piirkonna KOVIDe toetaja: Harku, Saue, Saku ja Killi vald
 Kontaktinfo: Tallinn, 4kogu.ee
 2014–2022 eelarve: 3 439 769 eurot

Nelja Valla Kogu eesmärk on Harku, Saue, Saku ja Killi valdade territooriumil kohaliku elu arendamine, maale ja küllade säilitamine, tasekustamisele ja säästvale arengule kaasaaitamine, seahilgas kohaliku ettevõtluse, teeninduse, hariduse, kultuuri, turisminduse ja 1500-õive eelduste arendamine ning tegevuspiirkonna elanike heasolu suurendamine.

MTÜ Arenduskoda

Piirkonna KOVIDe toetaja: Haljala, Kadrina, Kuusalu ja Tapa vald ning Lõksa linn
 Kontaktinfo: Tapa, arenduskoda.ee
 2014–2022 eelarve: 4 562 890 eurot

Arenduskoda tegevuspiirkonnas on mitmesuguseid teenuseid ja tooteid pakkuvate ettevõtetele välja arendatud hea keskkond. Põhikõik on suunatud eluolade ettevõtlusele, säästvale turismile ja kohaliku toidu arendamisele. Ettevõtjad teevad koostööd läbi võrgustike. Piirkonda iseloomustab mitmekesine ja aktiivne kogukondlik ühistegevus, kultuuri- ja ajaloojärandi korraldamine, väärtustamine ja taastamine. Elanikud on saanud kogemusi ja teadmisi rahvusvahelistest koostööprojektidest ja rakendavad neid oma piirkonnas.

Looduses on tore!

ACTIVITIES (EXAMPLES) - NEWSLETTERS

UUDISED EUROOPAST



Kandideerimine projektikonkursile "Inspireeriv põllumajandus ja maaelu 2023" on avatud!

Euroopa Liidu ühise põllumajanduspoliitika (EL ÜPP) võrgustik korraldab konkursi "Inspireeriv põllumajandus ja maaelu", 2023. aasta konkursi teemaks on "Põllumajanduse ja maapiirkondade oskuste suurendamine". Konkursil saavad osaleda projektid, mis on saanud toetust Euroopa Maaelu Arengu Põllumajandusfondist (EAFRD) perioodil 2014-2020.



Konkursile saab esitada projekte läbi Eesti maaeluvõrgustiku, tähtaeg 3. juuli 2023.

MAAELUVÕRGUSTIK: Toiduvõrgustike info - 3. november 2023 (9/2023)

Allikas: Heve Lambur, maaeluvõrgustik
3. november 2023. a



Toiduvõrgustike @Infokiri

3. november 2023 (nr 9/2023)



November on täis põnevaid ja kasulikke sündmuseid!

November on täis erinevaid koollusi, infopäevi, seminare ja konverentse, mis on vähem või rohkem seotud ka kohaliku toiduga. Rohkem infot erinevate sündmuste kohta leiab allpool olevas **SÜNDMUSTE** rubriigis.



Innovatsiooniteenistuse uudiskiri nr 9

Allikas: **ÉIP-AGRI Teenistuspunkt**
11. oktoober 2023. a



Saksamaal toetab riiklik võrgustik loomade heaoluga seotud teadmiste levikut.

Netzwerk Fokus Tierwohl on Saksamaal tegutsev mitme osapoolega võrgustik, mis ergutab erinevate veebitööriistade, ürituste ja "impulssfarmide" abil teadmiste levikut põllumeeste, teadlaste, valitsuse ja laiemal avalikkuse vahel. Võrgustiku eesmärk on tagada loomade heaoluga seotud tootmissüsteemide säilitamine. Loe pikemalt **SIIT**



Soome mahepõhimõtteid järgiv katsefarm testib erinevaid meetodeid, mis aitaksid suurendada loomade heaolu. HAMK Mustiala on Soomes asuv mahepõllumajanduskeskus, kus teadusasutused, nõustajad ja põllumajandusettevõtted teevad kohapeal koostööd, et suurendada loomade heaolu. Mustiala farm testib erinevaid meetodeid, mis on jaotatud kolme kategooriasse – infrastruktuur, keskkond ja loomasööt. Loe pikemalt **SIIT**

ELi ülene platvorm loomade heaolu tõstmisega soetud tegevuste toetamiseks. Läbi seadusandluse ja teadlikkuse tõstmise on Euroopa Komisjon loomade heaolu toetanud juba ligi 50 aastat. Euroopa Komisjoni üheks oluliseks eesmärgiks on suurendada eri osapoolte vahel dialoogi loomade heaolu küsimustes. Selle eesmärgi saavutamiseks aitab Euroopa Komisjoni loomade heaolu platvorm korraldada kooskõlastatud tegevusi. Loe pikemalt **SIIT**

LEADER infokiri 2023 (nr 12/127)

Allikas: METK Maaeluvõrgustiku teenistus
3. november 2023. a



LEADER infokiri

3. november 2023 (nr 12/127)

Maaelu jutud Piret Leskovaga - ettevõtlusest, LEADER toest ja Mulgi toidust



MAAELU JUTUD

Piret Leskova #8

Mulgi toidust, brändimisest ja väikeettevõtja elust maal

ACTIVITIES (EXAMPLES) – CREATING NEW NETWORKS



MIS ON ARUKAS KÜLA?

Arukate Külade (*Smart Villages*) kontseptsioon viitab **jätksuutlikele maapiirkondadele ja kogukondadele**, mis tegelevad nii **olemasolevate** tugevuste ja väärtustega kui arendavad välja **uusi võimalusi**.

Nende külade puhul **täiustatakse** traditsioonilisi ja uusi võrgustikke ning teenuseid digitaal- ja telekommunikatsioonitehnoloogia ja innovatsiooniga ning loigatakse senisest enam kasu vajalikest teadmistest.

Eesmärk on tõsta kohalike elanike ja ettevõtete heaolul!

ALLIKAS: [Euroopa Liidu tegevused Arukate Külade raames](#)

🔗 VÄÄRT INFO: [Arukate külade tööriistakomplekt](#)

VIIMASED UUDISED:



Kujundame üheskoos maaelu tulevikku. Tutvu EL pikaajalise visiooni ja maaelupakli teemalise artikliga. [Loe edasi!](#)



Kuidas läheb Sloveenia arukatel küladel? Vaata veebiseminari salvestust. [Loe edasi!](#)



Valminud on Eesti esimesed arukate külade strateegiad. Eestis rakendatakse esmakordselt Euroopa Komisjoni algatatud arukate külade lähenemist, mille tulemusena valmisid 24 aruka küla strateegiat. [Loe edasi!](#)

WEBINAR

Smart villages - Slovenian experience and vision

30 March 2023, 10:00 - 11:30 (CET)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vm-koQcaoPM>

ACTIVITIES (EXAMPLES) – NETWORK TO INNOVATE



Network to Innovate: LEADER TNC projects supporting innovations and entrepreneurship

On the 14th of November 2023, National Rural Networks of Estonia, Finland, Latvia and Poland are organizing the workshop „Network to innovate: LEADER TNC projects supporting innovations.“

[READ MORE](#)



Network to Innovate: Robotic Technologies in Agriculture

On the 31st of October 2023, National Rural Networks of Estonia, Finland, Latvia and Poland are organizing the workshop „Network to innovate: Robotic Technologies in Agriculture.“

[READ MORE](#)



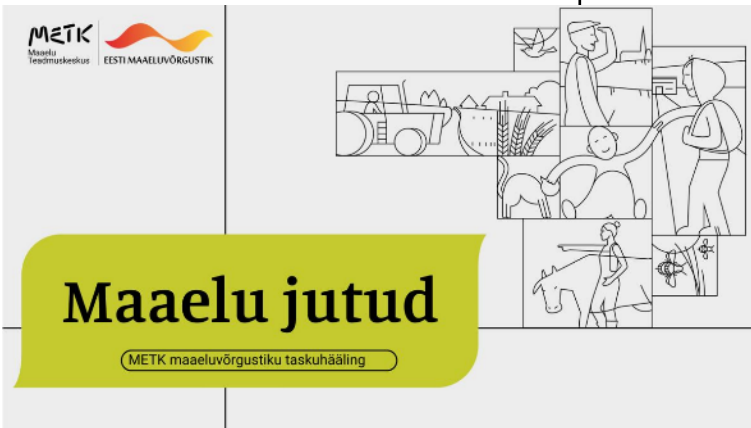
Network to Innovate: Save the Pollinators

On the 10th of October 2023, National Rural Networks of Estonia, Finland, Latvia and Poland are organizing the workshop "Network to innovate - Save the Pollinators." The workshops will give the opportunity to meet other actors in the field, exchange knowledge and possibly even form new partnerships.

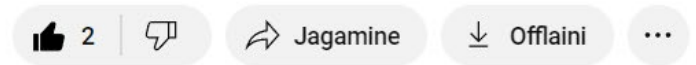
[READ MORE](#)

<https://metk.agri.ee/en/network-innovate>

ACTIVITIES (EXAMPLES) - PODCASTS



Maaelu jutud #3 - Gustav Kotkas - Iduettevõtte taustaga noortalunikust ja broilerikasvatusest



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x2H0jHxnNR8>

ACTIVITIES (EXAMPLES) – OPEN FARM DAY



Estonia's Open Farm Day 2020



Regionaal- ja Põllumajandusministeeri...

394 tellijat

Tellige

13



Jagamine

Offlaini



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yhZIp8HNzII>

NRN/AKIS CENTRE'S ACTIVITIES REGARDING SUPPORTING INNOVATION, PAST/FUTURE

Supporting
creation or
implementation of
new products,
services, work
methods
by agricultural and
rural entrepreneurs

- Stakeholder mapping, network of mentors
- Database of innovative projects
- Promoting innovative projects through newsletters, events, publications (incl CAP Network ARIA reward)
- Supporting the Ministry and the sector of setting up Innovation Clusters (contacts, brokering activities)
- Nordic-Baltic transnational EIP cooperation – one of the first transnational EIP OG projects between Finland and Estonia (dairy cluster), preparations for synchronised calls ongoing for EIP OG (launch from 2025 onwards)
- Future: participating in innovative projects (incl EIP OG) as a partner?
- Ongoing: development of multifunctional online platform (knowledge reservoir)
- Future: input to advisors' training programme - „innovation module“
- International networking and cooperation - Network to Innovate, Nordic-Baltic NRN meetings, NCPs + related HE projects (modernAKIS, EU-FarmBook, PREMIERE, Climate Farm Demo, Climate Smart Advisors)

AKIS RELATED EU PROJECTS, WHERE METK IS INVOLVED

2022

2023

EU CAP NETWORK - EIP-AGRI Support Facility – 9 years
ISS: seminars, workshops, Focus Groups, articles, networking...

INNO

EU FarmBook – 7 years
Knowledge objects, networking, feedback ...

Online platform

modernAKIS – 7 years
AKIS unit network, trainings, good practices ...

AKIS

Climate Farm Demo – 7 years
Demonstrations, advisors network, trainings, ...

ADVICE

Climate Smart Advisors – 7 years
Advisors network, trainings, demonstrations ...

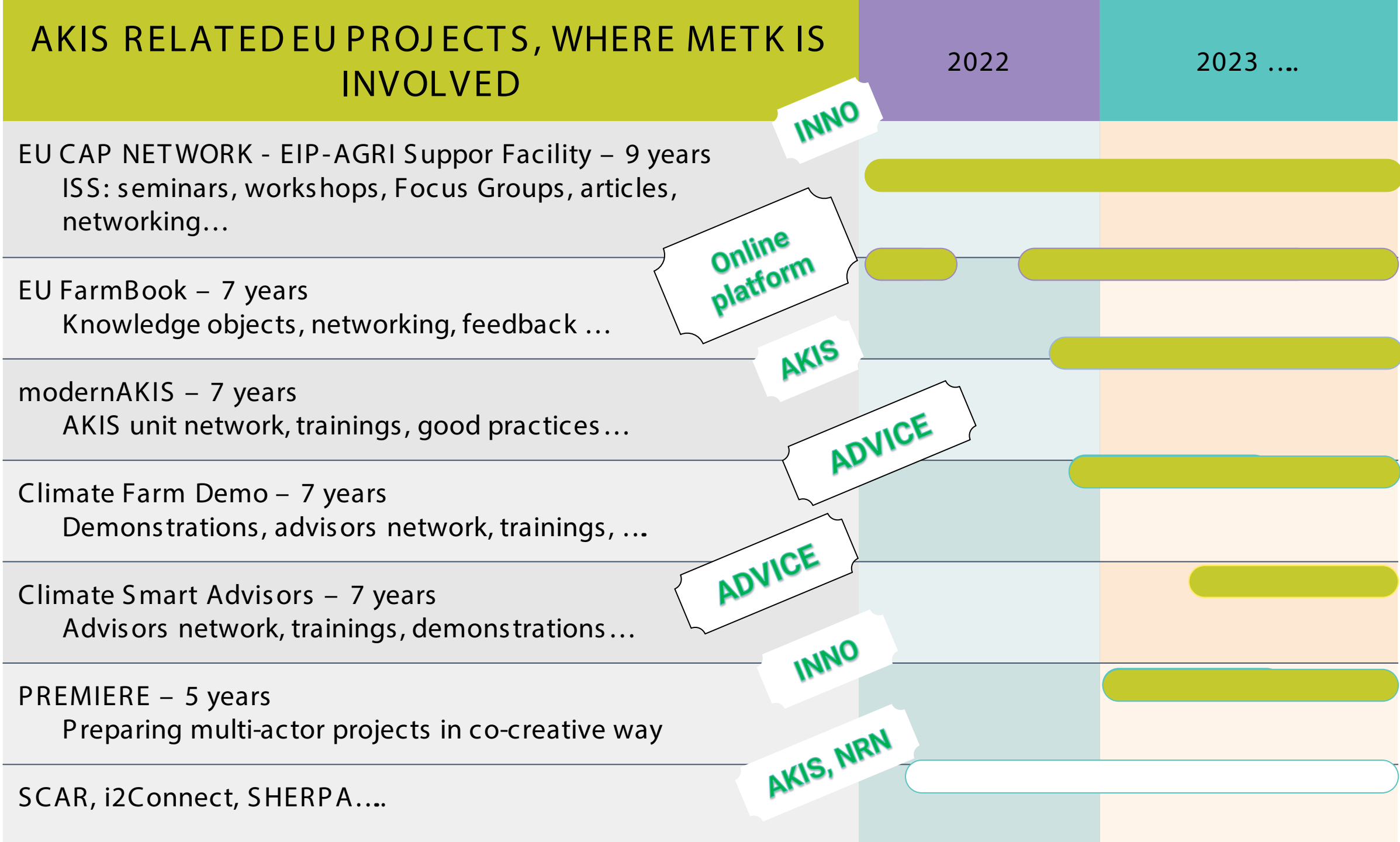
ADVICE

PREMIERE – 5 years
Preparing multi-actor projects in co-creative way

INNO

SCAR, i2Connect, SHERPA....

AKIS, NRN



METK – PARTNER IN EU EIP-AGRI SUPPORT FACILITY SINCE 2013



From left to right: farmer Ville Niskanen, ÄLYREHU coordinator Peika Kilpeläinen, Pimakkaster coordinator Hardi Tamm, and adviser Eila Niskanen on a farm visit in Finland.

Transnational cooperation in Estonia

In December 2017, Estonia launched a call specifically for cross-border Operational Groups. The first call resulted in a number of approved applications with cooperation partners from Finland.

Hardi Tamm is coordinator of the Estonian Operational Group "Pimakkaster" (Estonian Dairy Cluster). They have signed a cooperation agreement with the Finnish Operational Group ÄLYREHU. The Estonian project is developing an automated biosensing system to detect three of the most common bacteria causing mastitis in dairy cows. Their Finnish partner develops related technologies to monitor animal health, focusing on the analysis of nutritional markers in milk. The partners are going to organise on-farm pilot testing for each of the projects both in Estonia and in Finland.

Hardi Tamm: "Our experience so far has been very positive; everything has been arranged smoothly from both sides. Considering the 900 km distance between the coordinators, we have met face-to-face only twice, but we keep in touch through teleconferences and e-mails. I think both groups benefit from this transnational cooperation. Both countries have a strong capacity to develop digital tools. We are hoping that the collaboration can help to spread results more widely in agriculture."

More information: Estonian Operational Group Pimakkaster (in Estonian) and Finnish Operational Group ÄLYREHU



Some countries are encouraging cross-border collaboration by including this opportunity in their calls for Operational Groups. Estonia launched a dedicated call for cross-border Operational Groups in December 2017. Konstantin Mihnejev from the Estonian National Rural Network: "Many Estonian farmers, researchers and small entrepreneurs had told us that they had a clear need and interest in cooperating with partners from other countries. It can help them to develop new technologies, products or potential markets with the help of Operational Group partners from abroad. As a result of our first call we received four applications, including potential cooperation partners from Finland and Italy. We are very happy with this result. These partnerships will create further opportunities to achieve good results within the frame of the project, and to disseminate results more broadly at EU level"

More information: website of the Estonian NNN

"In the German state of Schleswig-Holstein, a local Operational Group has been working with an Irish expert to improve pasture management. The group's positive experience has encouraged the Managing Authority to include opportunities for international cooperation in their next call. Other Managing Authorities may do the same. If you would like to set up an Operational Group, I recommend contacting your national or regional authority to find out more about the possibilities for international cooperation."

- Konstantin Mihnejev
Estonian National Rural Network

Innovatsiooniteenistuse uudiskiri nr 6

Allikas: ÉIP-AGRI Teenistuspunkt
19. aprill 2023. a



Tervislikud, maitavad ja "sotsiaalsed" köögiviljad.

Maheköögiviljad, mis on hoolikalt kasvatatud ja koristatud vaid 30 km kaugusel Bukarestist (Rumeenia), tarnitakse linna turuhoovides just nende korimise päeval. Bio&co talu rakendab mudelit, luues töökohti ebasoodsas piirkonnas ja toetades nende kohalikku piirkonda.



Loe edasi

korraldab teadmussiirde pikaajalise programmi raames külastused **maandusühistustesse**. Külastuste eesmärgiks on näidata koostöötegevustest kontseptsiooni ja kasulikkust. Iga külastatav ühistu räägib oma tootmisprotsessist, kuidas toimub asjaajamine, liikmed ja ühistu sees toimivad tegevused. Külastused toimuvad **enne kuni 24.04**



METIK

Centre of Estonian
Rural Research
and Knowledge



„CAP networks establish a solid foundation for the dissemination of innovative ideas, cultivating increased awareness, and creating opportunities for ambitious enterprises within the agricultural and food sectors.“

Tõnis Tänav, Ministry of Regional Affairs and
Agriculture, Deputy Secretary General

**THANK
YOU!**

1st European CAP Network workshop 'National networking for innovation'

30 November – 1 December 2023
Tallinn, Estonia

All information on the workshop is available on the event webpage:

https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/events/eu-cap-network-workshop-national-networking-innovation_en

