EU CAP Network Conference
‘EIP-AGRI Operational Groups: Innovation in practice’
Estoril, Portugal
6 - 8 May 2024
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I2Connect
Some outcomes from the i2connect project

European CAP Network Conference ‘EIP-AGRI Operational Groups: Innovation in practice’
Workshop 2 ‘Facilitating: ensuring a smooth-running Operational Group project’

Estoril, Portugal, 8 May 2024
Adopting an appropriate mindset & attitude

- Not knowing solutions beforehand
- Being aware that it is an iterative process
- Taking risks (courage)
- Learning from failures
- Having confidence in the group (collective intelligence)
- Showing empathy and curiosity
- Creating a trustful environment
- Being aware of ambiguities & diverging interests
The Spiral of Initiative

• Basic assumptions:

➢ The capacity to innovate depends on the quality of relationships between AKIS partners.
➢ Advisors and innovation support agents play an essential role in strengthening such relationships.
➢ Key competences are:
  ❖ To recognise interaction patterns
  ❖ To act accordingly in the situation

• Innovation process implies an expanding network involving different actors in different phases.

• Distinguish between:

➢ Warm phases:
  ❖ People with ambitions meet, inspire others, experiment…

➢ Cold phases:
  ❖ People plan, organise, negotiate, struggle for acceptance…
What can i2connect offer to EIP-agri OGs?

• **A pool of trained experts:**
  - 75 trainers
  - 545 advisors
  - 42 managers
  - 51 students & teachers

• **An EU-wide network of advisors to exchange with:**
  - 975 advisory organisations
  - 3,500 advisors registered so far

• **Online resources to support innovation:**
  - Toolbox
  - Competency framework for advisors
  - Inspiring examples (195)
  - Good practices (30)
  - AKIS country reports (29)
  & many other inspiring reports...

• **Communication & dissemination via our website & social media**
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All information on the conference is available on the event webpage: