

Evolving Rural Innovation Governance Models in the EU



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Policy Context

- The Europe 2020 Strategy underlines the crucial role of research and innovation in preparing the EU for the future challenges
- The orientations for "the CAP towards 2020" highlight innovation as indispensable to prepare Union agriculture for the future
- The "Budget for Europe 2020" foresees 4.5 billion Euros for research and innovation in the field of food security, bio-economy and sustainable agriculture
- The Europe 2020 flagship "An Innovation Union" specifies European Innovation Partnerships (EIP) as a new tool for fostering innovation

Conceptual framework

- “The macro-economic view sees innovation as a linear process from (basic) research via R&D to a commercial application” while “the systems of innovation approach [focuses on] interaction between different stakeholders in the innovation process”
- “The second order transition [in rural development paradigms] ... implies the need for a radical shift in policies in innovation”
- “Social innovation refers to not only social aspects of the innovation process ... but also to the fact that social problems need innovative approaches”

Standing Committee for Agricultural Research, 2012



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What are the Challenges and Opportunities?



**Biodiversity
Habitats**

**Economic
Viability**



Food production



**Bio-energy
Bio-mass**



Climate Change

**Food Chain
integration**



**Resource
management**

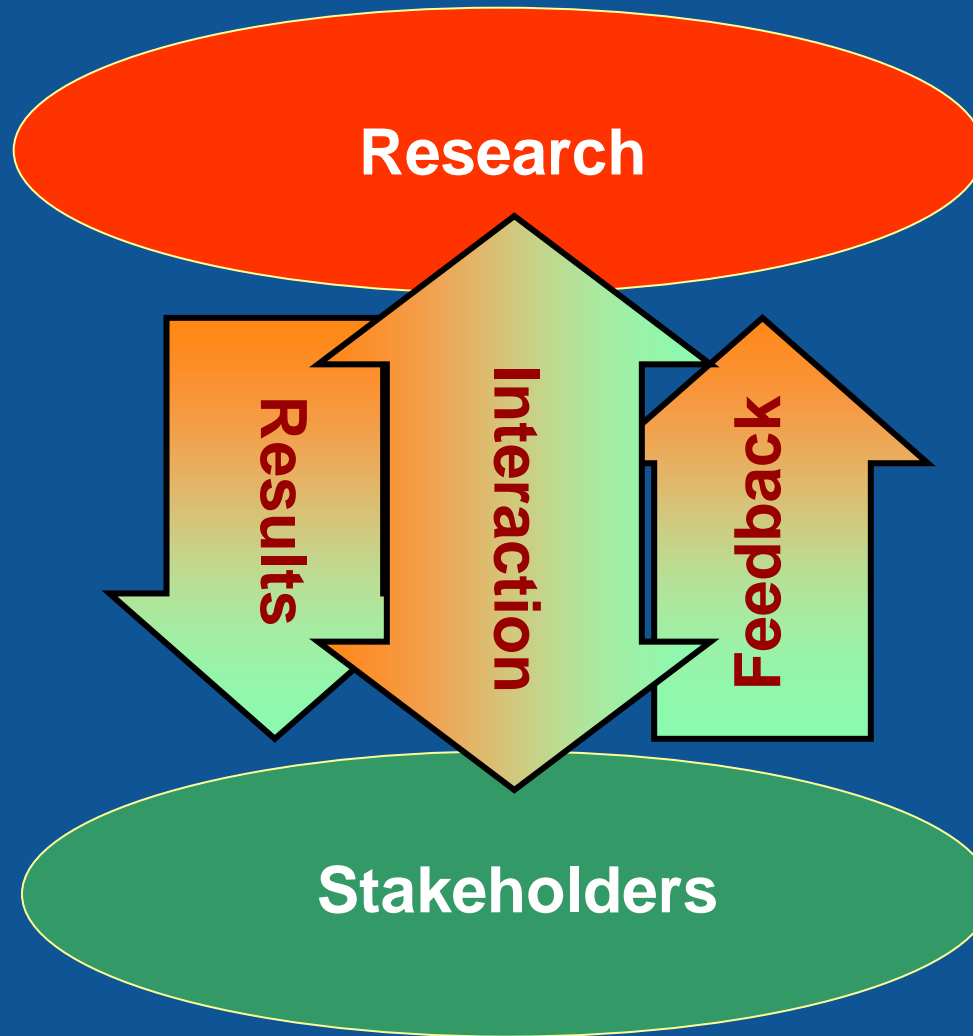


Vibrant rural areas



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Where is the Innovation Gap?



What solutions are needed?

Challenge-driven solutions need to:

- Pursue innovation across the whole supply chain
- Interlink existing innovation-related activities
- Facilitate communication among stakeholders to create workable links between science and practice
- Provide EU value added through networking and enhancing complementarity
- Achieve synergies and enhance the effectiveness of existing instruments

What means are at our disposal?

Rural Development Programmes

- Knowledge transfer, information and advisory services
- Investments
- Co-operation
- Networks, clusters, pilot and demonstration projects
- EIP for Agricultural productivity and sustainability

European Union Research Policy (Horizon 2020)

- Research projects enhancing the knowledge base
- Clusters of innovation actions and multi-actor projects
- Support for innovation brokers and innovation centres
- On-farm experimentation

What are European Innovation Partnerships?

A new approach to EU research and innovation, which aim to:

- Remove barriers in the chain between research and bringing innovation to the market;
- Define a common vision and mobilise resources rapidly;
- Cut time to application of innovation breakthroughs;
- Overcome fragmentation of efforts and reduce complexity

Which themes are covered so far?

- Raw materials
- Active ageing
- Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability
- Water

Bringing the Agricultural EIP to life



Note: Operational groups are independent of source of funding



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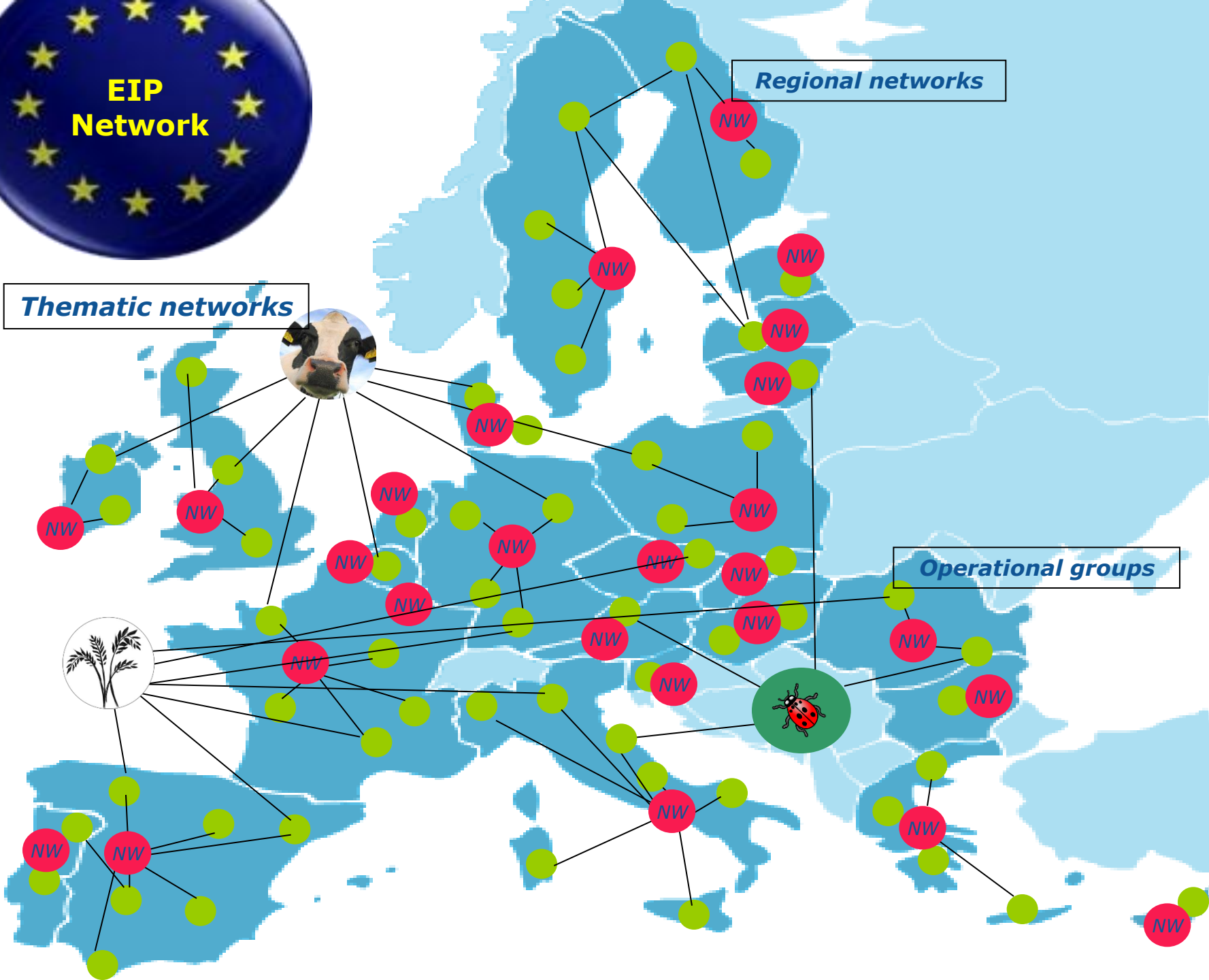
***How will the groups
be brought together?***



Thematic networks

Regional networks

Operational groups



Why an EIP network facility?

- Interlink innovation-related actions of RD and Research Policy
- Collect relevant information (data bases, project lists, etc.)
- Ensure flow of information & provide advice (helpdesk function)
- Exchange on innovation topics, best practice, and research
- Systematic feedback to scientific community on practice needs
- Exchange with Technology Platforms (ETPs) and Networks
- Interface with the Standing Committee for Ag Research (SCAR)



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How does that all add up?



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Thank you for your attention!