



modern  
**AKIS**

Together for  
Systems' Innovation

## modernAKIS project

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the European Union

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# modernAKIS

## KEY DATA ON THE PROJECT:

**Objective:** modernAKIS aims to improve key AKIS actors' capacities to leverage individual, organizational and systemic resources needed to accelerate the transformation towards more coherent, effective and efficient AKIS systems and the transition to a more sustainable management and use of natural resources in farming and forestry.

**Duration:** 7 years,  
01.09.2022 – 31.08.2029

**Budget:** approx. €10 Mio.

**Partner organisations:**  
37 partners from all 27 EU  
Member States (see map)



Given the novelty and complexity of designing, implementing and monitoring the AKIS, the European Commission (EC) launched a project call to **support the AKIS CBs and AKIS communities in the Member States in improving the AKIS**. This led to the proposal of the **modernAKIS project** - Modernisation of Agriculture through more efficient and effective agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems.



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the European Union**

Call: HORIZON-CL6-2021-GOVERNANCE-01

<https://modernakis.eu/>



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on

# What is an Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS)?



**The main players:** farmers/foresters, advisors, researchers, organizations, NGOs, networks, retailers, media, services, various ministries....:

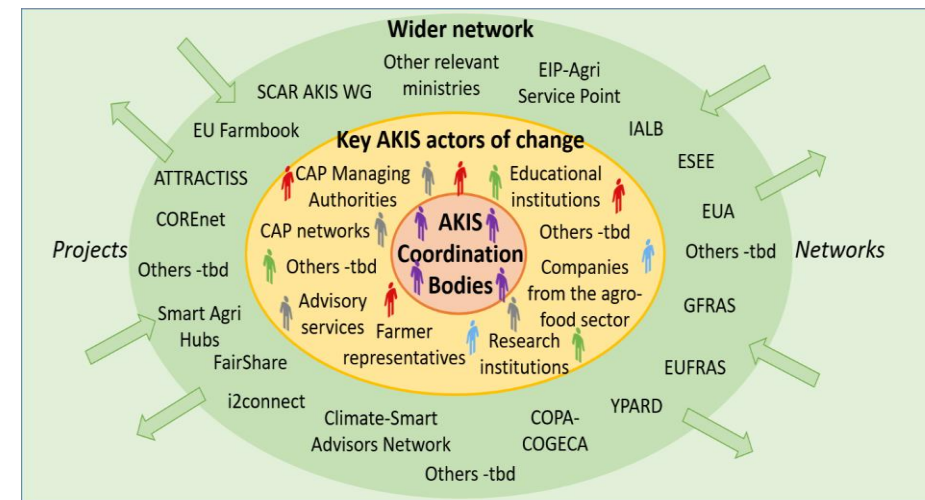
**Defined as the organizations, systems and people**, including the that are active in the creation, dissemination and use of knowledge and information, with the aim of supporting decision-making, problem-solving and innovation in agriculture

## Background:

- **European Union (EU) visionary goals** (e.g. European Green Deal) to tackle climate change, sustainability etc.
- Timely access and ability to integrate rapidly evolving scientific knowledge, innovation and technological developments across all actors who participate in agricultural value chains is key to a successful transition towards the European vision
- **2021-2027 Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)** stipulates the importance of effective Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKISs) in this regard.

# Project objectives

- **Build a European network** of AKIS actors from all EU MS
- **Build capacities of AKIS coordination bodies (AKIS CBs)** to improve the organization and functioning of their AKIS
- **Build capacities of key AKIS actors** and coach them to set-up and sustain local/regional/national AKIS **Communities of Practice in all MS**
- Provide a **knowledge exchange platform, tools and methods** supporting knowledge flows
- **Collect and exchange practice-oriented knowledge** on how advisors and innovation support can be integrated into the AKIS
- Development of **cross-border approaches** to initiate and incentivize innovation





## WP1

### Knowledge base

- **Transformative AKIS Journeys**
- Benchmarking tool & indicators
- Best and good practices for AKIS well-functioning



## WP2

### Cooperation structures

- **Communities of Practice**
- **General Assembly**
- **Network**
- **Digital platform**



## WP3

### Capacity development

- **Capacity development** on AKIS models and knowledge flows
- National AKIS workshops
- Online modules



## WP4

### International exchange

- **cross-country Communities of Practice**
- Topic based exchange (advisors and ISS, policy measures, digitalization, education)



### Sharing project results and ensuring sustainable use

- Social media, website
- Yearly online AKIS workshops
- 2 international AKIS conferences



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## AKIS Coordinating Body (...based on Malta's CAP SP)

- ✓ The current knowledge transfer and advisory set-up in Malta **requires better consolidation**.
- ✓ The CAP SP will aim to ensure a more coordinated approach to knowledge transfer, innovation and digitalisation in Malta among key actors such as **the Malta College for Arts, Science and Technology (MCAST), Malta Council for Science and Technology (MCST), University of Malta, Agriculture Directorate, other private advisors** who assist in the drafting of applications, and **entities responsible for setting up training courses** aimed at supporting arable land farmers and livestock breeders
- ✓ The **AKIS Coordination Body** will facilitate the implementation of the CAP SP deliverables linked to:
  - Education and all types of training experiences;
  - Improving the relevance and uptake of research & innovation by potential CAP beneficiaries;
  - Knowledge Transfer and Farm Advisory Services;
  - Improved networking, collaboration and development of innovation support services to strengthen links between research, registered advisors, the farming community, and cooperation & interactive-innovation projects, including the Digital Transition in Agriculture.

### CAP Strategic Plan 2021 Report

CCI	2023MT06AFSP001
Title in English	Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plan - Malta
Title in national language(s)	MT - Pjan Strategiku tal-Politika Agrikola Komuni - Malta
Version	2.1
First year	2023
Last year	2027
Eligible from	1 Jan 2023
Eligible until	
Commission decision number	
Commission decision date	
Fund(s) concerned	EAGF, EAFRD
Report generation date	12/12/2023 07:10

# The AKIS Coordinating Body in other MS

SWEDEN	SPAIN
<div data-bbox="160 347 1225 891"> <div>SWEDEN</div> <div> <div> <div>Support granted for:</div> <div>EIP - AGRI</div> <div>Cooperation</div> <div>Knowledge exchange and dissemination of information</div> </div> <div> <div>Assessment and prioritisation of needs</div> <div>Managing Authority</div> </div> <div> <div>Article 15 – Farm advisory services</div> </div> <div> <div>Coordination of Knowledge hubs</div> <div> <div>Livestock production</div> <div>Environment &amp; Climate</div> <div>Digitalisation</div> <div>Management &amp; Entrepreneurship</div> </div> </div> <div> <div>Swedish Board of Agriculture</div> </div> <div> <div>AKIS Coordination Body</div> </div> <div> <div>Swedish CAP Network</div> <div>EIP advisory services (innovation brokers)</div> </div> <div> <div>Communities of Practices</div> <div> <div>AKIS</div> <div>Sustainable Agriculture</div> </div> <div>Innovation coach</div> <div> <div>Innovation and knowledge exchange</div> <div>Newsletter, seminars LinkedIn, podcasts, project plans, results and articles</div> </div> </div> </div> </div>	<div data-bbox="1312 325 2420 882"> <p>Co-leadership of <b>Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food</b> and <b>Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities</b> at a high level (both Vice Ministers). This is important because Spanish Recovery and Reflects Spain ambition for reforms in the Science, Technology and Innovation Policy with the commitment to strengthen the coordination and governance of Spanish Science, Technology and Innovation System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better alignment with the governance mechanisms provided for in Title I of Law 14/2011 on Science, Technology and Innovation e.g. the AKIS Coord Body will report to pre-existing coordination committees (National –Regional Committee for Agriculture and Food, National – Regional Committee for Science Technology and Innovation Policy)</li> <li>• Encourages regional AKIS governance: two seats per region</li> <li>• Maintains the three foreseen working groups: TRAINING / ADVISORY SERVICES / R&amp;D</li> </ul> </div>

## Deliverable 1.3

Compendium of insightful new know-how and ready-for-practice solutions

Due date of deliverable: M14 – October 2023  
Actual submission date: M14 – October 2023

<https://modernakis.eu/wp-content/uploads/D1.3.pdf>



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# AKIS Coordinating Body General Assembly – Biannual

## Online General Assembly

- Annual
- 7 in total
- 2023: March online

## Face-to-face General Assembly

- Annual
- 7 in total
- 2023: October/November in Spain



## 1 AKIS CBs face-to-face General Assembly

- Annual
- 7 in total



General Assembly	min. 54	max. 162
Participants per country	min. 2	max. 6
AKIS CBs per country	min. 1 AKIS CB	<b>MANDATORY</b> min. 1 AKIS CB
Nomination of delegates for each country	AKIS CBs in cooperation with modernAKIS project partners	
Key AKIS actors	e.g. project partners, CAP network managers, policy officers in Managing Authorities, managers of advisory organizations and innovation support services, educators	
Duration	2 days (1/2 day + 1 full day)	
Activities	Capacity building and networking in the form of plenary sessions, parallel discussion groups Field visits at selected AKIS examples	

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming AKIS CB General Assembly scheduled for **November 14 – 15, 2024 via Zoom.**



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# modernAKIS – Communities of Practice

## 1. Country-based (national) CoPs: set up at country/regional level

- ✓ **multi-actor** interaction and dialogue, support to AKIS CB, trust building among the local key actors of change  
(**min. 1 CoP/MS**)
- ✓ will support AKIS CB's job to implement AKIS
- ✓ Existing AKIS groups → modernAKIS cbCoPs if they meet principles and perform similar functions
- ✓ 3600 euro / national CoP catering, venue, travel & accommodation
- ✓ National CoP meetings should be organized **2-3 times per year (at least 1x/year as a physical meeting)**. Each organizer has a budget of 600 euro/year for national CoP meetings. This budget can be used for venue, catering and travel.

### Potential structures – ideas discussed up until now with different MS

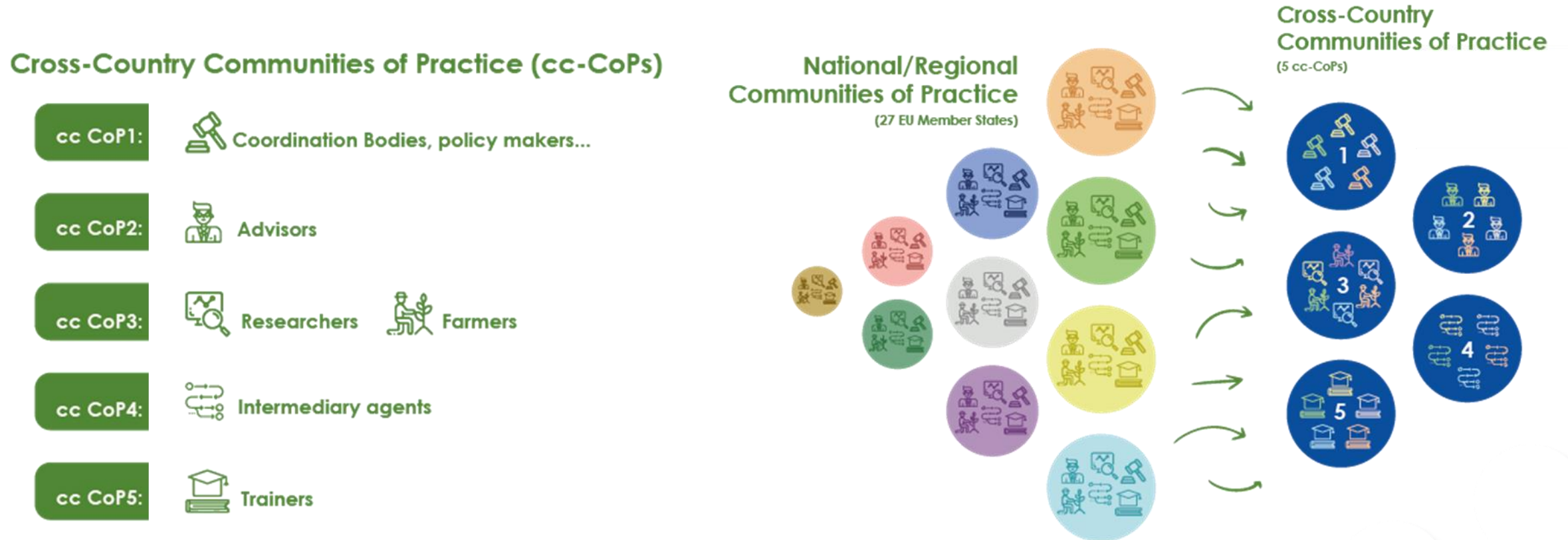
Situation „as is“	AKIS CoP is planned as part of the CAP Network	Several topical CoPs are set-up and running	A Strategic Board (SB) of Experts already performs similar CoP functions	A separate organizational structure has been set-up as an AKIS CB	There are several CoPs/Boards at regional level, who perform CoP functions (regionalized AKIS)
„Integration idea“	Use as is for modernAKIS activities	Bring their members together (in variable composition) in a “meta-CoP” addressing AKIS	Use SB meetings and extend with CoP topics, possibly add key AKIS actors only for these parts of the meeting	Use this structure to set-up and manage the modernAKIS CoP	Bring their members together (in variable composition) in a “meta-CoP” addressing AKIS
Check	Key AKIS actors profiles Questions regarding double funding	Key AKIS actors profiles Transparent guidelines on participation (time, role etc.) in the “meta-CoP” Clear communication channels	Key AKIS actors profiles to make sure AKIS plurality is really represented in discussions	Key AKIS actors profiles	Key AKIS actors profiles Transparent guidelines on participation (time, role etc.) in the “meta-CoP” Clear communication channels



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# modernAKIS – Communities of Practice

## 2. Cross-country CoPs: set up EU wide (by nomination by cbCoPs)



# modernAKIS – Communities of Practice

## Cross-country CoPs: set up EU wide (by nomination by cbCoPs)

- ✓ focus on the learning between countries, organised around topical areas pertinent to the CAP Strategic Plans of the MS
- ✓ The ccCoPs are participatory groups composed of actors from each Member State with the aim of exchanging knowledge, generating capacities, and sharing good practices within the thematic framework of their interest.
- ✓ From each national CoP, **one member (maximum two)** will be identified internally to participate annually in the meetings established for the ccCoP that they join
- ✓ Each ccCoP will have 1 or 2 meeting per year
- ✓ There are 5 ccCoPs with 5 different thematic frameworks....

# modernAKIS – Communities of Practice

Cross-country CoPs: set up EU wide (by nomination by cbCoPs)

	Total meetings	Next meeting
<b>ccCoP1</b> Policy, CAP intervention	7 online 7 in person	April 2024 <i>in person</i>
<b>ccCoP2</b> Advisors	9 online 5 in person	April 2024 <i>in person</i>
<b>ccCoP3</b> Research & Practice	7 online	March 2024 <i>online</i>
<b>ccCoP4</b> Knowledge access & flows	7 online 7 in person	TBC
<b>ccCoP5</b> Education	7 online	TBC



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Training materials

Practices

Events

Toolkit

# Welcome to AKISConnect

## Shaping the Future of Agricultural Innovation!

Embark on a journey of transformative collaboration with AKISConnect, where actors from all over Europe converge to leverage the power of Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems.

Not a member yet?

[Join Now](#)

## AKIS-in-Practice

In this section, we present a curated collection of real practices followed by European Union Member States, organized around specific themes. Each theme offers a glimpse into innovative approaches, successful interventions, and best practices implemented by Member States within the framework of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS). From sustainable farming techniques to rural development initiatives, these real-world examples demonstrate the diversity and effectiveness of strategies employed by EU countries to address agricultural challenges, promote resilience, and foster socio-economic growth in rural communities. Explore these thematic showcases to gain inspiration, insights, and practical knowledge for advancing agricultural sustainability and innovation across Europe.

Filters

[Clear filters](#)

Country

Target Users

Topics

☒ Advisor's training
 ☐ Cross-visits
 ☐ Farmers training
 ☒ Functional organisation of the AKIS coordination bodies
 ☐ Organisation of back-office services
 ☐ Peer-to-peer learning among

Keywords

Year

### Train-the-trainers for innovation support

Croatia/Italy, Veneto

Member States in their CAP Strategic Plans have to ensure that advisory services will provide innovation support, in particular for preparing and for implementing the projects of the EIP operational groups (art. 15 Reg. EU 2021/2115). This requires advisory services to enlarge their services from th...



Do you want to gain insights on overarching themes of the AKISs and their contribution to the CAP?

[Learn more →](#)

[Interactive innovation](#) [Operational groups](#) [Advisor's training](#)

Theme:

[3. Training and knowledge exchange](#)

### AKIS Coordination body in Spain

Spain

The current political and territorial organization of Spain (based on Spanish Constitution), shape a decentralized system in which the regions (NUTS-2 according to Eurostat) have much of the responsibilities and decision-making powers.



[AKIS coordination bodies](#) [Governance](#)

Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS). From sustainable farming techniques to rural development initiatives, these real-world examples demonstrate the diversity and effectiveness of strategies employed by EU countries to address agricultural challenges, promote resilience, and foster socio-economic growth in rural communities. Explore these thematic showcases to gain inspiration, insights, and practical knowledge for advancing agricultural sustainability and innovation across Europe.

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Country

Target Users

Topics

Keywords

☐ climate mitigation measures
 ☐ Decision support tools
 ☐ Digital Advisory Tools
 ☒ digital knowledge platforms
 ☐ EIP

### Digital Knowledge platforms: the case of InnovaRurale

Italy

One of the tasks of the CAP Networks is to promote and facilitate the exchange and dissemination of knowledge and innovations. Indeed, this became more and more necessary since the time of implementation of the EIP-Agri initiative that, already through the Rural development programmes 2014-2022 (RDP...



Do you want to gain insights on overarching themes of the AKISs and their contribution to the CAP?

[Learn more →](#)

[Knowledge sharing](#) [Digital knowledge platforms](#) [CAP network](#)

Theme:

[4. Organizing CAP networks](#)

## Training materials

Our training modules on Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) offer a comprehensive understanding of the complexities inherent in agricultural systems. We invite you to explore the challenges facing modern agriculture, delve into the dynamics of AKIS ecosystem, and learn the importance and process of diagnosing AKIS for effective problem-solving.



### Module 1: The need for systems approaches in agriculture and interrelated fields

Module 1, "The Need for Systems Approaches in Agriculture and Interrelated Fields," introduces the importance of using systems thinking to address modern agricultural challenges. In 25 minutes, you'll learn about the components of a system, the concept of systems thinking, and how this approach can help tackle complex problems in agriculture and related fields.

[Access Module](#)



### Module 2 (Part 1): Understanding the AKIS as a system

Module 2 Part 1, "Understanding the AKIS as a System," covers the Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS) and will take around 25 minutes to complete. By the end, you will be able to define AKIS, identify its key actors, and describe the relationships between these actors.

[Access Module](#)

<https://akisconnect.eu/>

## Next-steps...

- ✓ Definition of the local AKIS CB set-up: who are the entities entasked with driving this role, and what are their responsibilities?
- ✓ Discussion on synergistic collaboration between CAP Network and modernAKIS project:
  - Attendance of AKIS CB GA – online – 14-15 November 2024
  - Attendance to upcoming in-person AKIS CB GAs – Who should invitations be directed to?
  - How will AKIS items be discussed within thhe framework of the CAP network: frequency of meetings? Subgroups? CoPs?
  - Who would be interested in representing the Maltese network/AKIS in the ccCoPs?



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# Thankyou!

# Questions?



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