

# A) Digitalisation in CAP SP **SWOT** and needs assessment

**Do you have a national sectoral or cross-sectoral **digital strategy**? If yes, what are the **main priorities** of the strategy in the field of agriculture and/ or rural areas?**

The Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality focuses on the development of a digitalization strategy specifically for the agricultural and horticultural sectors, in line with the Dutch Digitization Strategy with the specific elements:

- Dissemination of knowledge within the AKIS; among other things by digitizing all data flows in the agricultural and food system
- Nutrient management;
- Precision agriculture; including the more efficient use of inputs and the reduction of emissions/waste/residual flows;
- Monitoring and accountability (CAP Rural development programmes for biodiversity - POP; EIP-AGRI)

# A) Digitalisation in CAP SP **SWOT** and needs assessment

- **What are your main CAP **SWOT** elements in your CAP Strategic Plan which are directly or indirectly linked to digitalization**

## Strengths of the Dutch AKIS

- It is well developed and diverse, with short lines between research and business;
- There is a wide variety of information officers, intermediaries and information officers, from individual entrepreneurs to institutions at system level;
- The average pre-education of the Dutch farmer is higher than the EU average;
- A lot of peer-to-peer knowledge development, as in the practice networks.

# A) Digitalisation in CAP SP **SWOT** and needs assessment

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## Weaknesses of the Dutch AKIS system

- The multitude of information from a multitude of sources that is available to the farmer generates an 'information fog' that has not been sufficiently translated into practical level, i.e. the farmyard;
- Market competition in advisory services linked to suppliers leads to potentially conflicting advice;
- There is a limited overview of innovation initiatives that come from practice (bottom-up);
- Limited upscaling of the communities of practices at farm level.

# Positioning AKIS digitalisation in national CAP

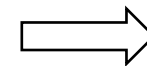
## National and regional policy

Innovation on the farmyard (Dutch program)	Innovation policy	Digital strategy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Independent advisors and coaches.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Topsectors (sectortheme specific PPPs)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote innovation and Communities of Practice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthening innovations (mission-driven)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve accessibility to measures on innovation and knowledge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge and Innovation agenda's; regional specialization plans</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greenports</li> </ul>	



## Needs formulated for Dutch AKIS

Knowledge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognition and support of impartial advisors and coaches</li> <li>Better access (for farmers) to advice and coaching</li> <li>Better flow of knowledge in AKIS system</li> </ul>
Innovation:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Better access to innovation measures</li> <li>More coherence in innovation projects</li> </ul>
Network:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wider and more intensive national CAP supporting network</li> </ul>
Digital strategy:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear digital strategy with starting points for National Strategic Plan (knowledge dissemination, data and precision agriculture)</li> </ul>



## Five priorities for AKIS:

- Stimulate knowledge
- Acknowledgement of independent advisors and coaches: certification system
- Improve innovation
- More ambitious (collaborative) national CAP network: social interfaces
- Set up and execute digital strategy: technological AND social interfaces (fitness to farm practice)

## B) Digitalisation interventions in CAP SP

### Opportunities for digitalization:

- Facilitates dealing with the amount of information flows
- Allows for more attention to bottom-up knowledge development
- Education / training on (digital) skills will facilitate the use of mobile applications and internet of things.

### Improved data exchange support key elements of Dutch agricultural policy:

- Precision (circular) agriculture, including the more efficient use of inputs and the reduction of emissions/waste/residual flows (circularity);
- Digital apps for nutrient management (FaST);
- Transparency (and certification) in the chain, e.g. by means of certification of independent agricultural advisors and involvement of chain partners in digitalization

# Farmers' feedback on SWOT

- Research is still too little focused on practical impact;
- Seek more involvement of farmers in scientific knowledge development and innovation;
- Seek better connection with all actors within the AKIS, including the chain parties.
- Stress importance of a pool of measures per province
- Use quality driven selection criteria
- Importance of social innovation as an integral part of the AKIS.