

# Meeting of the SWG SCAR AKIS Strategic Working Group on Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems

## Social Innovation in the AKIS

24 November 2021 - Member State: **Spain**

**SCAR**  
Standing Committee  
on Agricultural Research



# A) Context & Need - SPAIN



- Is social innovation **recognized and acknowledged** in your Member State as a real need in agriculture, forestry and rural development?

Social innovation, as for what it entails (Bettina B. BOCK 2012) is widely recognized and acknowledged in agriculture, forestry and rural development, **hand by hand with the CAP**. It has historically promoted social *mechanisms*, *objectives* and *transformation* throughout its implementation. As examples we find:

*LEADER (as collective learning), Rural Women (social transformation), Bioeconomy, Integrated Management Systems, Organic farming (responsiveness to environment), among many others.*

The term is mainly recognized and acknowledged (=USED) in the **rural development arena**, and mainly referred to Social transformation in the rural areas: Fighting against **depopulation, generation renewal**, newcomers...



Innovación social: una herramienta imprescindible para las zonas rurales marginadas



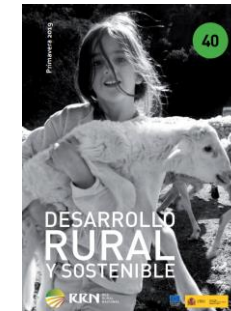
# A) Context & Need – SPAIN



- In your expert opinion, what are the **main rural sectors / contexts/areas** in which social innovation is needed in your Member State? –

## - Social transformation of rural areas →

Rural population  
Young  
Women  
Generation Renewal



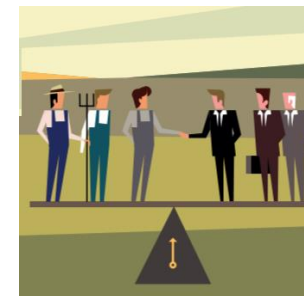
## - Social mechanisms →

Digital transformation – Connectivity  
Knowledge transfer and farmer's qualification



## - Social impact of agriculture →

Farmers in food chain  
Agricultural worker's conditions  
*Food safety and Quality / Food waste/Local production..*



# A) Context & Need – SPAIN



- Is the **SWOT** mentioning social aspects that need to be tackled - Is the **need** for fostering “**social innovation**” identified in your draft CAP Strategic Plan?

## 8th Specific Objective

- N01. CAPITALIZE AND INCREASE THE **ATTRACTIVENESS THAT RURAL ENVIRONMENT** REPRESENTS FOR CERTAIN SECTORS OF SOCIETY WITH VIEWS TO FAVOUR BOTH THE PERMANENCE AND THE SETTLEMENT OF NEW POPULATION IN THE RURAL ENVIRONMENT, ESPECIALLY YOUNG PEOPLE AND WOMEN.
- N02. PROMOTE THE VISIBILITY AND EMPOWERMENT OF **RURAL WOMEN**.
- N05. IMPROVE THE PROVISION OF INFRASTRUCTURES AND SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS, AS A FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENT TO **STOP THE LOSS OF POPULATION** AND IMPROVE COMPETITIVENESS AND GENERATION OF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME.
- N06. ENSURE AND PROMOTE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN **ENDOGENOUS DEVELOPMENT** AND THE GENERATION OF ADDED VALUE ASSOCIATED WITH **PARTICIPATORY METHODOLOGY**.
- N07. IMPROVE THE **SITUATION OF COLLECTIVES AT RISK OF SOCIAL EXCLUSION** FROM THE RURAL ENVIRONMENT WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON YOUNG PEOPLE, WOMEN AND IMMIGRANT POPULATION THROUGH THE DEPLOYMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF NEW QUALITY TECHNOLOGIES AND INTEGRATION OF THEIR NEEDS IN THE ADVISORY AND TRAINING SYSTEMS.

*CAP SP*  
“**Social innovation**” us  
such a term has not been  
identified.  
But related issues, yes.

# A) Context & Need – SPAIN



- Is the **SWOT** mentioning social aspects that need to be tackled - Is the **need** for fostering “social innovation” identified in your draft CAP Strategic Plan?

## Cross-cutting Objective

N01. FOSTER THE ***TRAINING AND THE EXCHANGE OF KNOWLEDGE*** IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

N02. FOSTER THE ADVISORY SERVICES, THE ADVISOR’S TRAINING AND THEIR INTERACTIONS

N03. REINFORCE THE ***INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM*** AND THE MONITORING OF INNOVATIONS DEVELOPED

N04. DEVELOP ACTIONS ON THE NEEDS OF THE SECTOR RELATED TO DIGITISATION TO ***ENABLE THE ADOPTION OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES***

N05. FOSTER THE EXCHANGE OF KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCES AMONG THE STAKEHOLDER OF AKIS

N06. STRENGTHEN AND ADAPT THE GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES IN AKIS

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But related issues, yes.*

## A) Context & Need

- What are the **main obstacles** that currently exist in your Member States for **fostering** social innovation in these rural sectors / contexts?
  - Depopulation of rural areas → ↓rural services, ↓generation renewal , ↓ entrepreneurship and initiatives → *Depend on different policies*
  - Elderly farmers → ↓qualification and innovation
  - Connectivity = ↓ rural services (among others) ↑ urban-rural gap
  - Farm income → ↓ invest on new technologies, ↓generation renewal ...

## C) Strengthening the AKIS for social innovation

- What **concrete AKIS interventions** are proposed for strengthening the **fostering of social innovation** in your Member State?



EIP- AGRI innovation projects and other pilot projects  
On farm thematic demonstration networks  
Knowledge exchange programs between AKIS actors  
Non-regulated training and acquisition of skills in digitization  
Training of advisers in digitalisation matters  
Demonstration activities on digitalisation  
Establishment and provision of digital advisory services

## B) Existing good practice for fostering social innovation

- Is it possible to identify **existing good practices** for the **fostering** of social innovation in your Member State? **What** are these existing good practices? **How** are they supported? **Who** is implementing them? To **what extent** have these existing good practices for **fostering** social innovation been **supported to-date by the CAP** (notably rural development measures)?
- LEADER & EIP AGRI are the main sources of examples of social innovation. National Rural Network and EIP – AGRI contact point have disseminate them through a publication and an specific event.  
  
*[SIMRA](#) (H2020): Social innovation in marginated rural areas. Guide for evaluating social innovation and examples.*  
*[OG INNOLAND](#) : Social Innovation in Land Management. Several Common Land Management Initiatives to avoid abandonment of rural areas.*  
*[OG RETA](#): Red de Espacios-Test Agrarios. Several LAGs in a OG to facilitate the incorporation of new agents into the agricultural sector by offering them the possibility to firstly test their idea on farm.*
- Other private examples thorough *awards* (PROMARCA) for the food industry. Social innovation related to corporate social responsibility.





## Discussion:

All comments, questions and suggestions very welcome!



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**Thank you for your  
attention!  
and for your active participation  
and commitment!**

