



i2connect
INTERACTIVE INNOVATION

SCAR AKIS - Excellence Class workshop

21th of June 2022

Time	Activity
9:00 - 9:10	Welcome & introduction to I2Connect
9:10 - 9:20	Enabling environment and experiences of the first day
9:20 - 10:30	Peer to peer consultation
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee
11:00 - 11:30	Discussion with fishbowl method
11:30 - 12:00	Cross analysis of AKIS reports

01 I2connect (reminder & update)

Sylvain Sturel,
French Chambers of Agriculture

i2connect in brief

- **General objective:** Foster interactive innovation to support the transition of agriculture and forestry
- **Specific objectives :**
 - Strengthen the skills of individual advisors
 - Strengthen the role of advisors in the wider AKIS
 - Create a European network of innovation advisors
- **Partners:** 42 (21 countries), incl. 4 European networks
- **Duration:** November 2019 - October 2024

Target groups

- Active advisors 300 trained so far
- Trainers 51
- Managers 17
- Future advisors 25
- Other AKIS actors ~200 (2 workshops)

Project activities & collaboration opportunities

- AKIS reports & stakeholders workshops (29 / 2)
- Database of advisors (~600)
- Practical cases in i2 support (105 / 10)
- Training courses & a toolbox for i2
- Networking innovation advisors
- Conferences: mid term conference, 9-11 Nov. 2022 in Hungary

02 Enabling environment

Jos Verstegen,
Wageningen University and
Research

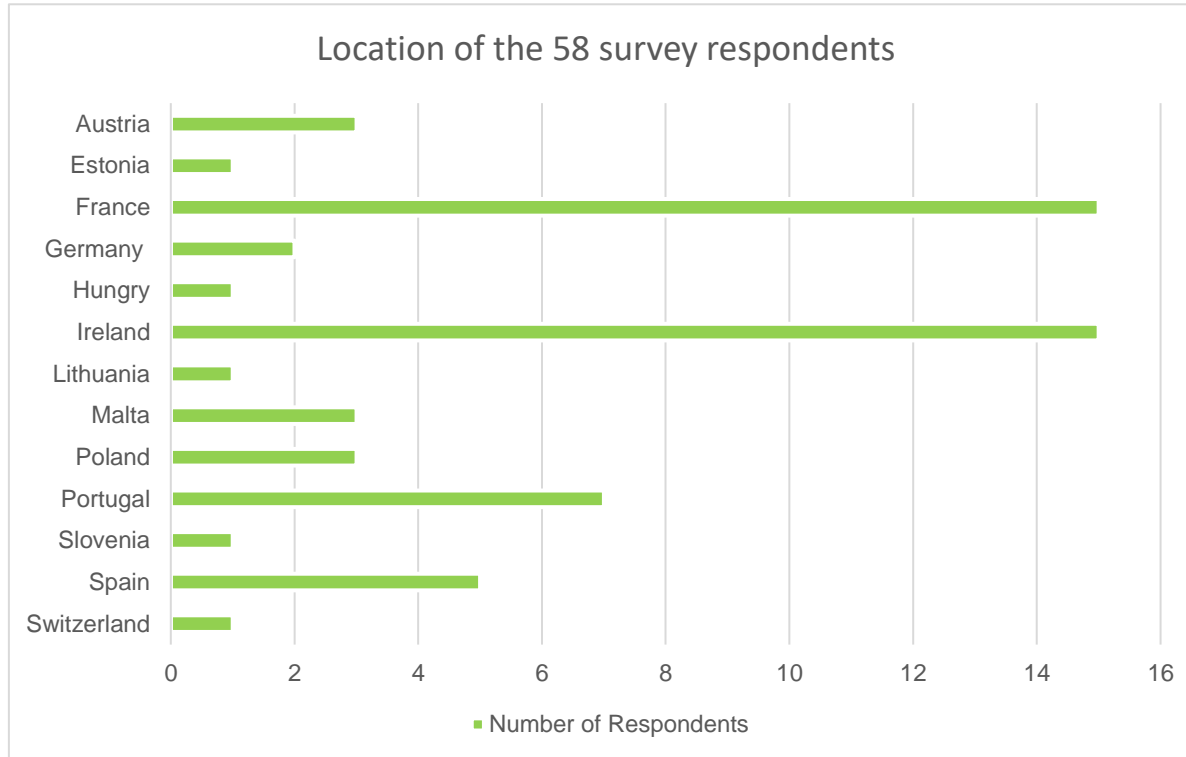
What is an i2connect Excellence Class?

The Excellence Class is a master class designed for managers in the field of agricultural advice and innovation

Inspiration from the i2connect project and findings and lessons learnt on interactive innovation will be complemented with participants' experiences and ideas

Resulting in a shared vision on how to create a good biotope, in which the organization and its advisors are optimally equipped for guiding interactive innovation processes

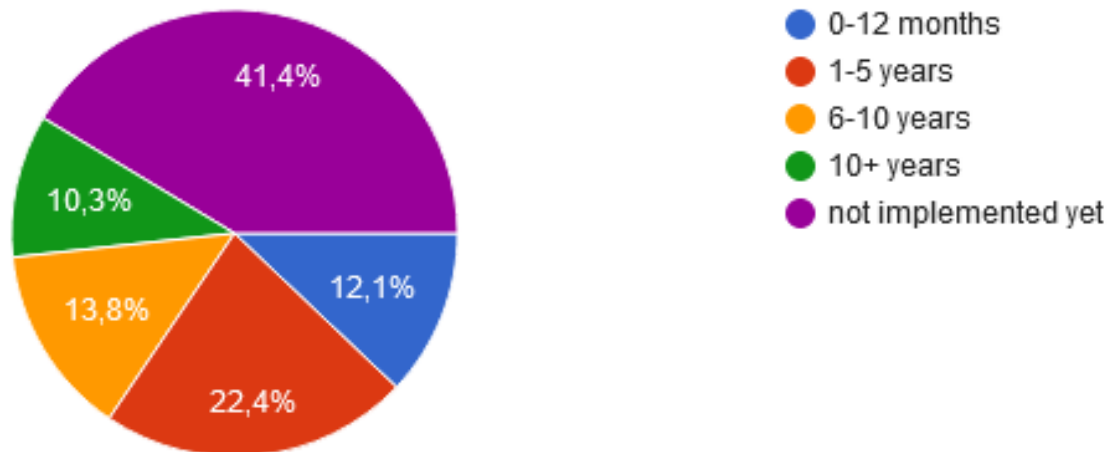




Experience with interactive innovation

14. If you have created an environment to promote interactive innovation when was it implemented?

58 réponses



Mind-map



Key: **Answer occurrence is > 75%**
Answer occurrence is between 50 and 75%
Answer occurrence is between 25 and 50%
Answer occurrence is below 25%

Each Excellence Class will consists of three parts

- The 1st part was an online webinar explaining on interactive innovation
- In Lugo we have two full days
- Day 1: Enabling environment, Business model innovation, Case work, Human Resources and Competences
- Day 2: SCAR-AKIS exchange, Organizational aspects
- Each Excellence Class will have a maximum of 20 participants
- The Excellence Class will be organized four times, meaning that, in total, 80 managers can participate







03 Workshop approach

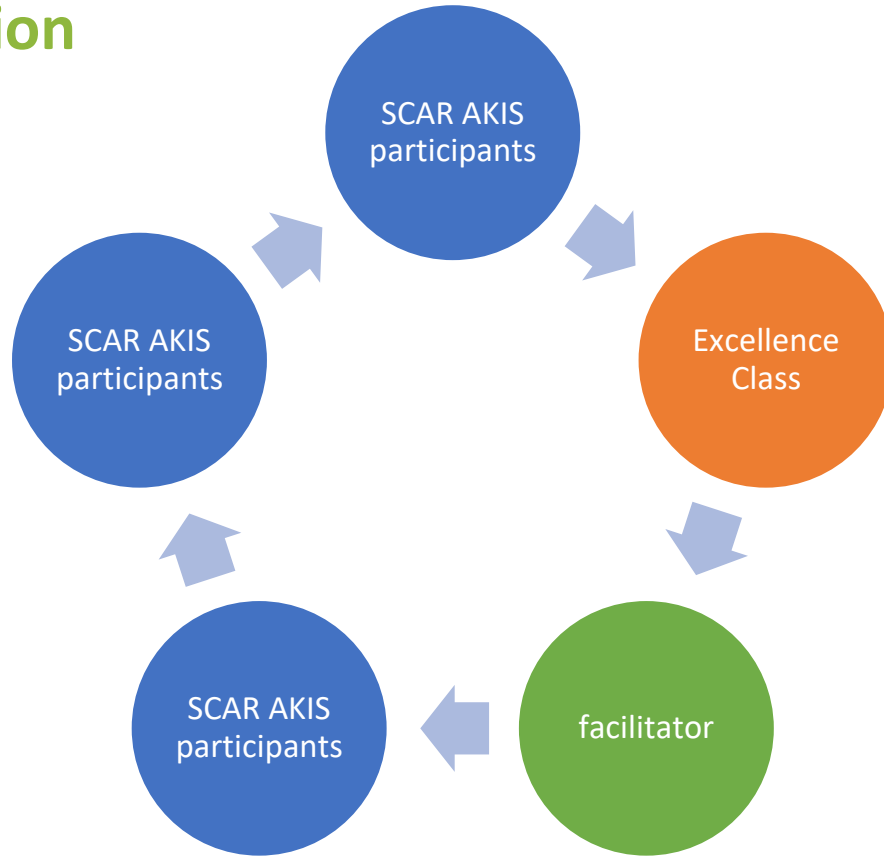
Dora Lakner,
Wageningen University and
Research

Workshop

- **Aim:** How AKIS can facilitate interactive innovation?
- **Specific aims :**
 - Through case studies discuss **What AKIS can offer, help the case further?**
 - For EC participants **reflection on their cases** by SCAR AKIS participants
- **Approach:** peer to peer consultation (6 groups) and reflection with fishbowl methodology

Peer to peer consultation

6 groups



Schedule

Clarify the task again

1. 8 minutes The EC participant **explain the case**

Question: How can AKIS help the case further?

2. 10 minutes The peers can **raise questions to clarify** the case

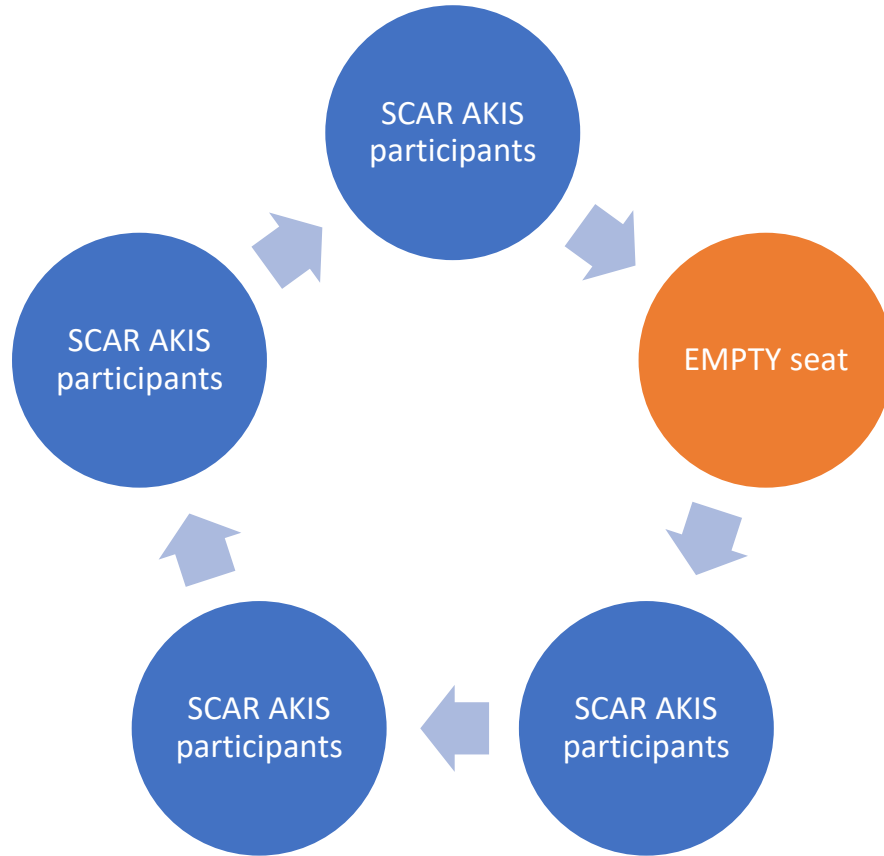
(no discussion short question answer, be aware you do not have a lot of time)

3. 20 minutes The **peers discuss** the case

4. 5 minutes **Reflection** by case holder

5. 10 minutes **Wrap up**

Fishbowl





04 Cross analysis of AKIS reports in i2connect partner countries

Patterns and trends

Andrea Knierim, Sangeun Bae
(University of Hohenheim)
2nd AKIS stakeholder workshop
8th June, 2022

The i2connect AKIS inventory



Objective

Update existing AKIS inventory for EU states and expand to Croatia, Serbia, Switzerland and Montenegro



Main activities (by country)

- Provide a national-level AKIS characterisation
- Schematic representation of AKIS actors and their linkages
- Describe policy and coordination mechanisms at the national level
- Assess advisory service provision

Coordination of activity: University of Hohenheim (2019 - 2021)

Result: The i2connect AKIS inventory

27 AKIS country reports updated or written for first time based on information from

- More than **100** AKIS expert interviews
- Survey results from **515** respondents in advisory service provision
- Diverse published and grey literature

Reports available on <https://i2connect-h2020.eu/resources/akis-country-reports/>



Result: Organisation and governance of the AKIS

Most countries coordinate and manage their AKIS at national level

Few countries have regional AKIS governance, particularly concerning education, research and advisory services



Result: AKIS actors diversity and presence in the system

Public authorities, Research and FBOs visible in many countries

All actor categories present in a few W. European countries.

- Frequently mentioned
- Moderately mentioned
- Little mentioned
- Not mentioned at all

Country	Public authorities	Research and Education	Farmer based organizations	Third sector NGOs	Private companies/entrepreneur
Belgium	●	●	●	●	●
France	●	●	●	●	●
Germany	●	●	●	●	●
Ireland	●	●	●	●	●
Italy	●	●	●	●	●
Netherlands	●	●	●	●	●
Switzerland	●	●	●	●	●
Austria	●	●	●	●	●
Bulgaria	●	●	●	●	●
Spain	●	●	●	●	●
Hungary	●	●	●	●	●
Malta	●	●	●	●	●
Latvia	●	●	●	●	●
Lithuania	●	●	●	●	●
Luxembourg	●	●	●	●	●
Denmark	●	●	●	●	●
Estonia	●	●	●	●	●
Finland	●	●	●	●	●
Slovakia	●	●	●	●	●
Slovenia	●	●	●	●	●
Denmark	●	●	●	●	●
Estonia	●	●	●	●	●
Finland	●	●	●	●	●
Croatia	●	●	●	●	●
Cyprus	●	●	●	●	●
Czech republic	●	●	●	●	●
Poland	●	●	●	●	●
Serbia	●	●	●	●	●
Portugal	●	●	●	●	●
Sweden	●	●	●	●	●
Greece	●	●	●	●	●

Result: Advisory organisations reaching farmers (predominantly)

Public advisory org.

Bulgaria Cyprus Hungary Ireland Latvia Lithuania Croatia Serbia
Montenegro Switzerland

Farmer Based Org. (FBO)

Austria Denmark Finland France Portugal Sweden
Poland Slovenia Belgium Flanders

Private adv. Org.

The Netherlands Greece

Public & Private adv. org

Czech Republic Estonia Belgium- Wallonia

FBO and Public

Luxembourg Malta

Public, Private and FBO

Germany Italy Spain Slovakia

Result: Policy and resources supporting AKIS



EAFRD funding, described as the most prominent policy support of the AKIS at national or regional level



Other national policies and funding, mainly oriented towards research and innovations and/or focus on one AKIS sub system (e.g., Germany, Italy, France)

AKIS prominence in policy documents has advanced since 2014 and systematic planning and funding required for the CAP strategic plans post 2020

Result: Types of AKIS Coordination mechanisms



National network for rural development

- Facilitates cooperation and knowledge dissemination
- For countries benefiting from the EU rural development support fund



Collaborative working groups, councils or thematic platforms

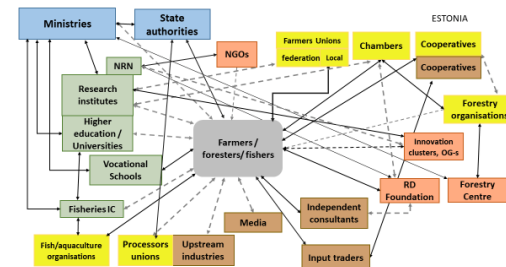
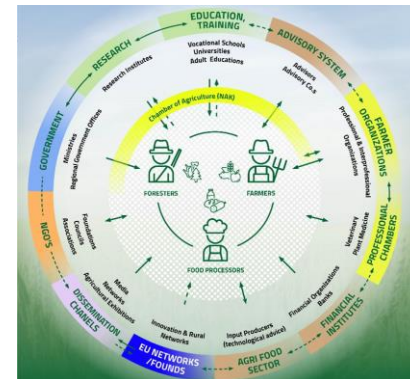
Strategic bodies for planning and decision making

E.g. Austria, France, Hungary, Portugal, Sweden,

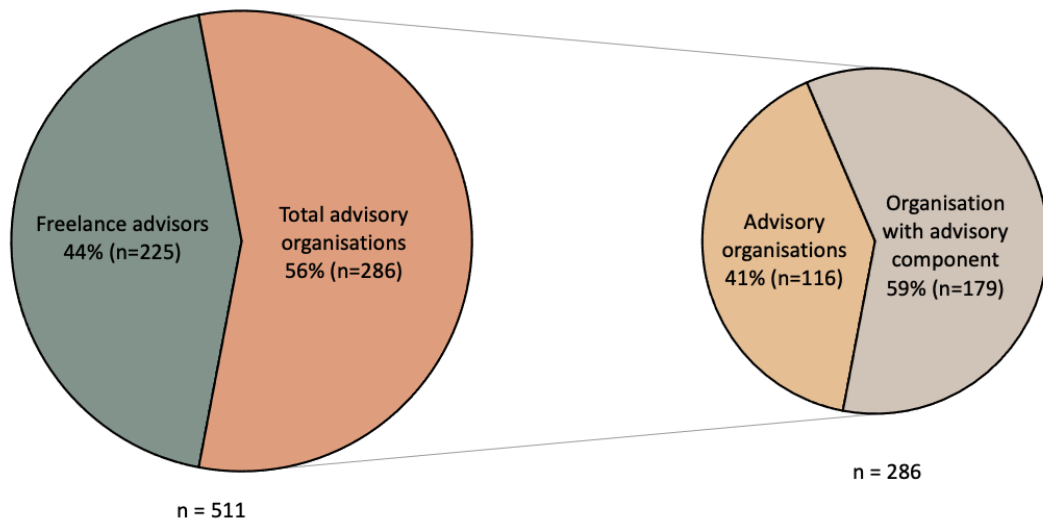
Degree of linkages between actors for knowledge flows

In many countries:

- Stronger linkage between farmers/farmer organisations and vocational education and advisory service providers (e.g. Austria, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Sweden and Denmark)
- Degree of vertical linkages stronger compared to horizontal linkages
- Linkage between science and practice are weaker than among other actors



Advisory service survey: Overview



96 Private/Commercial



58 Government or ministry based



55 Farmer based organisation



33 University or research based



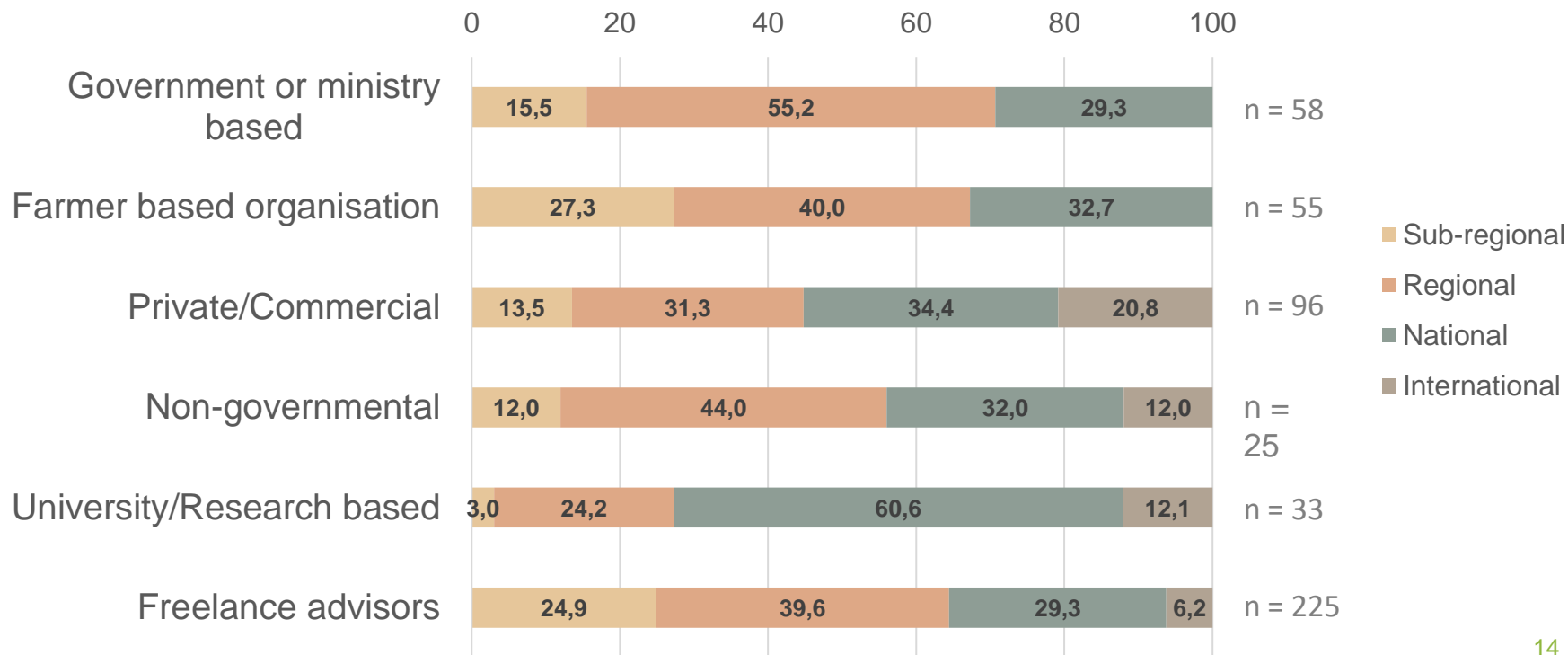
25 Non-Governmental Organisation



19 Others

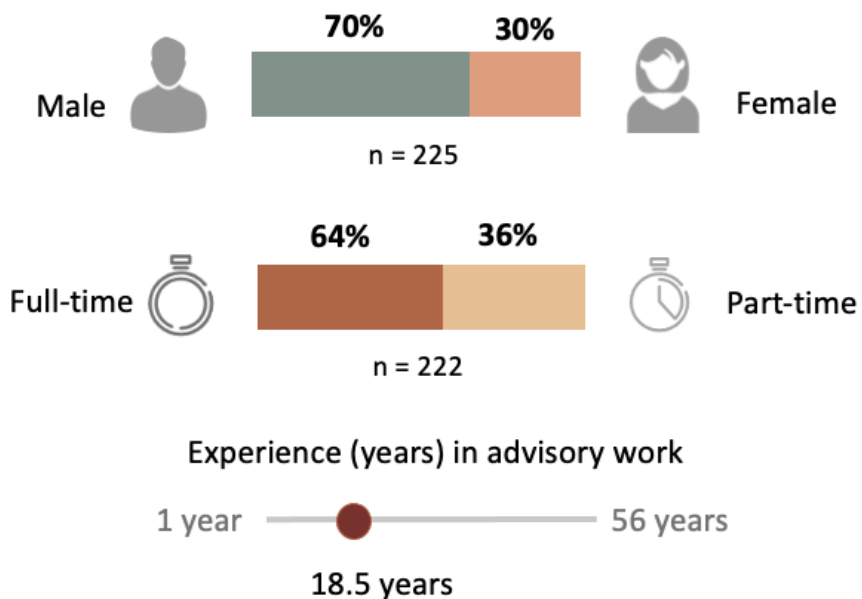
Scale of operation

% of advisory service providers

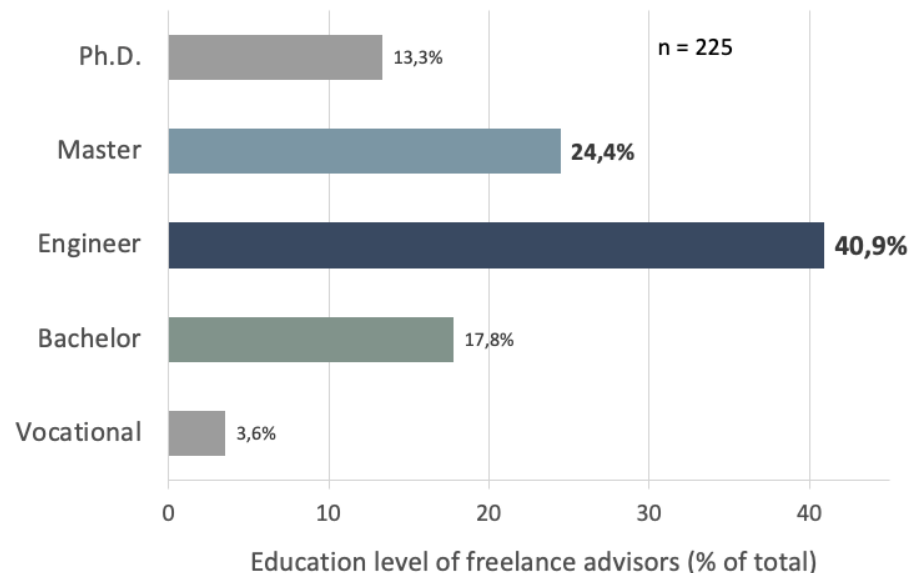


General profile of freelance advisors

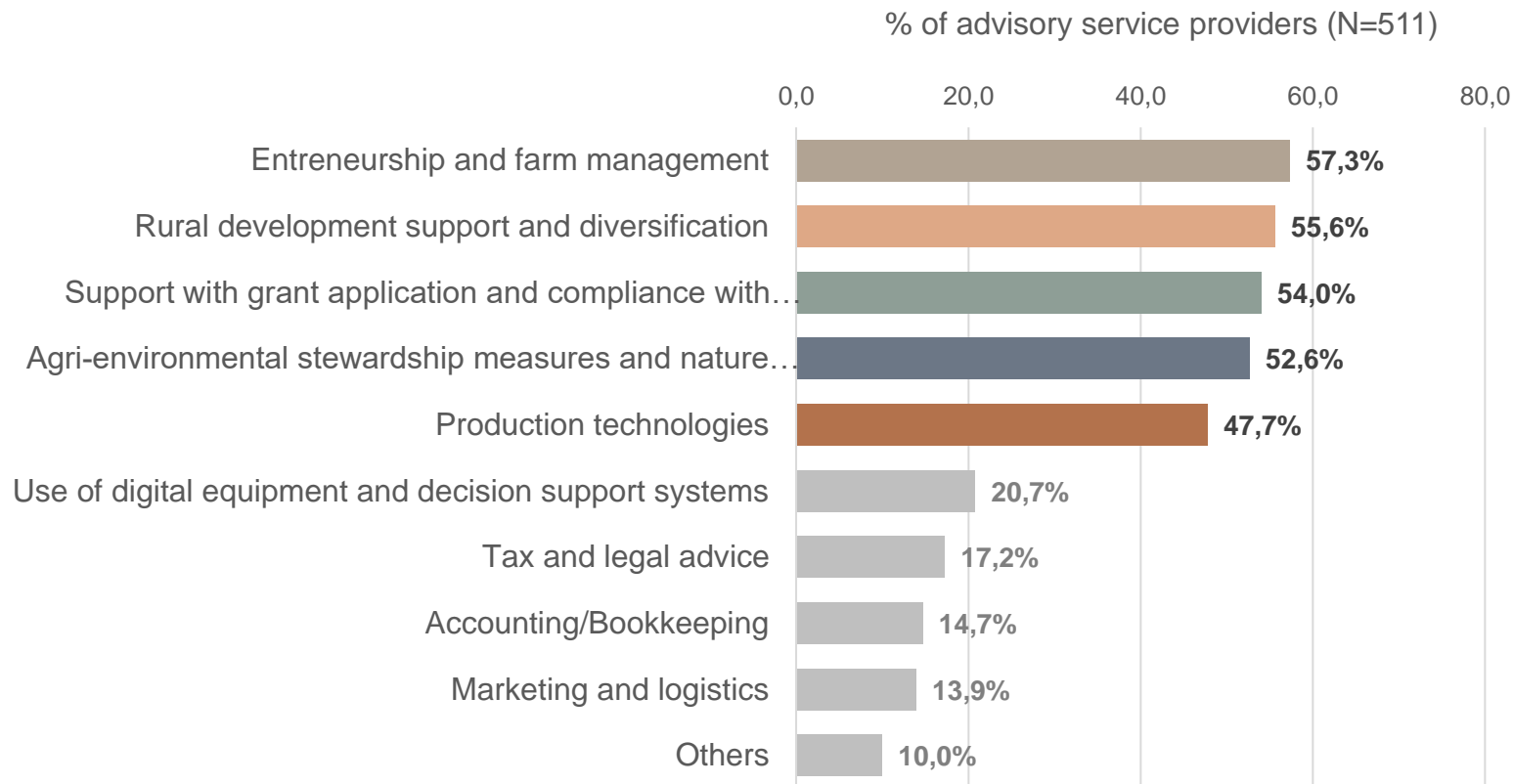
General profile



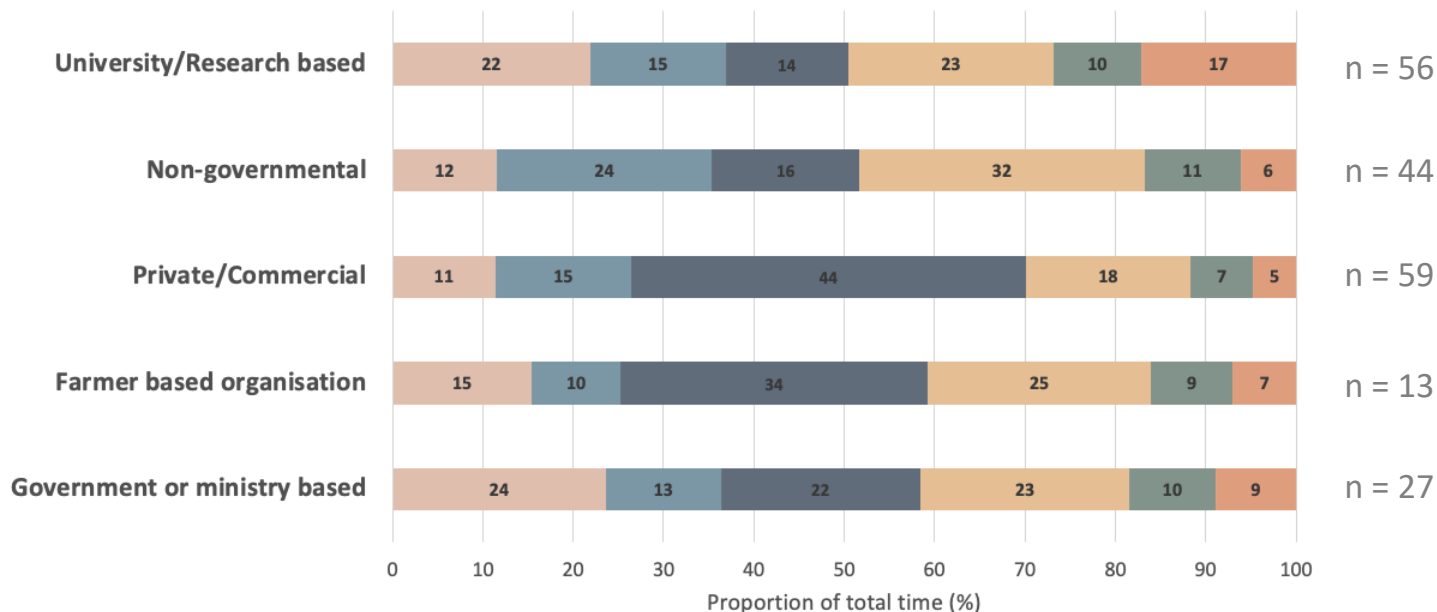
Education level of freelance advisors



Topics demanded most frequently



Proportion of time dedicated to various advisory activities



Teaching and training activities

Innovation support activities (facilitation, networking, brokerage)

Targeted consultation services (business plans, credit/subsidy application, etc.)

Information dissemination (face to face, via digital tools)

Further development of one's knowledge and skills (participating in training programs)

Others

Conclusion

- Good resonance of the AKIS concept among the interviewees in the partner countries, although not yet widely known
- Evidence for great institutional diversity of AKIS actors
- Growing presence of coordination mechanisms aimed at facilitating collaboration of AKIS actors
- For the advisory subsystem, differences among the different categories of service providers
- Varying degree of involvement in innovation support activities



Thank you!

Individual country reports available on
[i2connect webpage!](#)

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