

A man in a grey tank top and blue jeans is sitting on a large haystack, working on a silver laptop. The background is a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. In the lower right corner, there are white silhouettes of a sheep, a cow, and a house.

Innovation and Knowledge Transfer for a Productive and Sustainable EU Agriculture

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Agriculture and
Rural Development

Challenges and Opportunities

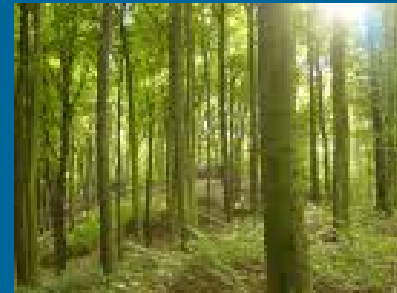


**Habitats
Biodiversity**

**Culture
and Values**



Food



**Energy
Biomass**



Climate Change



**Rural
Economy**

**Economic
Viability**



**Resource-
management**



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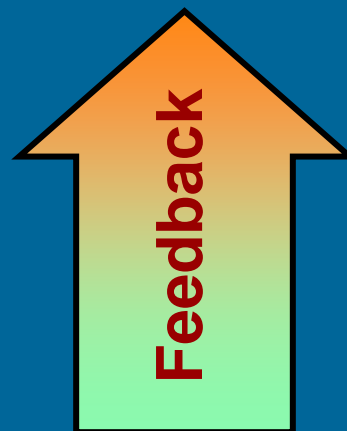
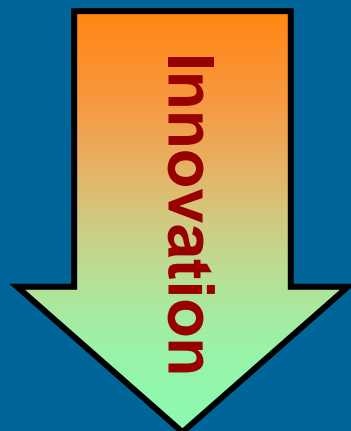


Societal Challenges

- Prospect:
 - Increasing food demand (FAO: 70% increase by 2050) at times of diminishing growth rates of production
 - Increasing land use competition (bio-mass, bio-energy, nature conservation) under conditions of climate change
- Response:
 - Increasing productivity while ensuring sustainable resource management (focus on land) and preserving the environment
 - Substituting primary production through recycling, reduction of post-harvest loss, and new products
- Requirements:
 - Major investment into research and innovation



Closing The Innovation GAP



Approach of European Innovation Partnerships

- Instruments of the Flagship Initiative ‘Innovation Union’
- Challenge-driven solutions that
 - foster communication among stakeholders and workable links between science and practice
 - adapt and streamline existing innovation-related measures into a coherent framework
 - pursue a cross-sectoral approach
 - provide EU value added



Aims of the European Innovation Partnership “Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability”

- A competitive agricultural sector and contributing to global food security
- Increasing productivity while ensuring sustainable resource management (focus on land) and preserving the environment
- Adaptation to implications of climate change and contributing to mitigation by reducing emissions of greenhouse gas
- Faster transfer of knowledge from research to practical farming and ensuring feedback on practical needs to science

“Achieving more from less”



Means of Implementation

Rural Development Policy:

- Cooperation, including pilot and demonstration projects
- Investment in physical assets
- Business development
- Knowledge transfer and Farm Advisory Services
- Network facility

Research Policy Instruments:

- Research Framework
- Joint Programming Initiative ‘Agriculture, food security and climate change’
- ERA-NETs and ETPs
- Interface function of SCAR



Possible Themes

- Increasing productivity, resource efficiency, and sustainable resource management
- Eco-system services and soil functionality (productive capacity, carbon sequestration, water retention, biodiversity)
- Innovative technology Innovation in support of the bio-based economy
- Sustainability of supply chain through innovation in products and services
- Food quality, food safety, and healthy lifestyles (consumer information and consumer choice)



Roadmap

- Pilot EIP on “Active and Healthy Ageing” has started. Paper on “lessons learned” presented in September 2011
- Further candidate EIPs being developed: sustainable agriculture, raw materials, water, and smart cities
- Communication to the European Parliament and the Council envisaged for adoption by the Commission in November 2011
- CIS on “sustainable agriculture” to be launched in September 2011
- Following endorsement by Council and European Parliament, establishment of Steering Board during first trimester of 2012
- EIP network, supporting the implementation of the agricultural EIP, to be set-up in the second half of 2012



Thank you for your attention!



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