**EURAGRI WORKSHOP** (by invitation only, 20 persons)

4 July 2013, 10.30 – 17.00

Kowi, Rue du Trône 98, 1050 Brussels, Belgium

**Conditions that support the use of knowledge for innovation and application**

Knowledge and innovation are regarded as the absolutely essential prerequisites to solve the challenges European and global agricultural systems are facing within the next few decades. We have to identify several different functions in this regard that are the product of (1) specific new research elements, (2) synthesis overviews, (3) knowledge aimed at innovation and (4) innovation outcome, policy overview and transfer to other actors.

Often publicly funded research is not accessible to a broader audience partly due to immense quantity and partly because of restrained circulation in specialised circles. Research results are hold back and/or are published in scientific journals which are often not open access sources. Research results in scientific articles often appear fragmented to a broader audience and not synthesised in a form relevant for application. Furthermore the implicit assumptions made and the language used by a scientist socialised in his/her professional environment are not necessarily evident and comprehensible by persons outside is another more subtle but strong access barrier.

Agricultural research programmes are mainly applied driven. Their outcomes are meant to support agricultural and regional policy making and foster innovation in the broader KBBE context. Therefore many knowledge users need synthesised, structured and tailored research. They need it depending on their respective intended use, for example in education, to transfer it into an application or for research programme owners to assess the impact of research they financed and/or to make informed decisions on what to fund in the future.

There are initiatives which try to open up the system. Concerning basic research one example is the “Berlin declaration”. This declaration promotes the internet as a functional instrument for a global scientific knowledge base and human reflection. It should help to specify measures which research policy makers, research institutions, funding agencies, libraries, archives and museums need to consider and implement. For users of applied research there is the specific need to get tailored access to the results at the earliest stage. An example for this is the “inception report” from in the ESPON 2013 programme implemented by DG Regio.

The Inception report should consist of max. 20 pages (plus annexes if relevant), based on the approach outlined in the project proposal, and to be submitted twelve weeks after the Kick-off Meeting. In its content part it should provide a more detailed overview of the research approach to be applied, the methodology and hypothesis for further investigation, as well as the main literature, data sources, etc.

It is compulsory together with open access to research results and their dissemination and implementation.

These measures are meant to support the mission of the EPSON 2013 programme:

“Support policy development in relation to the aim of territorial cohesion and a harmonious development of the European territory by (1) providing comparable information, evidence, analyses and scenarios on territorial dynamics and (2) revealing territorial capital and potentials for development of regions and larger territories contributing to European competitiveness, territorial cooperation and a sustainable and balanced development”.

During this one day workshop we discuss ways to build on the” Berlin declaration” concerning agricultural research in a broad context, to clarify barriers for open access and to discuss possible incentives to knowledge creators to deliver synthesised, structured and tailored research results. National cases will be used to exemplify how national research programmes organise knowledge cooperation with different users of the knowledge chain.

Main questions to be discussed:

* What instruments, standards, quantities and qualities are used now and are useful to be extended?
* How could schemes be organised to ensure international standards and open access?
* How can they support knowledge flow to users and special user groups?
* How can they be used to externalise ex post assessment of public research?

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 10.30               **Welcome**

- Bettina Heimann, Secretary General EURAGRI and

- Elfriede Fuhrmann, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management Austria

10.45-11.10     **Introduction to the workshop**

Moderator: Uno Svedin, Board member EURAGRI

*Agricultural and food research in turbulent times facing the future. What are the key issues to be handled by the knowledge and production and innovation systems?*

1) Core issues emerging in the grand challenges, what are the potential themes in Horizon 2020?

2) Fundamental cultural issues relating to human – nature interaction and what it means for the development of agriculture and food systems and the future world of consumption?

3) The institutional embedding of knowledge production and the connected innovation processes related to application.

11.15-12.30     **Session I: Fundamentals of knowledge generation**

Moderator: Elfriede Fuhrmann, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management

*The way how the production of knowledge is done - and the corresponding institutional framework within which it is done – is important to reflect upon when considering how such knowledge can be used for innovation and application purposes.*

12.30-13.30   Lunch

13.30-14.45     **Session II: Promotion of knowledge flow**

Moderator: Christian Huyghe; INRA

*Is open access enough or do we need research results tailored towards respective end-user needs? What are the conditions under which this is possible? What are the role and rights of those who generate the results?*

14.45-15.00     Coffee

15.00-16.15     **Session III: What new instruments for implementation are needed that**

**integrate all actors in the knowledge chain?**Moderator: Krijn Poppe, AKIS and Wageningen University

*Which instruments and/or incentives are of interest? Why are these “new” and what do they offer that was not available before? Are they connected to different types of “Solutions mechanisms“?*  E*xamples both from the national research programme level, as well as from collaborative European research programs in the fields of agriculture and food research*

16.15-17.00     **Comprehensive reflections from the day and summary**

Uno Svedin – member of board EURAGRI

*A summary of the experiences from the day with special regard to the agriculture-food system*