



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

AKIS Coordination Group

Inaugural Meeting

Backweston Laboratory Campus

13 December 2023

Agenda

1. AKIS Overview

2. AKIS Development

3. Break

4. Workshop

5. Summary



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Agricultural Knowledge & Innovation System (AKIS)

December 2023

BUILDING STRONGER AGRICULTURAL KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION SYSTEMS (AKIS) to foster advice, knowledge and innovation in agriculture and rural areas



- Commission paper "Building stronger agricultural knowledge and innovation systems (AKIS) to foster advice, knowledge and innovation in agriculture and rural areas" - [Building stronger AKIS | EIP-AGRI \(europa.eu\)](#)
- MS requested to strategically consider the development of AKIS linked to the CAP Strategic Plan Regulation (Art. 114 Modernisation)



BUILDING STRONGER AGRICULTURAL KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION SYSTEMS (AKIS) to foster advice, knowledge and innovation in agriculture and rural areas

April 2019

KEY MESSAGES

- ✓ **Knowledge and innovation** have a key role to play in helping the farmers and rural communities **meet challenges** of today and tomorrow.
- ✓ **Policy makers, farmers, researchers, advisors, associations and media** need to **step up their efforts to develop new knowledge and innovative solutions**. Moreover, a **conducive environment** across the EU for quicker innovation and better valorisation of existing knowledge to achieve the CAP objectives and deliver on international commitments needs to be set up.
- ✓ The **European Innovation Partnership for agricultural productivity and sustainability (EIP-AGRI)** is a unique policy framework to support interactive innovation projects at local and transnational level.
- ✓ Therefore, it is essential to build stronger **Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS)** to boost initiation and development of innovation projects, to disseminate their results and to use them as widely as possible.
- ✓ Successful **AKIS strategies** include four main groups of actions:
 - (1) Enhancing knowledge flows and **strengthening links between research and practice**;
 - (2) Strengthening **all farm advisory services and fostering their interconnection within the AKIS**;
 - (3) Enhancing cross-thematic and cross-border **interactive innovation**;
 - (4) Supporting the **digital transition in agriculture**.

Disclaimer: The contents of the publication do not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of the European Commission.



Brussels, 02 April 2019

WK 4628/2019 INIT

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WORKING PAPER

This is a paper intended for a specific community of recipients. Handling and further distribution are under the sole responsibility of community members.

WORKING DOCUMENT

From:	Presidency
To:	Working Party on Horizontal Agricultural Questions (CAP Reform)
N° Cion doc.:	9645/18 + COR 1 + ADD1
Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation on CAP Strategic Plans - Commission paper on Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS)

With a view to the Working Party on Horizontal Agricultural Questions (CAP Reform) on 3 and 4 April 2019, delegations will find attached a paper received from the Commission services on "Building stronger agricultural knowledge and innovation systems (AKIS) to foster advice, knowledge and innovation in agriculture and rural areas".

AKIS – Key messages



1. Knowledge and innovation have a key role to play in helping the farmers and rural communities meet challenges of today and tomorrow.
2. Policy makers, farmers, researchers, advisors, associations and media need to step up their efforts to develop new knowledge and innovative solutions.
3. Moreover, a conducive environment across the EU for quicker innovation and better valorisation of existing knowledge to achieve the CAP objectives and deliver on international commitments needs to be set up.
4. Therefore, it is essential to build stronger Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) to enhance knowledge flows and boost emergence and development of innovation projects, to disseminate their results and to use them as widely as possible.
5. Successful AKIS strategies include four main groups of actions:
 - *Enhancing knowledge flows and strengthening links between research and practice;*
 - *Strengthening all farm advisory services, making them strongly interconnected with the AKIS;*
 - *Boosting cross-thematic and cross-border interactive innovation; and in this respect the European Innovation Partnership for agricultural productivity and sustainability (EIP-AGRI) is a unique policy framework to support interactive innovation projects at local and transnational level.*
 - *Supporting the digital transition in agriculture.*

AKIS Strategic Development - Food Vision 2030



Mission 4: An Innovative, Competitive and Resilient Agri-Food Sector, Driven by Technology and Talent

Goal 3: Develop a Dynamic Knowledge Exchange Environment

Direction: Address key challenges including a Climate-Smart, Agro-Ecological, Digital, Biobased & Just Transition

Diffusion: Rate of Diffusion of Science, Technology, Innovation & Knowledge



Initial Step: Background Papers on AKIS & Agri-Digitalisation



Contents

- a) CURRENT AKIS PUBLIC POLICY, STRATEGIC AGENDAS & ROADMAPS
- b) CURRENT AKIS RELATED INVESTMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE
- c) INTERNATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS ON DEVELOPING AKIS POLICY
- d) DEFINING FUTURE AKIS POLICY
- e) SWOT ANALYSIS
- f) ANNEXES



DAFM - AKIS Strategic Development Process

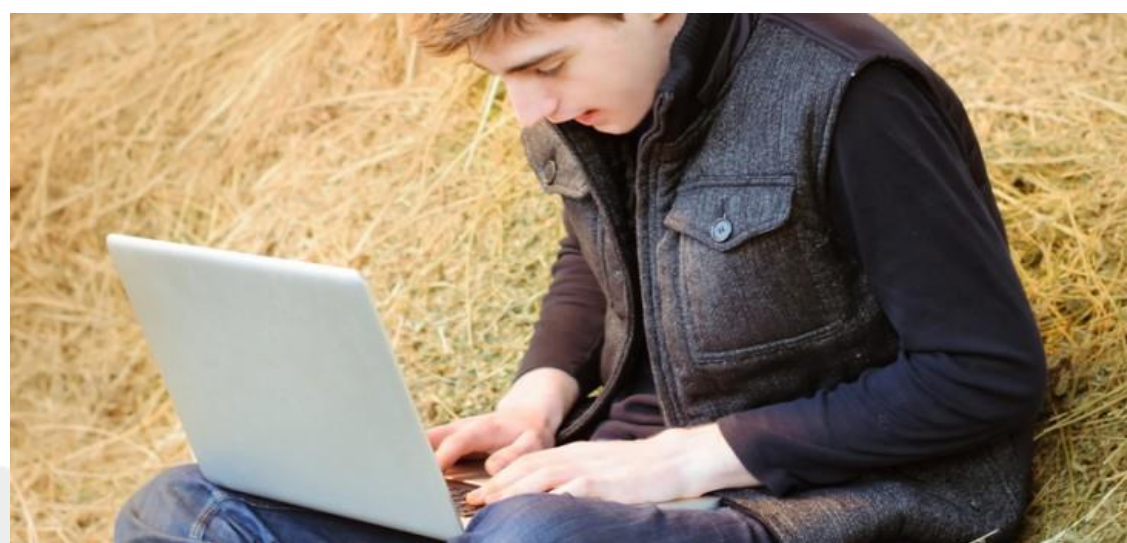


AKIS & Agri-Digitalisation Description

**Draft CAP
AKIS SWOT**

**Consultation
with
stakeholders**

**CAP Strategic
Plan**



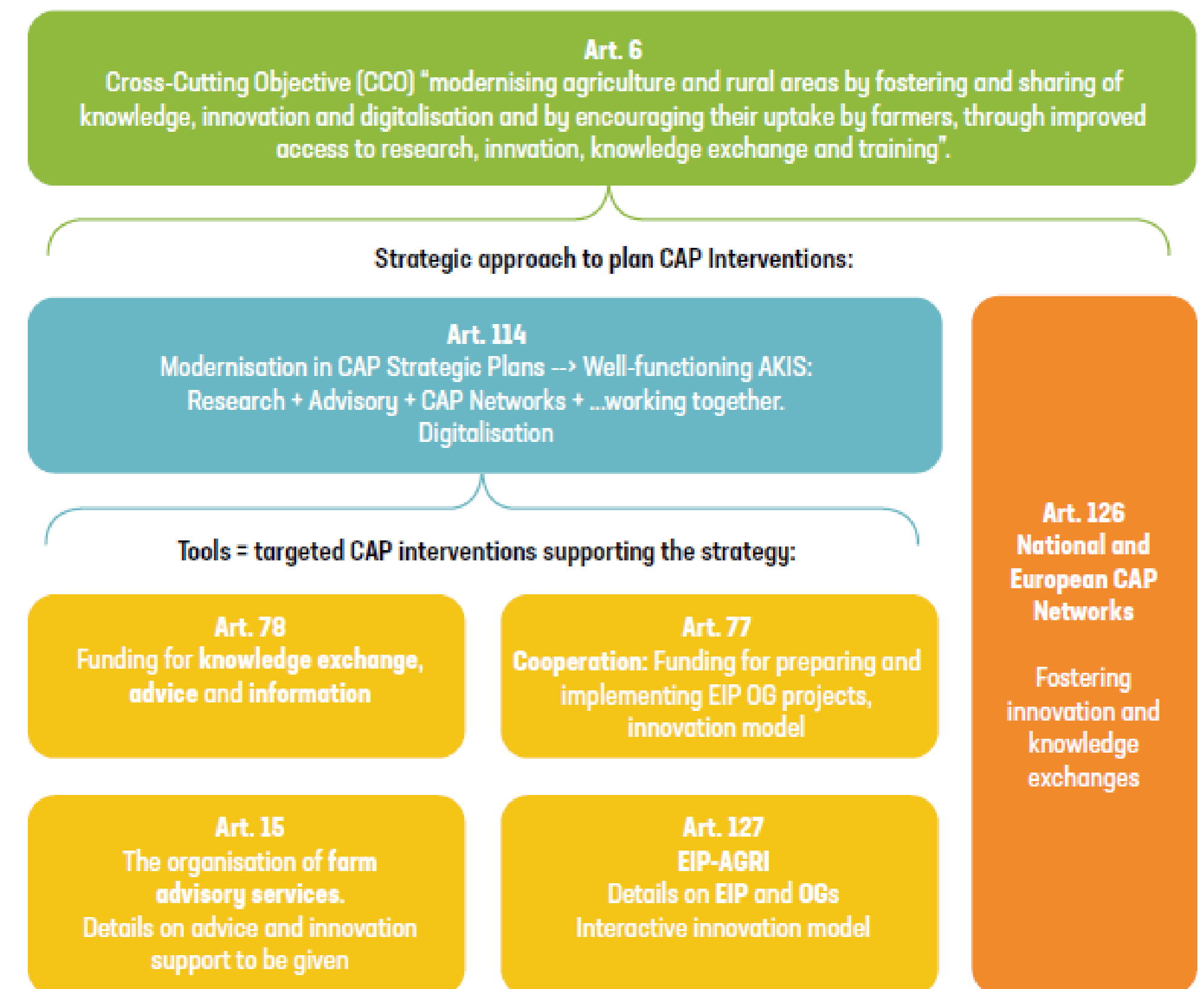
Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Where does AKIS stand in the new CAP?



- In the 2023-2027 CAP, the AKIS strategic approach has been enshrined for the first time in the policy architecture and contributes to the Cross-Cutting Objective of modernisation, knowledge sharing, innovation, and digitalisation.
- In CAP Strategic Plans (2023-2027), Member States have shown their AKIS strategic approach, which will contribute to the achievement of the Cross-Cutting Objective by providing a description of the organisational set-up of AKIS and a description of how advisory services, research and the national CAP Networks will cooperate to provide advice, knowledge flows and innovation services.
- The overarching aim of the CAP modernisation, where AKIS plays a significant role, is the long-term supply of nutritious food and biomass and the achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. To this end, knowledge and innovation (including tackling the research and digital divides) through a well-functioning AKIS in Member States will play a key role.
- [Guidelines - Evaluating the AKIS Strategic Approach in CAP Strategic Plans | European CAP Network \(europa.eu\)](#)

Figure 1. Overview of most relevant CCO provisions for knowledge and innovation (AKIS)



Source: Adapted from EC (2021): Tool 8.1. Tool for the CAP CCO: modernisation, AKIS, digital strategy. Articles in the figure refer to Regulation (EU) No 2021/2115.

At a glance: IRELAND'S CAP STRATEGIC PLAN



- Ireland has a well-structured and interactive approach to fostering knowledge, innovation and digitalisation in agriculture and rural areas. This involves clear coordination and collaboration within the Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS).
- Ireland will keep building and improving its AKIS and provide training and advisory activities for farmers to help them address new challenges, including those related to the environment and digitalisation.
- A similar purpose will also be pursued by 36 European Innovation Partnership Operational Groups, which will address the innovation gap between research and the practices implemented in the field.
- https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-07/csp-at-a-glance-ireland_en.pdf

3. KNOWLEDGE SHARING, INNOVATION AND DIGITALISATION

Ireland has a well-structured and interactive approach to fostering knowledge, innovation and digitalisation in agriculture and rural areas. This involves clear coordination and collaboration within the Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS).

Ireland will keep building and improving its AKIS and provide training and advisory activities for farmers to help them address new challenges, including those related to the environment and digitalisation.

A similar purpose will also be pursued by 36 European Innovation Partnership Operational Groups, which will address the innovation gap between research and the practices implemented in the field.

→ Around 300 000 persons will benefit from advice, training or knowledge exchange or participate in European Innovation Partnership Operational Groups supported under the Irish CAP Plan, mainly in the field of environmental or climate-related performance.

→ Over 10 000 advisors will be supported in their work to make innovation available to farmers.



Purpose:

- Provide farmers with a platform to share knowledge and to engage in peer-to-peer learning
- Targeted at key challenges and issues identified - whilst maintaining a degree of flexibility to tailor content to own experience, circumstances and requirements.

Approach:

- High quality and targeted advice to farmers through KT Groups, delivered by professional (public & private) agricultural advisors (KT Facilitators) with appropriate FAS training, CPD, experience and expertise.
- Each year, each Knowledge Transfer Group - deliver four meetings from a list of 'Priority KT Topics' & four meetings on topics decided by the Group itself. Priority KT Topics' must incorporate delivery from an appropriate external expert.
- Each KT Facilitator will hold a one to one meeting with each farmer in his/her group in order to set goals for the programme and report on progress in relation to same.
- The total indicative financial allocation for this intervention is €71.1m for the period 2023-2027.
- Built-in AKIS development opportunities:
 - *Latest R&I developments*
 - *Development of interactive innovation skills and approaches*
 - *Develop place-based innovation and data driven decision making*

Knowledge Transfer



CPD for Advisors



Purpose:

- Provide support and resources for the up-skilling and the continuous professional development of **public & private advisors**
- Enhance knowledge base and ensure familiarity with the latest practice, techniques, technologies, and regulatory and scheme requirements in a rapidly changing agricultural industry

Approach:

- Blended approach to learning incorporating online and in-person learning in a manner consistent with existing FAS training delivery
- Online platform & module tendering process.
- Financial allocation of €1.9m for the period 2023-2027.
- Built-in AKIS development requirements:
 - *Latest R&I developments*
 - *Outputs for KT measure*
 - *Development of interactive innovation skillset*
 - *Development of agri-digitalisation skills*



Purpose:

- Provide support to a range of actors in the agricultural sector to form Operational Groups (OGs) to develop place based and test innovative solutions

Approach:

- Competitive calls for proposals for innovative projects related to specific challenges
- Stream A – competitiveness, modernisation, structural and animal health and welfare challenges
- Stream B – environmental, biodiversity, climate change challenges.
- The total indicative financial allocation for this intervention is of €36.12m for the period 2023-2027.
- Built-in AKIS development requirements:
 - *Specific themes: generational renewal, gender balance, environmental challenges, uptake of agri-digital tools, and integration & development of bioeconomy at farm level*
 - *Link to CPD & KT developments*

Cooperation – EIP AGRI



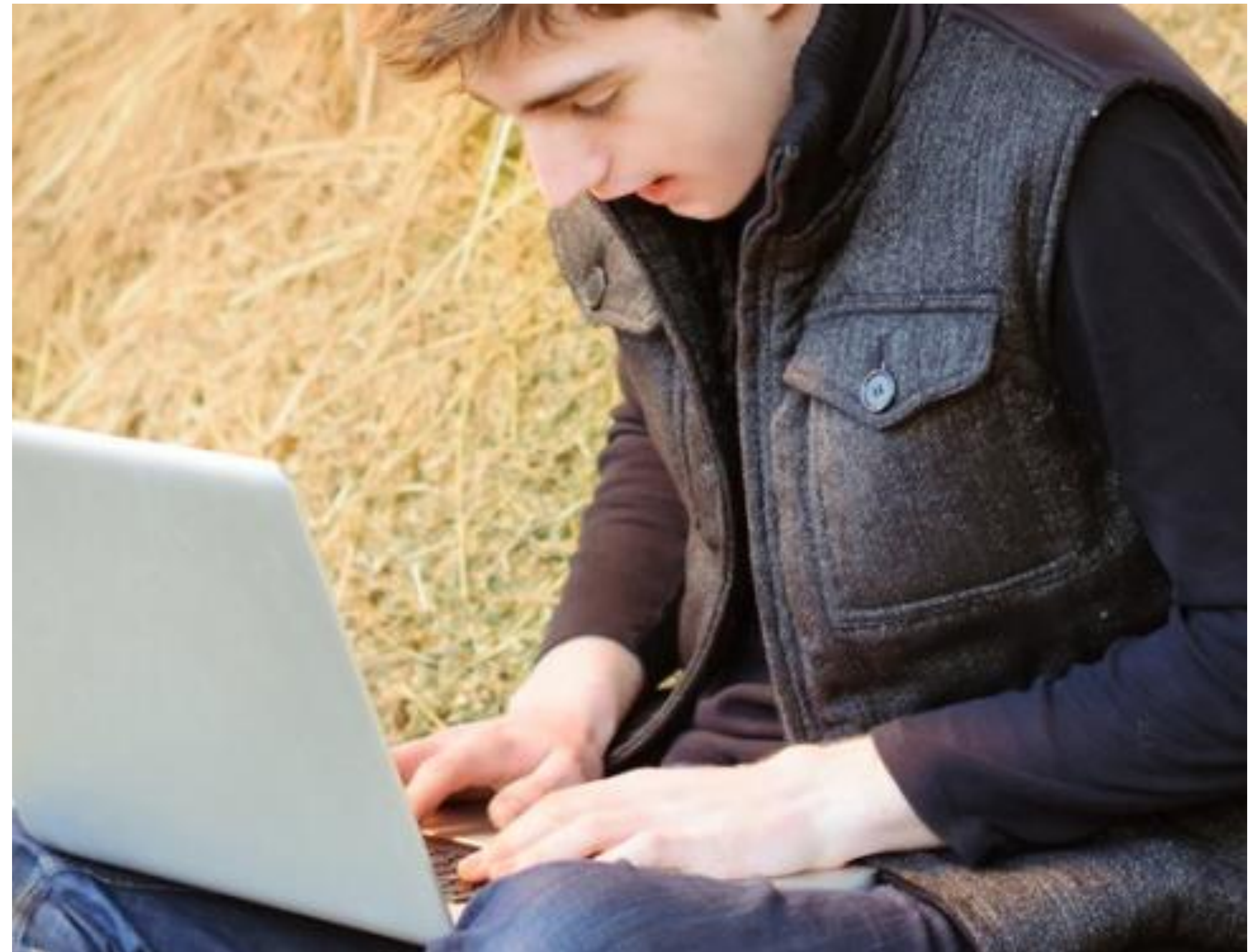
Purpose:

- Support a community led local development (CLLD) approach to rural development by funding initiatives that emerge at a local level that aim to address local challenges and needs

Approach:

- Support under this intervention is provided to Local Action Groups (LAGs) to implement pre-defined Local Development Strategies (LDSs) in their local areas.
- Each LDS examine the potential within the LDS process and in the context of an integrated regional and local planning approach on themes including Sustainable Development of Rural Environment and Climate Change Mitigation.
- The total indicative financial allocation for this intervention is €180 Million for the period 2023-2027..
- AKIS related considerations:
 - *Development of interactive innovation skillset*

Cooperation - LEADER



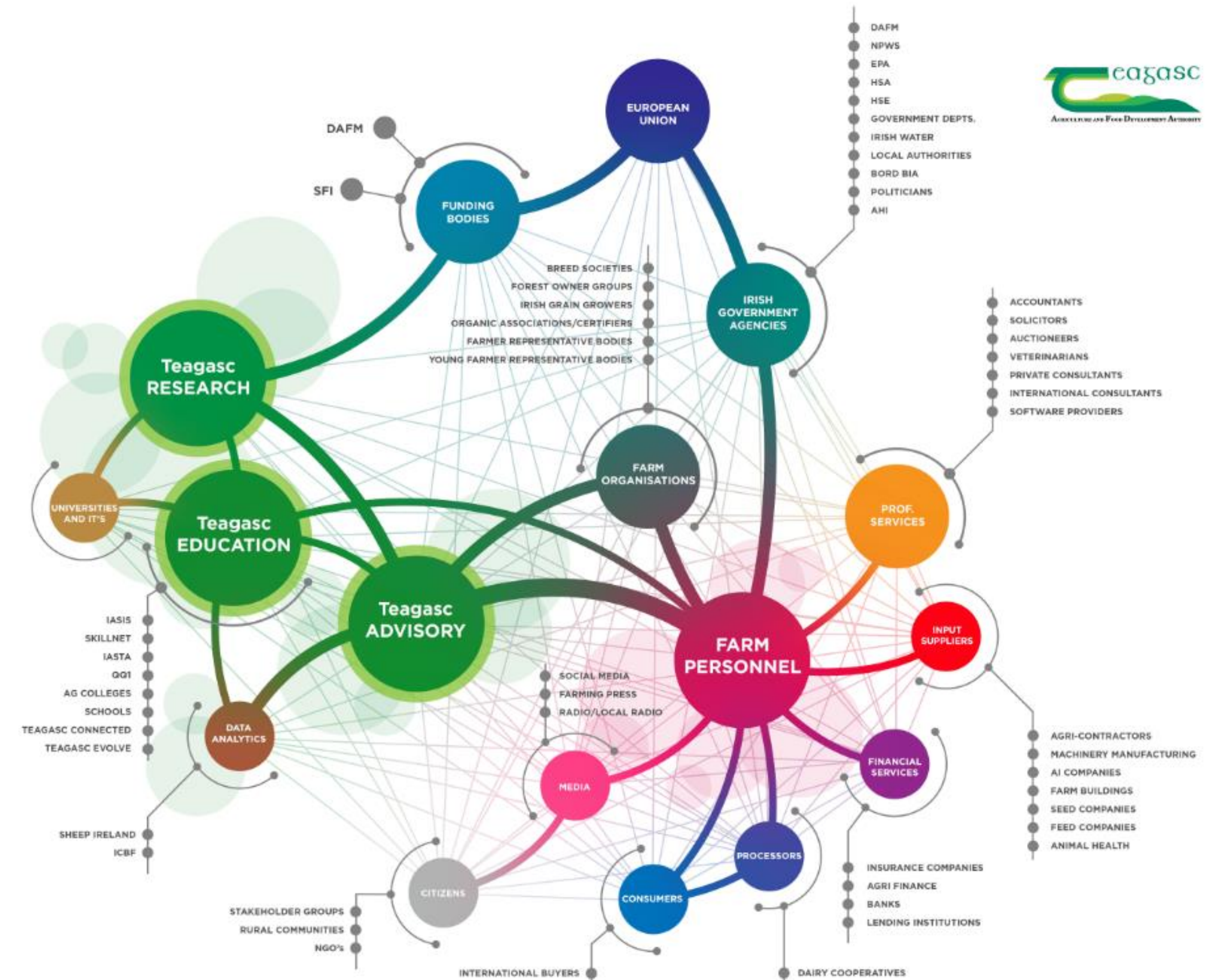
Purpose:

- Role in facilitating the increased involvement of a range of stakeholders in improving the quality of the implementation of the interventions outlined in the CAP Strategic Plan

Approach:

- Development of an innovation support service (Art 15(4)(e) focusing on fostering innovation and supporting the inclusion of, and the interaction between, all stakeholders in the knowledge-exchange and knowledge-building process
- New National CAP Network in situ to coincide with the commencement of the new programming period in 2023
- AKIS related considerations:
 - *Highlighting the availability of CAP and Horizon Europe funding*
 - *Provide a platform for actors to meet, and create, develop and test grassroots and innovative ideas.*
 - *Provide support and advice to multi-actors groups in the field who may be looking to form an operational group*
 - *Link with Teagasc Signpost Farm Programme & the National Agricultural Sustainability Research and Innovation Centre*
 - *Facilitate the translation of research outcomes from a wide range of literature into guides for practical implementation by primary producers or operational groups*

National CAP Network



Purpose:

- Support the inclusion of, and the interaction between, all stakeholders in the knowledge-exchange and knowledge-building process

Approach:

- Embed validated knowledge transfer methodologies into research and innovation funding programmes
- AKIS related considerations:
 - *Improve knowledge transfer implementation in research and innovation projects*
 - *Involvement of end-users such as farmers/farmers' groups, advisors, businesses, etc in research and innovation projects*

Research



Purpose:

- AKIS coordination, structuring and mobilising bringing actors together on a planned and regular basis, creating consistent engagement to support modernisation, innovation and knowledge flows and speed up knowledge exchange and implementation in practice.

Approach:

- Strategic work programme with agreed activities, objectives, deliverables and appropriate monitoring and indicators.
- Establish in Q4 2023
- AKIS related considerations:
 - *Strengthen the links between the actors in the AKIS*
 - *DAFM establish and chair an AKIS coordination group which will provide a platform to improve synergies and complementarities between people, organisations and institutions*

AKIS Coordination Group





An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
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Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Thank you for your attention

Questions

December 2023



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
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Department of Agriculture,
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AKIS Coordination Group

Inaugural Meeting

Backweston Laboratory Campus

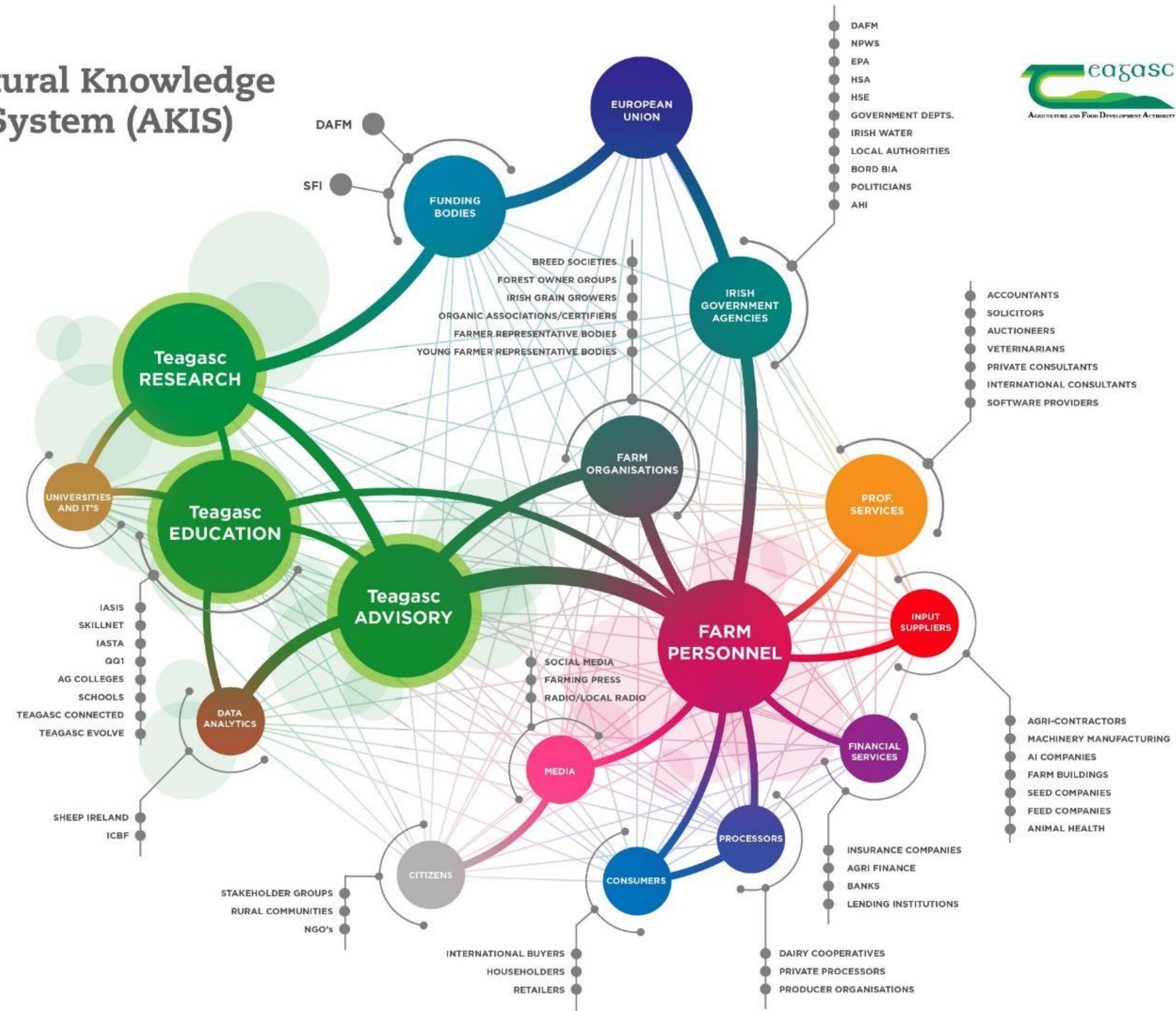
13 December 2023

The Irish AKIS and Teagasc

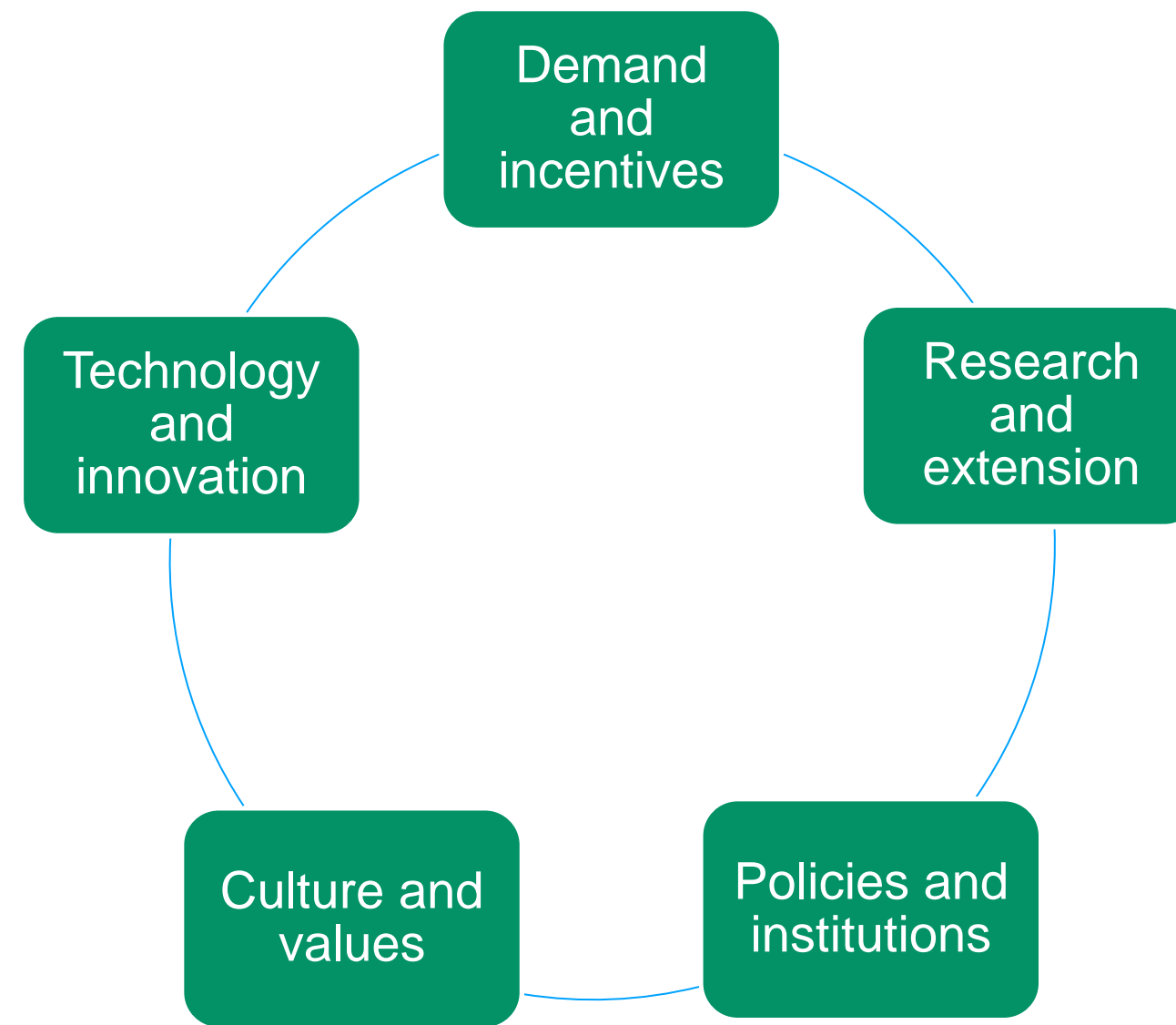
Mark Gibson
Head of KT Outreach
and Innovation



The Agricultural Knowledge Innovation System (AKIS)



What drives innovation and development in agriculture?



Characteristics of a well functioning AKIS

An AKIS **supporting policy** with dedicated resources e.g., public investment available to enhance advisory services, knowledge production and exchange

Well established AKIS **coordination mechanisms** in place

Effective formal **linkages for knowledge exchange** among various AKIS actors

Diverse influential actors or organisations at national/regional level that support (parts of) the knowledge and innovation system

There are sufficient **advisory service providers** reaching **farmers**

Knuth and Knierim (2016)



- 37 partners (all MS represented)
- 7 year project
- €10 million budget

Objective

Support member states across Europe in implementing their AKIS Strategies through training, networking and sharing experiences and good practice.



GLOBAL
IRELAND
2025



Ireland

3/25/2025

'70s

Removing
farm debt,
Driving up
performance



'80s

Farm Infrastructure, Layout and Silage Making



'90s

Quotas,
Grassland
Management,
Discussion
Groups &
Schemes



The End of the Quota Era: A History of the Irish Dairy Sector and Its Future Prospects

The Irish Dairy Sector under Milk Quotas

1984 to 2015

Number
of Dairy Farms



1984: 80,000
2014: 17,500

48% increase
in output per cow



1984: 3,500 litres
2014: 5,200 litres

Output per Farm



1984: 70,000 litres
2014: 330,000 litres

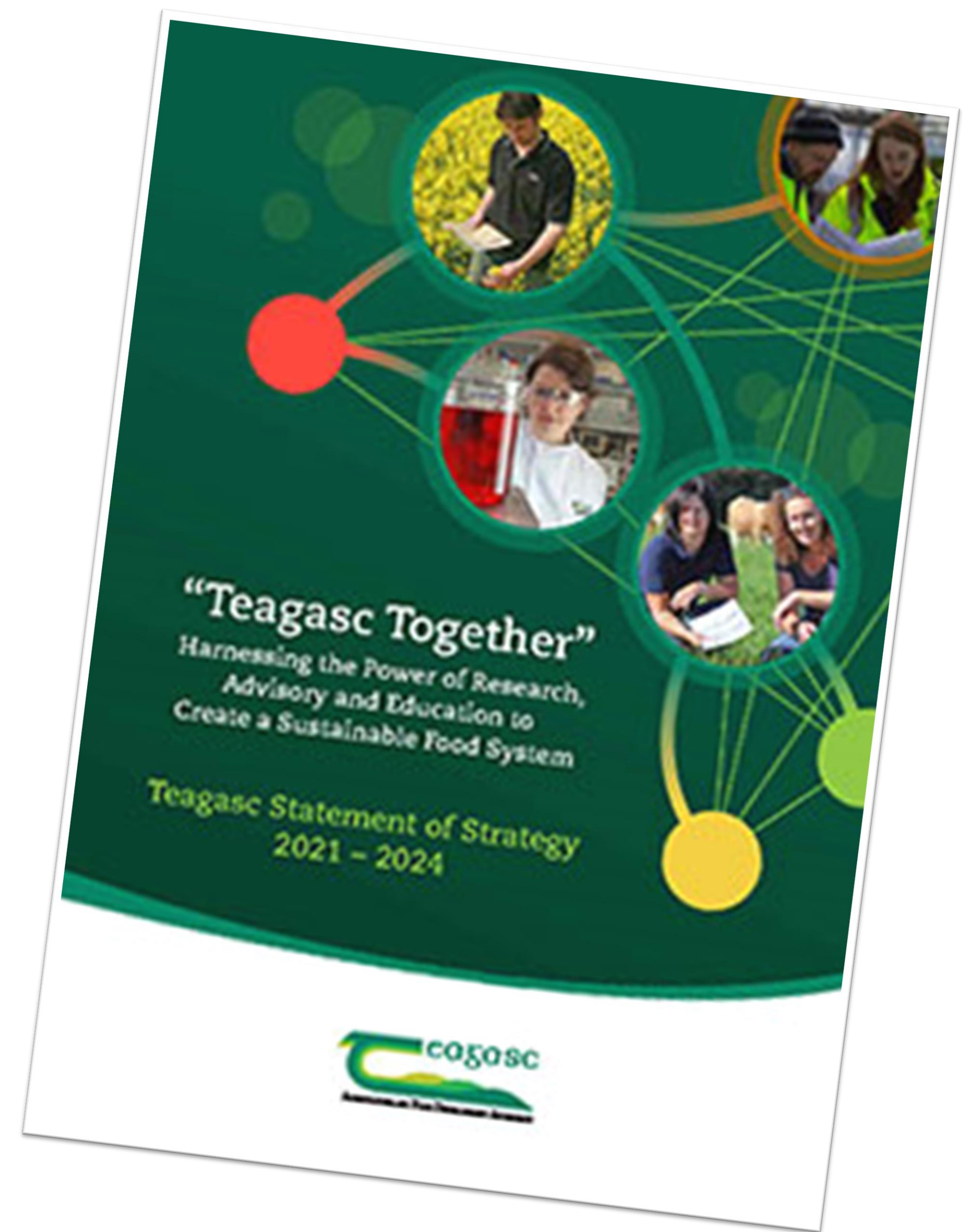
350% increase in
average herd size



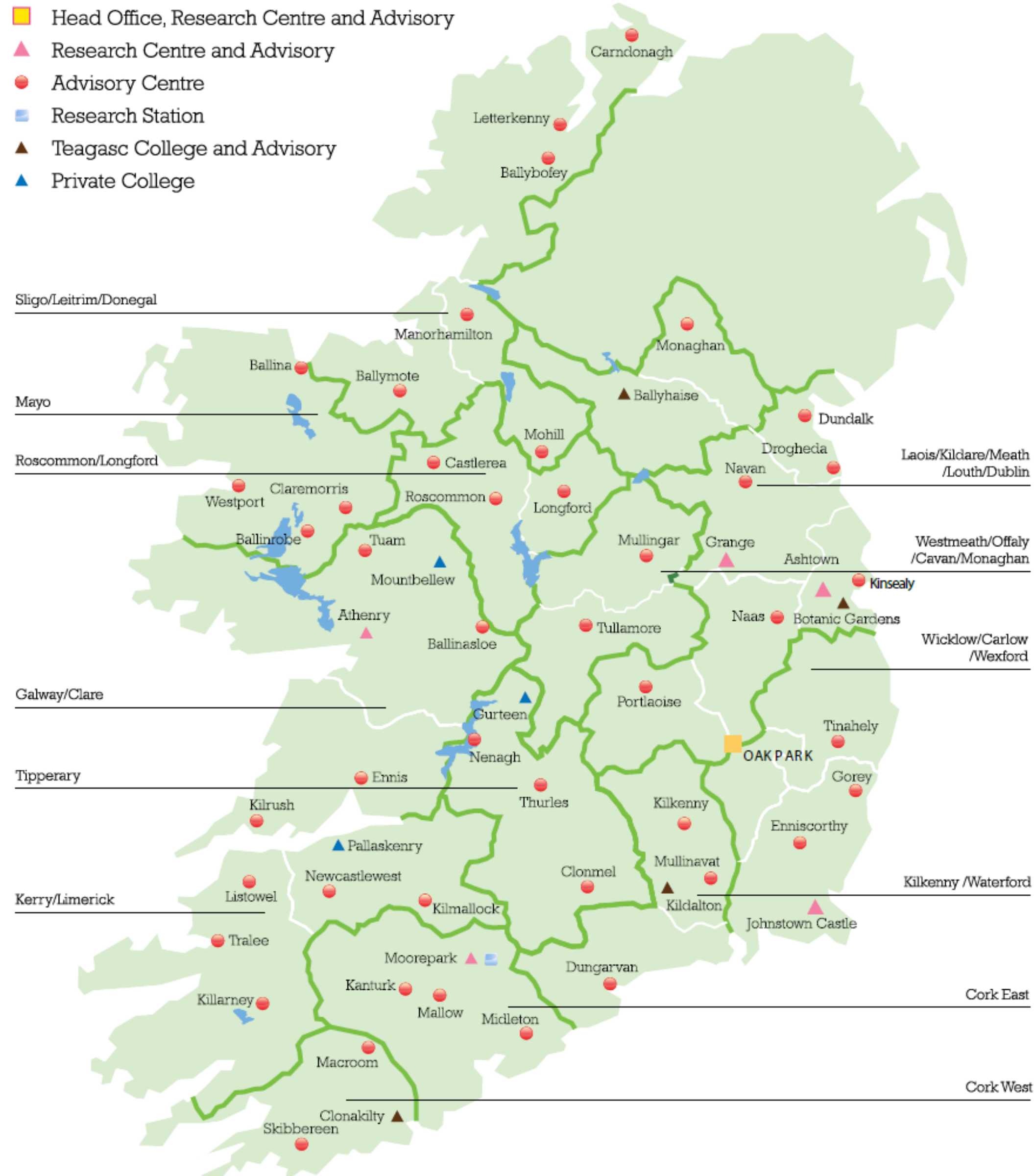
1984: 18 cows
2014: 64 cows

Teagasc Statement of Strategy

To make sustainability front and centre of all Teagasc

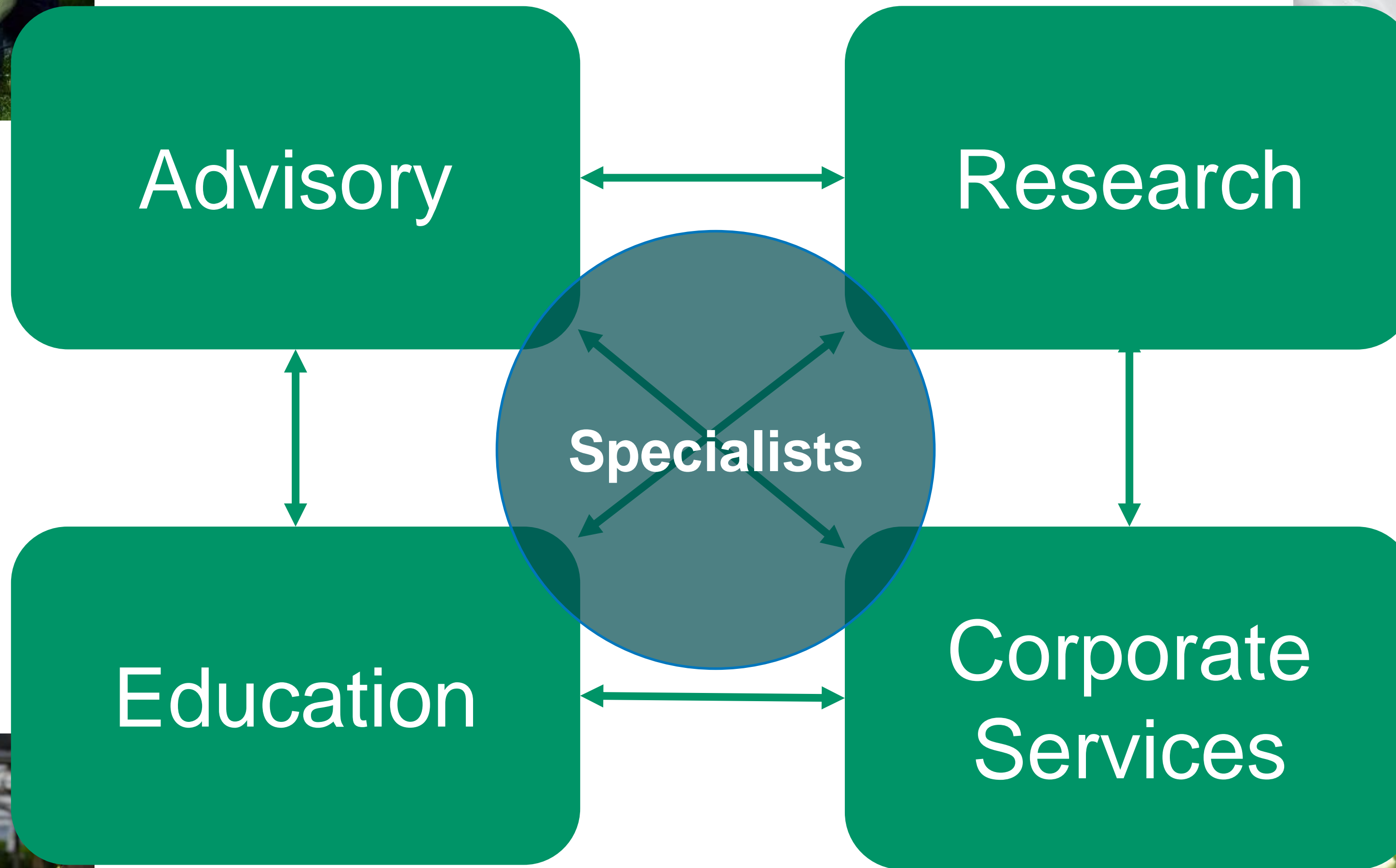


Teagasc Offices & Centres



50 Advisory Offices
7 Agricultural Colleges
7 Research Centres
1,500 staff
230 Researchers
270 Farm Advisors
85 Education staff
65 Specialists

“Teagasc Together”



Researcher and advisor links

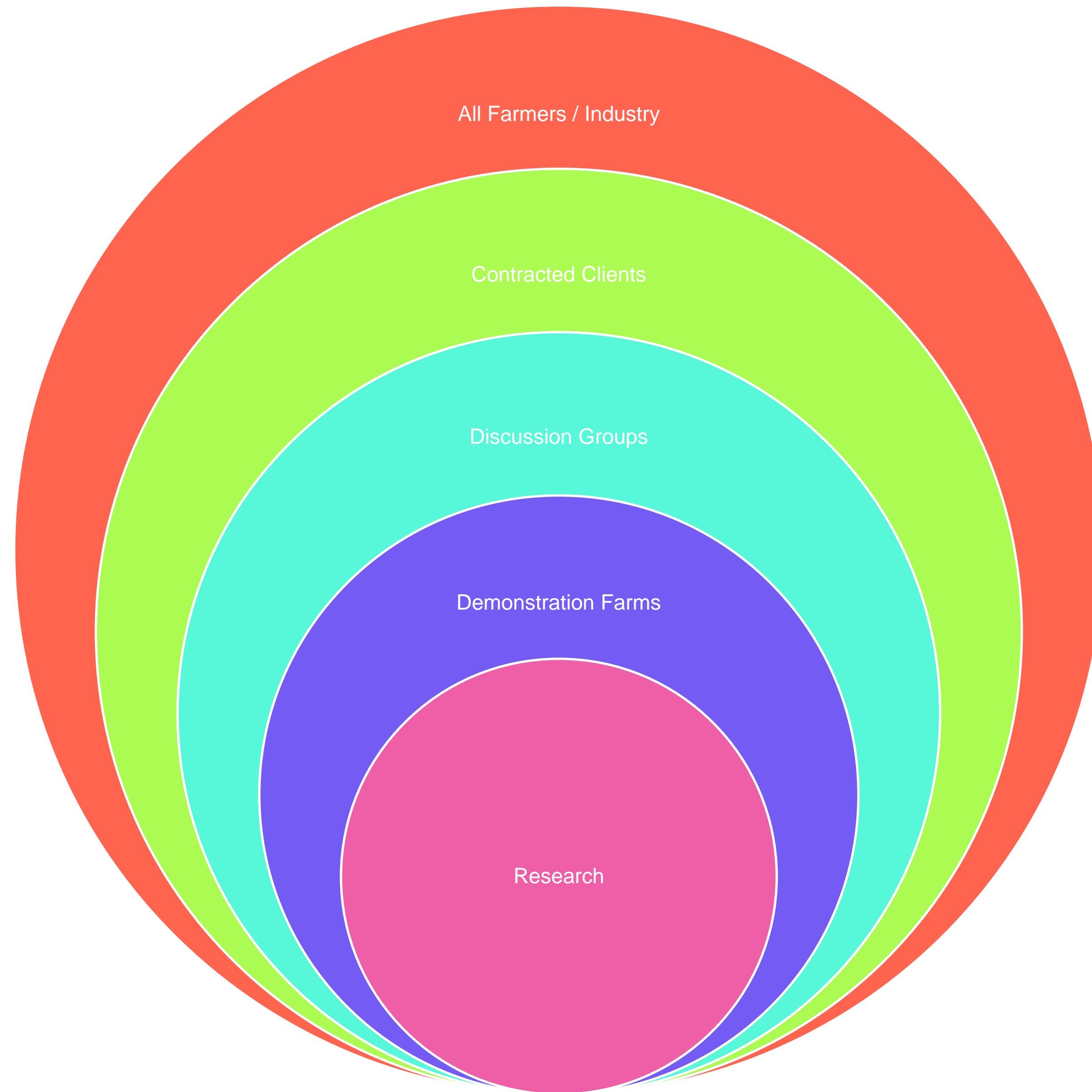
Integrated programme structure – Research and Knowledge Transfer (KT) departments (subject matter specialists) report to the same Head of Programme
Regular advisor In-service Training sessions and Webinars

Regular communications between subject-matter specialists and advisers, including zoom calls

T-Research Magazine

Special research “open days” for advisers

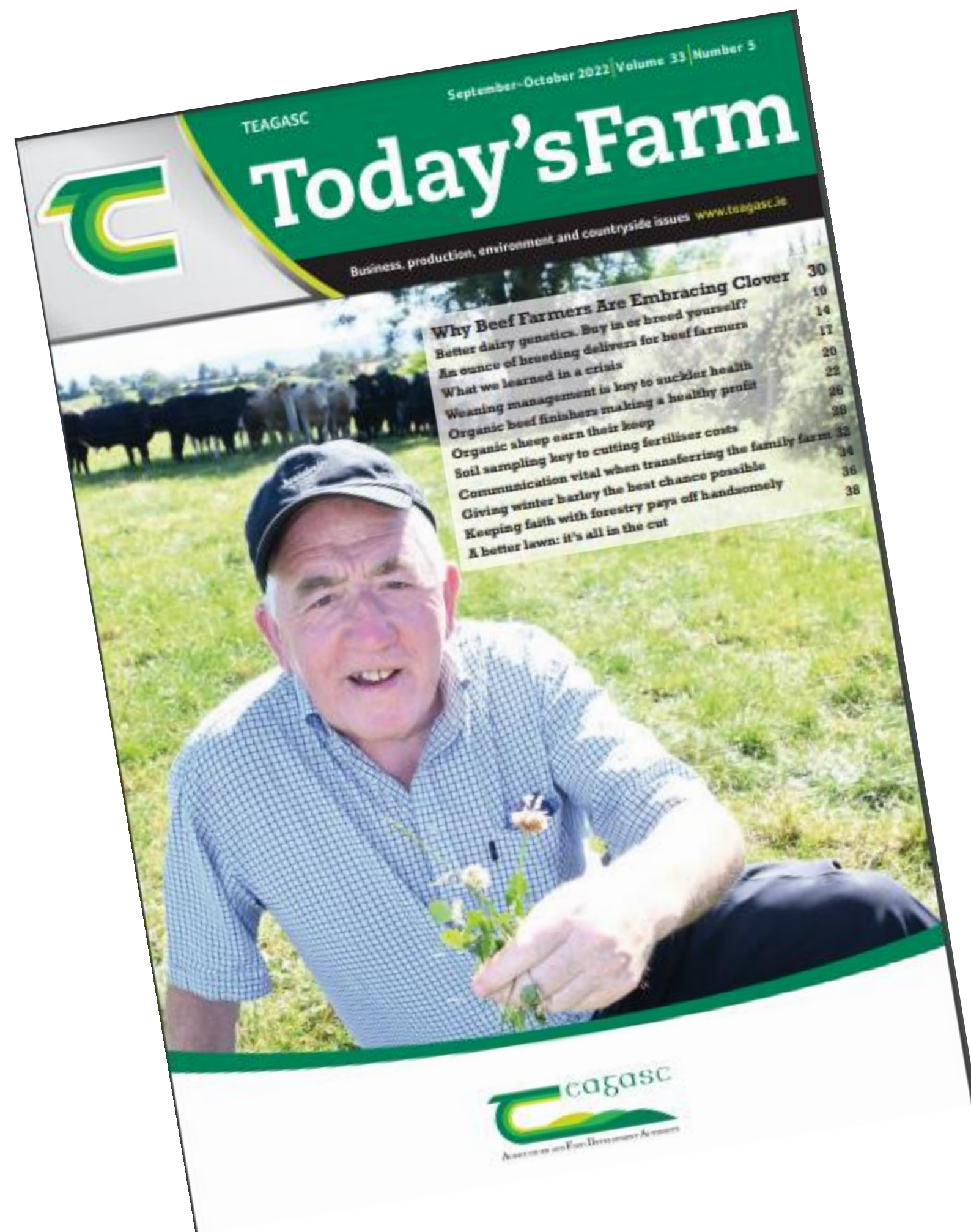
Teagasc knowledge exchange model



Advisor to farm activities

Discussion Groups	“One-to-one” (advisory)	Demonstration days	Farms walks
Reports and updates	Join Industry Programmes	Today’s Farm (bi-monthly magazine)	Monthly advisory newsletter
Farming Media	Industry wide campaigns e.g. Signpost	Social Media	Digital Broadcasts

Publications



Circulated to 43,000 clients each month



Adopting an AKIS approach to innovation support

Teagasc Signpost Programme

A national campaign to lead climate action, achieving early progress in reducing GHG emissions

Three elements:

Network of 100 Signpost Farms

Signpost Advisory campaign

Further research – NASCO

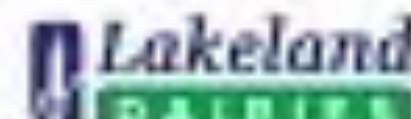
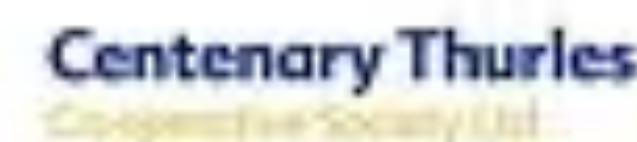
Programme aims to achieve whole

<https://www.teagasc.ie/environment/climate-change--air-quality/signpost-programme/>





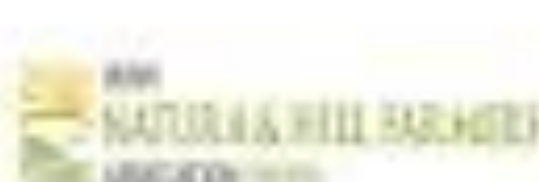
Partners



Government, State Agencies and Sponsors



Supporters





Teagasc ConnectEd

Agri-food professionals and the wider industry are important influencers within the AKIS

Need for evidence based knowledge being shared across the AKIS

Creating opportunities for networking





CECRA

European standard
for methodological
training for farm
advisors and
consultants

Signpost Webinar Series

One hour every Friday
from 9.30 to 10.30
200+ episodes
Average weekly audience
350
5,000 registered for the
series
10,000+ podcast
downloads



The Signpost Series

**‘Pointing the way to a
low impact agriculture’**

Environment Training Webinar Series
every Friday morning at 9.30am

Register for upcoming and view past webinars at:
www.teagasc.ie/sustainableagriculture





Conclusions

Innovation support for farmers has never been as critical.

Innovation does not exist without collaboration.

Innovation support costs money.



Go raibh maith agaibh
Thank you

Mark Gibson
Head of Outreach and Innovation
Teagasc
mark.gibson@teagasc.ie



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Department of Agriculture,
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AKIS Co Ordination Group

Workshop

13th December 2023

About ACA

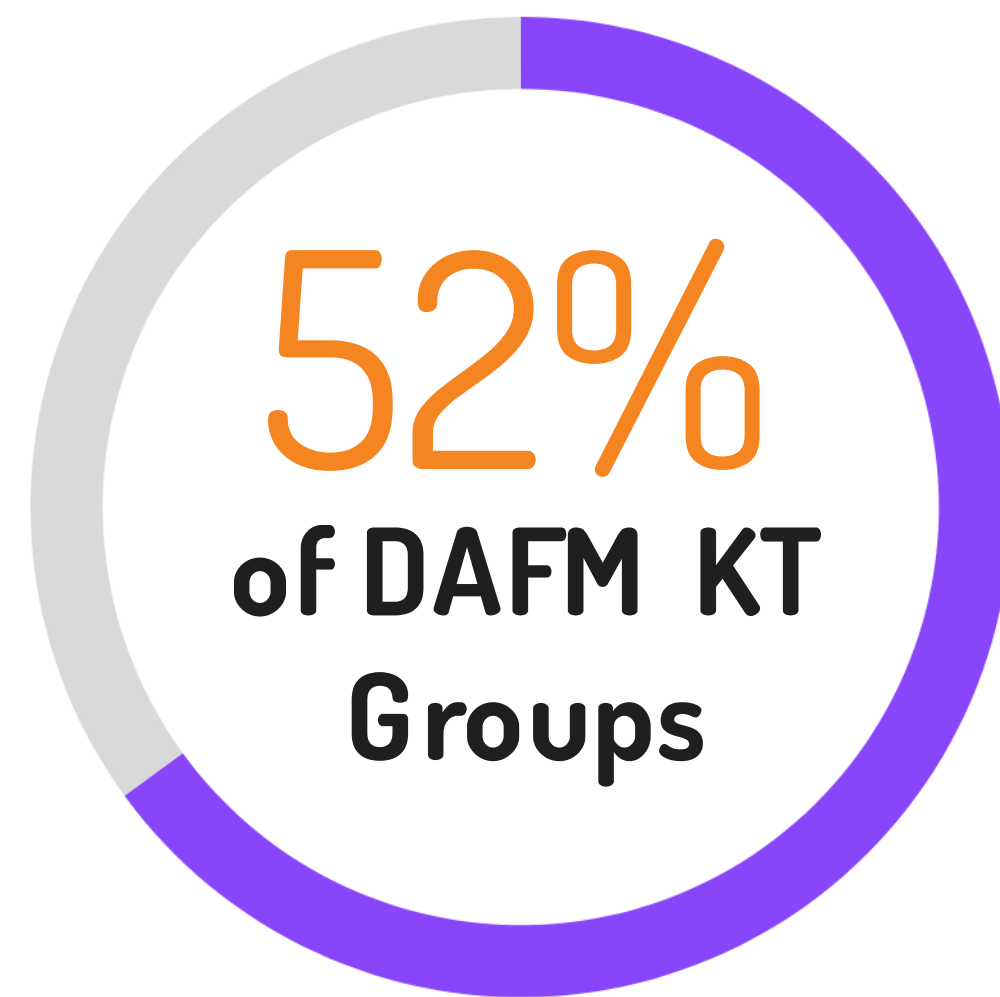
- Established in 1979.
- Largest provider of farm advice in Ireland.
- **55,000+ Irish farmer clients** and growing.
- **280+ professional advisors** including forestry consultants with a network of 164 offices throughout Ireland
 - minimum of level 8 qualifications.
- Head Office in Carrick on Suir, Co. Tipperary.
- **Funding to ACA – commenced in recent years through targeted programmes but must be consistent in the future to enable correct implementation of AKIS.** Teagasc receive circa €130m per annum (€40m per annum in the same advisory space as ACA members and €90m per annum in Research & Education).

About ACA

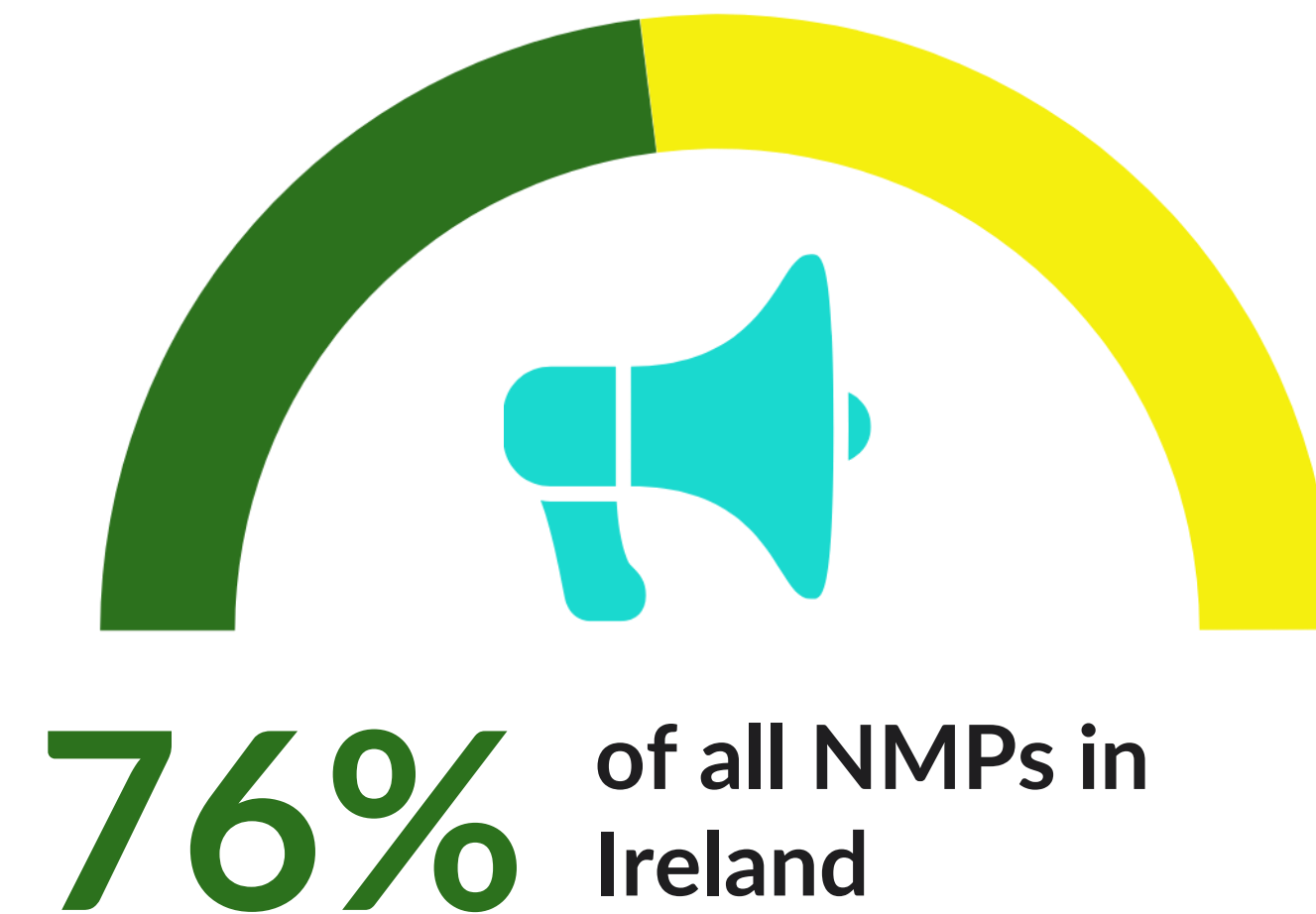
Member services

- All **National and EU farm schemes** such as Knowledge Transfer, Agri Environment, Basic Payment Scheme applications, Farm Development and Structural grants (TAMS), Organic farming etc.
- Involvement in many EIP programmes as advisors. Other members involved in smaller targeted EIPs.
- Specialists in all sectors: beef, sheep, dairy, tillage, forestry, environment, organics etc.
- Farm accounts and taxation, Nutrient Management Planning, Farmer Training - GLAS, Health and Safety and AETS in 2022 and ACRES in 2023/2024.
- **Specialist services** such as expert witness services, farm succession planning, farm business planning.
- Many in other niche areas.
- **Long and established relationships** with their farmer clients and families – over 30+ in many cases.
- Historically and still today, it is very difficult to operate an agri-consultancy firm by providing farm advice only in Ireland, particularly to the vulnerable sectors (all except dairy), due to the subsidisation of Teagasc.
- Members must make viable business decisions to ensure income and livelihood.

ACA Market Presence - source DAFM 2019 (likely higher presently in new CAP)



80% of all TAMS applications



58%
of Irelands
BPS applications annually

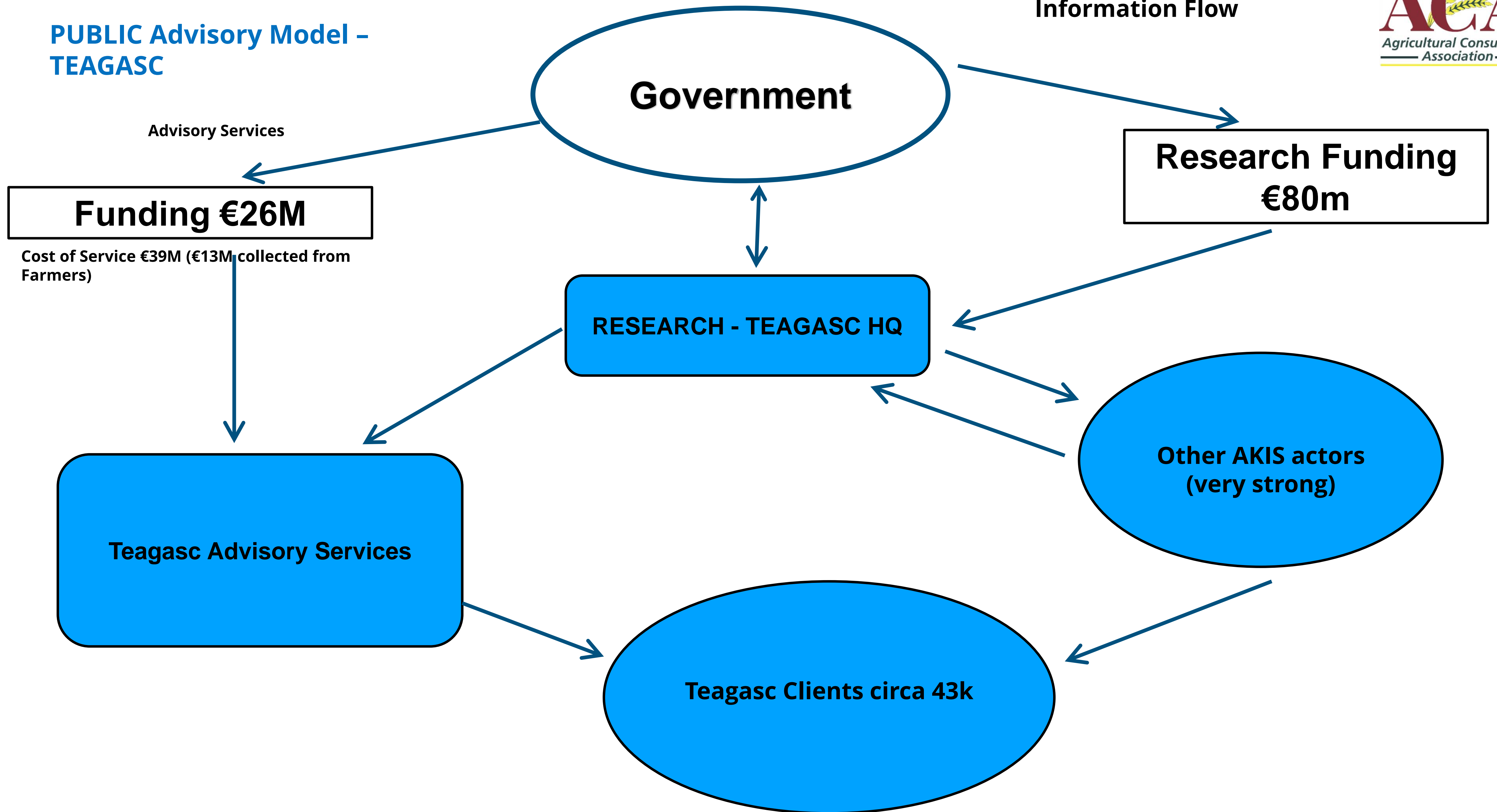


ACA Offices Nationwide



Teagasc Offices Nationwide

**PUBLIC Advisory Model –
TEAGASC**





AKIS – SWOT analysis in Ireland's CSP (DAFM 2022)

Strengths:

- ObjAKIS.S1: The constituent parts of the Irish AKIS (Research, Knowledge Transfer, Farm Advisory Service, and Cooperation & CAP Network) are well established
- ObjAKIS.S6: Well-established public and private farm advisory services within the AKIS system which act as one of the main information sources for farmers.

Weaknesses:

- ObjAKIS.W1: The organisational set-up of AKIS is not structured and lacks coordination and strategic direction.
- ObjAKIS.W2: Weak relationships between certain parts of the AKIS system.
- ObjAKIS.W3: The level of agricultural research being applied in practice is insufficient.

Opportunities:

- ObjAKIS.O1: Structure the AKIS so that it is more collaborative and responsive to the needs of primary producers.
- ObjAKIS.O5: Enable equal access to training for public & private advisors.

Threats:

- ObjAKIS.T1: A non-structured AKIS will lead to inefficiencies in the agri-food sector

AKIS – Recommendations in Ireland's CSP (DAFM 2022 – final August 2022)

1. Significant acknowledgment that **advisors will play a central role** in addressing key challenges facing the agri-food sector and in assisting in the implementation of the range of schemes to be rolled out as part of the CAP Strategic Plan.
2. The **AKIS Coordination Group** will agree an implementation plan & monitoring process which will include 5 activities, which includes the *'improved networking, collaboration and development of innovation support services to strengthen links and activities between research, advisors, the farming community, the rural economy and cooperation & interactive-innovation projects'*.
3. Following establishment of the AKIS Coordination Group, the MA will conduct an independent review of the AKIS framework in Ireland.
4. Additionally, *'the organisational set-up of AKIS in Ireland currently involves numerous different policy areas, activities, organisations and instruments. This structure has organically emerged and has heavily relied on Teagasc for structure and a range of organisations for mobilisation. Due to the proliferation of activities and organisations it is now viewed from a policy perspective that further AKIS development would benefit from a coordinated framework approach'*.
5. The aim in this CAP period would be in particular, *'to enhance the collaboration role between Teagasc, Bord Bia and the private advisory service including in particular with the Agricultural Consultants Association and with the environmental & farming community as well as the agri-food & bio-based sector and the forestry sector.'*
6. An important element of a well functioning AKIS *'will be close collaboration between public and private advisors and access to the latest research, innovation, piloting and demonstration actions. The independent review of the AKIS framework in Ireland will consider these issues. If necessary, arising from this review the AKIS Coordination Group will seek to implement changes to improve collaboration and/or access to research, innovation, piloting or demonstration activities'*.



Thank you for the opportunity today.

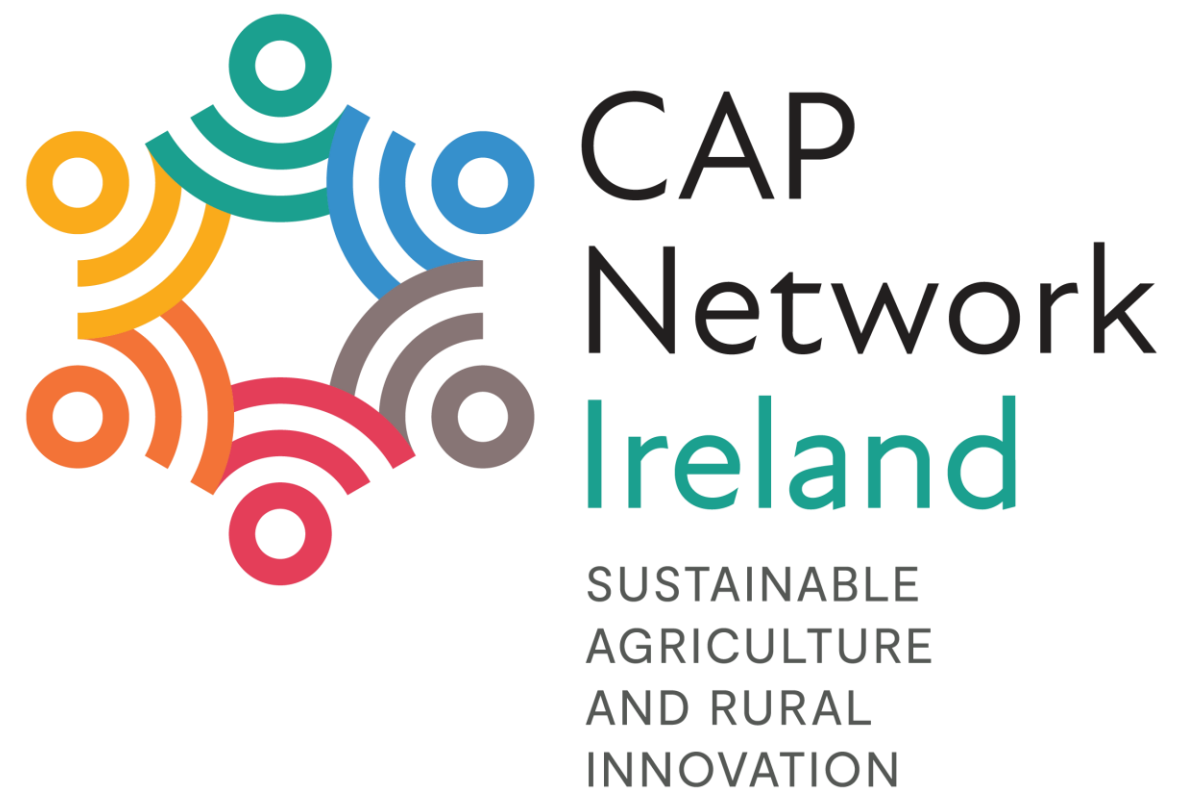


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CAP Network Ireland

1st AKIS Coordination Group Meeting - Ireland

David Murphy

CAP Network Ireland / CEO, ERINN Innovation

 @capnetworkire

 capnetworkireland.eu

 CAP Network Ireland



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine



Co-funded by
the European Union

Co-funded by the European-Union and the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine under Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027.



CAP Network Ireland



We Champion Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development

- Co-funded by DAFM and the EU (2023-2027)
- Builds on previous NRN activities:
 - EU Strategic Priorities (Green Deal, COVID recovery, nature-based models)
 - Pillar 1 (direct payments and sectoral interventions)
 - Pillar 2 (rural development measures)
 - Innovation Hub
- New partnership:



CAP Network Team Present Today



David Murphy
ERINN



James Claffey
IRL



Dave Barry
MTU



Eva Greene
ERINN



Daniel Bennett
IRL



Sarah Glascott
ERINN

Our Work Covers Four Key Areas:



Research



Communication
& Marketing



Management &
Implementation



Innovation
Hub

Our Channels

- Website: www.capnetworkireland.eu
- Email: info@capnetworkireland.eu
- Facebook: **CAP Network Ireland**
- Twitter/X: **@capnetworkire**
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**We champion
sustainable
agriculture and rural
development.**

Welcome to CAP Network Ireland!

Join us as we journey towards a more sustainable future for Ireland's rural communities.

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Case Study: Thinking outside the box

Rory O'Reilly: Organic Beef Farmer
Rory O'Reilly lives in south Co. Galway with his wife and 4 children. He is an organic suckler beef farmer who has found innovative ways to make a living from heavy marginal land while also protecting its ecology. He has developed a new market for beef from his herd of 42 cattle by selling directly to his customers via a box scheme at Loughmountain Farm (loughmountain.ie).



Innovation Hub



Objectives



- Raise awareness and understanding of **R&I**
- Collect and appraise **knowledge**
- Share **learnings** and **innovative ideas**
- Identify **opportunities** and **gaps**
- Stimulate **co-design** and **co-creation**

Activities

- **Mapping the Ecosystem:** Understanding the funding programmes, stakeholders, projects, research and multipliers.
- **Knowledge Sharing:** Identifying and collecting knowledge for wider sharing or customised transfer.
- **Innovation Scoping:** Thematic deep dives to support key challenges and needs in specific sectors.
- **Knowledge Exchange:** Transfer to specific target groups to maximise likelihood of uptake.
- **Enabling Supports:** Connecting relevant actors, facilitating co-creation and providing advice.

Two Thematic Pilots

Horticulture

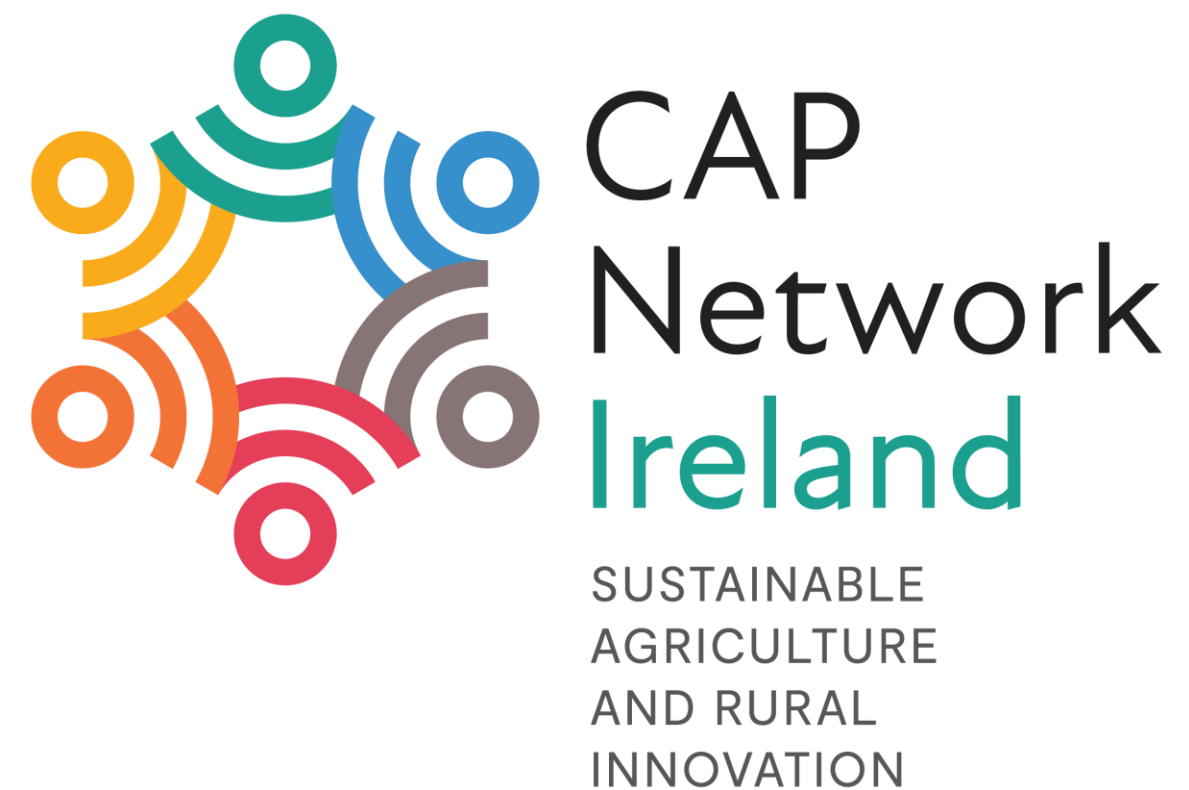
Key challenges:

- Growing media, market & economic opportunities, circularity, resource efficiency, business models, collaboration strategies, policy innovation.

Organics

Key challenges:

- Succession planning, products sold in conventional markets, producer groups for processing, transparent information for customers, dedicated outlets and markets.



Thank you

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AKIS Coordination Group

Inaugural Meeting
Backweston Laboratory Campus

13 December 2023



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Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

AKIS Coordination Group Terms of Reference

Cormac McGann

CAP Strategic Plan Division

Terms of Reference - Contents



- **Vision**
- **Status**
- **Mandate**
- **Governance**
- **Goals and Objectives**

Vision



- *“...to better connect people and organisations through dynamic and consistent engagement to facilitate improved and speedier information flow between knowledge producers, innovation intermediaries, businesses, organisations, institutions and knowledge users.”*



Status



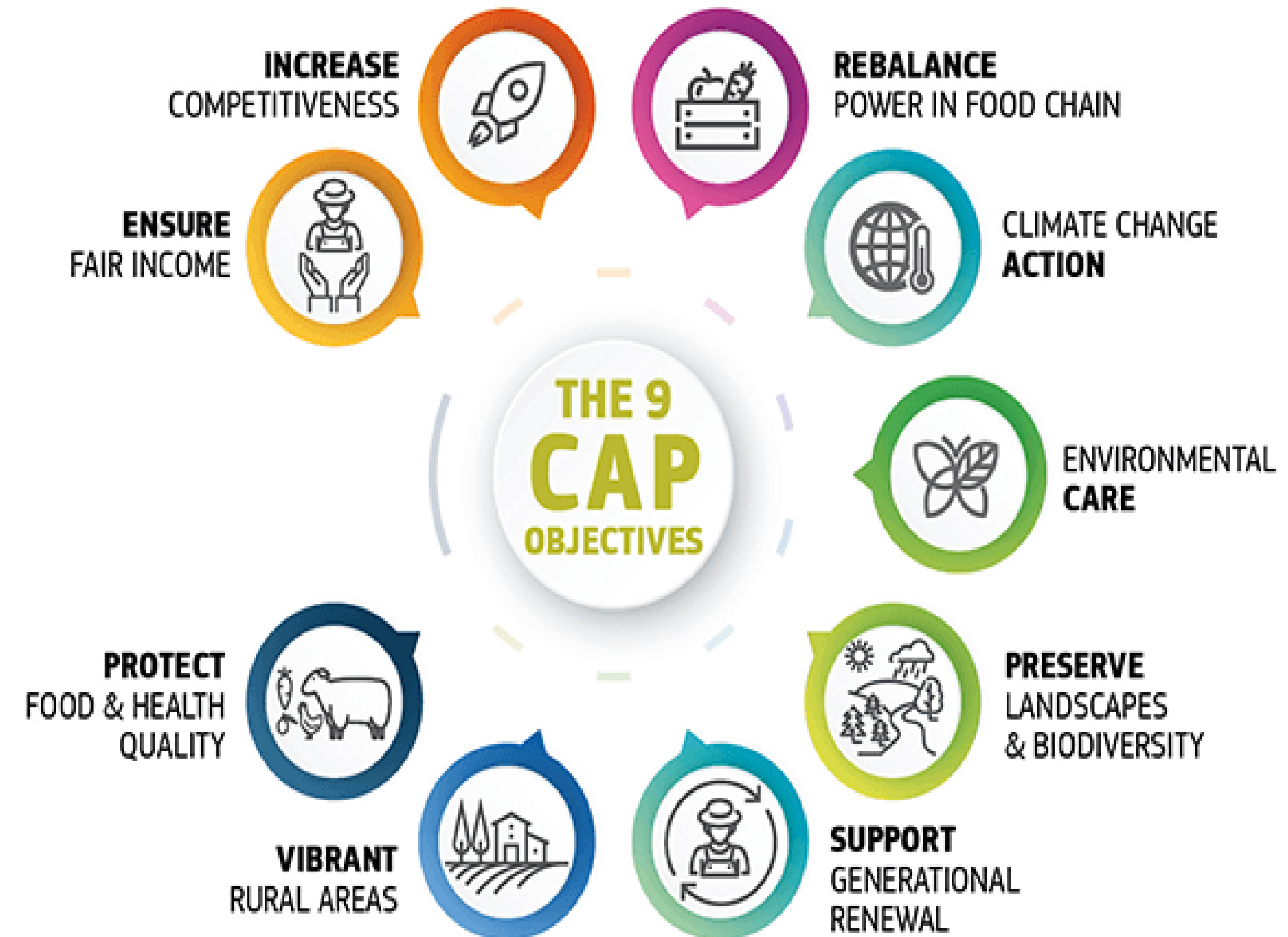
- Part of the National Consultative structure.
- Established as of today by Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine Charlie McConalogue.
- Initial operation will be a 2-year period, to be reviewed in late 2025 as part of mid-term review of CSP.



Mandate



- CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027:
“to strengthen the links between the actors in the AKIS, the Managing Authority will establish and chair an AKIS coordination group which will provide a platform to improve synergies and complementarities between people, organisations and institutions.”



Governance

Chair:	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
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Members:	As invited by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine
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Steering Group:	Open to volunteers from the Membership
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Secretariat:	CAP Strategic Plan Division Research and Codex Division
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Goals and Objectives



- Document sets out an open list of 6 goals.
- This will be supplemented and adjusted based on the feedback of the workshop this afternoon.
- Open to written feedback until 5 January 2024.





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Thank you for your attention

Questions

December 2023



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Workshop



Current Scenario	Guiding questions <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Who are the key actors in the AKIS Network?2. Identify strengths and weaknesses of the current AKIS strategic approach or key initiatives that you are engaged in that contribute to the Irish AKIS3. Identify key issues and challenges that concern you as a Coordination Group member that should be considered in a Work Programme?
What ideas or actions do you propose to develop the Irish AKIS?	Guiding questions <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Who do you need to engage with to enhance knowledge uptake for your organisation or your stakeholders?2. What innovation activities would you like to undertake?