

EU-FarmBook

Deliverable 3.15

Set of periodic assessment policy notes (1)

Report | Public



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Summary

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History of Changes

Version 1	12/12/2023	Lisa van Dijk & Mark Redman (HCC)	General review of deliverable by WP3 leaders
Version 2	15/12/2023	Claire Morelle (IFOAM)	Comprehensive evaluation of the report for both readability and thoroughness

Table of Content

Summary	2
History of Changes	3
Executive Summary	6
1. Introduction	7
2. Overview of the status of the knowledge reservoirs for practice in the Member States.....	9
2.1. Rationale	9
2.2. Status of the knowledge reservoirs for practice in Member States	9
2.3. Types of existing knowledge reservoirs	10
2.4. Characteristics of the knowledge reservoirs.....	10
2.5. Challenges in development of a knowledge reservoirs for practice	11
2.6. Survey concluding remarks.....	11
3. First periodic assessment	12
3.1. Rationale and objective of the first periodic assessment.....	12
3.2. Periodic assessment methodology	13
4. Next steps	14
 Annex 1 Survey questions “National/regional knowledge reservoirs for practice as part of the AKIS Strategic Approach in CAP plans”	 15
Annex 2 First periodic assessment - general structure and questions.....	19

Figures Index

Fig. 1: EU-FarmBook AMB adaptative planning process.....	8
Fig. 2: Type of existing knowledge exchange platforms in MS.....	10
Fig. 3: Challenges currently faced or anticipated in the development and management of knowledge reservoirs for practice (n:17 MS).....	11
Fig. 4: Theoretical “pathways” in the project for “embedding” the use of the EU-FarmBook platform into the different AKISs.....	14

List of Abbreviations

AKIS	Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System
AMB	Ambassador
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
CRM	Customer Relationship Management
EIP-AGRI	European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability
FAIR	Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable
H2020	Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme
HEU	Horizon Europe research and innovation programme
KR	Knowledge Reservoir
MS	EU Member State
NRN	National Rural Network
OG	Operational Group
Q&A	Questions & Answers
R&I	Research and Innovation
R&R	Reflection and Refinement
WP	Work Package

Executive Summary

This report presents the deliverable D3.15 of Work Package (WP) 3 of the EU-FarmBook project. The main aim of the WP3 is to embed the EU-FarmBook platform into the contemporary policy context of strengthening Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKISs) by effectively connecting the platform with relevant actors, policies, projects, and other instruments in place at Member State (MS) and EU levels.

The EU-FarmBook consortium has 19 multi-actor partners (i.e. partners with complementary profiles and types of knowledge – scientific, practical and other) nominated as EU-FarmBook Ambassadors (AMB) with geographical and/or sectoral scope and responsibilities. These partners cover the 27 MSs and the agriculture and forestry sectors, work to set up and expand a network of institutional AKIS actors to effectively connect the EU-FarmBook platform with a) the AKISs of each individual MS taking into account their specific characteristics and dynamics, b) selected key ‘sectors’ of the CAP, including organic farming, forestry, young farmers and farm advisory services and, c) the community of multi-actor projects funded by Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe, Cluster 6 of Horizon Europe and the CAP-funded EIP-AGRI Operational Groups (OGs).

To achieve the aim stated in WP3, the EU FarmBook AMBs are instrumental as they secure the provision of information about the situation in each MS and Sector and its evolution with time. For this purpose, the AMBs will perform a periodic assessment with focus on the state-of-play of the embedding of results from EU-funded research and innovation (R&I) projects into the national/regional AKISs with specific reference to the planning, development, and management of ‘knowledge reservoirs (KRs) for practice’. These periodic assessments will provide the project with a complete overview of the situation in each MS and Sector, key information to pinpoint opportunities to connect existing or new knowledge platforms with the EU-FarmBook and to embed the use of the EU-FarmBook platform within EU/national/regional AKISs. Moreover, these assessments will provide the AMBs with the necessary understanding of how and where the EU-FarmBook fits in the MSs and Sector AKISs and with the needed information to revise, adapt and update their stakeholder engagement plan.

The title of D3.15 was changed from “Set of periodic assessment policy notes (1)” to “First periodic assessment note” as this first deliverable provides preliminary insights into the situation of the MSs regarding the development of knowledge reservoirs and the structure and content of the first periodic assessment. As the project progresses and the situation in the MSs and the Sectors evolve, the content of the periodic assessments will be adapted accordingly.

1. Introduction

Work package 3 has an important role in the project connecting the creation of the EU-FarmBook platform in WPs 1 & 2 and the dissemination and exploitation activities of WPs 4 & 5. WP3 aims to embed the EU-FarmBook platform into the contemporary policy context of strengthening Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKISs) by effectively connecting the platform with relevant actors, policies, projects, and other instruments and to respond to the changing characteristics of the evolving post-2020 AKIS 'ecosystems' at EU and Member State (MS) level. The EU-FarmBook consortium includes 19 multi-actor partners (i.e. partners with complementary profiles and types of knowledge – scientific, practical and other) nominated as **EU-FarmBook Ambassadors** (AMBs) with geographical and/or sectoral scope and responsibility. These partners cover all 27 MSs and work via the tasks in WP 3 to set up and expand a network of institutional AKIS actors. The AMBs have the role of connecting the EU-FarmBook platform with a) the AKISs of all individual MSs by their specific characteristics and dynamics, b) selected key 'sectors' of the CAP, including organic farming, forestry, young farmers and farm advisory services, and c) the community of multi-actor projects funded by H2020, Cluster 6 of Horizon Europe and the CAP-funded EIP-AGRI Operational Groups (OGs).

WP3 has adopted an agile approach to the planning and coordination of the AMBs network activities in response to the 'evolving AKIS ecosystem' as the MSs progress with their implementation of the AKIS Strategic Approach of the CAP Strategic Plans and with the ongoing implementation of Cluster 6 of HEU. WP3 has five tasks:

- Task 3.1: Adaptative planning and coordination of knowledge networking activities.
- Task 3.2: Developing the skills and capacities of EU-FarmBook ambassadors.
- Task 3.3: Understanding and evaluating the state and evolution of the AKIS 'ecosystem' knowledge reservoirs at national and EU level.
- Task 3.4: Promote and facilitate the uploading of knowledge objects.
- Task 3.5: Feedback loops for evaluation and learning.

Work Package 3 (Task 3.1) planning will remain flexible and adaptive throughout the project with an iterative approach applied to develop 'tailor-made' responses by the AMB for each MS/sector according to the specific characteristics of their national AKIS and the progress made with their AKIS co-ordination bodies, the innovation strand of their CAP Networks and the rolling-out of EIP-AGRI interventions. The number of iterations of network activities will vary depending on the MS and Sector and will be based on a periodic assessment conducted by AMBs (Task 3.3). An overview of the AMBs adaptive planning process and the relationships with T3.2 and T3.3 is provided in Fig. 1. Furthermore, the AMBs will play an active role in promoting and supporting the uploading of knowledge objects from EU-funded projects at MS and EU level (Task 3.4) and in providing feedback to improve the EU-FarmBook platform and ensure it meets the expectations/needs of users and other AKIS actors (Task 3.5).

The EU-FarmBook AMBs are actively supported to conduct these tasks in WP 3 (as well as tasks in WP 4 and WP 5) through WP3 Task 3.1, Task 3.2 and Task 3.3. WP 3 Task 3.1 supports the AMBs to develop their tailor-made engagement/network strategies

through facilitating an adaptive planning process. WP3 Task 3.2 provides the necessary development of their skills and capacities to perform as a community of EU-FarmBook AMBs at national and EU sectoral level. WP3 Task 3.3. provides the necessary guiding questions and tools to perform a periodic assessment (every 12 months, M9-M69). With the periodic assessment the AMB will be able to assess the state-of-play with the embedding of results from EU-funded research and innovation (R&I) projects into the national/regional AKISs with specific reference to the planning, development, and management of ‘knowledge reservoirs for practice’.

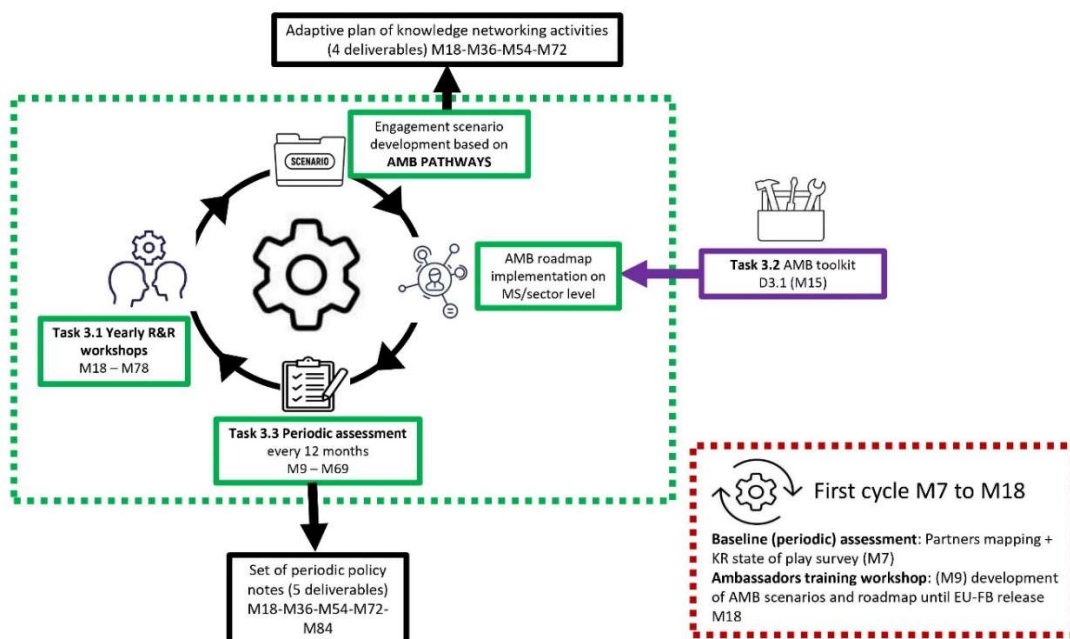


Fig. 1: EU-FarmBook AMB adaptive planning process

The aim of this deliverable D3.15, the first deliverable of T3.3, is to provide an overview of the state of play in the planning and implementation of online knowledge reservoirs for exchange of agricultural and forestry practices at MS level and to present the structure and the questions of the first periodic assessment. This deliverable summarizes the information gathered on the status of national/regional knowledge reservoirs in the Member States (chapter 2). This data is key for the MS AMBs, as it represents the starting point for the identification and creation of opportunities to collaborate and to connect the EU-FarmBook with MSs' initiatives. Moreover, this deliverable also presents the structure and questions of the first periodic assessment. The assessment is a tool developed to evaluate the state-of-play with the embedding of results from EU-funded research and innovation (R&I) projects into the national/regional AKISs with a special focus on the planning, development, and management of ‘knowledge reservoirs for practice’ (chapter 3). Finally, in chapter 4, the next steps for the periodic assessment are presented as the periodic assessment will be a recurrent activity part of the AMB adaptive planning process.

2. Overview of the status of the knowledge reservoirs for practice in the Member States

2.1. Rationale

A survey was done in January 2023 with the aim to better understand the (baseline) situation in each MS regarding a) the current state-of-play of the national/regional knowledge reservoirs for practice included in the CAP Strategic Plans and b) key issues associated with their planning, development and management. This survey provided the baseline information for the development of the first periodic assessment. The survey was distributed in preparation of the Policy Knowledge Platforms event (Online) on 26th January 2023 and gathered information on both a) planned and existing knowledge reservoirs for practice included in the CAP Strategic Plans, and b) those that were already under development. The survey also collected information on knowledge reservoirs for practice that already existed but are not specifically mentioned in the CAP Strategic Plan. The survey questions can be found in Annex 1.

In total, 89 valid survey responses from 26 Member States with 27 CAP Strategic Plans including responses from 8 regions within MSs, namely from Belgium, Spain and Italy were collected. Over 75 % of the respondents were from CAP Managing Authorities, AKIS Coordination Bodies, National Rural Networks (NRNs)/CAP network support units or a combination of those (several respondents had multiple functions). Moreover, 80% of the respondents were directly involved in the development and management of KR for practice, either through AKIS planning and decision making, coordination or implementation of KR development and/or the management of KR content.

2.2. Status of the knowledge reservoirs for practice in the Member States

In only six of the 26 MSs, the creation of a KR for practice is stated in section 8 of their CAP Strategic Plan, namely in Belgium-Flanders, Estonia, Hungary, Croatia, Italy and Slovenia. In the CAP Strategic Plans of nine MSs, the creation of a KR is not mentioned, namely in Austria, Belgium-Wallonia, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Germany, Denmark, Latvia, Romania and Sweden. In 12 MSs contradictory responses were provided (Czech Republic, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, and Spain). These contradictory responses are likely due to the complex situation of the country linked to the structure and functioning of the regional AKIS or internal differences in what was considered a KR for practice.

In terms of priority of the (further) development of the knowledge reservoir for practice relative to other actions in the AKIS Strategic Approach in each MS, most respondents scored this as a medium to high priority.

2.3. Types of existing knowledge reservoirs

Three types of existing knowledge exchange platforms were identified based on the survey results (Fig. 2).



Fig 2: Types of existing knowledge exchange platforms in MS

2.4. Characteristics of the knowledge reservoirs

Information about the language, anticipated users/target group and content exchange of the KRs that were either planned or already implemented in the MS was collected.

Language

The knowledge reservoirs planned and/or implemented in most of the MSs only use one language, their national language (Austria, Czech Republic, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Slovenia). In five MSs, the KR was bilingual with the English language in addition to the national language (Estonia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia) and three MSs have multi-lingual (national or regional languages) KRs (Belgium, Finland, Spain).

Anticipated users/target group

All (proposed) KRs targeted farmers and advisors. Further, anticipated users/target group of the knowledge reservoirs for practice varied, including, in decreasing order of relevance, researchers, foresters, teachers/lectures and policy makers. Although supply chain actors were targeted least, they were still identified as a relevant target group.

Possibility to exchange content with the EU-FarmBook

For most respondents, it was very difficult to understand if there was a possibility to have an easy content exchange between the MS/regional KRs for practice and the EU-FarmBook. The reasons behind this was that there was not enough clarity on the interoperability between the EU-FarmBook and the existing or planned KRs. However, 22% of the respondents indicated that they could foresee an easy exchange between the national/regional reservoirs and the EU-FarmBook in the future.

2.5. Challenges in development of a knowledge reservoirs for practice

When asked to identify the challenges currently faced or anticipated in the development and management of the KRs for practice, respondents indicated the development of a user-friendly database and the compatibility issues with other sources of information (e.g. other knowledge reservoirs) as the most important challenges. Furthermore, other frequently reported challenges included attracting end users, intermediaries such as advisors, and ensuring the FAIR¹ data principles (Fig. 3).

Nevertheless, it was possible to identify and summarize the kind of support that would be helpful to develop the MS level KRs for practice further as:

1. Knowledge exchange on experiences of the other MS
2. Share good practices to develop a KR
3. Networking/Engagement with end-users
4. Language availability/translation
5. IT support
6. Enhance KR functionality

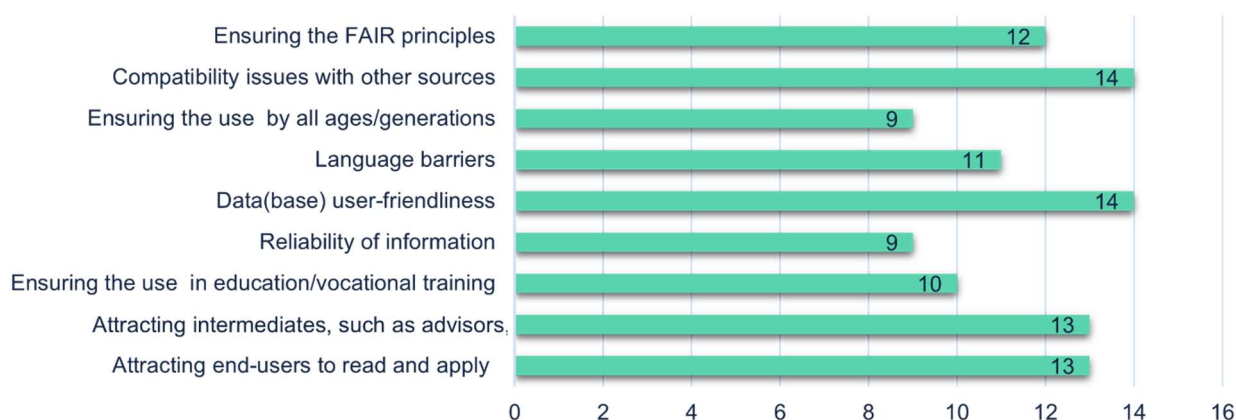


Fig. 3: Challenges currently faced or anticipated in the development and management of knowledge reservoirs for practice (n:17 MS).

2.6. Survey concluding remarks

This survey aimed to better understand the situation in each MS regarding a) the current state-of-play of the national/regional knowledge reservoirs for practice included in the CAP Strategic Plans and b) key issues associated with the planning, development and management. The survey results showed that the situation in most MSs is still evolving. The results indicated that there is a great diversity of contexts under which the KRs are or will be developed as well as great diversity in terms of priority given to the KRs as a tool to strengthen the AKIS.

There is also variation in situations, as in some MSs a KR for practice has already been established and is functional while in other MSs a KR has not yet been planned.

¹ FAIR = Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable

Moreover, in some MSs a layer of complexity is added as the KRs might be developed at a regional and not at the MS level.

Even though the survey results revealed that the situation is complex, it is a good starting point to identify opportunities to connect the MS or regional reservoirs with the EU-FarmBook. Moreover, based on the findings of this survey a first periodic assessment was developed to further explore the specific situation in each MS.

3. First periodic assessment

3.1. Rationale and objective of the first periodic assessment

The periodic assessment is a tool designed to support the AMBs in their adaptive planning process to develop ‘tailor-made’ responses for each MS/sector by the specific characteristics of their national/sectorial AKIS and the progress made with the implementation of their CAP strategic plan (Task 3.1, see also Figure 1). The periodic assessment aims to assess the state-of-play with the embedding of results from EU-funded R&I projects into the national/regional AKISs of the 27 MSs. The assessment has an specific focus on the planning, development, and management of ‘knowledge reservoirs for practice’ included as part of Section 8 in the CAP Strategic Plans or developed through other initiatives. The outcome of the periodic assessment provides the AMBs with an overview of the situation in their MS/sector and an understanding of how and where the EU-FarmBook can strengthen the knowledge flow in the national /regional/sectorial AKIS. These assessments will be published as assessment policy notes each year and feed into the adaptive planning of WP3 (T3.1) with the purpose of adjusting the activities of the WP in response to the dynamic environment in the MSs and sectors. This first periodic assessment has a MSs focus and the questions targeting the sector AMBs are limited. However, the role of the sector AMBs will have increasing relevance in future assessments.

3.2. Periodic assessment methodology

The AMBs will use a pre-defined template to undertake a periodic assessment every 12 months (M9-M69). The periodic assessment form will be updated each period to reflect the evolving context in MS/sector. The template for the first Periodic Assessment can be found in Annex 2. The periodic assessment is structured around the theoretical “pathways” identified in the project for “embedding” the use of the EU-FarmBook platform into the different AKISs (Fig. 4). These pathways were developed during the first Ambassador training workshop in Paris between the 8 and the 10 of March 2023 (see D3.1 – Annex 3). These pathways provide a structure for planning the engagement activities of the AMBs. Further explanation on the AMBs pathways can be found in Deliverable D3.6 Adaptive plan of knowledge networking activities (1).

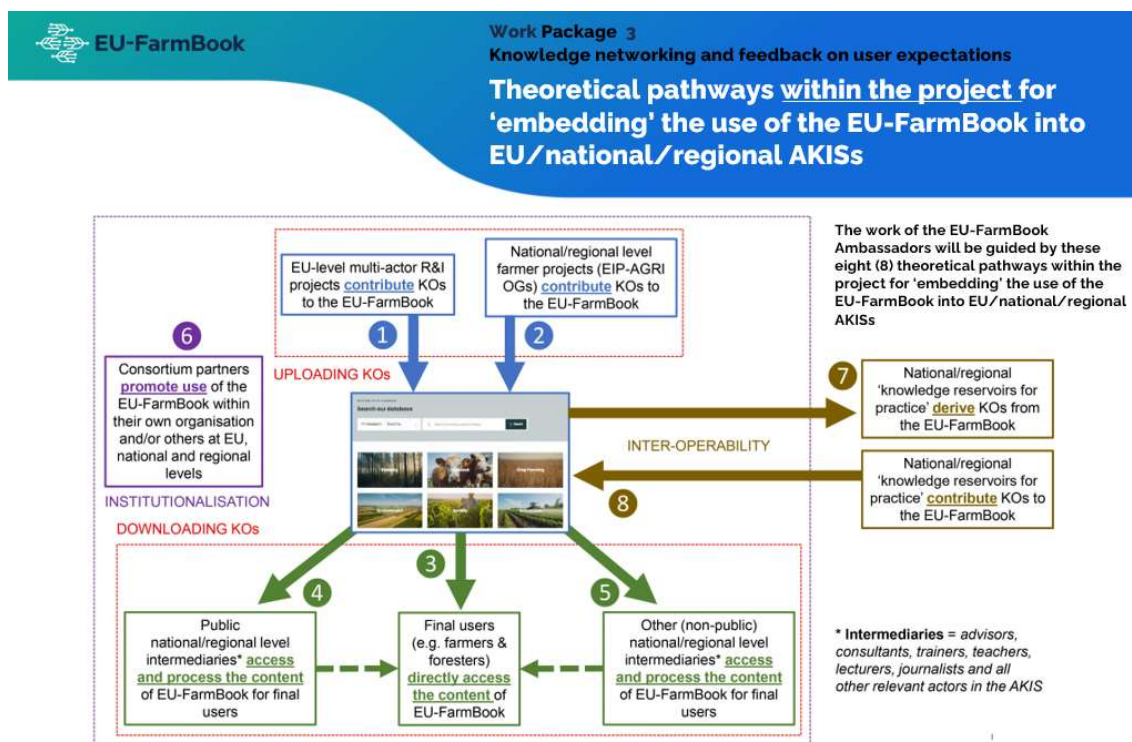


Fig. 4: Theoretical "pathways" within the project for "embedding" the use of the EU-FarmBook platform into the different AKISs

At this stage of the EU-FarmBook project, the periodic assessment focusses on the state-of-play for "embedding" the use of the EU-FarmBook platform into the different AKISs in relation to Pathways 4,5,6 and supports the identification of KR related to Pathway 7 and 8 (Fig. 4). The assessment related to Pathway 1 and 2 will be covered at project level through the uploading task T3.4 (see Deliverable D 3.2: Report on progress on promoting and supporting the uploading of knowledge objects (1)). The first periodic assessment form is specifically designed for AMBs with a Member State focus. AMBs with a sector focus only need to work on section 3.7 "Pathway 7 & 8 knowledge reservoirs (interoperability)".

The starting point of the periodic assessment are the AKIS updates for each MS developed by modernAKIS. ModernAKIS (<https://modernakis.eu/>) is one of the EU-FarmBook's sister projects focusing on the modernisation of Agriculture through more efficient and effective Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS). Furthermore, other additional/supplementary information to be consulted are the i2connect project reports that provide an overview of the AKIS with a main focus on advisory services and the Guidelines on Evaluating the AKIS Strategic Approach in the CAP Strategic Plans (https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/publications/2023-06/EUCAPNetwork_Report_EvaluatingtheAKISStrategicApproachinCAPStrategicPlans.pdf).

The assessment builds on the survey conducted in January 2023 (see Chapter 2) and continues to explore the development of KRs for practice in the MSs specifically related to Pathways 7 & 8 knowledge reservoir (inter-operability). In the periodic assessment, information will be collected on both planned and existing platforms, plus those that may already be under development. Additionally, information will be collected related to platforms that already exist but are not specifically mentioned and/or developed as part of the AKIS Strategic Approach, such as platforms developed by R&I projects (H2020/HEU) or sector level, since these are potentially also very useful sources of knowledge and it might be useful to connect them with the EU-FarmBook. Furthermore, the questions in the assessment aim to get an understanding of the key issues associated with the planning, development, and management of these online KRs, to analyze their current and expected by the members of the AKIS at EU/national/regional level and to pinpoint opportunities to connect existing or new knowledge platforms with the EU-FarmBook and to embed the use of the EU-FarmBook at EU/national/regional AKISs. AMBs are requested to collect this information in a supplementary list to the project Customer Relations Management system (CRM, see details in D3.2: Report on progress on promoting and supporting the uploading of knowledge objects (1), at a central place on the EU-FarmBook SharePoint, to ensure the easy access to this information by the AMBs and other project consortia members.

4. Next steps

The AMBs will undertake a periodic assessment every 12 months in alignment with the iterative recurrent activities as part of the AMBs adaptive planning process. The first period assessment will be conducted between M17 (December 2023) and M19 (February 2024) in preparation of the Reflection and Refinement planning workshop from 9-11 April 2024 (M21). During the assessment period, the T3.3 team will provide continuous support to ensure the assessment is completed accurately and on time.

The period to complete the periodic assessment has been extended to M19 in order for the ambassadors to combine their efforts in contacting all the relevant AKIS member in preparation of the pre-launch of the EU-FarmBook platform on 8 February 2024 with the collection of relevant information for the periodic assessment.

Towards the end of M20 the results of the first assessment will be collated and shared in the form of a set of policy notes. These notes will be included in the next deliverable D3.16.

Annex 1

Survey questions “National/regional knowledge reservoirs for practice as part of the AKIS Strategic Approach in CAP plans”

As preparation for the exchange of experience during the online event of 26th January 2023, we are making a **survey** of a) the current state-of-play of the national/regional knowledge reservoirs for practice included in the CAP Strategic Plans and b) key issues associated with their planning, development and management.

We want to collect information on both planned and existing knowledge reservoirs for practice included in the CAP Strategic Plans, plus those that may already be under development. We are also interested to identify knowledge reservoirs for practice that already exist but are not specifically mentioned in the CAP Strategic Plans, since these are potentially also very useful sources of experience.

Please complete the survey as fully as possible. It also includes registration for the online event on 26th January is included in the survey form.

We kindly ask you to complete the survey, even if you are not intending to join the meeting on 26th January.

1. Your first name
2. Your last name
3. Your email
4. Your Member State / region
5. Your organisation
6. Your function within the organisation (multiple answers possible). Please add your specialisation/competence:
 - a. AKIS coordination body, part of unit/division/department xxxx of the xxx Ministry
 - b. CAP managing authority responsible for....(which interventions, which part of the CAP plan?)
 - c. National/regional Rural / CAP Network support unit, responsible for....
 - d. Other (please specify)
7. What is your function regarding the development/ management of a knowledge platform for practice? (multiple answers possible)
 - a. CAP Plan AKIS planning, including decision-making on the knowledge reservoir for practice and its implementation
 - b. Coordination of knowledge reservoir development

- c. Implementation of the knowledge reservoir
 - d. Management of knowledge reservoir content
 - e. Other (please specify)
 - f. None / not applicable
8. Is there an online knowledge reservoir for practice proposed in Section 8 (Modernisation: AKIS and digitalisation) of your CAP Strategic Plan?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. If yes, please provide a link to your CAP Strategic Plan
9. Is there an online knowledge reservoir for practice planned in your Member State/region?
10. Please tick the answer that best describes the situation in your Member State in relation to the Knowledge reservoir for practice included in your CAP Strategic Plan:
- a. Such a knowledge reservoir exists
 - b. Such a knowledge reservoir is at an advanced stage of technical development
 - c. Such a knowledge reservoir is at an early stage of technical development
 - d. Such a knowledge reservoir is planned and technical specification is being prepared
 - e. Such a knowledge reservoir is planned, but no preparation of development yet
 - f. No such knowledge reservoir is currently planned - go to Q21
11. In which language(s) is or will you develop your knowledge reservoir for practice? (open question)
12. Who are your main anticipated users/target group of your knowledge reservoir for practice? (multiple answers possible)
- a. Farmers
 - b. Foresters
 - c. Advisors
 - d. Teachers/lecturers
 - e. Researchers
 - f. Policymakers
 - g. Supply chain businesses
 - h. Other (please specify)

13. In terms of knowledge reservoir content, what types of content (so-called 'knowledge objects') do you want to include?
- a. Text based report and guidelines
 - b. Audio based such as blogs
 - c. Audio/visual such as (Youtube) videos
 - d. Outcomes of Operational Group projects,
 - e. Outcomes of Horizon (multi-actor) projects
 - f. Outcomes of national projects
 - g. Videos
 - h. Audio material
 - i. Photos
 - j. Factsheets
 - k. Leaflets
 - l. Calendar of events,
 - m. Newsletters
 - n. Interactive platforms for connecting AKIS actors etc.
 - o. Other (please specify)
14. Do you plan to have an easy exchange of content between your national/regional knowledge reservoir for practice and the EU-FarmBook?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Do not know
15. What challenges are you currently facing, or do you anticipate, in the development and management of your knowledge reservoir for practice?
- a. Attracting end-users to read the information and apply the practical knowledge
 - b. Attracting intermediates, such as advisors, to use the knowledge reservoir to spread the information
 - c. Ensuring the use of the information in education/vocational training
 - d. Reliability of information in the knowledge reservoir
 - e. Data(base) user-friendliness
 - f. Language barriers
 - g. Ensuring the use of the knowledge reservoir by all ages/generations
 - h. Compatibility issues with other sources of practical information
 - i. Ensuring the FAIR² principles
 - j. Other (please specify)

² FAIR = Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable

16. What is the priority (relative to other actions in your AKIS Strategic Approach) regarding the (further) development of your knowledge reservoir for practice?
 - a. High
 - b. Medium
 - c. Low
 - d. Not applicable
17. How will other actions/interventions/networking activities in your AKIS Strategic Approach make use of you knowledge reservoir for practice? (open question)
18. What will you do to enhance this? (open question)
19. Who is the relevant contact person within your organisation related to the development and management of this online reservoir for practice? (open question)
20. What kind of support would be helpful to develop your knowledge reservoir for practice further? (open question)
21. Would you like to attend the **Policy Knowledge Platforms event (Online) on 26/01/2023 yourself?**
 - a. Yes – please link the registration link here
 - b. No
22. If no, will you like to propose another person to attend the **Policy Knowledge Platforms event (Online) on 26/01/2023?**
 - a. Who?
 - b. Function and organisation of this person
 - c. Why?
23. If you are planning to attend, what will make this online event a success for you?
24. If participating, do you agree to having this online event recorded?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

Thank you for completing this survey.

If you have indicated that you would like to attend the forthcoming online event on 26th January 2023 you will receive the joining details prior to the event.

Annex 2

First periodic assessment - general structure and questions

Note: The period assessment form is specifically designed for ambassadors with a Member State focus. If you are an ambassador with a sector focus, please only look at “Pathway 7 & 8 knowledge repositories (interoperability)”.

1. Objective

To periodically assess the state-of-play with the embedding of results from EU-funded research and innovation (R&I) projects into the national/regional AKISs of the 27 Member States, with specific reference to the planning, development and management of ‘knowledge reservoirs for practice’ included as part of Section 8 in the CAP Strategic Plans or developed through other initiatives.

The outcome of this periodic assessment will help you have an overview of the situation in your MS and to periodically plan the stakeholder engagement.

2. Supporting Documents

The modernAKIS project is preparing AKIS updates for each MS - these are the **STARTING POINT** for the WP3 periodic assessments, with additional/supplementary information added as necessary.

Published updates for several MS are available on the modernAKIS website (<https://modernakis.eu>) and listed below, more are coming.

Belgium <https://modernakis.eu/belgium-akis-updates-on-the-different-akis/>
Cyprus <https://modernakis.eu/cyprus-akis-updates-on-the-different-akis/>
Denmark <https://modernakis.eu/denmark-akis-updates-on-the-different-akis/>
Finland <https://modernakis.eu/finland-akis-updates-on-the-different-akis/>
France <https://modernakis.eu/france-akis-updates-on-the-different-akis/>
Greece <https://modernakis.eu/greece-akis-updates-on-the-different-akis/>
Italy <https://modernakis.eu/poland-akis-updates-on-the-different-akis/>
Latvia <https://modernakis.eu/latvia-akis-updates-on-the-different-akis/>
Malta <https://modernakis.eu/malta-akis-updates-on-the-different-akis/>
Portugal <https://modernakis.eu/portugal-akis-updates-on-the-different-akis/>
Spain <https://modernakis.eu/spanish-akis-updates-on-the-different-akis/>
Sweden <https://modernakis.eu/sweden-akis-updates-on-the-different-akis/>

Cross references are made to the i2connect reports and these should also be consulted to have an overview of the AKIS with a main focus on advisory services. The full reports are available here: <https://i2connect-h2020.eu/resources/akis-country-reports/>.

The Guidelines on Evaluating the AKIS Strategic Approach in the CAP Strategic Plans also provides relevant information and can be found here:
https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/publications/2023-06/EUCAPNetwork_Report_EvaluatingtheAKISStrategicApproachinCAPStrategicPlans.pdf

In each periodic assessment we will provide the new available information to be consulted.

Supporting tools

[Customer Relationship Management system](#)

[Project list](#)

[Knowledge repository list](#)

3. Theoretical PATHWAYS within the project for 'embedding' the use of the EU-FarmBook into EU/national/regional AKISs

At this stage of the EU-FarmBook project the periodic assessment focusses on the state-of-play related to PATHWAY 4,5,6 and supports identification of KRs related to PATHWAY 7 and 8. Assessment related to PATHWAY 1 and 2 will be covered on project level through the uploading task T3.4.

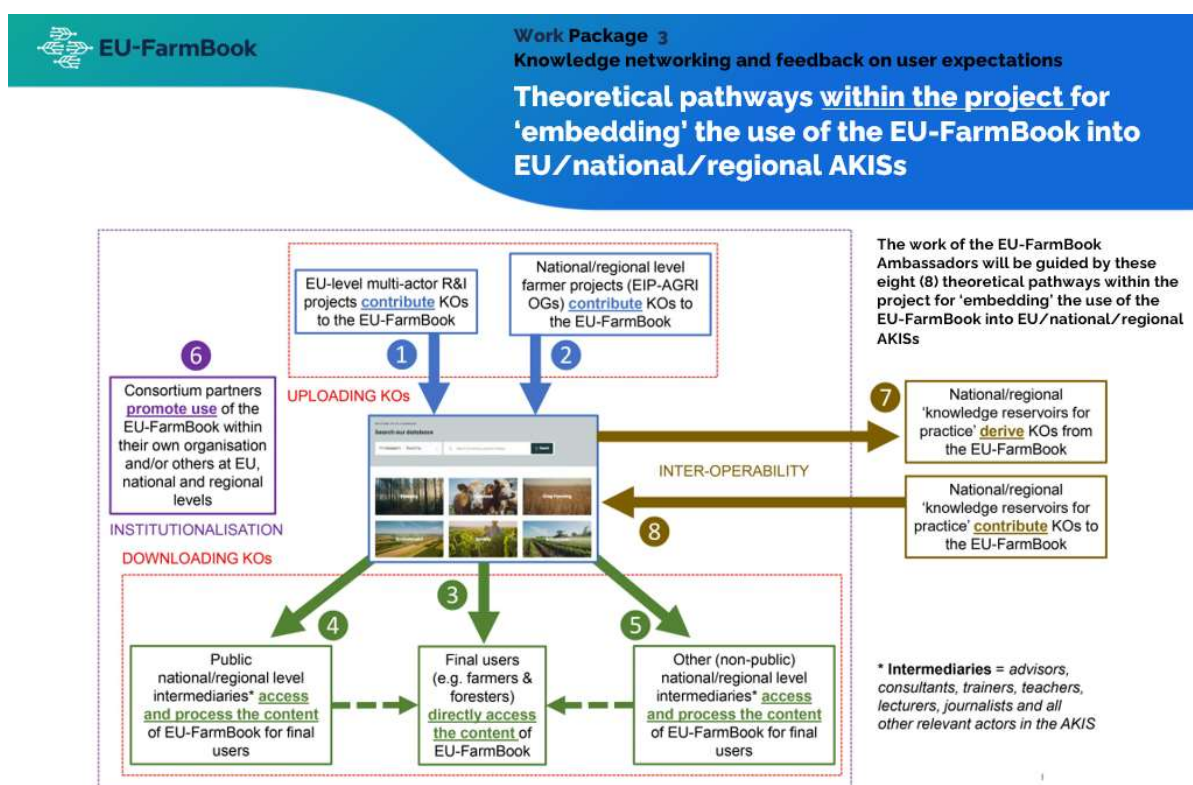


Fig. A1: Theoretical pathways within the project for "embedding" the use of the EU-FarmBook into the EU/national/regional AKISs

Please reply to the best of your knowledge the following questions

PATHWAY 6 (INSTITUTIONALISATION)

1. **Overview of AKIS Strategic Approach**³ - see modernAKIS update + supplementary information taken from Section 8 of the CAP Strategic Plan, MS presentations to SCAR-AKIS, national implementing rules and/or procedures⁴, national working documents, discussions and/or interviews with key informants, etc.
 - Provide an extract of Section 8 of the CAP Strategic Plan, highlight any mention to the planning and creation of a knowledge reservoir or knowledge exchange platform and the link to the CAP Strategic Plan.
NOTE -> Section 8 of most CAP Plans is very general. Significantly more detail may be found in other sources, but more importantly from discussions and/or interviews with key informants.
 - Is there any evidence of a specific intention to enhance the integration and dissemination of the results of EU-funded R&I projects into the AKIS? If yes, please describe how the process is conceived.
NOTE -> there is likely to be a significant difference in the motivation of MS to connect with the practice-orientated outputs from for example Operational Groups (OGs) compared to Horizon projects.
 - Are the results of past or ongoing EU-funded R&I projects publicly available in knowledge reservoirs or it is planned to include them in KR. If yes, please indicate if the knowledge reservoir used or planned to be used and provide the link to the reservoir or the project and all the relevant information in the **CRM supplementary project list and Knowledge Repository list**.
 - Is it proposed to use some form of online knowledge reservoir / digital tools for strengthening the AKIS? If yes, please describe and provide specific details on the knowledge reservoir in section 4 (see below).
NOTE -> many of the MS continue to debate the relevance of developing a "knowledge reservoir for practice". It remains unclear to them WHO the target group should be and what is the relationship with obligations regarding the collection and dissemination of outputs from measures funded under the CAP Plan cooperation measure (notably OG projects).
 - If there is some form of online KR proposed for strengthening the AKIS, are there any additional activities planned for making use of it? (e.g. publications, workshops, training events etc.).
 - Please provide the details of CAP Strategic Plan Managing Authority – overall responsibility for the AKIS-related elements of the CAP Strategic Plan in the **CRM system**
2. **AKIS Co-ordination Body** – see modernAKIS update + supplementary information listed above.

³ The AKIS strategic approach provides a description of the organisational set-up of AKIS in a MS and a description of how advisory services, research and the national CAP Networks will cooperate to provide advice, knowledge flows and innovation services.

⁴ In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32021R2115>

- Please describe the structure and governance of the AKIS Co-ordination Body.
- Provide the details of the Head / Chair of the AKIS Co-ordination Body in the CRM system.

PATHWAY 4 & 5 INTERMEDIARIES WHO ACCESS and PROCESS (DOWNLOADING)

3. Key AKIS stakeholders— see modernAKIS update + supplementary information listed above.

- Please provide a list of AKIS stakeholders identified as KEY to the implementation of the AKIS Strategic approach.
NOTE -> these may be listed in Section 8 of the CAP Strategic Plan but are especially likely to be found in the modernAKIS and i2connect AKIS reports.
- Are there any key stakeholders with a clear and specific interest in better linking with EU-funded R&I projects and/or making use of their results?
NOTE -> again be clear to differentiate between the outputs of Horizon and CAP-funded projects. There remain significant challenges at MS level identifying Horizon projects which are relevant to the national/regional AKIS.
- From the information provided before of key stakeholders, could you detect a demand of a knowledge reservoir that centralizes the results of EU-funded R&I projects?
- Provide in the **CRM system** the details of the few key stakeholder organizations with specific interest in better connecting with the results of EU-funded R&I projects.
- Please provide the details on who is the National/regional CAP Network Support Unit in the **CRM system**.
- Please provide information on the role of the National/regional CAP Network in strengthening the AKIS.
NOTE: This should be identified in Section 8 of the CAP Strategic Plan but will also be evolving with time. In some MSs the CAP Network support will be extensively involved with knowledge reservoir development and so there may be some overlap with section 4 below

PATHWAY 7 & 8 KNOWLEDGE RESEVOIR (INTER-OPERATABILITY)

4. Development / management of a knowledge reservoir for practice – see results of first survey + supplementary information listed above.

We would like to collect information on both planned and existing platforms, plus those that may already be under development. Additionally, we are interested in identifying platforms that already exist but are not specifically mentioned and/or developed as part of the AKIS Strategic Approach, such as platforms developed by R&I projects (H2020/HEU) or sector level, since these are potentially also very useful sources of experience and there might be a potentiality to connect them with the EU-FarmBook.

We are interested to understand the key issues associated with the planning, development, and management of these digital knowledge platforms, to analyze the current and expected use of knowledge reservoirs by the members of the AKIS at EU/national/regional level and pinpoint opportunities to connect existing or new knowledge platforms with the EU-FarmBook and for embedding the use of the EU-FarmBook at EU/national/regional AKISs.

Provide information that characterizes the situation regarding the development / management of knowledge reservoir(s) for practice in your MS or sector in the **CRM supplementary project list and Knowledge Repository list** on the SharePoint.

NOTE -> If more than one knowledge reservoir is planned, already exist or in under development please provide one answer per knowledge reservoir and identify each answer with a name or an acronym.

The following summarizes and highlights the information required on each knowledge reservoir in your MS/sector.

- We need to understand the stage of development of the knowledge reservoir (KR), whether it is planned (indicate the stage of planning), under development (early or advanced stage of development, if possible, indicate the planned day of implementation) or already implemented (indicate the date of implementation). If the knowledge reservoir is proposed to build upon/re-purpose of existing platforms, please also provide that information.
- It is especially important to identify the person and/or organization that is dealing with the development of knowledge reservoir at MS level and for the KR developed by sector across MSs. *For example, National Rural Networks were previously responsible for the development and management of databases of good practice. However, it remains unclear how this previous obligation will be interpreted in the context of the implementation of the AKIS Strategic Approach and therefore their role in the development and/or management of knowledge reservoir. This will only become evident through supplementary sources of information.*
NOTE -> this requires you to answer very concrete questions– WHO is developing the platform? WHO will 'own' the platform? WHO will manage the platform? If more than one knowledge reservoir has been developed or is under development please provide one answer per knowledge reservoir.
- We are interested in understanding whether the knowledge reservoirs will be used for the collection and dissemination of outputs from measures funded under the CAP Plan cooperation measure.
- We are also asking some questions related to the functioning of the KR and technical details such as which language(s) will be used for the knowledge reservoir for practice / the main anticipated user group / the type of content (so-called 'knowledge objects') proposed.
- We need to understand whether you identify an interest in connecting the knowledge reservoir with the EU-FarmBook.

NOTE -> this is an ambition of the EC, but many MS are asking why. Uncertainty about MS obligations regarding collection and dissemination of OG Practice Abstracts is confusing things. Please provide as much detail of the response as possible including questions raised by during the discussion.

- We need to know if you can anticipate problems and opportunities linked to the development and management of the knowledge reservoirs are and the kind of support you believe will be helpful to connect the knowledge reservoir with the EU-FarmBook.