

European CAP Network Conference
'EIP-AGRI Operational Groups:
Innovation in practice'
& EIP-AGRI Innovation Awards

**Frequently asked
questions (FAQ)**

6-8 May 2024

Estoril, Portugal

Innovation and Knowledge exchange | EIP-AGRI



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Part 1: FAQ for the EU CAP Network Conference 'EIP-AGRI Operational Groups: Innovation in practice'

- **Do I have to apply for the conference even if I have already applied for the awards?**

Yes. Participation in the conference does not automatically imply participation in the innovation awards, and vice versa: the participation in the conference does not guarantee participation in the awards. Therefore, there are two separate application forms, one for the conference and another for the awards. If you would like to apply to the conference and to the awards, you need to fill in both application forms.

- **Am I already registered for the conference after I have applied to the open call?**

No, you are not. Because of the limited number of seats, it is not possible to accommodate all requests for participation. The organisers will assess the applications that will be received. Applicants will be informed whether or not they have been selected by the end of February or beginning of March. Selected applicants will subsequently receive an invitation to register for participation, with a deadline to complete the registration form. Applicants that have applied to the open call but have not been selected, will not be able to participate in the conference, nor those who have been selected but didn't register.

- **How many representatives of an OG can apply for the conference?**

Two participants per Operational Group project can apply for the conference, as long as one of the applicants is a farmer or a forester. Otherwise, only one participant per Operational Group project will be considered.

- **I'm involved in several OGs. Should I apply once and list all these OGs in one application form?**

No, each application to the conference refers to one single Operational Group project. In case you are involved in more than one OG, you can present more than one application (therefore, fill in more than one form).

- **Can only OGs apply to the conference?**

Representatives of Operational Group projects are strongly advised to apply. But also other types of actors are very welcome to apply to the conference: representatives of farmers' organisations, advisors, innovation support services providers, Horizon thematic and advisory networks, researchers, Horizon National Contact Points, organisations that can support further use and the upscaling of OG outcomes (e.g., foundations, crowdfunding platforms, national funding agencies, etc.).



- **Are applications from outside the EU also considered?**

The target audience for this event is participants from the EU Member States. Seeing the high level of interest for this event and the limited capacity, we do not expect that there will be seats available for non-EU applicants.

- **Can applications also be submitted in languages other than English?**

No, applications must be submitted in English.

- **Will my travel and accommodation (T&A) expenses be covered by the organiser?**

This depends on the type of participant.

Participants from public / national administrations shall cover their own travel and accommodation expenses.

For representatives of OGs, if expenses cannot be covered by their own projects or organisations, travel and accommodation (hotel) costs may be covered by the European Commission – for max. 2 representatives per OG, if one of the applicants is a farmer/forester.

For other participants (not representing a public / national administration nor an OG project), T&A expenses should be covered by their own project / organisation.

In any case, please do not make any reservations until your participation in the conference has been confirmed.

- **Will the speeches and sessions be translated into different languages?**

No, the working language during the conference is English and there will be no interpretation.

- **Is there an entrance fee for the conference?**

No, participation in the conference is free of charge. Nevertheless, it needs to be kept in mind that only those who have been selected and have registered can participate.

- **Is it possible to only attend one day of the conference programme?**

No, participants of the conference have to participate in both days (7 and 8 May) of the conference programme to ensure that everyone fully benefits from the opportunities for knowledge exchange and networking that will be provided throughout the conference. However, participation in the field visits (6 May) is optional.

- **Is it possible to attend the field visits without participating in the conference?**

All confirmed and registered participants of the conference are invited to attend the field visits on 6 May. They will be asked to select their preferred field visit destinations beforehand. Whereas participation in the conference is possible without participating in the field visits, only participants who have been selected and have registered for the conference can attend the field visits.



- **Is it possible to exhibit posters?**

On 7 May there will be an innovation exhibition as an integral part of the conference programme. Some of the OGs selected to participate in the conference will be invited to have a stand in the exhibition area, as well as all nominees for the EIP-AGRI Innovation Awards 2024. Additionally, different types of stakeholders may also be invited to have a stand. Applicants are requested to indicate their interest to contribute to the exhibition in the application form. These expressions of interest will be assessed and those who will be selected to have a stand in the exhibition area will be informed.

- **Who can I contact if I have further questions that have not been answered in the FAQs?**

If you have further questions about the conference, please contact conference.innovation@eucapnetwork.eu.

You can also find more information [on the conference webpage](#).

Part 2: FAQ for the EIP-AGRI Innovation Awards

- **Are OGs supposed to send their applications in English, or is another language accepted as well?**

Applications must be in English.

- **Is it possible to change the category for which an OG applies after the application is submitted?**

Yes, but there should be a written request from the person who submitted the application (same email) to request a change of category. It is up to the OG to decide which category it wants to apply to. Changing the category for which an OG has applied is only possible up until the closure of the call (8 February 2024).

- **Will the EU CAP Network cover the travel and accommodation expenses for more than one representative of a nominated OG?**

Yes, for all nominated OGs and their representatives (max 2), travel and accommodation costs will be covered by the European Commission. Two representatives may attend if at least one participant is a farmer or forester. Otherwise, only one OG member will be invited and covered for travel and accommodation. No additional logistics need to be prepared from the OG side (except their travel to the airport/train station locally).

- **Are the OG projects that participated in the ARIAs also allowed to participate in these awards?**

Yes, such OGs are allowed to apply to the EIP-AGRI Innovation Awards as well.

- **Can you give us some information about the videos that the nominees will be required to prepare?**

More information on the videos will be provided to the selected nominees at a later stage (in March 2024).



- **Can OGs which apply for an award but are not nominated, still be admitted to the conference as regular participants? In addition to applying for the awards, do they also have to fill out the application for the conference?**

We strongly suggest that OGs which apply for an award also apply to the conference. Only the nominated OGs for the awards will be given direct access to the conference (five in each of the six categories). For the conference, there is also a selection process but by applying to both, they increase their chances to be selected.

- **Our OG applied for both the awards and the conference but was not selected as an award nominee. Should we wait to hear whether we are admitted to the conference before making our travel and accommodation arrangements?**

Please do not make any reservations until you hear that your application to the conference has been successful.

- **What is the definition of a concluded OG project? Can older OG projects apply to the awards?**

The project 'conclusion' is considered as the contractual finish date, and this needs to be at the latest 8 June 2024. All concluded OG projects can apply.

- **Can projects that are not OGs but which apply similar principles apply for the awards?**

No. The awards applications are open only for EIP-AGRI OGs, financed through the CAP.

