



Facts & Figures



Agrilink partner

Stichting Wageningen
Research (WR)



Budget for advisory

No public agricultural
advisory services



Number of farms

53.910

A brief history of national/regional farm advisory policies

- Privatisation of advisory services in the 1990's.
- Dutch farmers are characterised as agricultural Entrepreneurs.
- Little government interference with regards to advisory services.

Until the 1990's, advisory services, agricultural education and research were public and therefore regulated by the Dutch government. Results from research were translated in educational programmes and advisory services. During this time, advisory services were often related to policy. However, in the 1990's, both research institutes as well as advisory services were privatised. Nowadays parties such as private firms, accountancy

bureaus and independent advisors offer agricultural advisory.

Farmers are explicitly seen as agricultural entrepreneurs who are highly educated and pay for advisory services. The Dutch government values the responsibility that farmers bear for their own business operations and does not want to intervene too much in an already well-functioning advisory market.

Key objectives of current Regional farm advisory policies

- Within Dutch agricultural policy, the focus is on innovation, collaboration and sustainability.
- The most recent national vision on agriculture focuses on circular agriculture.

There is limited governmental interference since the privatisation of agricultural advisory services:

- (National) agricultural policies underline that Dutch farmers are viewed as entrepreneurs. Dutch agricultural policy focuses on innovation, sustainability and collaboration. Examples: stimulating public-private partnerships, increasing collaborations in agriculture and horticulture; recognition of the importance of peer-to-peer learning;
- The most recent vision on agriculture

in The Netherlands focuses on circular agriculture. In the coming years, it will be specified and elaborated more what this exactly means and entails. This vision also has to be translated and implemented into advisory services;

- Bottom-up approach to rural and agricultural innovation in organisational groups using the second pillar of CAP (rural development) and Horizon2020 EU projects for knowledge and innovation.

Overview of advisory public policies and of their impact on regimes

The table below showcases the main advisory policy tools and their impacts on the advisory regimes in the region/country of study. Agrilink partners identified the most relevant policy tools as well as their funding, competent authority in charge

and type of instrument. The effects of the policy tools in the advisory regime of the regions/country are described in terms of boundaries, identities, attributes, financing and control.

	Main national policy tools		Policy tools linked to EU policies	
What?	Dutch Rural Development Programme (POP3)	'Top sectors' and innovation policy	Implementation of EIP Agri	EU-regulation on Farm Advisory System (FAS)
How?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding: 118 mln: European and national funding (50/50). - Authority: Competent authorities are Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality / Ministry of Economic Affairs. - Actions: Support through subsidies + identifying focus areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding: National funding. - Authority: Collaboration between 8 ministries - Actions: Initiate networks, partnerships and innovation agenda's. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding: European funding and national implementation (part of rural development programme). - Actions: Support for operational groups. Financing through calls, support for innovation networks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding: No funding, M02 not implemented. - Authority: Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality. - Actions: Licenced agricultural advisors make up the R-FAS.
Impact	Advising farmers about possible subsidies from the programme. National policy, but implementation on province level.	National implementation and funding with a strong focus on public-private partnerships. Relevant top sector: Agri&Food.	National implementation involving farmers, advisors, scientists, etc.	National implementation, using a registry of accredited agricultural advisors. No monetary support, minimum monitoring.

