



PRACTICE ABSTRACT NR. 116

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Farm advisory regimes in Portugal: An advisory landscape led by farmer-based organisations

The analysis of farm advisory regimes in Portugal is based on two case studies, wine-growing in the Douro and irrigated crops in the Lezíria do Tejo (<https://www.agrilink2020.eu/our-work/countries-reports/>). Both illustrate how the Portuguese farming regime evolved over the last thirty years towards a segmentation according to agricultural subsectors and the lead of farmer-based organisations (FBO). Hence, the strength of the regional farm advisory services depends on the strength of their FBOs. AgriLink enabled three take-home lessons: (1) Advisory organisations' strength is a result of investing in back-office activities; (2) Regional advisory service strength entails high connectivity between the AKIS actors; (3) The effectiveness of advisory organisations and regional advisory services depend on accommodating farmer's heterogeneity. AgriLink evidenced the importance of frontrunner FBOs in the regional advisory landscape.

Their strength builds on continuous innovation. They keep pace with the advances of the state-of-the-art in science and technology. They are the key players for strengthening regional farm advisory services in order to set in motion ecological and digital transitions. Recommendations for advisory policies in Portugal include: developing incentives to strengthen the back-office activities of weaker organisations; and enhancing the strength of leading FBOs, to increase regional AKIS connectivity and accessibility of different farmers to knowledge-intensive farm advisory services.

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COUNTRY/REGION:

Portugal

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Practice abstracts, from 101 to 141 can be found here:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/find-connect/projects/agrilink-agricultural-knowledge-linking-farmers-0>



ABOUT AGRILINK

AgriLink is a multi-actor project funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. It brings together 16 partners from 13 countries, including universities, applied research institutes, advisors and consultants from public organisations, private SMEs, a farmer-based organisation and specialists in communication and distance learning.

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All the Practice Abstracts prepared by the AgriLink project in the EIP-AGRI common format can be found here:
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