

Title: Outcomes of workshops: Copernicus, Ispra (IT) & IACS, Ghent (BE)

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Abstract:

GTCAP Action of the JRC Food Security Unit traditionally organises every year, several technical workshops to identify, discuss and develop technical issues and concerns as input to the EU CAP technical guidance documents and policy related initiatives. There were two major events organized earlier in 2017 – the Brainstorming workshop on Copernicus and the future CAP on 17 March in JRC (Italy), and the Workshop on control and management of agricultural land in IACS on 29 to 31 May in Ghent (Belgium).

The “Copernicus and the future CAP” brainstorming workshop was jointly organized by DG AGRI and the JRC. The objective was to better understand the realistic options for introducing Copernicus into the post-2020 CAP. This would include understanding the advantages, obstacles to be faced and the possible limitations, and also identifying where the CAP could potentially modify certain aspects to fit with the underpinning capabilities provided by Copernicus. The workshop was attended by some 25 invited participants from the Commission, other European Institutions, international bodies, research networks and EU Member State Administrations, offering a good representative balance between the stakeholders involved in the CAP domain.

The IACS workshop integrated established elements of our former Control with Remote Sensing (CwRS) kick-off meeting, Control Methods workshop and Land Parcel Identification System (LPIS) workshop relating to the area-based schemes of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> pillars of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The event was focussed on the Commission flagship initiative for simplification and modernization of the EU CAP, and the role of the emerging technologies in this aspect. The special expert panel discussion with the participation of the General Director of DG AGRI, Mr. Jerzy Plewa, aimed to channel the debate towards concrete actions in near-future enabling the operational introduction of the newly available instruments for monitoring of CAP, such as Copernicus Sentinels and geo-tagged photos. An interactive survey session collected substantial feedback from the workshop participants on the technical challenges of the current CAP.

Main messages and outcomes of these workshops will be presented.