

Questions for discussion sessions (21st October 2020, afternoon)

Discussion session 1: Advisory bodies and advisors

- **What is your experience with the nature of the FAS bodies?**

Private/public, existing/new, academics/professional organisations/public administration, difficulties to find, etc.

- **What is your experience in how are the FAS bodies designated?**

Public procurements, administrative designation, call for projects, certification procedures, role of a coordination body, issues raised etc.

- **What is your experience in how are FAS bodies linked to their technical/scientific environment?**

Link with research, link with the farming community, link with other advising networks (e.g. Better Training for Safer Food), etc.

- **What is your experience in how is FAS financed?**

Funded by public money, private money (charged), what are the needs, etc.

Discussion session 2: Approaches of advising

- **What is your experience in the occurrence/efficiency of the different advising approaches?**

Face to face on farm, out of the farm, groups on farm, seminars, leaflets, pilot farms, internet (webinars, skype, ...), etc.

- **How to foster farmers' request of advice?**

How to identify farmers expectations, how to promote advice in areas not yet well covered, how advice can help the adoption (or not) of different types of innovation (e.g. direct market, environmental issues etc.)

Discussion session 3: Content and quality of the advice

- **How to ensure an appropriate content of the advice?**

What is "an advice", how to focus the advice on needs, etc.

- **How to ensure a quality advice?**

What is a good advisor, how to assess quality of advice, how to ensure impartiality, etc.

- **How to ensure education/training of advisors?**

Needs, education/training bodies involved, regular training update

Discussion session 4: Advice and new technologies

- **What is your experience on the use of relevant new technologies for advice?**

Satellite Copernicus/Sentinel, drones, IT systems for supporting farming decisions, databases, farm level tools, Artificial Intelligence, social networks, etc.

- **What is your experience in fostering the use of new technologies for advising?**

Adaptation to typologies of farmers, accessibility of new technologies to advisors, data collection etc.

- **What is your experience in fostering the uptake of new technologies by farmers through advice?**

Needs, resistances, competition with private service providers, etc.

Discussion session 5: Facilitating at EU level the implementation of advisory systems

- **In your experience is the FAS database useful?**

Present use, need for expanding, information per Member States/topics/type of advice/tools, etc.

- **How to further exchange on experiences of FAS implementation in Member States?**

Web portals on further scientific information, opening of the database/web portal to the public, seminars/workshops, etc.

- **How to link the discussions at EU level on FAS and other related topics (research, networks, etc)?**

Need to have an AKIS approach in the future, need to have specific discussions on advice, best forums to put together all actors, etc.