



Bundesanstalt für
Landwirtschaft und Ernährung



Implementation of EIP Agri in Germany & first steps to set up Operational Groups

Innovations in Bulgarian Agriculture:

First steps towards EIP-AGRI

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Bundesanstalt für
Landwirtschaft und Ernährung

Selected Divisions of BLE

BLE
internal
Exchange

Funding agencies of BLE



**National Rural
Support Unit &
EIP Agri
Support Unit**

Head
Dr. Swoboda



Projektträger Bundesanstalt
für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung

**Innovations
facilitation &
DIP**

Head
Dr. Stöppler-
Zimmer



Projektträger Bundesanstalt
für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung

**Agricultural
Research**

Head
H. Fink



Projektträger Bundesanstalt
für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung

EU Research

Head
Dr. Saggau

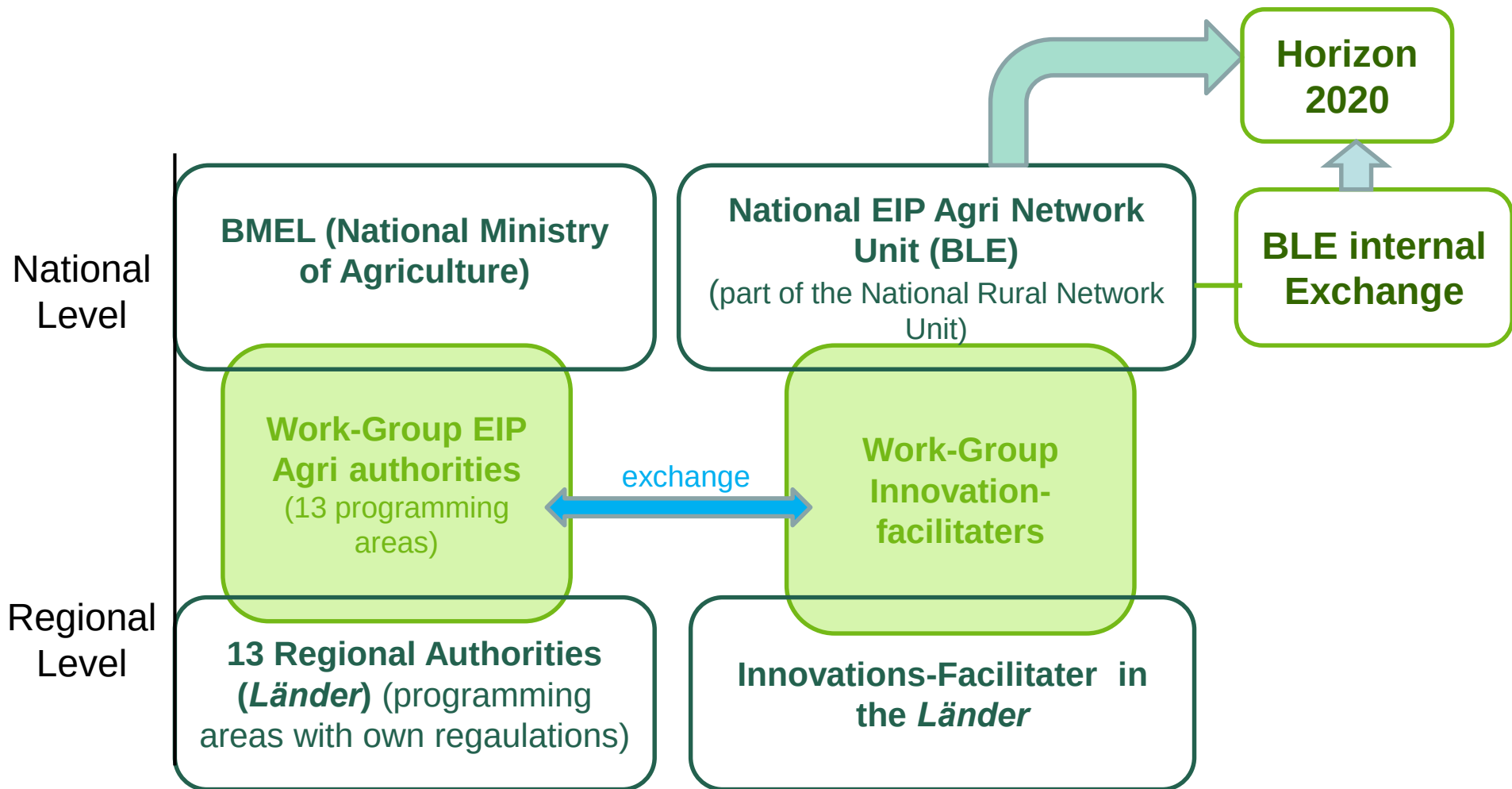
BÖLN

Bundesprogramm Ökologischer Landbau
und andere Formen nachhaltiger
Landwirtschaft

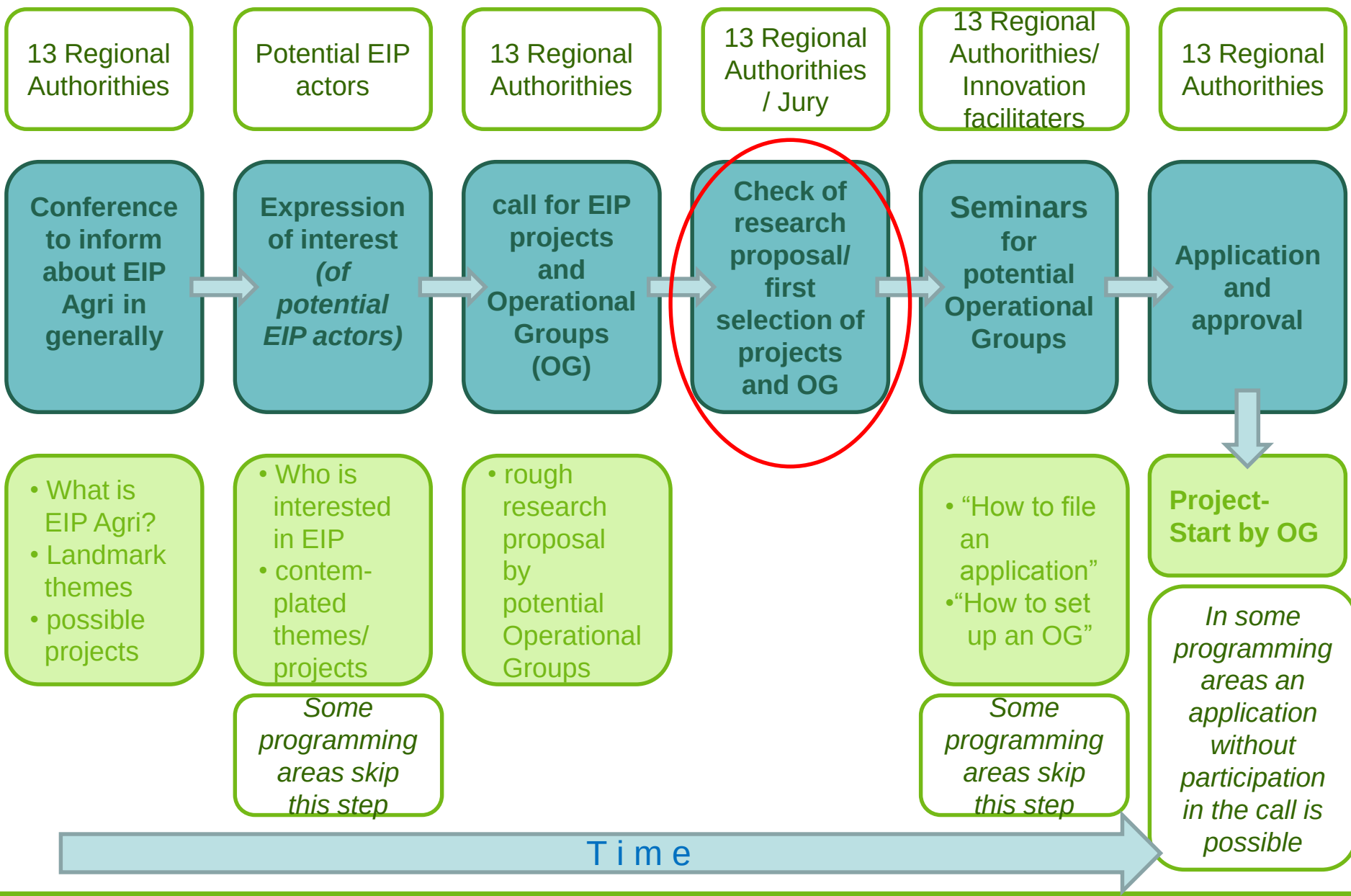
**Federal scheme
for organic
farming and other
types of
sustainable
agriculture**

Head
M. Backes

Network-structure to support EIP Agri in Germany



Steps of implementation of EIP Agri in the programming areas



Check of research proposals/ selection of projects

Frame for EIP Agri projects:

- Landmark-themes (e.g.: fostering biodiversity in agriculture, animal welfare, reduction of emissions, mixed orchards)
or
 - concert themes (Paludie-culture in marsh-land)
or
 - themes of EAFRD-Regulation
- ⇒ *Every programming area has different themes, potential Operational Groups have to **set up an innovation project** under the themes given in their programming area.*
- ⇒ *After the call the potential OG formulates a rough **research proposal**.*

Check of research proposals/ selection of projects

First Step: Check by regional authorities:

- Was this (or a similar project) already fostered in Germany? (BLE offers a check to the regional authorities)
- Is the research proposal in accordance to the regulations/ landmark-themes in its programming area?
 - Selection criteria fulfilled? *“Is it innovative and useful in its area?”*



First selection of projects as a proposal to the jury

Second step: selection of projects by a jury



Third step: OGs of selected projects are requested to apply to be fostered



Check of application => approval or refusal of the project

Examples of approved EIP Agri projects

Finally approved, OG started to work:

- Optimized grazing-management “smart-grazing”
- Animal welfare for hens, extension of life-time after moult
- Thermic soil-treatment
- New milking-system for animal welfare

Selected by a Jury, but not approved yet

- Online-decision-making-tool for irrigation vegetables
- value-chain soy in Germany
- Drainage-filter to minimize nutrient contamination in surface-water
- Feeding pigs with local protein-crops

Network to support EIP Agri

Networking is an element of interactive innovation at 4 stages:

- a) Establishing the OG.
- b) Support OG work in progress.
- c) Dissemination of the results.
- d) Link partners and themes of OG to EIP Agri under Horizon 2020 and to other research institutions/networks.

Network to support EIP Agri

a) Establishing the OG with its specific project.

“Big scale”- Networking:

- Seminars about the EIP Agri to inform potential actors and encourage them to form a OG.
- Workshops about specific EIP-themes to find appropriate partners.

Organized by the managing authorities in the programming areas and by the innovation-facilitators (IF) and the National EIP Agri Network Unit since 2013.

“Small scale”- Networking:

Direct contact of IF to farmers and farmer's organisations to identify the specific problems and develop ideas of farmers that might lead to an innovative project. Matching partners by the IF.

comment: A close connection between IF and advisors was very successful in Germany to find promising practice orientated themes.

Network to support EIP Agri

b) Support OGs work in progress

- General support to run the OG.
- Workshops about “how file an application”.
- Events for OGs and leadpartners in one programming area to exchange experience.
- Workshops for IF for knowledge-exchange and capacity-building (since 2015)
- offer thematic Workshop for all OG in Germany (probably not before 2017)

c) Dissemination of the projects results.

- provide a EIP Agri free-access database with all OG-projects in Germany (soon)
- offer excursions to OG projects to everybody (autumn 2016)
- report about EIP-projects in media

d) Motivate actors to link Horizon 2020 and Rural Development

- link Multi actor projects / thematic network (Horizon 2020) to OG
- link ERA-NET projects to OG

First experiences in Germany:

- It needs time to bring the right partners together to find a common language and to build trust.
- Innovation-facilitators play a important role to support EIP Agri.
There is a need for a permanent structure and platform, which encourages interested parties to form an Operational Group.
- The spirit of the Operational Group must be driven by a practical (and economic) rather than a scientific interest in order to find a solution that really works = is really innovative.
- There is a need for constant exchange and knowledge transfer in order to create an enabling environment for innovative approaches.

Thank you very much for attention

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- Legal basis in EAFRD-Regulation:

Article 55 ff in accordance with Art. 35 (Cooperation Measure)
= Support for the establishment and operation of **operational groups** (Note: Art. 35 is not for EIP AGRI only)

-> Combination with other RD measures possible Article 53 = EIP AGRI Network