

EISA “at a glance”

2017



Advocacy for Integrated Farm Management (IFM)

With National Members from six European Member States, and six Associate Members from the up- and downstream sectors of agriculture, EISA is the platform and voice for Integrated Farm Management (IFM) in Europe (please see box below).

Officially founded in 2001, EISA currently has 6 National Members ...



... and 6 Associate Members from the agri-food chain:

ECPA – ELO – FEFAC – Fertilizers Europe –
AnimalhealthEurope – SAI Platform

Engaging with Commission officials, increasing knowledge and understanding of IFM

As in previous years, EISA used various occasions to highlight the potential of IFM in the context of UN’s Sustainability Goals, the Cork Declaration, and the Paris Agreement in 2017. One of these

occasions was a constructive meeting between representatives of DG Agri, of EISA and of EISA’s members LEAF, Skylark Foundation and SAI Platform.

It is EISA’s intention to increase knowledge and understanding of IFM and what it delivers with European policymakers. That is why our activities include engaging with relevant stakeholders. EISA representatives hence participated on a regular basis in two Civil Dialogue Groups (CDGs) on CAP and on Environment & Climate Change, in FACCE-JPI (Joint Programming Initiative on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change), and in the H2020 PEGASUS project (a European research project aiming to develop new ways of thinking about the way farmland and forests are managed), where EISA’s Policy Officer has a formal role in the Advisory Committee.

IFM:

Integrated Farm Management is a holistic approach characterised by:

- integration of the three dimensions of sustainability,
- continuous improvement in the delivery of more sustainable agriculture,
- collaboration at all levels in the supply chain.

IFM delivers prosperous agriculture that enriches the environment & engages local communities.



In 2017, EISA also published and intensively promoted a position paper on the future CAP. Occasions for the promotion included a European Innovation Partnership (EIP) Workshop in Zagreb where farmers from several National Members took an active role as part of the EISA delegation.



Amongst others, activities of EISA in 2017 also included the organisation of a study trip for the English Sustainable Futures project to northern France and to Belgium as well as the active involvement in an Expert Panel at a Conference of the European Association for Landscape Ecology in September.

Developing and promoting EISA

One of EISA's guiding principles is collaboration and co-operation. We are grateful to all EISA's members for their ambitious work and continuous support.

Whilst the EISA President participated in SAI Platform's Annual Conference, using the opportunity to intensify dialogue with the membership of SAI Platform, EISA's Policy Officer participated in the 30th Anniversary Conference of AnimalHealthEurope, in the conference "Sustainability in AgCommodity Business – Understanding the Pull-and-Push dynamics" with members of the European association for grain traders (COCERAL), and in the "Innovation is good news" workshop of the AgriFood Chain Coalition (AFCC) where many EISA members are also involved.

Information hub and Working Farm Network

EISA continues to "spread the word" on IFM in a range of ways including participation in stakeholder conferences, meetings, workshops etc., the EISA Working Farm Network, and social media.

The EISA Working Farm Network offers a valuable platform for exchange on all issues related to sustainable agriculture, including feed and livestock management and animal health, crop nutrition and crop protection, landscape, soil and water management, measures to protect and enhance biodiversity as well as innovative tools and approaches of precision agriculture.



EISA contributes to international publications such as Pan European Networks or Miller Magazine, and EISA's website extends as an information hub and communication tool with a range of new information from both EISA and EISA members. Only set up in early 2017, also EISA's Twitter account (@SustAgriculture) already has more than 280 followers.

EISA encourages all interested stakeholders to follow us on Twitter, to visit our website www.sustainable-agriculture.org, and to contact either our Policy Officer Martijn Buijsse or our Technical Director Andreas Frangenberg for further details.

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