



Latvian Presidency  
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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
REPUBLIC OF LATVIA



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
REPUBLIC OF LATVIA



# EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

## Rural and Agricultural Advisory Systems: Best Practices and Experience in the Eastern Partnership



Riga, 15 – 16 April 2015



Ltd "Latvian Rural Advisory and Training Centre"



Latvian Rural Network

# **The role of rural and agricultural advisory services in rural development and promotion of agriculture**

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European Commission***

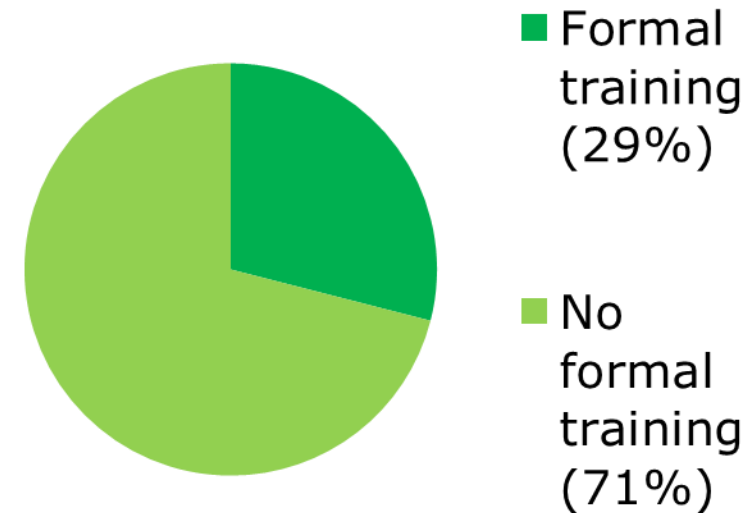
***Rural and Agricultural Advisory Systems (RAAS):  
Best Practices and Experience in the Eastern Partnership  
Riga, 15/04/2015***

# EU farm sector - needs for training

Low share of farmers with adequate agricultural training:

Formal training / education in farm sector (2010):

- 29 % of farmers in EU
- 48 % in EU-15
- 15 % in EU-N12



**→ Insufficient managerial skills at farm level**

# Challenges and opportunities for agriculture



Habitats  
Biodiversity



Energy  
Biomass



Food



Climate Change



Resource-  
management

Economic  
Viability



## Advisory Services and the CAP

### CAP

#### **Pillar I**

2003:

Obligatory Farm  
Advisory System  
(FAS) as of 2007

Different  
implementation in  
EU28

#### **Pillar II**

2007-2013:  
Support for  
advisory services  
and set-up

2014-2020  
Knowledge  
measures further  
developed

# Support for Advisory Services in RDP 2014-2020

## Purpose of the measure

- help farmers, forest-holders, SMEs in rural areas to use advisory services
  - for better economic or environmental / climate-related performance
- promote the **setting-up** of farm management, farm relief, farm advisory services and forestry advisory services
- promote the **training of advisors / trainers**

## Forms of advice (individual and/or group) and possible areas

- Farm modernisation, competitiveness building, innovation, market orientation
- Obligations at farm level deriving from EU rules
- Agricultural practices beneficial for the climate and the environment
- Requirements for implementing Water Framework Directive
- Occupational safety standards
- Specific advice for farmers setting for the first time

# Support for Knowledge Transfer in RDP 2014-2020

- **Purpose of the measure**

to feed the capacity to innovate by bringing farms and other rural businesses more fully into the knowledge economy

- **Forms of support**

- Vocational training and skills acquisition, e.g. training courses, workshops, coaching
- Demonstration activities
- Short-term farm exchange or visit schemes

- **Forms of training sessions**

- Specific sessions (e.g. farm accountancy, short-supply chains, renewable energy sources, water & energy efficiency, organic farming, ICT)
- E-learning training courses
- Training which form part of normal education programmes are excluded

# Advice, Knowledge Transfer & Innovation (KTI)

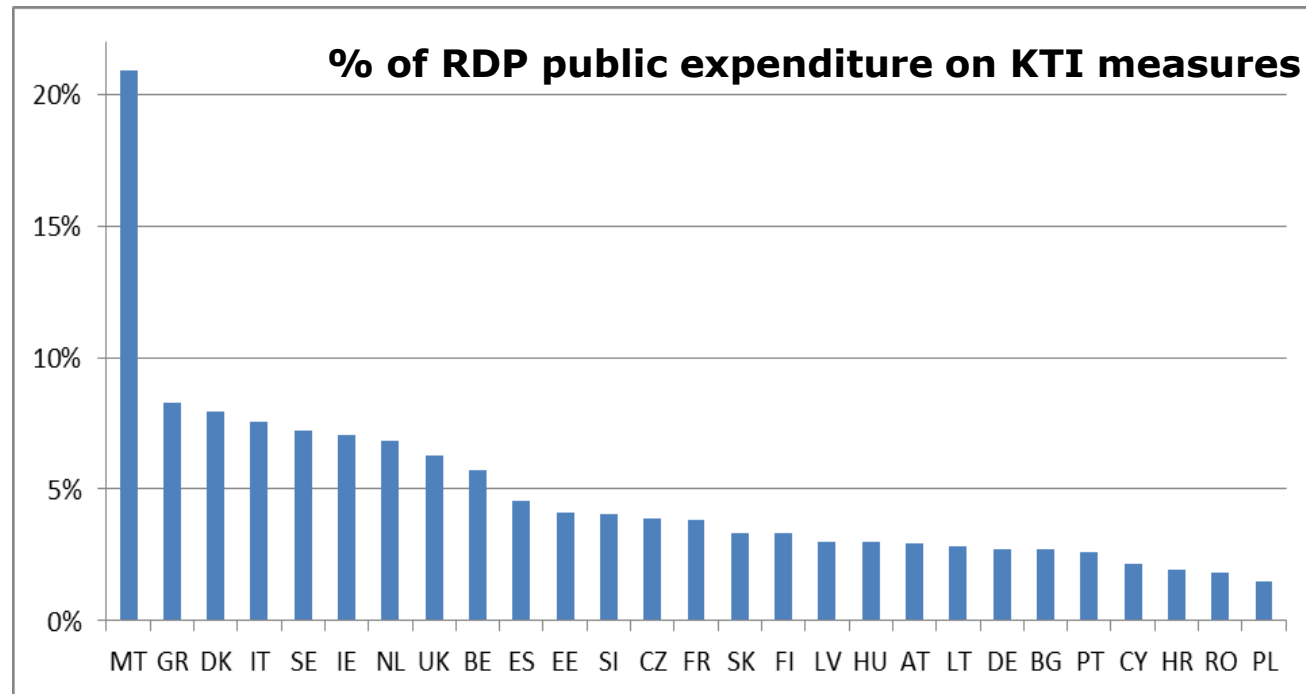
## Key facts and figures (2014-20)

4.2% of total expenditure under the measures for KT, Advisory Services and Cooperation

13 350 cooperation projects supported

Nearly 3.6 million participants trained

1 983 Operational Groups under the EIP



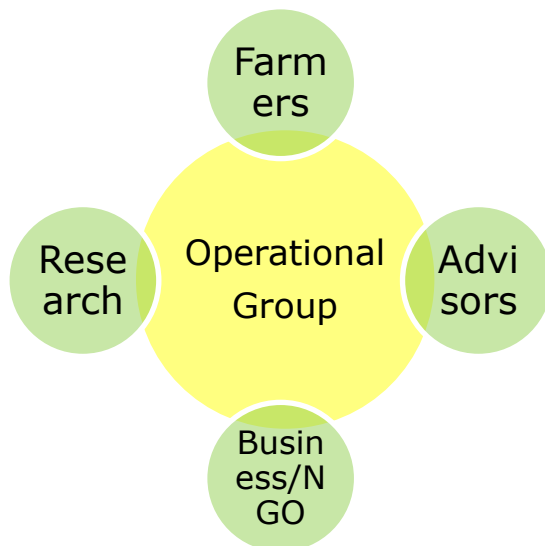
*The figures presented in this slide reflect the data submitted by Member States and Regions available to the Commission services on 13.02.2015. This is made available without prejudice to any finding in respect of their compliance with the regulatory framework, which might lead to slight modification of the data shown.*

## Rural Development

- Setting up operational groups
- Project funding
- Supporting innovation support services

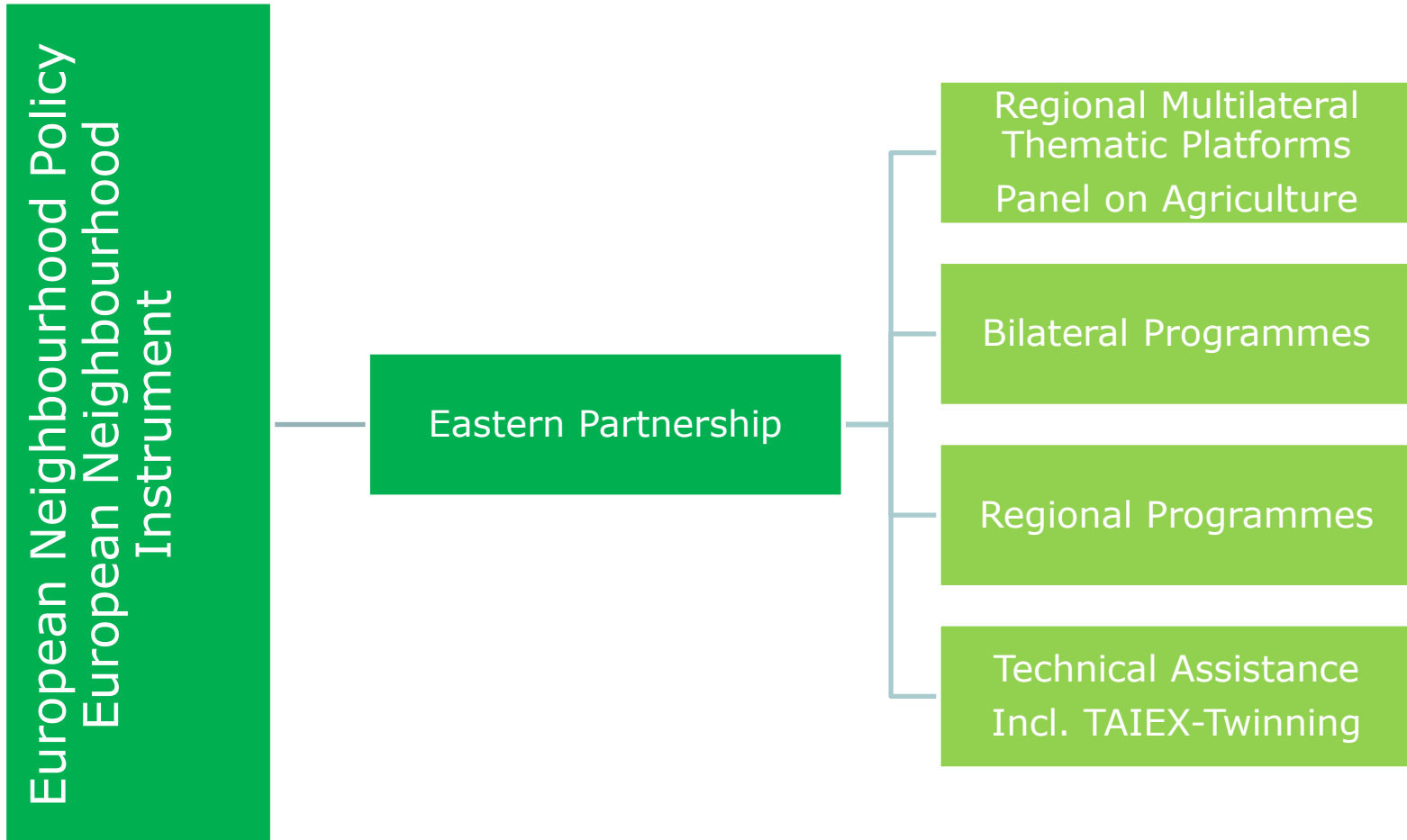
## Horizon 2020

- Research projects
- Interactive innovation projects and networks



Advisors as participants and as objects of study

# Cooperation within the framework of the EaP



## European Neighbourhood Programmes for Agriculture and Rural Development

**Georgia:** support for advisory services - a core aspect

**Armenia:** improve agricultural workers skills and knowledge

**Moldova:** improved education research and advisory services

***Technical assistance:*** integral component of any sector programme, incl. through TAIEX (short term missions and visits, workshops) or Twinning (long term secondment of EU Member State experts to the national administrations). Possibility of ad hoc technical assistance in particular for DCFTA related requirements.

**Thank you**