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INTERACTIVE INNOVATION

**Regional AKIS Stakeholders workshop
Southern Europe**

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The AKIS and advisory services in FRANCE

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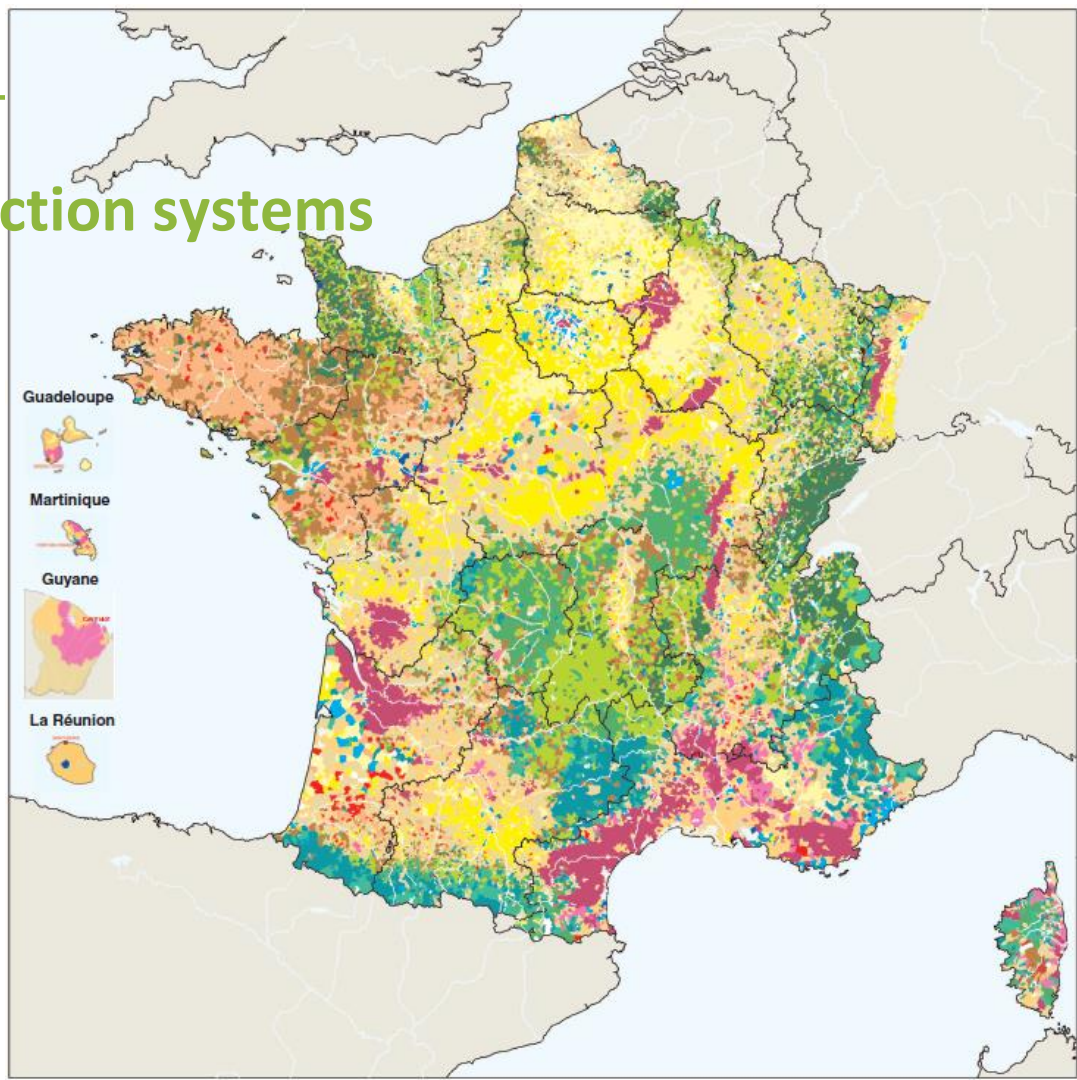


Background

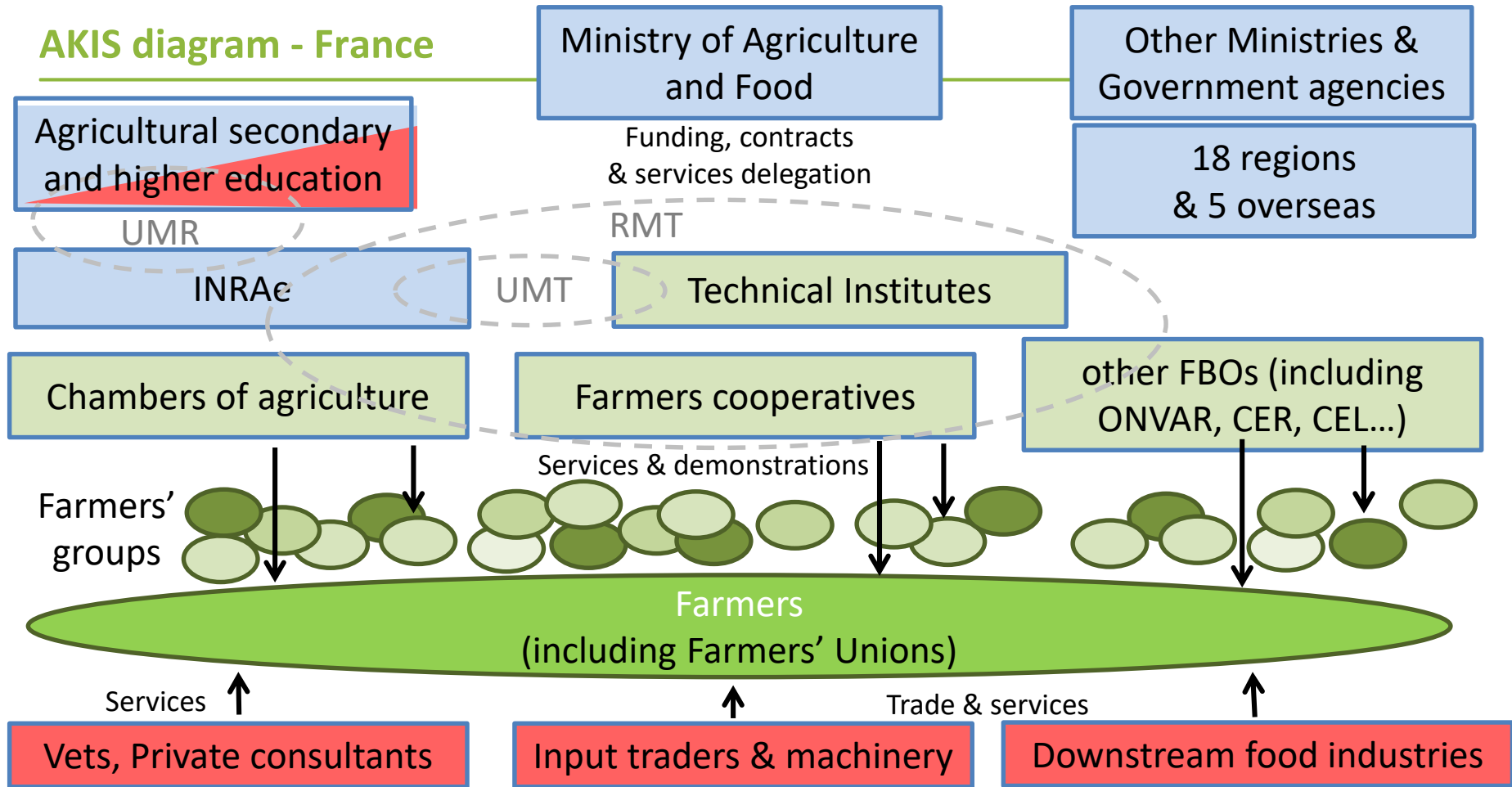
Year	1970	2000	2020
Number of farms	1 587 639	698 535	416 054
Farm land (ha)	29 904 735	27 996 883	26 864 337
Average size of farms (ha)	19	40	65
Farm managers over 60 years (%)	30,8	22,1	25,0
Share of agriculture in GDP (%)	7,5	2,3	1,8
Share of agriculture in employment (%)	14,3	4,3	2,9
Value of agricultural production (billion € of 2020)	93	84	75
Subsidies to the agricultural sector (billion € of 2020)		11	9
Contribution to the trade balance (billion € of 2020)	to complete	to complete	+ 8

Background: diverse production systems

Technical and economic orientation of the local communities



AKIS diagram - France



Main characteristics of the AKIS: main actors

Public authorities

- Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Agencies (FAM, Ademe, Water)
- Regional Councils

Education (public & private)

- Secondary education & short curricula in higher education
- Higher education: engineer schools, no agricultural faculties in Universities

Research

- Public research institutes: INRAE, CIRAD (overseas), CNRS (biology, environment)...
- Farmers-led applied research institutes: ACTA - ITA

Advisory services

Farmers' organisations (unions & associations)

Private companies (upstream & downstream sectors)

Main characteristics of the AKIS: key policy programs/coordination

National thematic programmes: framework and priorities for public funding

- Ecophyto: plant protection products
- Ecoantibio: antibiotics
- Agroecology: “multi-performance” of farms
- Recovery plan (after COVID-19 crisis)

Public funding

- National level: 28% of the Ministry’s budget targeting AKIS organisations
 - *Direct funding to public research & education organisations*
 - *Funding of applied research and knowledge transfer: CasDAR*
- European & regional funding:
 - *CAP measures for knowledge, advice & innovation: 3% of CAP budget (2014-2020)*
 - *Specific programmes at regional or département level*

Coordination structures

- CasDAR coordination body (national & regional levels)
- Representatives in advisory boards of other organisations, etc.

Knowledge flows: encouraged by multi-actor networks

- mixed technological networks (RMT), scientific interest groups (GIS)
- EIP AGRI network within the French Rural Network

Characterisation of advisory service provision

Service providers and advisory topics:

- Chambers of agriculture (public, farmers' led, focus on groups, any topic): ~6,000 advisors
- Farmers' cooperatives & private traders (by product type): ~7,500 & 2,600 advisors
- CER France (bookkeeping, business management & new services): ~1,400 advisors
- France Conseil Elevage (dairy, beef & goats): 85 advisory cies. 1,700 advisors
- ONVAR: 18 federations of farmer-based org. : FNCUMA, FNGEDA, FNCIVAM, FNAB...
- Animal health groups (GDS): 240 advisors
- Private advisory companies (PCIA): 70-80 firms, 1-5 advisor / firm

Characterisation of advisory service provision

Funding sources for advisory services

- Tax on “unbuilt” land: Chambers of Agriculture & CNPF (forestry), only for public assignments
- CasDAR: Chambers, cooperatives, ONVAR
- Public funding for specific assignments or projects: all organisations, except private advisors
- Fee-based services invoiced to farmers, foresters, local communities: all organisations

Further capacity building of advisors

- Training centre of the Chambers of Agriculture (Resolia)
- Training offer of the applied research institutes (ITA)
- TRAME...

Trends

- Holistic approach of farms: for ex. strategic advice in plant protection
- Regained interest in group approaches to foster innovation & environment-friendly practices
- Separation of advisory services and sale of plant protection products

Summary: characteristics of the French AKIS

- A diversity of actors, including many farmers-led organisations
- Strong national policies, with strong involvement of public authorities & significant public funding
- Institutional arrangements to encourage cooperation and knowledge flows
- Gradual shift from co-management to service delegation & contracting
- Gradual devolution & decentralisation
- Since 2000: increasing attention to environmental issues and climate change
- Challenge for AKIS stakeholders: support the transition to “multi-performing” farm and forestry systems:
 - More research oriented towards applicable solutions
 - Support to interactive innovation
 - Massive knowledge transfer



Thank you!

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