

EN

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Answer given by Mr Wojciechowski
on behalf of the European Commission
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The Commission promotes agricultural research and innovation (R&I) in the Member States through the EU R&I framework programme (Horizon Europe (HE)) and the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), working in synergy. Under HE, the Commission invests in R&I projects that involve beneficiaries to provide new knowledge and solutions for competitive and sustainable farming. The CAP¹ offers funding to strengthen the Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS)² in Member States across the EU.

Under the HE (2021-2027)³, the Commission earmarked approximately EUR 3.3 billion for transnational R&I projects in agriculture, forestry and rural areas. Under the CAP 2023-2027, the Member States have planned around EUR 3.6 billion for EIP⁴-AGRI operational group projects (OGs)⁵ and other knowledge sharing and creation activities.

As regards security of data from EU farmers collected through public authorities, the Commission has strict procedures in place on data access, re-use, publication and anonymisation, which are defined in the regulation that mandates the data collection⁶. As regards data collected by R&I projects, the HE⁷ requires it to be open access but allows for the exceptions when legitimate data security risks apply.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2021/2115, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32021R2115>

² Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) are defined in the Regulation - 2021/2115 (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32021R2115>) as the combined organisation and knowledge flows between persons, organisations and institutions who use and produce knowledge for agriculture and interrelated fields.

³ Horizon Europe Cluster 6 'Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment'.

⁴ European Innovation Partnerships.

⁵ EIP-AGRI OGs are bottom-up interactive innovation projects at local/national level.

⁶ For example Regulation (EU) 2011/2115 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2011/2115/oj>, in particular Recital 128 and Articles 150 and 151.

⁷ Regulation (EU) 2021/695, Article 39, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R0695>