



EU-FarmBook

Glossary of Terms

**A comprehensive guide to key concepts and definitions
for navigating the EU-FarmBook and its knowledge base**



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1. Introduction

The EU-FarmBook ‘Glossary of Terms’ guide is designed to help users navigate the digital platform by providing clear definitions of key terms, abbreviations and project-specific terminology.

This guide includes both general terms commonly used in EU digital platforms and project-specific terms that have been adapted or created to describe concepts unique to the EU-FarmBook project. Understanding these terms will help users interact more effectively with the platform, whether they are searching for information or contributing resources.

The next section provides an alphabetical list of terms and abbreviations. Each item includes a short definition and, where necessary, an explanation of how it is used within the EU-FarmBook project. This guide serves as a reference to ensure clarity and consistency of communication throughout the platform.

2. Key Terms & Abbreviations

TERM	DEFINITION
Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS)	AKIS is the structuring and interaction of actors, organisations, and institutions that use and produce knowledge and innovation for agriculture and related fields. The main players in the AKIS are farmers, foresters, advisors, researchers, (farmer) organisations, retailers, media, services, ministries: they all produce and need knowledge. The aim is to create a regional/national innovation ecosystem by enhancing knowledge flows between the AKIS players as well as strengthening links between research and practice. A video explaining AKIS is available at this link .
Application Programming Interface (API)	An API is a set of rules and tools that allow different software systems to communicate and exchange data. In the context of the EU-FarmBook, an API enables external platforms - such as databases, repositories or knowledge hubs - to automatically connect to and share Knowledge Objects (KOs) and metadata.
Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)	CAP is the European Union agricultural policy, established under Article 33 of the Treaty establishing the European Community .
Contributor	Contributors create, provide, upload, and maintain KOs and their associated metadata. For example,

	the teams and individuals involved in Horizon 2020, Horizon Europe and EIP Operational Group (OG) projects responsible for creating and uploading KOs to the EU-FarmBook, are considered contributors.
Contribution	Contributions are the KOs that are submitted by coordinators, project managers and individuals
Community Research and Development Information Service (CORDIS)	<u>CORDIS</u> is a platform maintained by the Commission Services which presents data and metadata of all EU funded projects such as partner lists, budgets, summaries, and deliverables after review and acceptance by a monitoring team.
Digital Object Identifier (DOI)	A Digital Object Identifier (DOI) is a unique alphanumeric string assigned to a digital object, such as a journal article, report, or data set, to provide a permanent link to its location on the internet. This ensures that even if the web address of the content changes, the DOI will always direct users to the material.
EIP-AGRI (European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability)	<p>The EIP-AGRI is an initiative launched by the European Commission in 2012 to promote competitive and sustainable agriculture and forestry that "achieves more from less." It aims to ensure a steady supply of food, feed, and biomaterials while sustainably managing essential natural resources.</p> <p>EIP-AGRI fosters innovation by connecting various stakeholders- including farmers, advisors, researchers, businesses, and non-governmental organizations—to collaboratively develop and implement innovative solutions. This approach, known as the "interactive innovation model," emphasizes forming partnerships and utilizing bottom-up approaches to address specific challenges in agriculture and forestry.</p>
User	Users access, view and use Knowledge Objects (KOs) and their associated metadata for learning, research, decision making or practical application. For example, farmers, advisors, researchers and policy makers who consult the EU-FarmBook to find relevant knowledge for their work are considered users.
Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability, and Reusability (FAIR)	The FAIR principles are a set of guidelines aimed at improving the management and stewardship of

	<p>data. They focus on ensuring that data is findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable.</p> <p>In the context of the EU-FarmBook, these principles guide how Knowledge Objects (KOs) and metadata should be structured and shared to enable easy discovery, proper access, seamless integration across systems, and long-term usability for various stakeholders, including farmers, researchers, and policymakers.</p>
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)	A list of questions and answers relating to a particular subject, especially one giving basic information for users of a website.
Features	Features describe a chunk of functionality that fulfils user needs while adding value to the overall product. They are a collection of user stories and tasks, providing the link between what the EU-FarmBook will do, how it will do it, and why.
General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)	GDPR stands for General Data Protection Legislation. It is a European Union (EU) law that came into effect on 25th May 2018. GDPR governs the way in which we can use, process, and store personal data (information about an identifiable, living person).
Interoperability	The ability of different systems, applications, and organizations to seamlessly connect, communicate, and share data and information in a coordinated manner, without requiring effort from the end user.
JavaScript Object Notation (JSON)	JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) is a lightweight data-interchange format. It is easy for humans to read and write. It is easy for machines to parse and generate. It is based on a subset of the JavaScript Programming Language Standard ECMA-262 3rd Edition - December 1999. JSON is a text format that is completely language independent but uses conventions that are familiar to programmers of the C-family of languages, including C, C++, C#, Java, JavaScript, Perl, Python, and many others. These properties make JSON an ideal data-interchange language.
Knowledge Object (KO)	In EU-FarmBook terminology, a collective term for practice-oriented materials, such as videos, podcasts, images, and text documents.
Multi-Actor Project (MAP)	Multi-actor projects are a key part of the EIP-AGRI. They are international projects funded by the EU Horizon Europe research and innovation programme, but do not just involve researchers.

	<p>They also involve the practical users and ‘multipliers’ of the research results. This can include farmers and foresters (and/or their representative organisations), advisers, service providers, NGOs, agri-food businesses, start-ups and all other forms of rural enterprise. These non-academic partners co-operate closely with the research partners throughout the entire period of the project to: clearly identify real problems and opportunities faced by practitioners; contribute knowledge and experience to the co-creation of solutions, and; play an active role in the dissemination and exploitation of these solutions.</p>
Metadata	<p>A set of data that describes and provides information about other data (e.g., a Knowledge Object), helping to identify, organize, and retrieve it more effectively. Examples include: title, description, keywords, creator(s).</p>
MS (European Member States)	<p>Countries that are official members of the European Union (EU), each participating in its policies, legislation, and governance structures.</p>
National Rural Network (NRN)	<p>National Rural Networks (NRNs) operate in each EU Member State to support and enhance rural development objectives as defined in the Rural Development Programmes (RDPs). NRNs enable and facilitate exchange and learning between all the partners involved in Rural Development policy implementation: public authorities, economic and social partners, and the relevant bodies representing civil society.</p>
Operational Group (OG)	<p>Operational groups are multi-actor projects funded under the rural development policy since 2014, within the framework of the EIP-Agri.</p> <p>An EIP-AGRI Operational Group (OG) is a group of people with complementary knowledge (e.g., practical, scientific, technical, organisational expertise, etc.) who co-create practical solutions for agriculture, forestry and rural communities in an innovation project.</p> <p>Operational Groups are supported through national or regional Rural Development Programmes (RDPs), and their results are expected to be shared more broadly—often via platforms—to ensure knowledge exchange and wider adoption.</p>
Practice-Oriented Material	<p>Practice-oriented materials are knowledge objects resulting from any kind of research and/or innovation</p>

	project that processed into high quality materials that are suitable and attractive for use by practitioners (farmers, foresters, advisors, consultants, other supporters). Processing involves several steps such as 'selecting relevant aspects', 'translating' the text into a non-academic/non-policy language, 'writing in plain English' in a concise and attractive way that is easy to read/understand. 'Diligent editing' and 'professional design' are also critical.
RDF	The Resource Description Framework (RDF) is a method to describe and exchange graph data. It was originally designed as a data model for metadata by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C).
SPARQL	SPARQL is a semantic query language able to retrieve and manipulate data stored in Resource Description Framework (RDF). In this definition, the term "RDF" is used.
Thematic Network (TN)	Thematic Networks are multi-actor projects (funded by the EU Framework Program Horizon 2020 or Horizon Europe, usually Coordination and Support Action), which specifically collect existing knowledge and best practices on a given theme to make it available in easily understandable formats for end users such as farmers, foresters, advisors, and others.