



# Organic Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS) in Italy

## Problem

The Italian organic advisory system includes various networks and trusted, internationally connected groups, organisations, and institutional structures, of renowned expertise but lacks a unified system for training, technical, marketing, and administrative support tailored to the organic sector's needs.

## Solution

Implement a virtual hub to share information about training opportunities, contents, methods, and tools for providers of technical & marketing support and legal-administrative assistance in organic farming. The platform to be hosted by SINAB portal is included in the National Action Plan (NAP).

## Applicability box

### Theme

Training, technical & marketing support, and administrative assistance for organic farming

### Keywords

Organic advisory services, AKIS, organic training

### Context

Italy

## Benefits

The hub fosters:

- Comprehensive and coordinated trainings across the national territory to develop the organic farming sector
- Professional organic advisers' knowledge and skills.
- Impactful collaboration and partnerships between organic AKIS actors operating at national and regional level to meet the sector's evolving challenges.

## Practical recommendations for AKIS actors

- Seek out peer-to-peer coordination and collaboration to build up a comprehensive and integrated information base
- Promote horizontal support for organic AKIS rather than for separate sub-systems
- Invest in increasing expertise addressing multiple aspects of organic farming
- Adopt a demand-driven approach organic advisory services
- Ensure structured and continuous provision of organic advisory services and the adoption of more participatory and innovative methods and tools
- Implement the virtual hub to create a reference point for Italian organic operators and stakeholders

Main AKIS actors supporting organic farming development in Italy (Source: Italian NOAP 2024-2026):

Organisation	Type	Members	AKIS functions
AIAB	producer association	producers, consultants, citizens	research, training, dissemination, consultancy
ANABIO	producer association	producers, technical advisors, consultants	research, experimentation, training, dissemination, assistance, consultancy
Associazione Agricoltura Biodinamica	producer association	operators, experts	training, dissemination, consultancy



# PRACTICE ABSTRACT

AssoBio	processors and retailers association	operators, experts	dissemination, information, consultancy
ATBio	consultants and inspectors association	consultants, inspectors	information, training, dissemination
Bioagricoop	association for promotion	operators, experts	dissemination, research and innovation
Bioqualità	network of consultants	consultants	training, consultancy
Coldiretti Bio	producer association	producers, technical advisors, consultants	research, experimentation, dissemination, assistance and consultancy
CopagriBio	producer association	producers, technical advisors, consultants	research, experimentation, dissemination, assistance and consultancy
Federbio	interprofessional federation	producers, technical advisors, researchers	training, dissemination, consultancy
FIRAB	scientific association	researchers, experts	experimentation, action-research, farmer to farmer exchanges, dissemination
GRAB-IT	scientific association	researchers, experts	research, experimentation, professional scientific & technical support, dissemination
RIRAB	scientific association	researchers, experts	research and innovation

## Further information

### Further reading

- National Organic Action Plan (IT)

### Weblinks

- Sistema di Informazione Nazionale per l'Agricoltura Biologica (SINAB)*: information platform about organic farming running since the year 2000 and a reference point for Italian organic operators and stakeholders.
- Check the Organic Farm Knowledge platform for more practical recommendations.

## About this practice abstract and the OrganicTargets4EU project

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