



Regional clusters of Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS) in Romania

Problem

Romania lacks a specialised network of organic advisors with sectorial or regional focus and has a high reconversion rate from organic to conventional.

Solution

Regional clusters address issues across the value chain, share knowledge, host workshops, and allocate subject-matter advisors to farmers' needs (Table 1).

Benefits

Clusters help farmers gain funding or technical advice. Regional networks addressing local needs strengthen community cohesion and the organic narrative nationally.

Applicability box

Theme

Farm management - Standards, regulations and certification

Keywords

Organic AKIS, integrated services, communities of practice CoP and clusters

Context

Romania






Period of impact (If relevant)

Long term

Practical recommendations/results

Farmers in Romania who are organic, are interested or want to convert to organic, should join one the following existing clusters in their region:

Table 1 Regional clusters in Romania

Logo	Name (link to website)	Logo	Name (link to website)
	Inter-Bio		Cluster Bio Oltenia
	Bio Danubius Cluster		Bio Concept Valea Prahovei Cluster
	BioNest Cluster		

AKIS should work with communities at the regional level to scale organic, emulating similar initiatives, e.g., biodistricts in Italy or Living Labs. Bio-districts in Italy or Living Labs.



Photos: Activities of Romanian clusters. Source: Inter-Bio.

About the cluster

The Romanian cluster-based approach focusses on identifying regional needs, recognising the significant variations in sector-specific value chains across different areas. The cluster communities were established after 2015 and further strengthened through a Swiss-Romanian program (2017–2019) aimed at enhancing the export capacity of organic farmers in Romania. It identifies and addresses key needs such as fertilizer knowledge, business startup inputs, conversion processes, market strategy, and crop rotation. As facilitators, we provide tailored support whether advising on exports or connecting farmers for peer learning. The community organizes workshops to tackle these topics effectively. It advocates for a one-stop advisory approach, recognizing the value of integrated services.

Further information

Weblinks

[Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development Romania](#)

[National Network for Rural Development Romania](#)

Check the [Organic Farm Knowledge](#) platform for more practical recommendations

About this practice abstract and the OrganicTargets4EU project

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Permalink: [Organic-farmknowledge.org/tool/54931](https://organic-farmknowledge.org/tool/54931)

Project info: This practice abstract was elaborated by OrganicTargets4EU / Transformation scenarios for boosting organic farming and organic aquaculture towards the Farm-to-Fork targets.

Project website: <https://organictargets.eu/> © 2025