

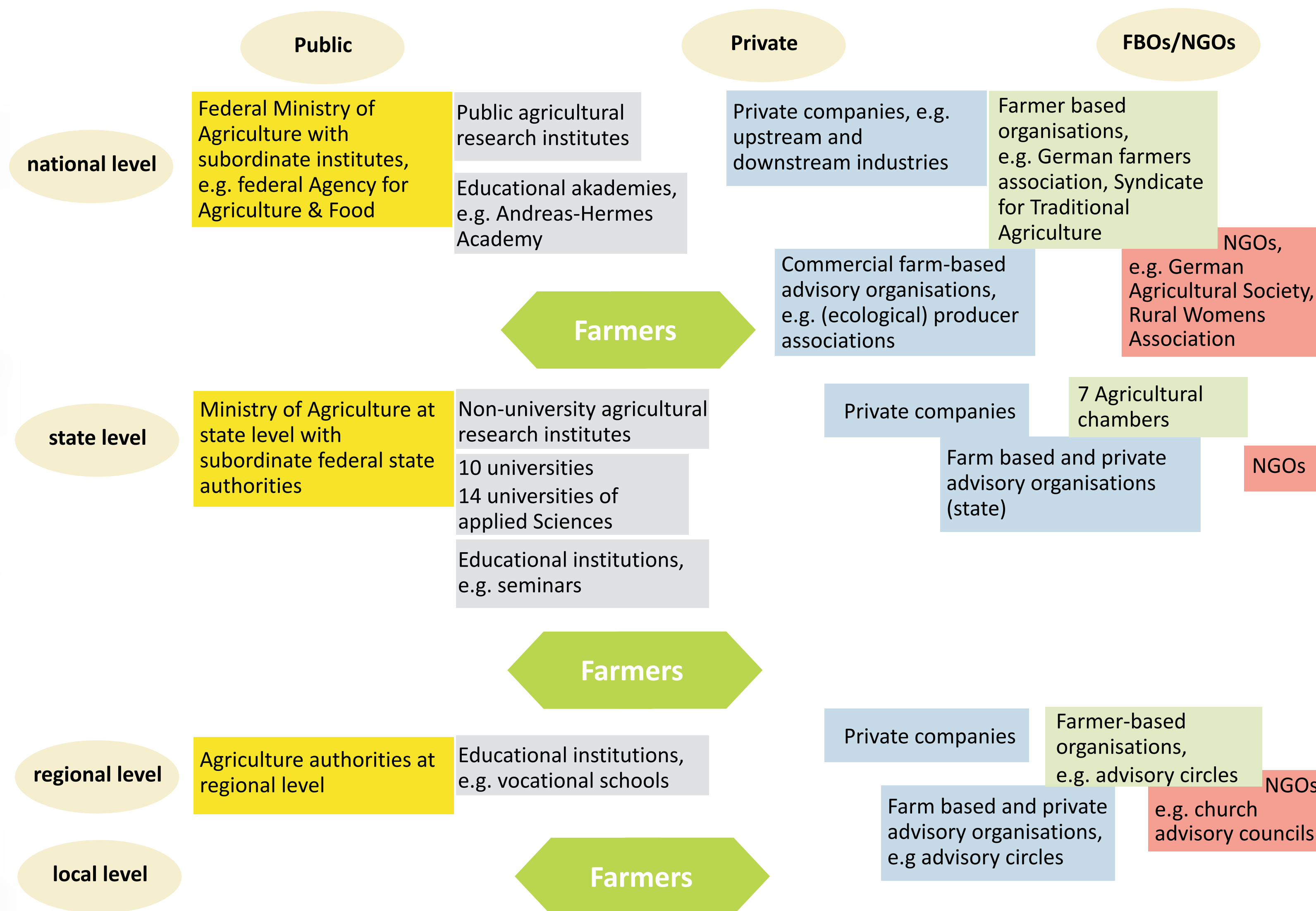


Prospects for Farmers' Support: Advisory Services in European AKIS (PRO AKIS)



GERMANY

AKIS DIAGRAM



Main actors of AKIS:

- 1) Public sector:** national ministry of agriculture and its subordinate agencies (e.g. agricultural research, public agricultural advisory service in three states), public academic institutions (universities and vocational schools)
- 2) Chambers of agriculture** in seven states
- 3) Private sector:** upstream and downstream companies, advisory companies – mainly in five eastern states
- 4) FBOs** (similar to private sector), i.e. German Farmers' Association, the Syndicate for Traditional Agriculture, Advisory Circles
- 5) NGOs** – i.e. Deutscher Bauernbund
- 6) Union of Professions and Lobby Groups**, i.e. Federation of Agricultural Chambers, Federation of Rural Advisors
- 7) NGOs**, i.e. German Agricultural Association or German Women's Association, etc.

Cooperation between AKIS actors:

- an intensive cooperation of organisations within the public sector, and between public authorities and private advisors;
- a noteworthy cooperation between private advisory companies and upstream and downstream industries;
- no cooperation between up-/ downstream industries and public authorities,
- competition among private advisory companies and between FBO and private advisory companies

Main supplier(s) of advisory services:

depends on German states:
1) general public organisation,
2) agricultural chambers, and
3) private advisory enterprises

Main clients:

Depends on service provider:
• For public – medium and small commercial farms
• For chamber – medium and large commercial farms
• For FBOs and private organisations – large, medium and small commercial farms

Main topics of advice:

depends on client and service provider:
1. For public – cross-compliance and environment;
2. For chamber – animal and plant production, and rural development;
3. For FBOs – animal and plant production, accounting and taxes;
4. For private organisations – animal production, stable design and plant production;
5. For NGOs – accounting, taxes, machinery and cross-compliance

Main methods:

Depending on client and advisory provider:
1) for public, chamber, FBOs and private organisations – mainly individual, group and mass methods,
2) for NGOs – individual methods

Main sources of funding the advisory services:

Due to federalism, each state has own policies and regulations which determine the organisation of advisory services in terms of their provision and funding;
Generally, for public provider of advisory services – the source of funding is mainly public, for agricultural chambers – mixed funding, for FBOs and private – private funding, for NGOs – mixed funding



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