



Bringing Organisations & Network Development  
to higher levels in the Farming sector in Europe



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# HOW TO STRENGTHEN THE AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES FOR THE FUTURE? Workshop for young farmers

**BOND Board Meeting April 2020**  
**Julie Nåvik Hval, NAC**

# The Participants

- Cooperative farmers, representing different productions, geography and farm size.
  - Productions: live stock, dairy, grains, pigs, sheep, chicken,
  - 16 (4 absentees).
  - 10 male, 6 female
- Recommended by the central organizations: Heads of Organizational Development
- The farmers already participate in voluntary work in their organization(s).

# About the workshop

## HOW TO STRENGTHEN THE AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES FOR THE FUTURE? *Workshop for young farmers*

Climate and environmental challenges, technological development and hard competition in the market are challenges confronting the agricultural sector. Norwegian Agricultural Cooperatives needs input for new solutions from young engaged farmers. We want to invite you to an exciting, playful and engaging day!

Now you have the chance to influence future priorities for the agricultural cooperatives, and at the same time you get the opportunity to get to know a group of young farmers from all over the country. With various productions, sizes and backgrounds, we look forward to hearing many important perspectives.

Specifically, during the day we will work out a set of policy recommendations for how we can ensure strong agricultural cooperatives in the future. The recommendations will be communicated to the board of the Norwegian Agricultural Cooperatives, to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and they will be brought to the BOND Youth Forum in Romania.

### PROGRAM

- 10:30 Registration
- 11:00 Welcome, lunch and presentation
- 12:15 EU-project on collaboration among farmers - perspective of a farmer  
*Hugo Vink, Lofoten Gårdssystemer*
- 12:30 5 mega trends that will influence the future of agriculture (report from Menon)  
*Siri Voll Dombu, Menon Economics*
- 13:10 Cooperative Principles  
*Julie Nåvik Hval, Norwegian Agricultural Cooperatives*
- 14:10 Policy recommendations: How to strengthen the agricultural cooperatives for the future?  
*Workshop (LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY®) Wioletta Olejarczyk*
- 17:00 Discussion and recommendations - contributions to the BOND Youth Forum  
*Gunn Jorunn Sørum, Norwegian Agricultural Cooperatives*
- 18:00 Dinner

**Background:** The workshop will be arranged as part of a EU Horizon2020 project, BOND, where Norwegian Agricultural Cooperatives is a partner. The objectives of the project are to develop networks between farmers in Europe and advance on collaboration, to be able to better influence policies.

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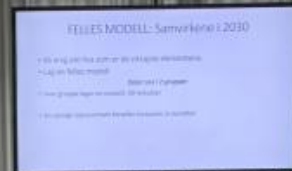
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# The Agricultural Cooperatives in 2030 – from the perspective of the young farmers

- Leading the way to sustainable food production
- Financial stability
- A preferred choice for the farmers and the consumers
- Cooperation among farmers and cooperation among cooperatives, eg. green technology
- Provides a network for the farmers
- Bottom-top decision making, not the opposite

## Policy recommendations - Preliminary

### Sustainable food production

- Cooperatives taking the lead in achieving a sustainable food production.
- Involvement from food producers

### Strategic

- Cooperation between cooperatives to take advantage of economies of scale where possible (e.g technology)
- Strong cooperatives in the value chain for food

### Policies:

- Predictability in policy making
- Welfare programs, e.g. maternity/paternity leave and illness
- Equal competition frameworks for cooperatives and other company types

**Additional  
recommendations to the  
Board**

- Early involvement. Farmers in the lead.
- Be more bold in sustainability decision making

# What now?

- Communication Plan:
  - Presenting the recommendations to our Board
  - Presenting the recommendations to the Minister of Agriculture and Food
  - Newspaper article – signed by the farmers
- Bringing the recommendations to the Youth Forum

Watch out for  
these  
cooperative  
farmers in the  
future!



Picture from the Board Room of the Norwegian Farmers' Union