Rural Development 2007-13

Axis 2: Environment/land management

DG AGRI, October 2005
EU priorities axis 2:

- CSG
- Biodiversity and HNV
- Water
- Climate change
- + National priorities
- NSP
- RDP
National Strategy

Based on an assessment of the general environmental situation in relation to its rural areas the MS will set out how it will deal with and set quantified objectives for:

- its agricultural and forestry Natura 2000 areas and other HNV areas (High Nature Value)
- Water quantity and quality and its plans under the WFD in relation to agriculture and forestry (Water Framework Directive)
- The contribution its agriculture and forestry can make to climate change mitigation and the Kyoto protocol targets it has set
- Any specific national priorities
Rural Development Programme

In its RDP the MS will set out:

- How many resources it plans to spend on axis 2 (minimum 25% of the Community contribution to the programme)
- Which measures it wishes to implement and how they fit to the strategy
- An indicative breakdown of funding per measure
The toolbox for axis 2

Two blocks of measures targeting sustainable use of:

- **agricultural land**
  - LFA; Natura 2000 and WFD; AE; animal welfare; non-productive investments

- **forestry land**
  - Afforestation; agro-forestry; Natura 2000; forest-environment; restoring forestry potential/prevention; non-productive investments
Less Favoured Areas

- Current LFA measure (designation and payment system) stays in place till 2010
- Good farming practice as eligibility condition is replaced by cross-compliance (sanctions approach) on the whole holding
Natura 2000 and WFD

- Annual payments per hectare of UAA based on costs incurred and income foregone related to practices or constraints imposed by the Natura or WFD management plan
- Detailed rules for WFD payments still to be fixed in implementing regulation (including maximum amounts)
- Beneficiaries are farmers
- CC whole holding
Agri-environment (AE)

- The only compulsory measure (at programme level)
- Farmers and other land managers
- 5 to 7 year contracts (on a voluntary basis)
- Annual payments for commitments going beyond the baseline covering additional costs, income foregone and transaction costs
- Baseline = CC + minimum requirements fertiliser and pesticide + national legislation
- Extended CC whole holding
Animal Welfare

- Farmers
- 5 to 7 year contracts
- Annual payments for commitments going beyond the baseline covering additional costs, income foregone and transaction costs
- Baseline = CC (annex III) + national legislation
- CC whole holding
Non productive investments

- Support for AE linked investments
- and/or for on farm investments enhancing the public amenity value of Natura 2000 and other HNV areas
1\textsuperscript{st} afforestation of agricultural land

- Establishment, maintenance (5 y), income loss (15 y)
- If publicly owned only establishment costs
- Idem fast growing species
- No X-mas trees
- CC
- Apt for afforestation for environmental reasons
Agroforestry

- Support to farmers for establishing combined extensive agriculture and forestry systems (trees in combination with agriculture on the same land)
- No X-mas trees and fast growing species
1\textsuperscript{st} afforestation of non-agricultural land

- Only establishment costs
- In the case of abandoned farm land also maintenance costs
- No X-mas trees
- Apt for afforestation for environmental reasons
Natura 2000 (forestry)

- Annual payments per hectare of forest based on costs incurred and income foregone resulting from Natura 2000 restrictions
- Private owners and their associations
- CC
Forest-environment

- Private owners and municipalities
- 5 to 7 year contracts (on a voluntary basis)
- Annual payments for commitments going beyond the relevant mandatory requirements covering additional costs and income foregone
- CC
Restoring forestry potential/prevention

- For forests damaged by natural disasters and fire
- Preventive actions against fires only for medium and high fire risk forests
Non-productive investments

- Linked to forest environment undertakings or other environmental objectives
- Which enhance the public amenity value of the forest