Rural Development

Community Strategic Guidelines 2007-2013

DG AGRI, October 2005
Regulation and Guidelines

- RDR => purpose and scope of assistance from the RD fund
- CSG => EU level priorities within the RDR framework, in particular focus on sustainability (Göteborg) and growth and jobs (Lisbon)
The CSG will help to:

- identify and agree the areas where the use of EU support for rural development will create the most value added at EU level;
- make the link with the main EU priorities (Lisbon, Göteborg) and translate them into RD policy;
- ensure consistency with other EU policies, in particular in the field of cohesion and environment;
- accompany the implementation of the new market oriented Common Agricultural Policy and the necessary restructuring it will entail in the old and the new Member States.
Community priorities

- Axis 1: improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sectors
  - Guideline 1: the resources devoted to axis 1 should contribute to a strong and dynamic European agrifood sector by focusing on the priorities of knowledge transfer, modernisation and innovation in the food chain and priority sectors for investment in physical and human capital.
Community priorities

- Axis 2: improving the environment and countryside
- Guideline 2: the resources devoted to axis 2 should contribute to three EU level priority areas: biodiversity and preservation of high nature value farming and forestry systems, water, and climate change.
Community priorities

- Axis 3: improving the quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification

- Guideline 3: the resources devoted to axis 3 should contribute to the overarching priority of the creation of employment opportunities in the fields of diversification and quality of life.
Community priorities

- **Axis 4 (Leader):** building local capacity for employment and diversification

- **Guideline 4:** the resources devoted to axis 4 should contribute to the priorities of axis 1 and 2 and in particular of axis 3, but also play an important role in the *priority of improving governance* and mobilising the *endogenous development potential* of rural areas.
Community priorities

- Horizontal: ensuring consistency in programming
- Guideline 5: elements to take into account
  - Maximise synergies in and between axes
  - Develop integrated approaches where appropriate
  - Other EU level strategies (organic farming, renewable energy sources, climate change, forestry strategy and action plan, thematic environmental strategies)
Community priorities

- Horizontal: complementarity between Community instruments

- Guideline 6:
  - create synergies between structural, employment and rural development policies
  - ensure complementarity and coherence between actions to be financed by the ERDF, Cohesion Fund, ESF, EFF and EAFRD on a given territory and in a given field of activity.
  - the main guiding principles as regards the demarcation line and the coordination mechanisms between actions supported by the different Funds should be defined at the level of national strategic reference framework/national strategy plan.
EU priorities:
• Knowledge transfer/priority investment sectors
• Biodiversity/water/climate change
• Creation employment opportunities
• Governance/endogenous development potential

+ National priorities
Overall strategy issues

- Balance between the axes based on an assessment of the economic, social and environmental situation and of needs and gaps
- Weight of the different EU and national priorities
- Match funding capacity
- Implementation capacity (national, regional, local)
Strategic issues axis 1

- Desired development farm structures (which farms to target)
- Strengths/weaknesses agrifood sector
- Balance between restructuring and innovation
Strategic issues axis 2

- Balance between AE, Natura and LFA
- AE: role organic farming (link axis 1), importance certain farming types and landscapes for rural diversification (link axis 3)
- Water management
- Afforestation needs (abandoned farm land?)
Strategic issues axis 3 and 4

- Balance between rural infrastructure/renovation/basic services and diversification/local economic development
- Choice of delivery system for axis 3 (top down or bottom up)
- Balance between local capacity building and implementing local development strategies