



20th National Rural
Networks' Meeting

Planned Network Activities

Upcoming activities of the ENRD Evaluation Helpdesk

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20th National Rural Networks' Meeting
15 June 2021

POWERED BY



A journey through evaluation plans: Learning from past experiences for the future CAP

28-29 June 2021

EUROPEAN
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Recent Publications



EVALUATING HUNGARIAN GROSS NUTRIENT BALANCE DATA THROUGH A COUNTERFACTUAL APPROACH BASED ON HISTOGRAMS

FACTSHEET OF THE EUROPEAN EVALUATION HELPSDEK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT – MARCH 2021

A DELICATE BALANCING ACT

Water and soil quality make up the foundation for all agricultural activity as these vital resources are two of the most important inputs to ensuring not only sustainable agriculture, but also biodiversity and food security. Farm and land management can play a vital role in ensuring that the delicate balancing act of protecting both soil and water is achieved to ensure long term sustainable agriculture and a prosperous society. Evaluating these conditions and practices are essential to make sure management practices are fostering the necessary balance of nutrients, while protecting water quality. In the EU's Common Monitoring and Evaluation System (CMES) of the rural development policy this is monitored through both impact and context indicators including L11 Water quality and C.40 Water quality.

USING HISTOGRAMS TO GAIN DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF EXTREMES

The purpose of this thematic evaluation was to achieve a better assessment of C.40 and L11 or gross nutrient balance (GNB) on agricultural land. In the case of Hungary, national balance levels often mask the share of extreme positive and negative dissolved nitrogen (DN) and dissolved phosphorus (DP) data, both of which may cause environmental risks. Therefore, the evaluator has used a counterfactual approach with the calculation of histograms¹. The assessment period for the comparison was 2010-2014 and 2016-2019. Historical data have been calculated at parcel-level for DN and DP data gathered from the National Institute for Environmental Protection (NEMH). The collection and analysis of data for the non-supported (control) areas were provided by the Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH). However, both databases lack data on the ratio of the improved crop residues, so the evaluator used the data in the national GNB calculation from Eurostat. In order to harmonise the data, the evaluator calculated the part of the nutrients added to the autumn sown crops for the previous year since the data collection has recently been switched to the calendar year instead of the agricultural year for the GNB calculations.

- Working steps of the evaluation:
1. Collection of data for supported areas from the Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH) database.
 2. Calculation of GNB for available agricultural parcels.
 3. Calculation of histograms of the DN and DP data separately for the supported and non-supported areas aggregated for 2010-14 and 2016-19 respectively.
 4. Comparison and evaluation of the histograms.

Data collection (Steps 1 and 2)
Collection of agricultural cultivation data (such as area of each

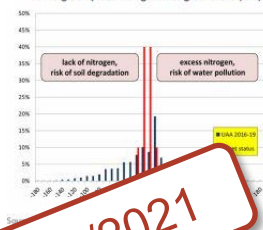


FURTHER INFORMATION

Thematic Evaluation Report 2020: Effectiveness and efficiency of water management interventions

Available from June 2021 on <https://www.svalvafst.gov.hu/vsd/fejleszt-es-program/>

Figure 1. Supported UAA areas compared to a optimal histogram presenting the target status (DN)



Working steps of the evaluation:

1. Collection of data for supported areas from the Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH) database.
2. Calculation of GNB for available agricultural parcels.
3. Calculation of histograms of the DN and DP data separately for the supported and non-supported areas aggregated for 2010-14 and 2016-19 respectively.
4. Comparison and evaluation of the histograms.

Calculation of histograms (Steps 3 and 4)
Based on this data, calculation of the GNB from available cultivation data for each agricultural parcel and calculating histograms separately for supported and non-supported areas

¹ Histogram is an approximate representation of the distribution of numerical data allowing one to see the extremes in the data. A histogram is used for continuous data, where the bins represent ranges of data, while a bar chart is a plot of categories or variables.

Published in 03/2021

Published in 04/2021

Published in 05/2021

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WORKING DOCUMENT

EVALUATING RDP EFFECTS ON THE COMPETITIVENESS OF AGRICULTURE IN A CHANGING CONTEXT

WORKING PACKAGE 3

THEMATIC WORKING GROUP ON 'EX POST EVALUATION OF RDP EFFECTS ON THE COMPETITIVENESS OF AGRICULTURE IN A CHANGING CONTEXT'

This document has been prepared by evaluation experts based on data available from the current programming period. This document is non-binding and only intended to facilitate the work of evaluators and managing authorities in the context of preparing for the ex post evaluation of the RDPs 2014-2020.

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REPORT

IMPROVING DATA MANAGEMENT AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS FOR THE GOOD PRACTICE WORKSHOP OF CAP EVALUATION

GOOD PRACTICE WORKSHOP ONLINE, 16-17 MARCH 2021



Connecting Rural Europe

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Agricultural Biodiversity Trend Monitoring



Agricultural biodiversity trends at the national and regional levels are monitored based on nationwide land-use analysis, insect and other organism trends and the analysis of genetic diversity in agriculture.

Trend monitoring

Question-based Monitoring of Agricultural Biodiversity Tool



This tool addresses important biodiversity monitoring questions related to pollination and insects' ecosystem services and support the evaluation of new agri-environment policies.

Question-based monitoring

Relevant CAP Objectives

1. Support viable farm income and resilience across the Union to enhance food security
2. Enhance market orientation and increase competitiveness, including greater focus on research, technology and digitalisation
3. Improve the farmers' position in the value chain
4. Contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as sustainable energy
5. Foster sustainable development and efficient management of natural resources such as water, soil and air

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Projects

- MonVIA
- NIVA
- SPARD
- timeStamp

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Citizen Science-based Monitoring of Agricultural Biodiversity Tool



MonVIA's development and implementation of a Citizen Science-based Monitoring tool aims to facilitate the voluntary participation of farmers and possibly other stakeholders such as beekeepers, horticulturists and gardeners. Participants are motivated to document biodiversity indicators on farms, to be mindful of nature and actively contributing to biodiversity through agriculture. The participating actors are evaluated scientifically and are provided animal and plant profiles, assistance in evaluating the of Germany. However, the individual components will initially be developed in a three-year pilot phase and tested in selected regions and with selected participants.

PROJECT DETAILS

MonVIA: Monitoring of Biodiversity in Agricultural Landscapes



Objectives

Timeframe: 2019 to 2024

Contacts of project holder:
Petra Dieker, Thünen Institute of Landscape Ecology
petra.dieker@thuenen.de

Web website(s):
MonVIA overview

Regional coverage:
Germany

and CAP Objectives:
Contribute to the protection of animals and plants, improve the resilience of ecosystems, enhance ecosystem services, preserve habitats and landscapes, improve the response of EU agriculture to societal demands on food and health, including safe, nutritious and sustainable food, food waste, as well as animal welfare

Data Collection Systems Used:
Biodiversity data collection

Associated Evaluation Approaches:
Desk research
Data analysis
Impact evaluation analysis

Type of Output:
Monitoring system / tool
New / improved data for M&E

Spatial Scale:
Regional

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Last modification date: 04/08/2021

Coming Soon!
Evaluation Knowledge Bank

This project demonstrates how to account for the interdependence in the data used in the evaluation and advances with relevant econometric estimations for the different assessments. Results illustrate that important result indicators suffer from strong spatial dependency.

Reports

- Exploratory Spatial Data Analysis (ESDA)
- Spatial econometrics methodology
- Application of models in case study areas (Brandenburg, DE)
- Application of models in case study areas (Emilia Romagna, IT)
- Application of models in case study areas (Mid Pyrenees, FR)
- Application of models in case study areas (Noord Holland, NL)
- Application of models in case study areas (Slovenia, SI)
- Application of models in case study areas (Scotland, UK)

A farm registry tool for exchanging information and data among databases



The tool is a data model for the exchange of information between IACS and a wide range of other information systems.

Description of Farm Registry
Details of the 'Farm Registry' tool operation
Details of the work on crop types

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Various reasons. First, if properly conducted, Citizen Science and evaluation for a tremendous amount of monitoring data at a very low cost that may outweigh minor quality issues. Second, they establish synergies in data collection and monitoring establishments and policymakers, which may prove very beneficial for monitoring and evaluation due to new ideas, suggestions, hints, etc. Besides these monitoring and nature conservation and empowers citizens to take part in the policy design processes.

Citizen Science-based methods are not new in the evaluation of agricultural impacts on the environment. Bird Watching and conservation NGOs' volunteers carry out essential data collection for the Farmland Bird Index in many Member States. However, the involvement of farmers and other stakeholders like beekeepers is a relatively new concept. The measure's success will depend on the farmers' willingness to participate and the readiness of the project to support and continuously motivate the volunteers.

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Thank you for your attention!

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