



Rheinland-Pfalz

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# Conference „Unlocking the Potential of the Rural Development Programmes“

## *Perspectives from the Managing Authority Rhineland-Palatinate*

1. February 2016  
Brussels

Ministerium für Umwelt, Landwirtschaft, Ernährung, Weinbau und Forsten des  
Landes Rheinland-Pfalz (MULEWF)  
Franz-Josef Strauß

# RHINELAND-PALATINATE IN THE MIDDLE OF EUROPE



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## Population: around 4 million (2012)

- Area: 19,849 sq km
- Capital: Mainz
- Rurally coined - only 7 cities with more than 60,000 inhabitants

## Agriculture – key figures

- No of Holdings: 18.000 (2014)
- UAA: 703.500 ha
- Two thirds of the German wine production
- Low mountain ranges

## „Borderland“

- 4 German „Länder“:  
Baden-Württemberg, Hesse, North Rhine-Westphalia, Saarland
- 3 member states: Belgium, France, Luxembourg

# PROGRAMMING PERIOD 2014-2020 IN GERMANY



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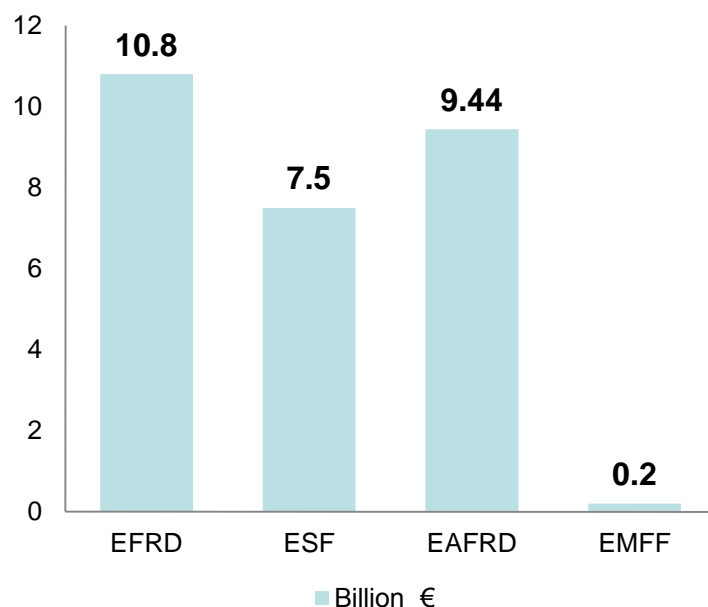
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## Contribution of the European Structural and Investment Funds 2014 -2020



*EAFRD: including transfers from the 1st pillar*

## EAFRD-Programming

National framework – Article 6 Regulation (EU)  
no 1305/2013 - approved in December 2014

13 “Länder” Rural Development Programmes

- Submitted in the summer of 2014
- Approved until May 2015

National programme for a National Rural  
Network (“DVS”)

Total public expenditure: € 1,69 billion

EAFRD: € 9,44 billion

# RHINELAND-PALATINE EAFRD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM "ENVIRONMENTAL MEASURES, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AGRICULTURE AND FOOD" (RDP "EULLE")

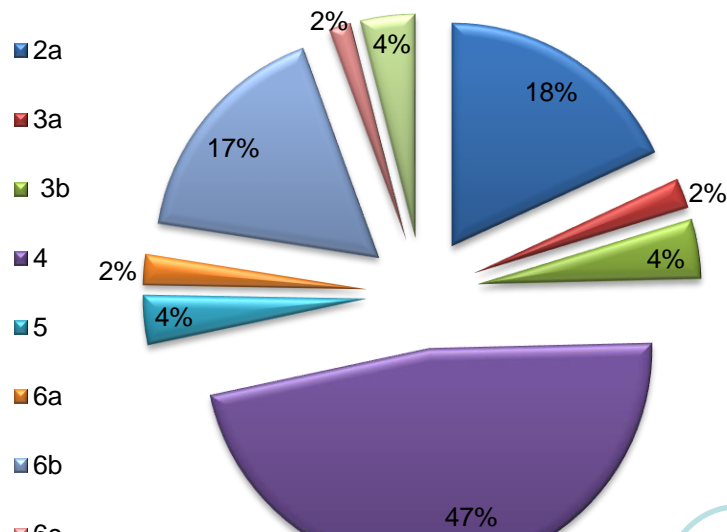


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## RDP EULLE - Union priorities for rural development



Total public expenditure: € 662 million

EAFRD funds: € 299.8 million

37 sub-measures + LEADER

Measures of the National  
framework and of the Land

### Priorities and (sub) measures

- caused discussions with practitioners
- projects serve several priorities
- tendency by persons in charge with one measure to only provide "standard offers"

# CONDITIONS OF THE PROGRAMME PLANNING PROCESS



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## European Union

- Regulations, guidelines ...
- Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (Greening...)
- EAFRD
- German partnership agreement ...

## Germany

- National law, guidelines; administrative provisions
- Federal / Land budget
- Political orientation / goals
- National framework – Article 6 Regulation (EU) no 1305/2013 ...

## Program level

- Objectives of the regional government (Level of the “Land”)
- Objectives / needs of the partners
- Resources (staff...)
- “The SWOT“-Analysis
- Funding opportunities under other programmes (Structural Funds, CAP, national schemes ...) ...

# COORDINATION PROCESSES HAD TO RUN IN PARALLEL ...



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- **Participation in discussions on the Union's legal legislation (at national and EU level)**
- **Establishment of the national regulatory framework**  
“Bund” and “Länder” decide jointly in the respective planning committee ("PLANAK")
- **Meetings of representatives of all ESI funds (federal/regional level) at the federal level for developing and establishing the partnership agreement**
- **Meetings / Workshops of EAFRD managing authorities (federal/regional level)**
- **Coordination between neighboring “Länder “ / regions**
- **Coordination of ESI funds in Rhineland-Palatinate**
- **Project groups for creating / drafting the RDP**
- ...

# COORDINATION PROCESSES HAD TO RUN IN PARALLEL



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## Problems & Challenges

**Delayed decisions on the EU's legal texts / Guidelines**

**Double work: Ongoing adaptation - time planning / descriptions of measures**

**Irritation of the partners**

**Bureaucracy increases significantly**

**Missing References for grants on the basis of standard scales of unit costs, lump sums or flat-rates financing**

## Drivers & Achievements

**Support from the National Desk (information of the Monitoring Committee, early examination of the national framework,...)**

**General rules of eligibility in the National framework**

**Rules for transnational co-operation (M16, M19) - Leader region including areas in Luxembourg and Rhineland-Palatinate**

# ***DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ESI-FUNDS IN RHINELAND-PALATINATE***



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## **Process of coordination**

- **Coordination meetings between the management authorities**
- **Joint SWOT for ERDF and EAFRD**
- **Decisions of the Rhineland-Palatinate Cabinet**
- **Involvement of all managing authorities in the project groups**

## **Priority fields of the ESI funds**

- **ERDF addresses primarily economic and regional policy objectives include climate change policy**
- **ESF serves the development of human resources and social aspects**
- **EAFRD addresses support the economic and social development of rural areas as well as the promotion of sustainable management of natural resources and climate change policy**



# PLANNING PROCESS IN RHINELAND-PALATINATE



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**Start the discussion in 2012**

**Start-up Workshop programming in June 2013**

**Establishment of 3 project groups (e.g. area based measures, LEADER) - open to all partners**

**Final hearing in August 2014 ⇒ submission of the programme**

- **Open discussion about necessary measures, conditions...**
- **High transparency in the selection of measures**
- **Exchange of experience among the partners**

# ***OUTLOOK – THE POTENTIAL OF THE RDP***



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## **The strength of the RDP is the „Partnership approach“**

- Effectiveness of the RDP strongly rests on the partnerships between local and regional actors;
- Programme implementation should strive for harvesting the potential for collaboration.

**(Feared) Administrative burdens discourage rural actors, therefore profound simplification will be essential, especially also for smaller projects.**



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# Thank you for your attention

**RDP EULLE: <http://www.eler-eulle.rlp.de>**