

# Result-based Payment Schemes (RBPS)

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Video Conference 15 December 2017

# What is a result-based payment scheme?

A different, very specific type of agri-environment contract

RBPS farmers are free to decide how to manage their land and livestock

Used in Europe for 20+ years

Now attracting interest from the European Parliament, the Commission and MS policy makers

⚠ in this context not to be confused with:  
~~performance-based approaches, outcome-based programming, payments for ecosystem services . . .~~



*well-designed*

## Comparison with / management-based schemes

RBPS	MBPS
✓ <b>clearly defined objectives</b> for specific environmental services from farmland	(✓)
✓ targeted effectively (at geographical zones, farm types, habitats, species)	(✓/✗)
✓ <b>€ for presence of measurable indicators</b>	✗
✗ <del>€ (flat rate) for prescribed farm management</del>	✓
✓ If EAFRD funded rules apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CAP baseline for payment calculation</li><li>• €/hectare/annum under M10.1</li><li>• 5 year contracts (but can be longer)</li><li>• possibly combined with M4.4 (environmental investments)</li></ul>	✓



Meadow birds  
Species-rich grassland

Large carnivores - Lynx (*Lynx lynx*)  
and Wolverine (*Gulo gulo*)

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*)



Peak District farm  
conservation scheme

Burren farming for  
conservation  
programme

Flowering meadows  
Pastoral management



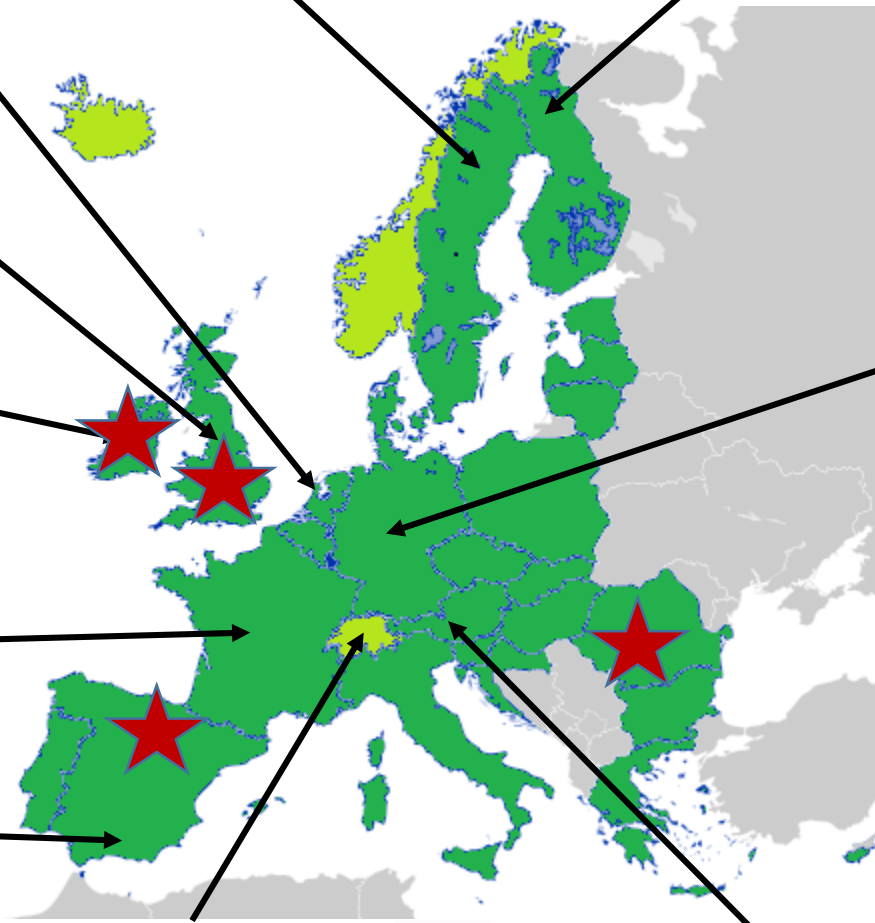
RAPCA fire prevention  
scheme



Species rich grassland  
Species rich orchards



*Ergebnisorientierter Naturschutzplan*  
Nature Conservation plan



Species rich grassland  
Bird schemes:  
Harrier nest protection  
in arable fields  
Grassland birds  
Orchards

Animal Genetic conservation  
Most Member States offer some form  
of support for animal genetic  
conservation operating on a results-  
based approach.

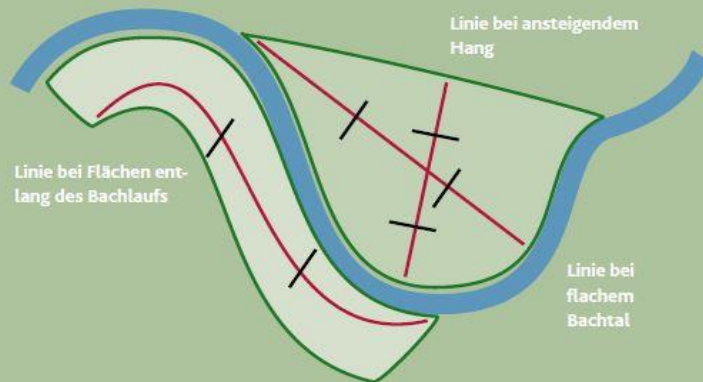
Examples can be seen in Italy,  
Germany, Ireland and Austria.



# Farmer guidance in Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany



Kennartenfassung. Beispiel eines rechteckigen und eines asymmetrischen Schläges



Erfassungslinie bei außergewöhnlichem Flächenzuschnitt am Beispiel eines Bachtals. Arterfassung entlang des vorhandenen Standortsspektrums (trocken, mittel, nass).

2 Beinwell weiß, violett (V-VII)



3 Blutwurz/Tormentill (V-VII)



5 Flockenblumen (VI-IX)



Wiesen-Flockenblume



5 Flockenblumen (VI-IX)



Skabiosen-Fl.



Knollen-Kratzdistel

6 Frauenmantel (V-VIII)



# DG Environment/EP funded study and pilot schemes running from 2014 to 2018

- Study of RBPS implementation 1990-2013, guidance for managing authorities web-based inventory of schemes, practice notes, videos, conference report(2014)
- €2 million for 3- or 4-year pilots in four MS, ending in 2018.
- Mid-term conference March 2017

Newsletter Issue No. 2

Spring 2017



Santiago's plots in RBAPS (LEFT) olive groves; (MIDDLE) Olive grove in November; (RIGHT) Almond trees in February

Santiago feels that farmers are not being paid enough for the wildlife they maintain or preserve, and even though he had never participated in an agri-environmental scheme before, he found the RBAPS project's measure easy to understand and a fair payment system, which could help improve management of the potential crops of the area.

Biodiversity of Santiago's Farm



Wasp's nest on an olive grove branch.



Bird's nest on a vineyard



Moth in a vineyard


Rosea biodiversity in the herbaceous cover of a vineyard

ES (Navarra) permanent crops

UK (E) arable + upland grassland

Results Based Agri-environment Payment Scheme (RBAPS)

Arable Pilot Norfolk/Suffolk




The objective of the arable element of the RBAPS project is to test the effectiveness of scheme options to improve the environmental performance of two existing agri-environment options. This is the first time arable farming systems have been subjected to an approach so this is a very exciting opportunity.

The pilot area is based around the predominantly arable area of south Norfolk and north Suffolk, a national hotspot for farmland birds including corn bunting, grey partridge and red-legged partridge. At least seven of the twelve target pollinator species are also found.

Options

- Winter bird food (for farmland birds and pollinators): an annual mix of crops sown in autumn and winter and an additional benefit of flowers during the summer.
- Pollen and nectar (for pollinators): a mix of legume and perennial flowering plants sown to provide a nectar source from early summer to mid autumn.



Check in Natural England/Rural Drive 2016

Payment rates in Ireland and Spain

Payment rates in Ireland and Spain were calculated based on income foregone and additional costs to farmers on the opportunity costs of not carrying out an alternative land-use.

Payment rate (€/ha)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	€ 40	€ 66	€ 128	€ 170	€ 236	€ 300	€ 366	€ 387	€ 430	€ 480
2	-	-	€ 100	€ 160	€ 220	€ 280	€ 300	€ 370	€ 400	€ 450
3	-	-	€ 110	€ 200	€ 270	€ 330	€ 380	€ 410	€ 450	€ 480
4	-	-	€ 120	€ 240	€ 300	€ 360	€ 400	€ 450	€ 480	€ 500

Results in Ireland and Spain

Payments were made in the period 2014-2016, covering 259 hectares across the six measures. The RBAPS teams were engaged in the period 2014-2016, entering 259 hectares across the six measures. The RBAPS teams were engaged in the period 2014-2016, entering 259 hectares across the six measures. The average score per land parcel was 10 and the average payment per hectare was €325.54, while the average payment per farmer was just €10.



Examples of wildlife on RBAPS farms

IE species-rich grassland +breeding waders

RO species-rich hay meadows

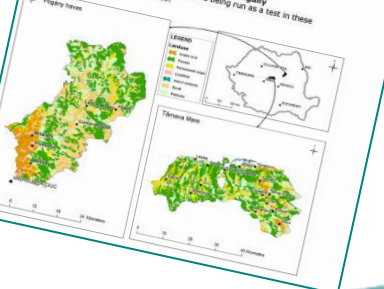
Controls

Under the pilot scheme, contracts will be signed, and payments will be made and controls carried out by Fundatia ADEPT and partners, with direct funding from the European Commission.

Fundatia ADEPT will consult with farmers and farmer associations in Tarnava Mare and the Poglay Hava/Musti Ciucului regions, in order to identify farmers with up to 100 ha of hay meadows who are interested to participate in the scheme. The contracts will be for 3 years of payments, 2016, 2017 and 2018.

Where is this available?

This scheme is available in the Tarnava Mare and the Poglay Hava/Musti Ciucului regions. The scheme is being run as a test in these two areas for 3 years from 2016-2018.



Legend

- Tarnava Mare
- Poglay Hava/Musti Ciucului



# What information is needed to decide if RBPS are suitable for soil and water?

Defining specific, detailed objectives  
for soil?  
for water?  
at what scale?  
maintenance or improvement?

Selecting effective indicators  
data and skills needed to **decide if suitable indicators exist**  
how would farmers and paying agencies  
measure the indicators?  
setting payments rates?

How will land managers' respond?  
benefits for the business  
explaining (and listening)  
'hand holding', feedback and evaluation



## DG Environment website [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/rbaps/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/rbaps/index_en.htm)

### Inventory of RBPS schemes

Abstract

#### **RAPCA (Red de Áreas Pasto-Cortafuegos de Andalucía) - Spain, Andalucía**

The RAPCA (Red de Áreas Pasto-Cortafuegos de Andalucía) is a scheme that rewards graziers for managing firebreaks (technically known as 'fuelbreaks') through intensive seasonal grazing to reduce vegetation biomass. The scheme started in 2005 but payments to graziers began in 2007. It is targeted on specific areas in Andalucía: publicly ... [read more](#)

### Report and guidance



### Policy and practice notes

#### The Austrian results-based nature conservation plan - Ergebnisorientierter Naturschutzplan, ENP

Since joining the EU in 1995, Austria has implemented a well-accepted manager agri-environmental scheme (ÖPUL). The forthcoming agri-environment program 2015-2020 includes for the first time a results-based payment scheme aimed at who manage high nature value farmland, called the "Results-based nature conse plan" (Ergebnisorientierter Naturschutzplan, ENP).

#### Defining clear and measurable objectives at the parcel level



### Videos from farms

#### Involving farmers



## Pilot project websites

**Ireland and Spain** <https://rbaps.eu>

**Romania** <http://www.fundatia-adept.org/?content=rbaps>

**UK (England)** <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/results-based-agri-environment-payment-scheme-rbaps-pilot-study-in-england>