



Rural Development Programme for Mainland Finland 2014–2020

Measures available for farmers
promoting environment
and climate

Joel Karlsson, network expert
Rural Network Support Unit of Finland



Measures in the Rural Development Programme to promote environmental issues

Knowledge transfer and information actions, 80M€

- Environmental skills development

Advisory services, 34M€

- Advice also provided on environmental issues
- Modification of environment commitments

Investments, 1035M€

- Manure processing
- Controlled subsurface drainage
- Establishment of wetlands
- Restoration of natural pastures

Farm and business development, 402M€

- Product and service development, innovations, job opportunities: e.g. productisation of manure, environmental entrepreneurship

Organic production, 326M€

Environment payments, 1585M€

- Environment commitments and contracts

Natural constraint payments, 3670M€

- Eligibility of permanent grasslands

Animal welfare payments, 458M€

- Promotion of grazing

Development of rural services and villages, 80M€

- Includes communal environmental actions, renewable energy, recreation services, nature trail networks, living environment, landscape management plans

Cooperation, 160M€

- Joint projects, including creation of networks, development projects, deployment of innovations and new practices or technologies, pilot projects

Leader, 300M€

- Environmental projects implemented through local Leader groups





Rural Development Programme for Mainland Finland 2014–2020

Advisory services, 34M€



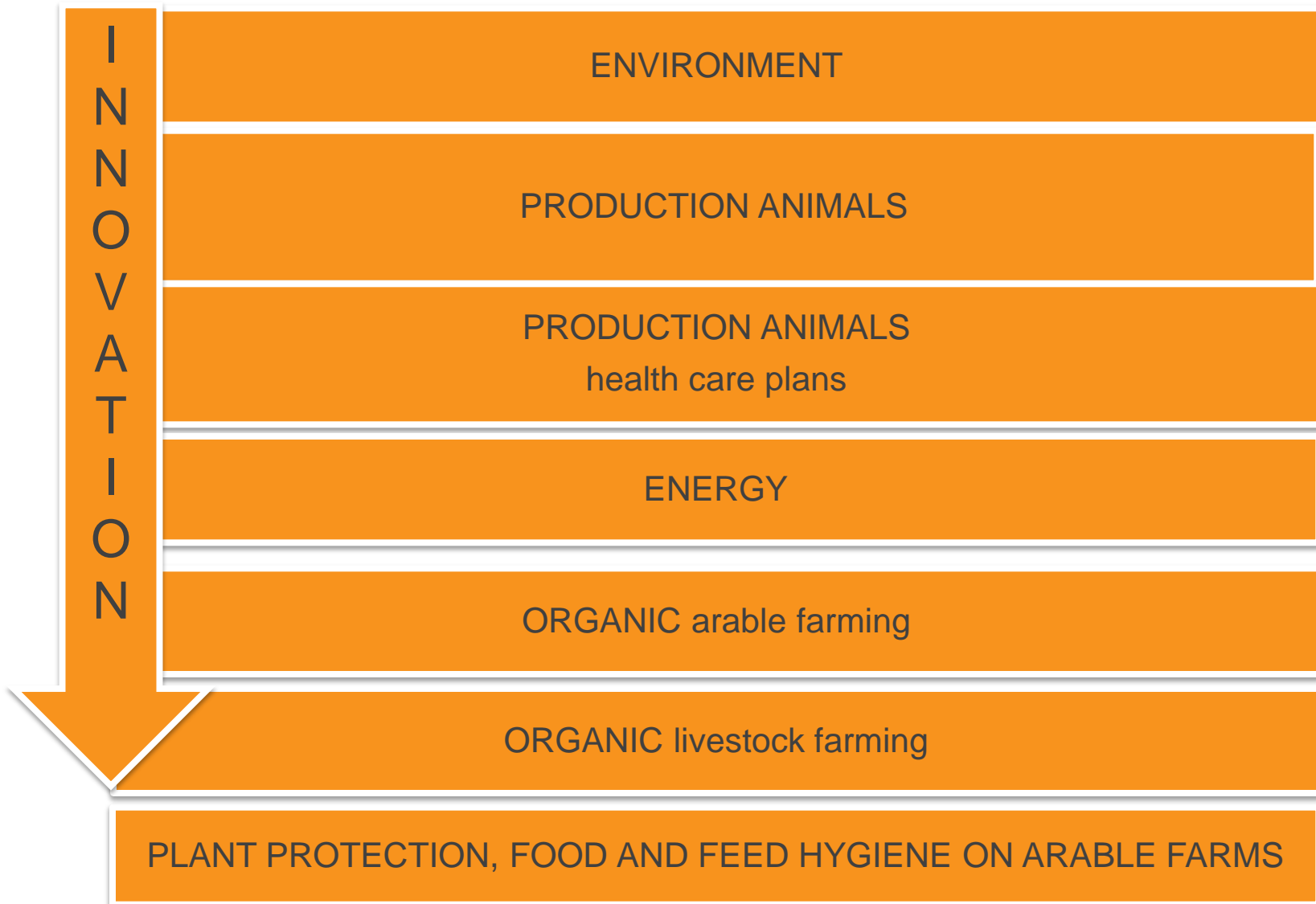
Advisory services as part of the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020



- Advice offered over a wide range of subjects
 - Cross-compliance conditions, greening payments, climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity, protection of water and soil, innovations, environment payments, maintaining agricultural land, organic production, plant protection and integrated control, welfare and health care of production animals, and issues related to environmental efficiency, including more efficient energy use and renewable energies
 - 2016: 10417 farms
- Selection of advisors
 - Approval of advisors
 - Later additional selections being investigated



Advisory services for farms





Rural Development Programme for Mainland Finland 2014–2020

Investments, 1035M€



Agricultural investment support



Eligible actions

- Livestock farming investments
- Arable farming investments
- Product warehouses and investments that promote putting products in marketable condition
- Investments that improve the status of the environment
- Investments aiming to improve quality
- Investments in energy production on farms
- Feasibility studies



Non-productive investments



- Wetland investments
- Initial clearing and fencing of traditional rural biotopes and natural pastures

Notes:

- Includes predator fences for pastures covered by a management contract
- Farmers, registered associations, and in wetland investments also water management organisations
- The ELY Centres will have improved possibilities of approving sites regarded as having appropriate impact
- Simplified cost procedures will be enabled





Rural Development Programme for Mainland Finland 2014–2020

Environment payments, 1585M€



What are the environmental objectives based on?



Water systems and biodiversity

- The Nitrates Directive, the Water Framework Directive, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the Pesticides Directive and the Floods Directive.
- Helcom Baltic Sea Action Plan, EU Strategy for the Baltic Region
- National water management plans, the marine management plan etc.
- The Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive, Action Plan for Biodiversity
- Prioritised Action Framework for Natura 2000 (PAF)
- Action Plans for the conservation of genetic resources

Weather, climate and the environment in general

- UN Climate Change Convention, EU 2020 climate and energy package, the Emission Ceilings Directive, the Air Quality Directive
- Finland's National Climate and Energy Strategy and Action Plan for the Adaptation to Climate Change
- EU Strategy on resource efficiency, the EU's 7th Environment Action Programme



Gene bank conservation measures

- Conservation of local crop varieties
- Safety base collections of local crops
- Conservation of the genetic heritage of local breeds



Environment payments and baseline requirements

Environment commitment

Parcel-specific measures

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incorporation of slurry into the soil - Recycling of nutrients and organic matter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Control of runoff waters - Environment management grasslands - Plant cover on arable land in winter - Use of organic cover for horticultural plants and seed potatoes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biodiversity in arable land environments - Alternative plant protection for horticultural plants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Management of wetlands - Management of biodiversity in agricultural environments and landscape - Crane, goose and swan fields - Rearing of local breeds
<p>Farm-specific measure; Balanced use of nutrients > precondition for selecting parcel-specific measures</p>			
<p>Baseline requirements for environment payments (no payments)</p>			

Baseline (no payments): incl. cross-compliance conditions (=statutory management requirements, requirements of good agriculture and environment) and maintaining agricultural land

Measures covered under greening payments are not eligible for environment payments

Progress at the end of 2017 (1/2)



- Target for field cover is 1,9M ha
 - Target indicators already passed on water management and soil actions. On biodiversity 68 % of the target area reached.
 - 96 % of the budget is allocated.
- 86% of active farmers are involved in environment commitments
 - Area of commitment is over 90 % of active farmers field coverage
 - Area targets for commitments were reached already on 2015 and there haven't been new commitments since then



Progress at the end of 2017 (2/2)



Environmental contracts:

- Management of wetlands → 82 % of target area reached
 - Note that all non-productive investments for wetlands will turn into contracts after the investment is finished
- Management of biodiversity in agricultural environments and landscape → 75 % of target area reached
- Crane, goose and swan fields → target reached already 2015
- Rearing of local breeds → 706 farms and 904 contracts





Rural Development Programme for Mainland Finland 2014–2020

Organic production 326M€



Organic production

- Organic farms may commit to several environment payment and animal welfare payment conditions
- Parcel specific measures not available for organic farms:
 - Alternative plant protection for horticulture plants
 - Only fertilizers permitted in organic production may be used in measures concerning the incorporation of slurry into the field and the recycling of organic matter
 - In the measure concerning biodiversity in agricultural environments, grassland for green manure is not eligible
- No payments or support may be paid for the same actions under two separate systems





Rural Development Programme for Mainland Finland 2014–2020

Animal welfare payments, 458M€



Objectives of animal welfare payments



- Improving animal welfare
- Promoting care in which production animals can follow their natural behaviours
- Increasing farmers' awareness of factors that influence animal welfare – also through farm advisory services
- Responding to consumer expectations
- Grazing has also an impact on landscape management



Contacts:

- Tiina Malm; RDP Finland in general
tiina.malm@mmm.fi
- Anna Schulman; Agri-environmental measures
anna.schulman@mmm.fi
- Joel Karlsson; Rural Network Support Unit of Finland
joel.karlsson@maaseutu.fi

