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Commission



Introduction to Result-Based Agrienvironment schemes

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Importance of Agrienvironmental schemes for the achievement of environmental targets

- The CAP is the main EU instrument for environmental funding in rural areas
- Recognition that the agri-environment measure is crucial to ensure integration of environment into agriculture
- Agrienvironment is the main measure for enabling the achievement of RD objectives (priority 4 and 5) and for achieving EU Environmental objectives (7th Environmental Action Programme).
M10=16,2% of EAFRD funding
- Introduction of the greening should allow for more ambitious schemes in 14-20

Ways to increase the environmental impact of Agrienvironmental schemes

- Sound intervention logic,
- Targeting, reaching intensive farms,
- Increasing the area covered,
- Ambitious baseline, high level of environmental ambition (dark green), sufficient budget,
- Complementarity with other RD measures, with greening
- Sound governance
- Support from training and advice

→ Another way is the **Result Based Payment Schemes**



The EU pilot action on RBPS

- European Parliament pilot action included in the Commission budget (total € 2.5 million). Linked to EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 and the important link with agriculture.
- First part was a study contract awarded on the basis of a competitive tender- Results Based Payment Schemes for Biodiversity awarded to IEEP and partners (report, handbook, communication material, web-link, blog etc.

The EU Pilot Action on RBPS-cont'd

- Call for Proposals launched in 2014-two grants awarded.
- Pilot results-based agri-environment measures in Ireland and Navarra- EFNCP and partners.
- Results-based agri-environment schemes for support of broad biodiversity at landscape scale in Transylvanian High Nature Value Farmland-Fundatia ADEPT.

List of potential issues in classical schemes which can be solved by RBPS

- Verifiability/error rate
- Monitoring- measurement of environmental results
- Complexity
- Definition of specific objectives
- Environmental expertise of farmers and paying agency
- Feeling of ownership of the results by farmers
- Actual environmental impact



Examples of RBPS schemes screened by DG ENV during the RDP assessment:

- Germany : rich grassland species in Rheinland Pfalz ; Saxony; Bavaria, Baden Wurttemberg, Schleswig Holstein, Lower Saxony
- France : Herbe 07 – Maintien de la richesse floristique d'une prairie naturelle
- Netherlands : 10.1.01 Weidevogelbeheer, 10.1.02 Akkerfaunabeheer 10.1.03 Botanisch beheer (this one is a mixed of management based and result based measures)
- Ireland : locally-led environmental actions based on example of successful Burren scheme (to be introduced in the 1st modification)

Conclusions of OECD paper-payments and markets for biodiversity conservation in agriculture (will be released soon)

- Results-based schemes can improve the **environmental targeting** and **cost-effectiveness of agri-environmental** schemes compared to practice-based payments since they provide greater **flexibility** and promote **innovation**.
- Results-based schemes may **increase the risk** of farmers and it is important that the payment design considers this risk higher exposure and uncertainty through, for example, a combination of a fixed basic payment and a bonus payment, or by using flexible payment rates to address the impact of external factors (such as extreme weather events).

Conclusions of OECD paper-payments and markets for biodiversity conservation in agriculture (will be released soon)

- The availability and quality of **indicators** representing the desired outcomes is key to the effectiveness of results-based schemes.
- Results-based schemes may perform best when **targeting local environmental** issues in specific areas.

Conclusion

- Need to
 - identify the current RDP schemes which can evolve to RBPS
 - start the implementation in pilot projects, or to apply it to a larger extent for experimented Member States
 - Make RBPS Rural Development compatible
 - Test schemes which can also work to improve water and soil quality
- Experiences can be used for further integration in the CAP post 2020



Thank you for listening !

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/rbaps/index_en.htm