

## EVALUATION ROADMAP

Roadmaps aim to inform citizens and stakeholders about the Commission's work to allow them to provide feedback and to participate effectively in future consultation activities. Citizens and stakeholders are in particular invited to provide views on the Commission's understanding of the problem and possible solutions and to share any relevant information that they may have.

<b>TITLE OF THE EVALUATION</b>	Evaluation of the impact of the CAP on water
<b>LEAD DG – RESPONSIBLE UNIT</b>	AGRI.DDG1.C.4 Monitoring and Evaluation
<b>INDICATIVE PLANNING (PLANNED START DATE AND COMPLETION DATE)</b>	Planned start date: 12/2018 Planned completion date: Q1 2020
<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>	<a href="https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/sites/agriculture/files/evaluation/plan_en.pdf">https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/sites/agriculture/files/evaluation/plan_en.pdf</a> <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/key-policies/common-agricultural-policy/cap-glance_en">https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/key-policies/common-agricultural-policy/cap-glance_en</a> <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/envir_en">https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/envir_en</a>
The Roadmap is provided for information purposes only. It does not prejudice the final decision of the Commission on whether this initiative will be pursued or on its final content. All elements of the initiative described by the document, including its timing, are subject to change.	

### A. Context, purpose and scope of the evaluation

#### Context

*Agricultural practices and land use play a key role in terms of water quality and quantity. The reformed Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) was fully implemented in 2015. The CAP includes direct payments support schemes to farmers (Regulation 1307/2013), the common organisation of the markets in agricultural products (Regulation 1308/2013), the rural development measures (Regulation 1305/2013) and the horizontal measures set out for financing, management and monitoring of the Common Agricultural Policy (Regulation 1306/2013). One of the CAP's general objectives is the sustainable management of natural resources and climate action including water.*

*The current CAP ensures that its provisions are compatible with environmental requirements, and specific schemes and measures promote the development of agricultural practices preserving the environment and safeguarding the countryside. In this respect, the CAP promotes efficient water use and better water quality e.g. via support to investments to conserve water, improvement of irrigation infrastructures and irrigation techniques, better fertiliser and pesticides management. Various CAP schemes and measures including the horizontal measures such as the Farm Advisory System and Cross-Compliance contribute to these objectives in all EU Member States.*

*The CAP legal provisions require that each policy measure under the CAP should be subject to monitoring and evaluation. In detail, Article 110(5) of Regulation 1306/2013 on the common monitoring and evaluation framework of the CAP provides that the Commission shall present a report with the first results of the performance of the CAP by 31 December 2018 and a second report, including an assessment of the performance of the CAP, by 31 December 2021. This evaluation will contribute to the report due in 2021. Furthermore, the evaluation will also contribute to the ongoing policy discussions in the framework of the negotiations on the legislative proposals for the CAP beyond 2020.*

#### Purpose and scope

*The CAP contributes to three general objectives, which together feed into the Europe 2020 objectives of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth:*

- *Viable food production*
- *Sustainable management of natural resources and climate action*
- *Balanced territorial development.*

*These general objectives can be further broken down into specific objectives, some linked only to either direct payments support schemes and market measures (mostly agricultural income and market support) or Rural Development measures, others are common to all CAP instruments (see [CMEF handbook](#) p.12-14 for CAP general and specific objectives).*

Today, quantity and quality of water emerge as one of the most relevant environmental and economic concerns in agriculture. The evaluation should provide a full view on how the CAP instruments are performing against the objective of sustainable management of natural resources and climate action as regards sustainable water management in terms of quantity and quality. The evaluation will contain a description of the different ways in which the CAP instruments influence these parameters. In the assessment, specific attention will be put on the interrelation between agricultural legislation and the relevant environmental legislation that have an impact on water status (e.g. the Water Framework Directive, Nitrates Directive and the Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive).

The evaluation will cover all CAP instruments under the 2014-2020 CAP with a specific focus on the direct payments support schemes as set out in Regulation 1307/2013, the horizontal measures as set out in articles 12-15 and 91-101 of Regulation 1306/2013 as well as mainly the Rural Development measures of articles 14, 15, 17, 21, 22, 28, 29, 30, 34, 35, 42 and 46 of Regulation 1305/2013. The forestry measures under the Rural Development policy are part of a separate evaluation, the results of which must be given due consideration in this evaluation. The evaluation will also evaluate the internal coherence of the whole CAP with regard to sustainable water management.

The evaluation should identify and provide further understanding of strong and weak points of the various CAP instruments in terms of addressing the water challenges in agriculture. The lessons learned will feed into future relevant policy reflection.

The analysis will cover the period following the implementation of the 2013 CAP reform, from 1 January 2014 onwards. However, for direct payments, the reform started to be fully implemented only in 2015. The policies of the period 2007-2013 will be taken into account as a reference. All EU Member States will be covered.

Based on a solid and rigorous analysis the evaluation will have to provide answers for the five evaluation criteria effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and EU-added value in order to make founded judgements available and to put forward reasoned conclusions for the further development of the CAP in respect of a long term sustainable management of agriculture with the focus on water management.

## B. Better regulation

### Consultation of citizens and stakeholders

The aim of the envisaged consultations is to seek information and feedback from the relevant stakeholders and the wider public in relation to the effects of the CAP instruments on water. Stakeholders' views will complete and complement the analysis, and will help answer the evaluation questions comprehensively.

The consultations will be conducted by the Commission or external contractors supporting the Commission's work. In the context of the external study work, consultation activities will target the following main stakeholders: public authorities responsible for implementation of the CAP instruments in EU Member States including paying agencies, other agencies, authorities and services in charge of water related policies, bodies delivering farm advisory services, farmers and farmers' organisations, academia and experts as well as NGOs and other relevant civil society organisations in the field of water issues. These consultation activities will mainly take the form of surveys and interviews.

The Expert Group on Monitoring and Evaluating the CAP will be requested to provide information on possible relevant activities at Member State level and arrangements set up for collecting baseline data and for monitoring and evaluating CAP instruments. The Expert Group will also be consulted at the beginning of the open internet-based public consultation, i.e. in the first semester of 2019.

An internet-based public consultation in relation to practical experience with the implementation and the effects of the CAP instruments on water management will be conducted between July and September 2019 and made available on the ['Have your Say' portal](#)). The questionnaire will be available in all EU languages; replies can be made in any of the 24 EU languages.

A presentation and discussion with the representatives from civil society in the context of the Civil Dialogue Groups gathering civil society representatives (for Direct Payments and Greening, for Environment and Climate change and for Rural Development) will be scheduled to receive feedback on the findings of the external evaluator to be used as input for the preparation of the evaluation Staff Working Document.

A Synopsis Report providing a summary of all the consultation activities will be annexed to the evaluation Staff Working Document.

## Data collection and methodology

*The evaluation will be built upon existing data [e.g. data provided by Member States, statistical information collected by the Commission such as the Farm Structure Survey, FADN (Farm Accounting Data Network) data, market data, Rural Development programmes, data on environmental and rural development indicators), data of the European Environment Agency (EEA) and its Water Information System for Europe (WISE) tool, the evaluation of the payment for agricultural practices beneficial for the climate and the environment under the CAP ("greening" of direct payments)] as well as on data to be collected by the contractor.*

*The impact assessment relating to the legislative proposal of the Commission will also be a useful source of information, taking account of the changes introduced with the adoption of Basic Regulations. The impact assessment which accompanies the legislative proposals for the [CAP beyond 2020](#) in the context of the next Multiannual Financial Framework will also be taken into account.*

*Other relevant information is available from the study "[Mapping and analysis of the implementation of the CAP](#)" with regard to the overall implementation context and choices of Member States in relation to the whole CAP.*

*An on-going study on the administrative burden of the CAP could provide complementary quantified information related to the implementation of the CAP instruments. A further valuable source of information will be the on-going [Fitness Check of the Water Framework Directive and the Floods Directive](#).*

*The Rural Development Programmes and their implementation reports should be a key source of information.*

*Also, the Commission Staff Working Document "[Agriculture and Sustainable Water Management in the EU](#)" of 2017 provides valuable information.*

*Any other relevant completed or on-going studies, projects and/or reports on the link between agriculture and water in the EU will be taken in account such as statistical data, reports and maps from e.g. EUROSTAT, Joint Research Centre, European Court of Auditors, EEA, etc.*

*The evaluators should substantiate their findings with sound and quantified evidence and analysis for each of the CAP instruments, indicating any limitations of the value or soundness of the results obtained and supporting the quantitative evidence collected with a well-reasoned qualitative assessment.*