Implementation of the CAP greening in the EU: state of play and first explorations on its environmental effects

DG Environment
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Outline of the presentation

1. Greening implementation state of play
2. Current work on the assessment of the achievement of the environmental objectives
3. MTR of the biodiversity strategy
1. Greening implementation state of play

This version does not include provisional results from the monitoring data presented in Vilm on 16 March 2016. The Commission intends to publish an analysis of the final data on its website before the summer.

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/direct-support/greening/index_en.htm
Ecological Focus Areas

Possible collective implementation of EFAs: NL and PL

Forest exemption: EE, FI, LV, SE
Number of Member States selecting each EFA type
ESPG designated in Natura 2000 / Total PG in Natura 2000
2. Current work on the assessment of the achievement of environmental objectives
Non-Governmental Organisations

*European Environmental Bureau study*
*(Institute for European Environmental Policies):* Green direct payments: implementation choices of nine Member States and their environmental implications

*Landscape Infrastructure and Sustainable Agriculture (LISA) Study report 2014*
*(Institute for Agroecology and Biodiversity) (IFAB)*
Commission on-going Greening review

**Context**
1. Ongoing simplification of the CAP
2. REFIT exercise

**Commitment by the Commission on the greening**
1. 2014 declaration by the Commission to evaluate the ecological focus areas (EFAs) experience 1 year - administrative burden for national authorities and producers, simplification potential - level playing field and EFA’s impact on the EU production potential.

2. **Other elements of greening** to be considered
3. Technical changes should be applicable as soon as possible i.e. as of claim year 2017 and be known in time for farmers' to take production decisions for 2017.

**State of play**
1. Roadmap published, public consultation completed
2. On-going analysis (monitoring data, contributions to the questionnaire, ...)


By 31 March next year, the Commission will have to present an evaluation report on the implementation of EFAs,

- Legal basis: Article 46(1) of Regulation No 1307/2013 (direct payments basic act).
- The report will be accompanied, where appropriate, by a proposal for a legislative act proposing to increase the percentage of arable land concerned by the EFAs from 5% to 7%.
CAP evaluation

- First time **covering both Pillars**
- Initial Commission report - first results on the performance of the CAP - to EP and Council **by 31 December 2018**.
- Second report including an assessment of the performance of the CAP **by 31 December 2021**. "..."
CAP evaluation

- The performance of the CAP has to be measured against the general objectives:
  (a) viable food production
  (b) sustainable management of natural resources and climate action, with a focus on greenhouse gas emissions, biodiversity, soil and water;
  (c) balanced territorial development

- Specific CAP objectives include:
  - Provide environmental public goods;
  - Pursue climate change mitigation and adaptation
CAP evaluation

- CAP mapping and analysis (on going): will address the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of greening measure

- Framework contract where more targeted studies might be supported
3. Conclusions of the MTR of the biodiversity strategy
MTR Biodiversity strategy: Commission

- Authorities and stakeholders in MS make full use of the biodiversity support instruments under the Rural Development Programmes

- Maximise biodiversity benefits under the greening element, in particular with regards to Ecological Focus Areas

- Analyse reasons for disparities in the Member States' take-up of biodiversity measures, with a view to applying lessons learned in the next CAP reviews
MTR Biodiversity strategy: Council conclusions

- Member States fully use all the biodiversity instruments offered by the CAP

- Commission to fully evaluate the effects of the CAP on biodiversity and identify with the MS concrete solutions to ensuring adequate integration of biodiversity in the further development of the CAP and its financial instruments

- Commission and MS to fully implement the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
MTR Biodiversity strategy: EP Resolution

- assess effectiveness of greening measures and relevant CAP RDP measures → MTR of the CAP;
- make better use of existing CAP and cohesion policy instruments to assist farmers and forestry operators in achieving biodiversity targets;
- sustainable use of plant genetic resources, traditional agricultural varieties;
- publish data on MS permitting the use of pesticides and fertilisers in EFAs;
- make public the justifications of MS for their greening choices;
- support to environmentally harmful activities to go to sustainable agricultural practices and biodiversity
Conclusions

- EU Biodiversity Strategy backed by EP and Council

- Greening:
  1. Current implementation of EFAs: impact to address biodiversity losses still to be evaluated
  2. Greening to bring changes in agricultural practices? Indirect positive effects on biodiversity?
  3. Issue of ESPG
Thank you for your attention!