



Institute for  
European  
Environmental  
Policy

# Result based payments for resource efficiency?

Clunie Keenleyside

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## Looking at result-based schemes

- A well-kept secret?
- Key differences from management-based payments
- Environmental objectives, indicators and €€€
- Choosing indicators
- How would you use RBPS to improve resource efficiency?





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:

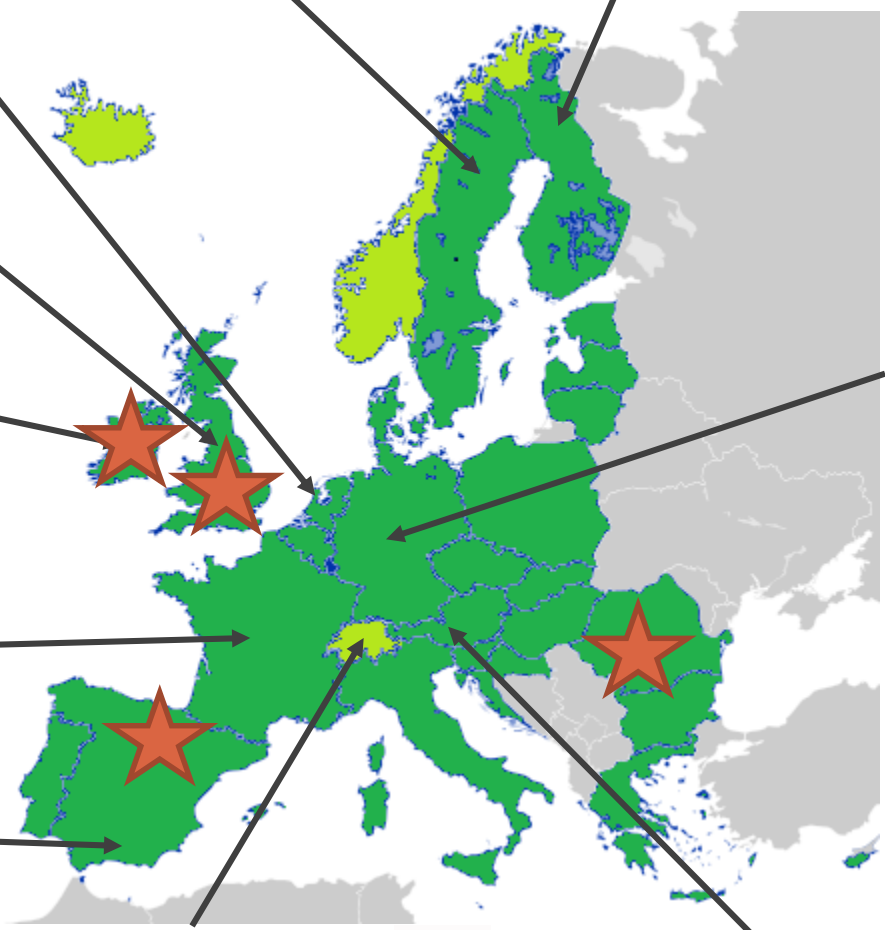
Harrier nest protection  
in arable fields  
Grassland birds

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.



## *well-designed*

# Comparison with / management-based schemes

RBPS		MBPS
✓	clearly defined objectives for specific environmental services from farmland	(✓)
✓	targeted effectively (at geographical zones, farm types, habitats, species)	(✓/X)
✓	€ for presence of <b>measurable indicators</b>	X
X	€ (flat rate) for prescribed farm management	✓
✓	If EAFRD rules apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CAP baseline for payment calculation</li><li>• €/hectare/annum</li><li>• 5 year contracts</li></ul>	✓

# Environmental objectives, indicators, €€€

First step is to define the specific, targeted environmental outcome of the scheme – this is the **objective**

Land managers are paid for *measurable* **indicators** of this **objective**

Why is it so important to have really good indicators?

- it is rarely feasible to measure the objective directly
- if the indicator is not specifically designed to ‘fit’ the objective the environmental outcome may be quite different (and undesirable?)
- farmers and paying agencies use the same indicators
- If there are no suitable indicators a result-based approach is not feasible

Choosing effective and reliable indicators





representative of  
the targeted  
environmental  
objective



easily identifiable  
and occurring  
consistently in  
targeted farmland

measurable using  
a simple  
methodology at  
reasonable cost



sensitive to  
agricultural  
management but  
otherwise stable



unlikely to be  
influenced by  
external factors  
beyond the control  
of the land  
manager



not easily  
achieved by  
means other than  
agricultural  
management



## How could you use RBPS to improve resource efficiency?

- defining specific, detailed objectives?
  - for soil?
  - for water?
  - at what scale?
  - maintenance or improvement?
- designing indicators?
  - data and skills needed?
  - how would farmers and paying agencies measure the indicators?
  - setting payments rates?
- involving the land managers
  - benefits for the business
  - explaining (and listening)
  - ‘hand holding’, feedback and evaluation





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# Thank you

Further information:

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

<http://www.ieep.eu/publications/2015/06/results-based-agri-environment-schemes-new-report-and-guidance-handbook-available>

[www.ieep.eu](http://www.ieep.eu)



@IEEP\_eu

[ckeenleyside@ieep.eu](mailto:ckeenleyside@ieep.eu)