

3rd Thematic Group meeting Resource Efficient Rural Economy

Workstrand 1: Preliminary findings from the EU level overview of RDP support to resource efficiency

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Aim and state-of-play



Aim:

- Overview of how **soil and water resource efficiency** has been approached at EU level and supported through EAFRD through the **RDPs**

Content:

- How RDPs deal with resource efficiency of soils and water in terms of content, focus and programming

Sources:

- (limited) secondary literature on RDP implementation choices

Resource efficiency in RDP programming

Soil nutrients

Focus Areas 4B and 4C

- No breakdown allocation available per FA

Targets:

- Northern EU MS, the UK, EE and AT set targets beyond EU average
- PT, IT, GR, PL, SK, SI and LV between 20 and 30%
- FR, DE and Benelux below EU average

Expenditure:

- BG, PL, AT and RO smaller shares
- CZ, AT and N-W EU MS allocate 2/3 of their budget

Water availability

Focus Areas 4B

- 96% of RDPs

Target:

- 15.1% of agricultural land
- 4.2% of forest land

Focus Area 5A

- Less 50% of RDPs selected 5A

Target:

- 15.3% of EU irrigated land
- IT, DE, PL, PT CY beyond 10%
- ES, AT, HU between 5% and 10%
- UK, FR and GR less than 5%

Soil carbon

Focus Area 5E

- 80% of RDPs

Target:

- 2% of agricultural and forest land
- EE, UK, MT and BE between 15% and 5%
- Most EU MS between 1% and 5%, with PL, GR, BU, CZ and SK beyond 1%

Expenditure:

- PT largest budget for 5E
- Most EU MS allocated between 6 and 2%

Resource efficiency in RDP programming: measures mix

Priority 4:

- Most MS activated a mix including M10, M13, M11
- Coupled with M8 and M4
- 1% spent on M16, M1 and M2

Focus Area 5A:

- 95% of spending is on M4
- 2% on M16, while 1% each went to M1 and M2
- All MS (except HU) have activated a mix of M4, M1 and M2
- Estonia supports only M2, while CY significant use of M10

Focus Area 5E:

- More than 70% allocated to M8
- Approx. 20% to M10 and M13
- 3% to M4, 1% to M1 and M2
- BE, IE, CZ, HU, LV, PL and RO selected almost only M8
- Most MS used a mix of M8, M16, M10, M2 and M1
- DE, FR, GR and the UK used M4



Resource efficiency in RDP implementation*

Soil and nutrients

- **Agri-environment-climatic measures (M10)** most relevant to support sustainable agricultural practices (BG, FI, Brittany - FR)
- In some instances, M10 is **coupled with non-productive investments (M4.4)** (BG, Emilia-Romagna - IT, FI and Brittany – FR)
- **Investments in physical assets (M4)** also relevant to enhance soil nutrients (BG, Extremadura – ES and Brittany – FR)
- **Organic farming (M11)** used to reduce chemical inputs to land to improve water quality
- **Knowledge transfer (M1) and advice (M2)** (Extremadura – ES, NL, SI, North-Rhine Westphalia – DE, Scotland – UK)

Water availability

- **Investments in physical assets (M4)** especially in relation to water saving irrigation systems (BG, Emilia-Romagna – IT, Extremadura, ES) or to improve water use and reduce pollution in the food and drink industry (DE)
- BG, Emilia-Romagna – IT and Extremadura – ES use M4 to ensure more efficient use of water, while DE uses them to support improve storage of silage, slurry or manure, or to reduce ammonia
- In the NL, **M4.4 are used to complement agri-environment-climatic schemes (M10)** – BG, Emilia-Romagna – IT, FI and Brittany – FR
- **Agri-environment-climatic schemes (M10)** are both relevant to water availability and soil management. Few MS (SI and PL) explicitly reference M10 to address RBMPs

Soil carbon

- No compiled information is available on the implementation choices in RDPs to address specific soil carbon needs
- **Investments in forestry (M8)** appear to play an important role in addressing soil carbon (70% of EU-28 public expenditure allocated to M8 under FA 5E)
- **Agri-environment-climatic schemes (M10)** relevant to soil carbon, especially in Emilia-Romagna – IT and PL

*CAP evaluation (2016) included analysis on a cluster of MS – BU, Extremadura (ES), North-Rhine Westphalia (DE), FI, Brittany (FR), Emilia-Romagna (IT), NL, PL, SI and the UK.

Next steps



Thank you for your attention!

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