

FINANCIAL SUPPORT THROUGH EAGGF-DIRECTIVE 1257/1999 AND NATIONAL MEASURES

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SOILS AND WATERS

Surface and groundwater contamination from agriculture differ seasonally and regionally.

Diffuse inputs from agriculture are mainly concentrated on areas with high life stock densities, special crops, light sandy soils, high groundwater tables, drained areas.

N-surplus often are too high and pesticide application still to be improved. Measures taken since last decade are not sufficient

GOALS OF NEW GERMAN AGRICULTURAL POLICY

- Precautionary consumer protection
- Quality safety of goods and services
- Sustainability in terms of economy, ecology and social welfare are:
 - no robber farming
 - nature resources protection, especially soils and water
 - switch to environment-friendly agricultural production: life stock breeding (animal welfare and less densities), multi-chain crop rotation, eco-farming, precision farming, other activities than agriculture (multi-functional agriculture)

CAP AND WFD LINKS

CAP can contribute to implementing WFD, programmes and funds are already available and rural development legislation is under discussion (Midterm-review)

EC REG. 1257/1999 RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Council Regulation (EC) no 1257/1999 on Support for Rural Development from the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF) are:

1. Agri-Environment (Art. 22-24). Support for agricultural production methods to protect the environment and maintain the countryside: protection and improvement of natural resources, extensification of farming, low-intensity pasture systems. The support is 450-900 €/ha
2. Payments to compensate cost incurred by restrictions on agricultural use through EU environmental protection rules (Art. 16). The support is up to 200 €/ha
3. Compensation in less-favoured areas to keep agriculture there and improve the environment (Art. 13,20)
4. Promoting the adaptation and development of rural areas (Art. 33)
 - agricultural water resources management
 - development and improvement of infrastructure
 - protection of the environment in connection with agriculture, forestry and landscape conservation and animal welfare
5. Investments in agricultural holdings to improve natural environment (Art. 4)
6. Training (Art. 9)

NATIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAMMES AND MEASURES

1. Common task to improve agricultural structures and coastal protection (GAK-act). Federal Government support 60%, federal states 40%:
 - investment for holdings: stables, slurry containers, machines; conversion to eco-farming
 - Compensation in less-favoured areas: GAP, lifem stock density <2LU/ha
 - Extensification of arable production and permanent crops: green cover during winter, direct seed drilling, non ploughing methods, environment-friendly slurry application and plant protection measures, extensive grassland use.
2. Conversion of arable land into grassland
3. set-aside for 10 years

Water management measures like: river bank strips adjacent to waters, restoration of surface waters; sewage treatment plants in rural areas, agricultural water resources management.

Forestry program is: forestation and forest measures.

They are also Federal states programmes and measures

RESTRICTIONS ON AGRI-ENVIRONMENT

- No support within legal bindings
- Measures must exceed GAP
- Duration 5 years minimum
- Payment to holdings on voluntary basis
- Measures being incorporated in rural development plans, notified by COM

TRANSFORMATION OF PROGRAMMES BY PROGRAMMING (ART. 40 EC REG. 1257/1999)

Procedure:

- Annual update of national programmes (GAK)
- Update of rural development plans if necessary
- Notification
- Transformation in the Federal states

In future:

- development of GAK-act to better meet demands of WFD
- development of EC Reg. 1257/1999, especially after 2006 as part of CAP

CONCLUSIONS

Rural development plans and programmes of measures under the WFD should be combined (on river basin level); therefore cooperation between authorities involved is necessary. Codes of Good Agricultural Practice have to be defined at EU-level at best to cut binding measures from compensatory measures in the agricultural sector. Instruments and funding are – in principle – available.

CAP Financing:

1st pillar: Common market measures, e.g.

Direct payments: cereals, oil seeds, beef/sheep, set aside, others

Voluntary on EC-level: modulation

2nd pillar: Rural Development Reg. 1257/1999:

Investments in holdings, Agri-Environment; less-favoured areas; forestry; others

EC Proposal: Mandatory: modulation, cross-compliance, farm-audit