



State of play of European Commission initiatives

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RN Steering Group meeting of 26/05/2020

Topics

- Corona virus emergency response, including the newly proposed measure
- Green Deal
- Long term Vision for rural areas
- CAP reform and CAP plans preparation
- Transition

Corona virus: emergency response

- New rural development measure
- Flexibility in the use of financial instruments under rural development
- Higher advances of payments
- Higher state aid possible for farmers and food processing companies
- CAP flexibility:
 - Extension of deadline for CAP payment applications
 - Fewer farm on-the-spot checks
 - MS can review their decisions of transfer between 1st and 2nd pillar

Corona virus: new rural development measure

- To cope with liquidity problems of farmers and SMEs processing agricultural products
- Lump sum of maximum EUR 5.000 per farmer and EUR 50 000 per SME
- Payments shall be made to the selected beneficiaries by 31/12/2020.
- Maximum 1% of the EAFRD contribution to each RDP
- Large margin of flexibility for MS to target its implementation

Green Deal initiatives: Farm to Fork

- A healthy food environment which makes the healthy and sustainable choice the easy choice
- Food labelling to empower consumers to choose healthy and sustainable diets
- Stepping up the fight against food waste
- Research and innovation
- Promoting the global transition

Green Deal initiatives: Biodiversity Strategy

- Establishment of protected areas
- Restoration of degraded ecosystems at land and sea
- Nutrient losses reduced by at least 50% by 2030
- 20 billion EUR/year for biodiversity
- EU in a leading position in the world in addressing the global biodiversity crisis

Long-term vision for rural areas

Why?

- To develop a broadly shared vision and keep rural areas high in the political agenda.

How?

- Commissioner Wojciechowski + Commissioner Ferrerira + VP Suica
- In close consultation with people living in rural areas, local and regional authorities.
- Should address demography but should also go beyond and **embrace all aspects relevant for rural**

When?

- Public consultation Sep/2020, Communication 1st half 2021 **(indicative!)**

State of play CAP reform proposals

Council

- HR presidency: progress report + revised text
- RD main issues:
 - environmental/climate ring-fencing
 - indicator system and performance clearance/review

European Parliament

- Various technical meetings COMAGRI/ENVI
- Amendments expected in plenary on Oct/2020

Preparation of CAP Strategic Plans

- Informal communication with MS on SWOT elements and CAP Plan preparation are ongoing since last summer
- 2 capacity building events for MS organized
- Evaluation helpdesk guidance on the ex-ante evaluation of CAP Plans
- Ongoing analysis of informally received draft SWOT/parts of SWOT
- Some MS are already informally discussing possible interventions

State of play transitional regulation proposal

- Council position adopted, 1 year transition
- European Parliament, clear preference for 2 years transition (in particular if MFF/CAP proposal not approved by Oct/2020)
- 3-4 trilogues expected in 2020 (first trilogue happened on 20/05)
- Objective is to reach an agreement by end of June (could cover only technical elements in case of no decision on MFF)

Thank you



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