



What's new in State aid?

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Overview

- **General Block exemption Regulation (EU) N.651/2014 (GBER)** – targeted revision to published 2021 – two revisions published
- **Guidelines on State aid for climate, environmental protection and energy 2022 (“CEEAG”)** – preparation after public consultation 2021
- **Commission’s evaluation of the rules** of the 2014 State aid framework applicable in the agricultural and forestry sectors and in rural areas (11.5.2021 SWD(2021) 107 final)
- **New State aid Framework 2022 for agriculture in preparation**

Rural Development and the GBER

- State aid rules apply to support under the EAFRD for **non-agricultural production** (production "outside Article 42 TFEU")
- Support may not be granted before **State aid clearance** obtained
- Exception: **de minimis** support – not considered State aid
- Clearance: Commission Decision **or** exemption under a Block Exemption Regulation


Guidelines on State aid for climate, environmental protection and energy 2022

- Public consultation finished on the draft revised Guidelines on State aid for environmental protection and energy 2014-2020; the present guidelines expire end 2021
- An **enlargement of the scope** of the Guidelines to new areas (e.g. clean mobility, biodiversity) and all technologies that can deliver the **Green Deal**.
- Up to 100% aid intensity in some cases
- **Agricultural production and processing** under the scope; however
- No application on **biodiversity enhancement measures in agriculture** where covered by other State aid rules (point 12 c of the draft Guidelines).

Evaluation of State aid in the agricultural and forestry sectors and in rural areas

- **The ABER and the 2014 State aid guidelines** for agriculture, forestry and rural areas were both set to expire in 2020, but (in line with the rural development rules under the CAP) have been extended to 2022.
- **Performance of the current framework** against five criteria: effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and EU added value.
- **Satisfactory overall result** but room for improvement when revising the instruments:
- **European Green Deal** ('farm to fork' and biodiversity strategies) and the future **Regulation on CAP strategic plans**, including its enhanced environmental ambition

Revision of State aid instruments for Agriculture

- ABER and Agricultural Guidelines need to be adapted to the new CAP Strategic Plans – present rules prolonged until end 2022
- New Delivery Model – result oriented, flexible 
 - Can be challenging to the State aid approach
- Need to balance competition vs. CAP objectives
- Agricultural vs. other products – difference in State aid treatment
- Internal preparation – targeted public consultation – adoption

Thank you

