



## European Rural Networks' Steering Group

# Recent and planned network activities of the ENRD Evaluation Helpdesk

Hannes WIMMER, Team Leader

**15th Meeting of the European Rural Networks' Steering Group**  
Online-meeting, 25 May 2021



POWERED BY



# Main priorities in 2021



Supporting the Ex post of RDPs 2014-2022

Ex-ante of CAP Strategic Plans

Better data for evaluating the CAP

Better planning of evaluation activities

Analysing RDP achievements and impacts



## Supporting the Ex post of RDPs 2014-2022



How to assess RDP effects against a changing context?



How to better use FADN data?



Additional evidence to compliment common indicators?



Obtaining data for assessing impacts on non-farming sectors?

Set of 10 ex-post evaluation tools published

Yearly capacity building events 2020 on ex-post evaluations

SFC template for ex-post evaluation





## Ex-ante of CAP Strategic Plans



Update of ex-ante tools taking into account Farm2fork and EU2030 Biodiversity strategy ?

11 ex-ante evaluation tools published (currently updated)



Yearly capacity building events module 'ex-ante-evaluation'

Yearly capacity building events 2021 in Member States – module on ex-ante  
June – Sept. 2021



## Better data for evaluating the CAP

30+ EU/MS-level projects/initiatives  
Mainly implemented within the Horizon 2020 framework



... potential for M&E of the CAP?





# Better data for evaluating the CAP



Connecting Rural Europe

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## TOOLS

- Project Database
- Share your Rural Story
- LAG Database
- CLLD Partner Search
- LEADER Resources
- NRN Toolkit
- myENRD
- Evaluation Knowledge Bank

## Evaluation Knowledge Bank

### Grassland mowing detection

### Vegetation status indicator

### Agricultural practices monitoring

#### Cultivated Crop Type Map

This Sentinel-based Earth Observation (EO) product is a thematic map that discriminates crop types or crop types. The map is provided as a shapefile and the final legend (number and variety of crop types) vary depending on the country and on the use of the map. The tool is designed to assess compliance with the crop diversification action of greening.

There are various supporting tools developed to visualise available data, the extraction and management of data, user manuals and learning material.

- (+) Visualisation
- (+) Manuals
- (+) Learning

#### Link/references:

General: <http://esa-sen4cap.org/content/eo-products>  
 Technical: [http://esa-sen4cap.org/sites/default/files/Sen4CAP\\_DDF\\_v1.2\\_CropType.pdf](http://esa-sen4cap.org/sites/default/files/Sen4CAP_DDF_v1.2_CropType.pdf)

#### Relevance to monitoring and evaluation of the CAP:

Cultivated crop type maps have been used, together with other EO products, to assess compliance or support the monitoring of crop diversification measures by mapping the number of crops or the percentage distribution of crops to be compliant with regulation thresholds at the farm-level.

Other relevant applications (not explicitly demonstrated in the project but possible) are the monitoring of:

- permanent grassland measures by contributing the mapping of 'grassland' or 'permanent grassland' classes at the farm-level or the national scale
- EFA by providing the total area of catch crops (EFA-catch crop) or of nitrogen-fixing crops (EFA-nitrogen) and/or fallow land (EFA – land lying fallow) at farm-level
- land abandonment, by contributing to an indicator of well-maintained or not abandoned fields

Cultivated crop type maps can become essential evaluation tools. First, they can support evaluation by providing the detailed spatial allocation of crops more finely and precisely than CORINE for all farmers in an area, including beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries of

### Sen4CAP

Sentinels for Common  
Agricultural Policy



#### (+) Objectives

**Timeframe:** 2017-2020

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**Project website(s):** [Sen4CAP](#)

**Territorial coverage:** Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Italy, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Romania, Slovenia, Spain

#### Relevant CAP Objectives

- Contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as sustainable energy
- Foster sustainable development and efficient management of natural resources such as water, soil and air
- Contribute to the protection of biodiversity, enhance ecosystem services and preserve habitats and landscapes
- Knowledge, innovation and digitalisation in agriculture and rural areas

#### Data Collection Systems used

- IACS/LPIS

#### Associated Evaluation Approaches

- Desk research
- Data analysis
- Impact evaluation analysis

Thematic Working Group 9 (Jan-Nov. 2021): Research projects to support better data for evaluating the CAP

Good Practice Workshop no. 15 (March 2021):

Improving data management and information systems for the purpose of CAP evaluation

Yearly capacity building events 2021 in Member States – module on data (June – Sept. 2021)



## Better planning of evaluation activities



Experiences in design and implementation of evaluation plans

[Good Practice Workshop no. 17: A journey through evaluation plans](#), 28-29 June 2021



Governance and content of evaluation activities

[Good Practice Workshop no. 18](#) (Oct. 2021 tbc)



Communication of evaluation results

[Yearly capacity building events 2021 in Member States –June – Sept. 2021](#)



## Analysing RDP achievements and impacts



Assessment of the Progress in Implementing the Evaluation Plans of RDPS 2014-2020. Chapter 2 of the AIRS Submitted in 2020

Published report  
(April 2021)



Upcoming assessment of the Progress in Implementing the Evaluation Plans of RDPS 2014-2020. Chapter 2 of the AIRS Submitted in 2021

To be published in  
Q4/2021



# Dissemination

EUROPEAN  
EVALUATION  
HELPDESK  
FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT



NUMBER 18 / APRIL 2021

## Rural Evaluation NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE EUROPEAN EVALUATION HELPDESK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

### Improving evidence-based evaluations in view of the ex post evaluation

The ex post evaluation is a critical milestone for all programmes as it allows for policy makers and citizens to take stock of the results and impacts of the programmes and provide valuable lessons to be carried over to future programming periods.

Although the ex post evaluation of rural development programmes (RDPs) 2014-2020 are already slowly beginning to prepare and making sure that they will have the data needed for robust evaluations. Therefore, last year's EvaluationWORKS 2020 yearly capacity building events focused on improving evidence-based evaluations in view of the ex post. The workshops were an opportunity to collect and clarify open issues, raise awareness of available support, and help Managing Authorities and evaluators to prepare for the upcoming activities related to the ex post evaluation. Furthermore, these workshops served as a reflection point and first look for screening data gaps and data availability issues for future programming periods of data management systems for the next programming period.



**NEWS**  
Evaluating RDPs 2014-2020 and the EU's contribution for programming, monitoring and evaluation  
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**GOOD PRACTICES**  
The 13th Good Practice Workshop: Building the counterfactual RDD in a competitive and stable agricultural sector  
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**BACK TO BASICS**  
Adopting the evaluation design in view of CAP-2020 Questions to guide decisions for RDP evaluations  
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**EVENTS**  
Upcoming and Past Events Calendar  
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Newsletters / Working document / factsheets / Member States completed evaluations

EUROPEAN EVALUATION HELPDESK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

## WHAT IS THE NATIONAL INVENTORY REPORT (NIR) AND WHY IS IT ESSENTIAL FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF GHG EMISSIONS?

FACTSHEET OF THE EUROPEAN EVALUATION HELPDESK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT - DECEMBER 2020

### REPORTING ON GHG EMISSIONS IN EUROPE

Each Member State and the UK submit to the UNFCCC an annual inventory which is an estimate of GHGs from sources or sinks in its territory. A National Inventory Report (NIR) includes a National Inventory Table of GHG emissions by source and following a Common Reporting Format with a pre-defined structure. First information on greenhouse gas emissions for the preparation of national emissions that, for EU Member States may be presented in detail information used in the estimations (include information), the data sources, or for each one of the six sources are (1) industrial processes and (2) industrial processes and (3) land-use, land-use change, and (4) other. Finally, the information, including reconciliation with the previous inventory. All its inventory including its NIR and GIE UNFCCC depositing. For all EU Member States, information and its Emission Inventory.

### WHY IS THE NIR IMPORTANT FOR MANAGING AUTHORITIES AND EVALUATORS?

The NIR is very important for rural Managing Authorities and evaluators and the sectors, sources and active emissions and (2) it facilitates an assessment and renewal trends. This knowledge makes it possible to plan their activities at cost-effective mitigation policies best practices and mitigation fact progress towards policy goals. It evaluates because it expands it between environmental policies pollution and provides a perfect fit in impact modelling exercises.

Figure 1 is extracted from the Italian term GHG emissions based from it

Working steps of the evaluation:  
1. Collection of relevant indicators for assessment

EUROPEAN EVALUATION HELPDESK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

## EVALUATING HUNGARIAN GROSS NUTRIENT BALANCE DATA THROUGH A COUNTERFACTUAL APPROACH BASED ON HISTOGRAMS

FACTSHEET OF THE EUROPEAN EVALUATION HELPDESK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT - MARCH 2021

### A DELICATE BALANCING ACT

Water and soil quality make up the foundation for all agricultural activity as these vital resources are two of the most important inputs to ensuring not only sustainable agriculture, but also biodiversity and food security. Farm and land management can play a vital role in ensuring that the delicate balancing act of protecting both soil and water are achieved to ensure long term sustainable agriculture and a prosperous society. Evaluating these conditions and practices are essential to make sure management practices are fostering the necessary balance of nutrients, while protecting water quality in the EU's Common Monitoring and Evaluation System (CMES) of the rural development policy this is monitored through both impact and control indicators including L11 Water quality and C40 Water quality.

### USING HISTOGRAMS TO GAIN DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF EXTREMES

The purpose of this thematic evaluation was to achieve a better assessment of C40 and L11 or gross nutrient balance (GNB) on agricultural land. In the case of Hungary, national balance levels often mask the shade of extreme positive and negative dissolved nitrogen (DN) and dissolved phosphorus (DP) data, both of which may cause environmental risks. Therefore, the evaluator has used a counterfactual approach with the calculation of histograms. The assessment period for the comparison was 2010-2014 and 2015-2019. Histograms have been calculated at parcel-level for DN and DP data, for both RDP-supported and non-supported control areas during these two time periods.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

Thematic Evaluation Paper 2020 Effectiveness and efficiency of water management interventions  
Available from 04/2021 on <https://www.rural-eval.eu/en/eu-rdd-instruments-projects>

Figure 1. Supported DAA areas compared to an optimal histogram presenting the target status (DN)

Source: GWIS Ltd, 2021

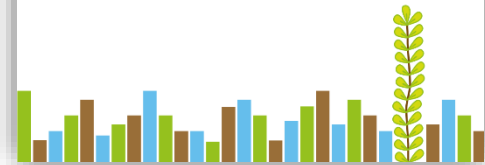
plot, type of plant, crop, and applied organic and chemical fertilizer) of the supported areas was gathered from the National Food Chain Safety Office (NEMO). The collection and provision of agricultural data of the non-supported (control) areas was provided by the Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH). However, both databases lack data on the ratio of the removed crop residues, so the evaluator used the data in the national GNB calculation from Eurostat. In order to harmonize

Utvärderingsrapport 2018:1

## Utvärdering av stöd till utbyggnad av bredband

Delrapport 1

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# Thank You

DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

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