

1st Thematic Group Meeting
Resource Efficient Rural Economy

Why resource efficiency?

Themes for the Thematic Group

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Resource efficiency
“Doing more with less”

A global priority:

- Soils and water in the Global SDGs



A European Priority:

- Europe 2020
- Junker priorities
- Cork 2.0
- 7th EAP
- WFD
- CAP

SDG12– “sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources”

Junker - transition to a stronger and more circular economy where resources are used in a more sustainable way.

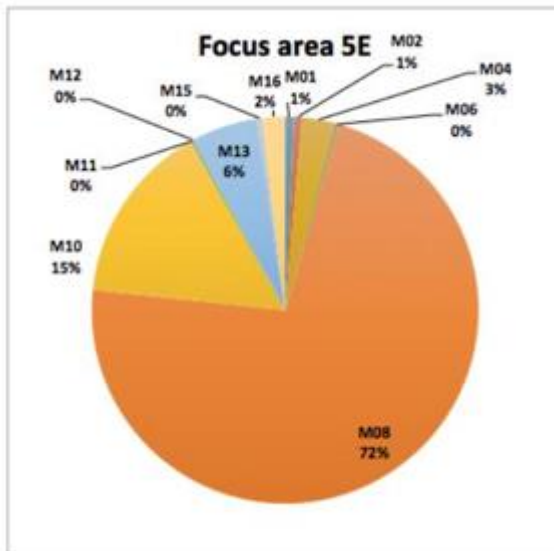
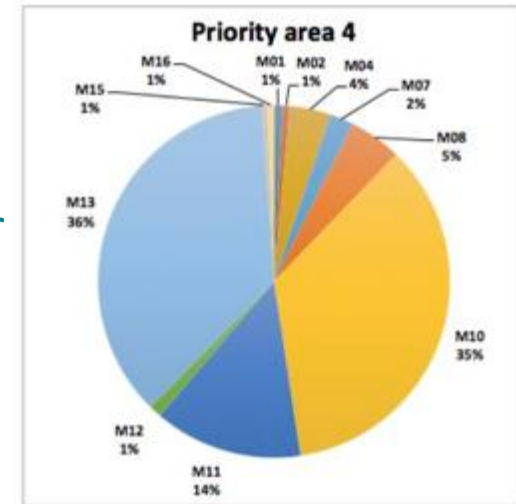
Cork 2.0 Point 5 – “sustainable management of natural resources”

CAP overarching objective – “sustainable use of natural resources and climate action”

Resource efficiency: a priority for EAFRD

Priority 4: restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems related to agriculture and forestry, particularly:

- FA 4b: improving water management, including fertiliser and pesticide management; and
- FA 4c: preventing soil erosion and improving soil management.

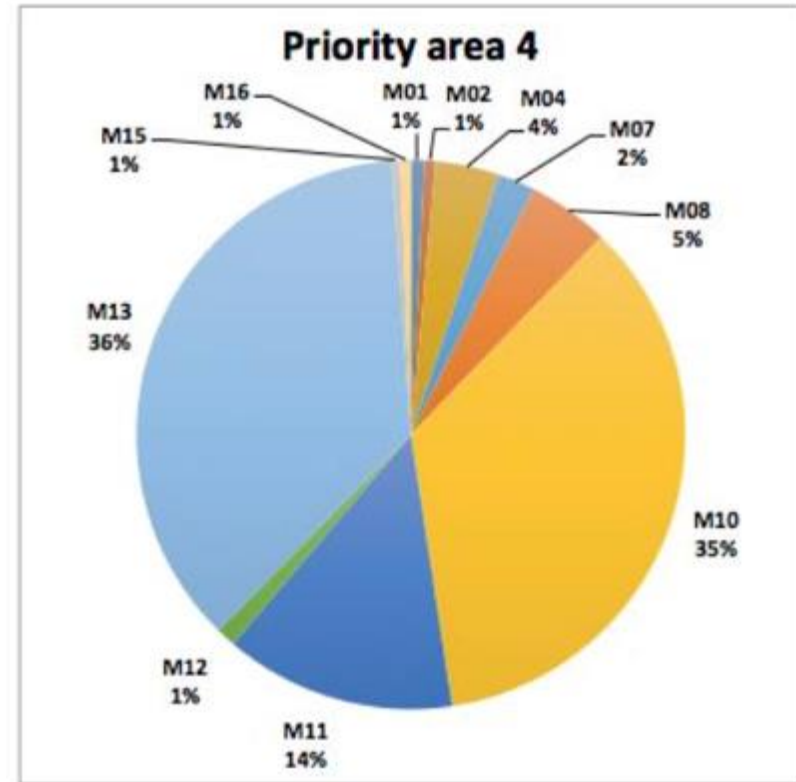


Priority 5: promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low carbon and climate resilient economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors:

- FA 5a: Increasing efficiency in water use by agriculture; and
- FA 5e: Fostering carbon conservation and sequestration in agriculture and forestry.

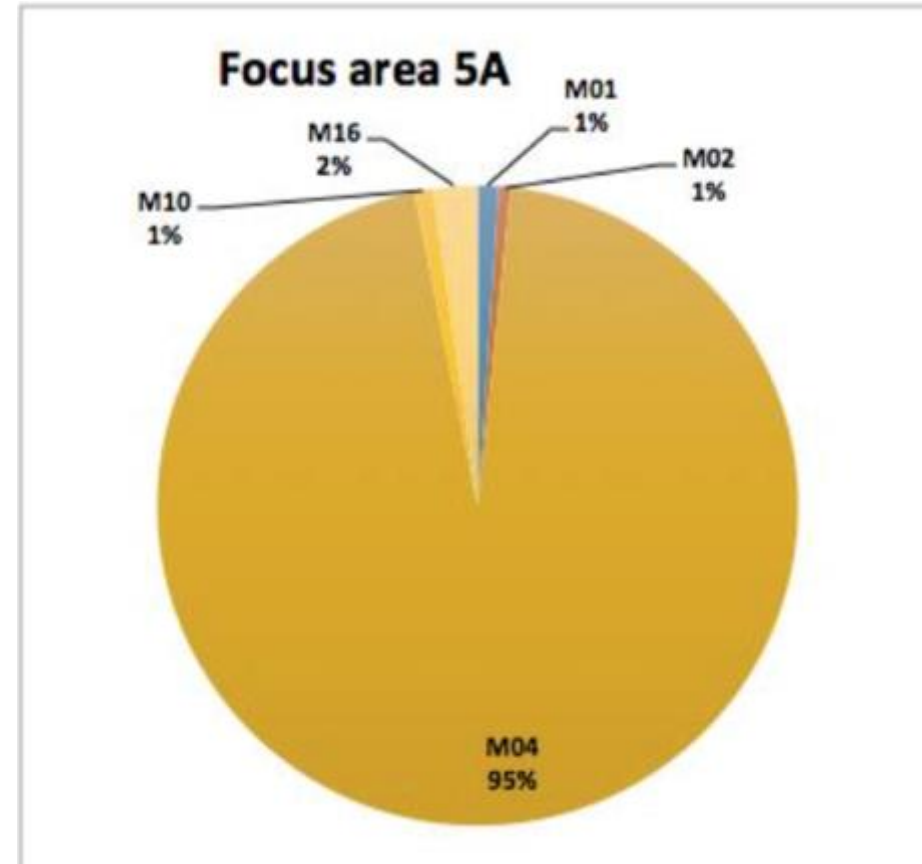
Measures used to deliver Priority Area 4 (Water and soil management)

- M13 - Payments to areas facing natural or other specific constraints
- M10 – Agri-environment-climate
- M11 – Organic farming
- M08 – Investments in forest areas + viability
- M04 – Investments in physical assets



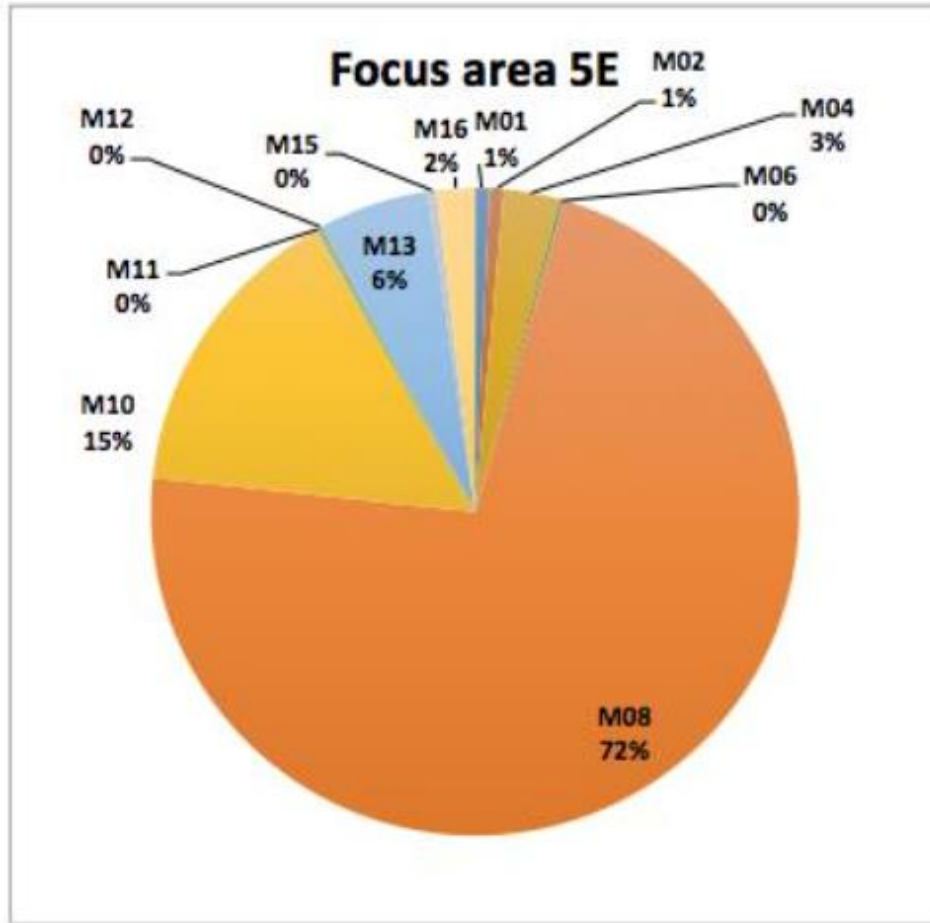
Measures used to deliver FA 5a (water efficiency)

- M04 – Investments in physical assets
- M16 – Cooperation
- M10 – Agri-environment-climate
- M01 – Knowledge transfer
- M02 – Advisory services



Measures used to deliver FA 5e (carbon conservation)

- M08 – Investments in forest areas + viability
- M10 – Agri-environment-climate
- M13 - Payments to areas facing natura other specific constraints
- M16 – Cooperation
- M04 – Investments in physical assets



T1: Soil and water quality

Importance:

- Continued degradation
- Health
- Finite nature of inputs
- Ensuring long term productivity
- *Finding cost reducing solutions*



Key issues highlighted by members ...

- Nutrient management, reducing run-off and salinization
- Managing fertilisers & pesticides
- Input reduction
- Precision farming
- Economic and sustainable nutrient and waste recycling

What RDPs can do:

- New infrastructure
- Application of nutrients
- Crop varieties
- Grazing density
- Landscape scale
- Knowledge and advice



Examples of beneficial practices (2014-2020)

- FI – Balanced use of nutrients plan and specific actions, wetland care and soil cover
- BG – Soil erosion control measure (AEC) inc. conversion to grassland, perennial cropping and buffer strips
- IT – Integrated production
- SL – Green cover on arable land in winter in water catchments, restriction on PPP use.

EIP-AGRI Focus groups

- Fertiliser efficiency
- Soil born diseases, soil organic matter, organic agriculture
- Water and agriculture
- Precision farming

Importance:

- Climate – droughts & floods
- Water catchments are rural
- High demand
- Water inefficiencies



Key issues highlighted by members ...

- Increasing water efficiency in all areas of Europe (e.g. BE, HU, PT, IT)
- Improve water retention in soils
- Develop efficient irrigation
- Coordination with WFD

What RDPs can do:

- Capture and store water
- Improve water infrastructure
- Reduce demand
- Management across catchments
- Restoration of natural systems



Examples of beneficial practices (2014-2020)

- ES – Improving water distribution networks
- BG - Improving or reconstructing irrigation infrastructure
- FR - Maintenance of the traditional bocage system
- UK(Sc) - Wetland management and lowland bog management
- BG, ES, IT – physical investments in water saving irrigation systems
 - IT – Farmer networks for more efficient water storage and distribution
 - IT – Update irrigation infrastructure
 - ES – Promote efficient use of irrigation water and energy (irrigation community

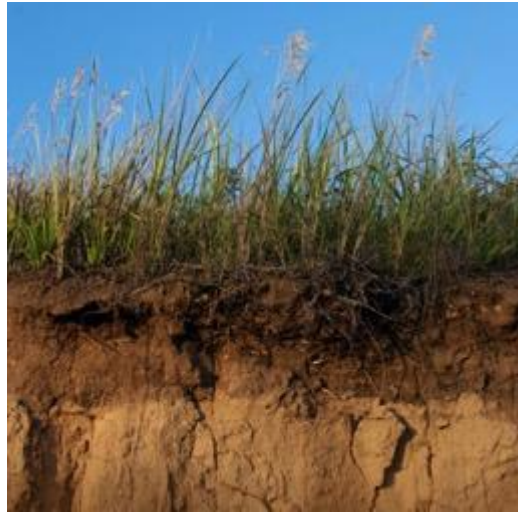
EIP-AGRI Focus groups

- Water and agriculture

T3: Carbon conservation and sequestration

Importance:

- Low carbon economy
- Sequestration & conservation (-LULUCF)
- Improved soils and productivity
- Opportunities: diversification; cascading



Key issues highlighted by members ...

Carbon management of soils:

- Reducing compaction;
 - Preventing erosion;
 - Carbon conservation
- Opportunities for the bio- and circular-economy
- Carbon dilemma (use vs conservation);
 - Recycling and reuse

What RDPs can do

- Low carbon and efficient machinery & processes
- Retention in soils and biomass
- Cooperation
- Capacity building



Examples of beneficial practices (2014-2020)

- BG – Support for extensive farming on HNV grassland
- UK+ES – Support for livestock reductions
- PL – Afforestation in agricultural and non-agric areas
- IT & ES – Farm business diversification to low carbon energy

EIP-AGRI Focus groups

- Fertiliser efficiency
- Soil organic matter in Mediterranean regions
- Organic farming

Resource efficient rural economy

Theme 1

Improving soil and
water quality

Theme 2

Improving water use
efficiency

Theme 3

Carbon conservation
and sequestration

- Efficient design and use of RDPs
- Improved targeting of measures
- Combining measures
- Aligning RDPs with other initiatives
- Join up between/within administrations
- Avoiding conflicts between P1 instruments and P2 measures
- Engaging land managers
- Digitisation / harnessing technology
- Communication

TG Added value

- Capacity building
- Identifying challenges and opportunities
- Sharing best practices and inspiring others
- Building synergies between P1 and RDPs
- The use of technology
- Understanding motivations
- Communicating benefits

Questions?

- Anything to add?
- Do you agree these are the right themes for the TG?
- Do we want to look at all three / could any be combined?



Specific challenges and opportunities for each theme to be discussed after coffee