

Survey: Main focus and areas of interest

- Better integration of water policy (WFD objectives) into the RDPs. For this purpose, an analysis of possibilities for better use of RDP measures dedicated to water is suggested;
- Guidelines on main water and soil sustainable management related objectives to be taken into consideration when designing EAFRD funded operations;
- More synergies between the different EU policies (for soil protection, water management and agriculture) and between RDP measures;
- Result-based approaches (AECM);
- Support schemes to increase soil carbon sequestration/conservation.

Survey: Recommendations to be addressed

1	Developing criteria to help fine tune RDPs towards more effective management of water and soil.
2	Developing approaches to improve the flexibility of schemes and measures to work in different contexts and that can adapt to changing conditions.
3	Improving the use of existing RDP measures through better design and implementation to address water and soil management.
4	Improving the monitoring and reporting of soil and water conditions and of the results achieved through resource efficient practices, to allow for a better targeting of RD support to the relevant areas.
5	Developing tailored advice packages to increase farmers' awareness and engagement.
6	Exploring the potential to have transitional support for farmers making a shift towards sustainable practices for the management of water and soil.

Draft TG objectives for discussion

1. Developing criteria to help fine tune RDPs towards more effective management of water and soil:
 - a. Res-eff proofing tool or checklist for MAs;
 - b. Res-eff toolkit for famers, linked to packages of management actions and advice
2. Improve design and rules of existing RDP measures (e.g. Collective approaches, RBPS)
 - Improve their flexibility to work in different contexts and adapt to changing conditions;
 - Increase uptake and implementation by farmers;
 - Guidance on potential flexibility of options available within RDPs for MAs.
3. Identify opportunities for effective implementation of nutrient management plans
4. Strengthen the coherence between relevant EU soil & water policies and how they can be implemented through RDP measures.
5. Improved monitoring and reporting of soil and water conditions