

Measure 224 – Natura 2000 payments

Basic Information:

Measure 224 – Natura 2000 payments

Programmed total public expenditure, 2007-2013 (EU 27): €98 million (of which €75 million EAFRD contribution).

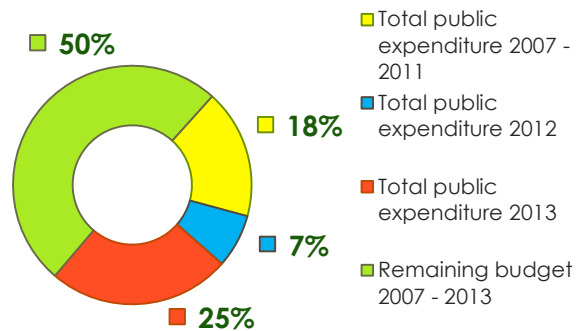
Actual total public expenditure, 2007 to 2013 (EU 27): €48.7 million or 50% of the programmed expenditure for 2007-2013. (Figure 1 shows the financial implementation up to 2013, whereas the output data presented cover up to 2012).

Definition of output indicators of the measure:

- 1) "Number of forest holdings, receiving aid in Natura 2000 area" – refers to the number of supported forest holdings (forest owners or associations thereof), facing additional costs and income foregone related to the restrictions on the use of forests and other wooded land in Natura 2000 areas.
- 2) "Supported forest land (ha) in Natura 2000 area" - refers to the total supported forest land in Natura 2000 areas, to compensate for the disadvantages related to these areas.



Figure 1:
Measure 224 total public expenditure 2007-2013 and remaining budget (EU 27)



Measure 224 – Number of forest holdings receiving aid from 2007 to 2012*

Figure 2:
Number of forest holdings receiving aid

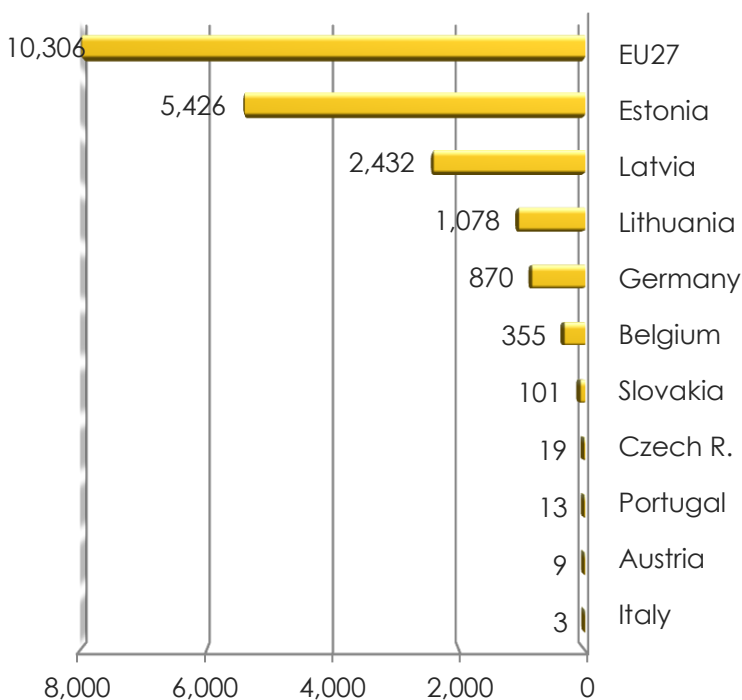
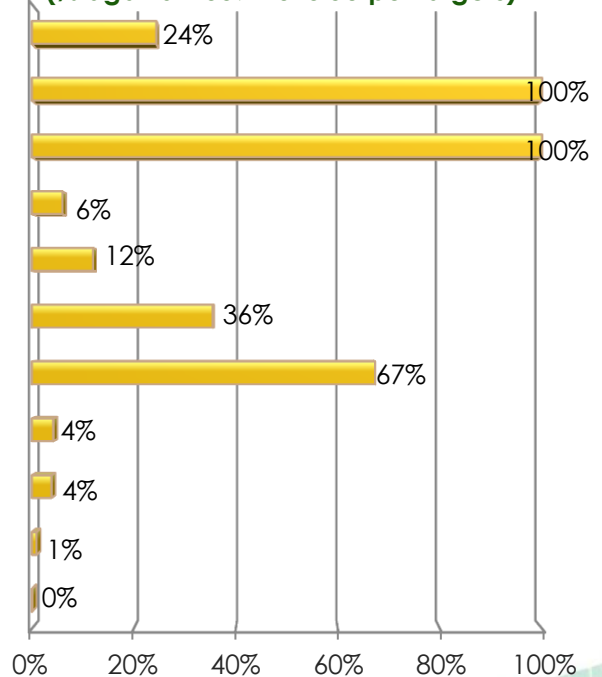


Figure 3:
Number of forest holdings receiving aid (% against 2007-2013 output targets)



*Data refer to the Member States for which information on the number of beneficiaries was available.

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- ❖ During the six years of implementation, nearly 10,300 forest holdings in Natura 2000 areas received support at EU 27 level through measure 224 (see figure 2). This number accounts for 24% of the overall number of forest holdings envisaged to receive aid for the period 2007-2013 (see figure 3).
- ❖ By 2012, Estonia had supported the largest number of forest holdings among the MS (5,426 forest holdings) accounting for 100% of the national declared target for the current programming period.
- ❖ Latvia follows in terms of number of beneficiaries supported (2,432 forest holdings, over 100% of the national 2007-2013 target).

Measure 224 – Supported forest land (ha) in Natura 2000 area from 2007 to 2012*

Figure 4:
Supported forest land in Natura 2000 area (hectares)

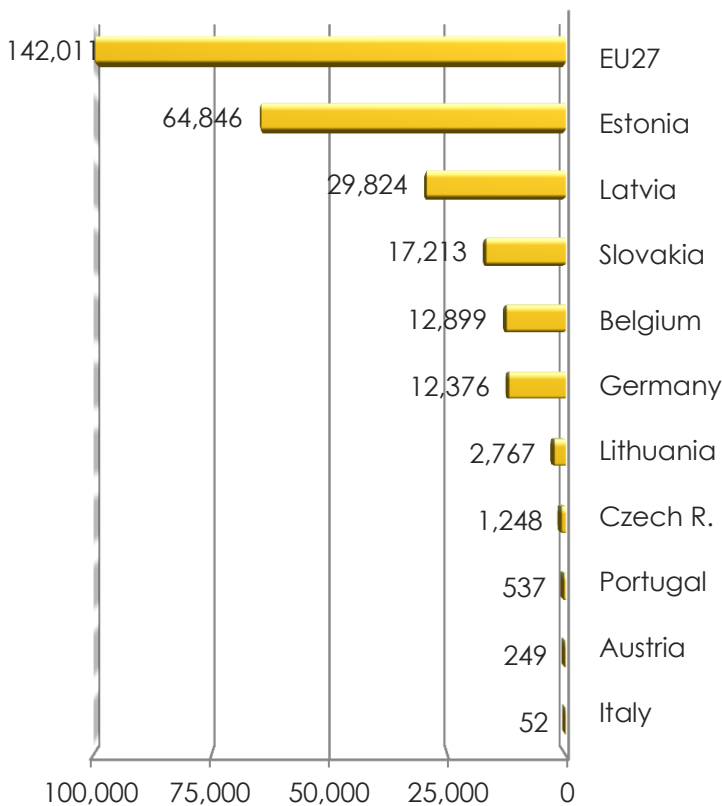
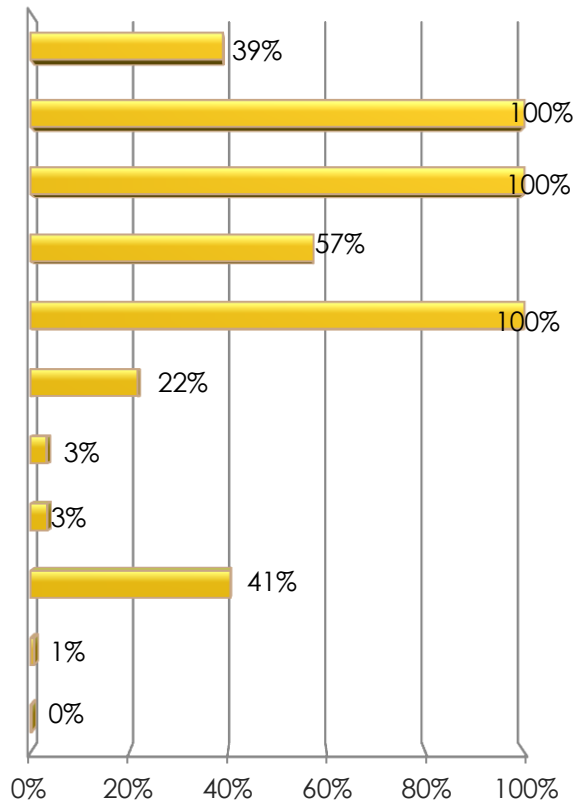


Figure 5: Supported forest land in Natura 2000 area (% against 2007-2013 output targets)



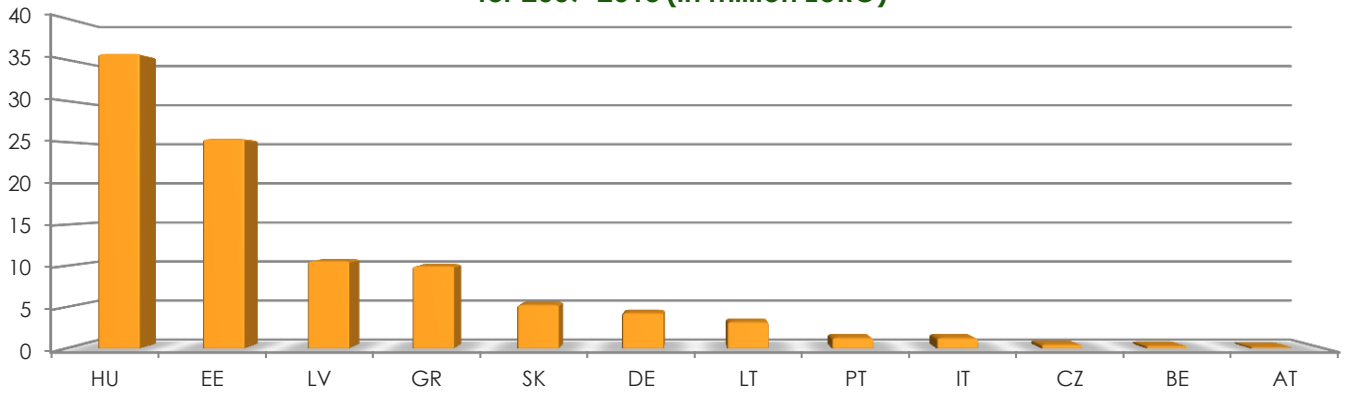
- ❖ At EU 27 level around 142,000 hectares of forest land in Natura 2000 areas have received support under measure 224 (see figure 4). This accounts for almost 39% of the EU27 target number (hectares) for 2007-2013 (see figure 5).
- ❖ Estonia is the Member State which has supported the largest area of forest land in Natura 2000 area (around 64,900 hectares) accounting for over 100% of the national envisaged target for the current programming period.
- ❖ A significant amount of forest land have also been supported in Latvia, Slovakia and Belgium (29,824, 17,213 and 12,900 hectares, respectively).
- ❖ From an implementation perspective, in Belgium, Latvia and Estonia the supported forest land in Natura 2000 areas represents 100% of the 2007-2013 target levels.

*Data refer to the Member States for which information on the supported forest land was available.

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Key facts and figures

Figure 6: Programmed total public expenditure on measure 224 per MS for 2007-2013 (in million EURO)



- ✓ Measure 224 is programmed in 15 out of the 88 Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) across the EU 27.
- ✓ Hungary has envisaged the largest RDP budget (programmed total public expenditure) for the measure (€35.8 million – see figure 6).
- ✓ The other new Member States that have allocated the highest budget to measure 224 are Latvia and Slovakia (€11 and €5.3 million respectively).
- ✓ The Member State which has allocated the largest share of Axis 2 – Improving the environment and the countryside through land management – budget to measure 224 is Estonia (7.7%) followed by Latvia (2.1%).

Source of the data:

- 1) Programmed expenditures 2007-2013: RDP budget allocation following Health Check revision (December 2013)
- 2) Expenditures 2007-2013: DG AGRI
- 3) Output indicators: monitoring tables submitted by Managing Authorities along with the 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 Annual Progress Reports. Data referring to programming years 2007 to 2012. Only commitments made from year 2007 onwards are considered.
- 4) Output targets 2007-2013: DG AGRI

For further detailed information on financial / physical and output indicators data please refer to the dedicated ENRD website section on Monitoring Indicators.