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**Coordination Committee  
of the European Network  
for Rural Development  
Rue du Marteau 81  
Belgium.**

Polish National Rural Development Network send contribution for the Coordination Committee of the European Network for Rural Development concerning of the future Common Agriculture Politic and politic for rural development after 2013.

**1. Why do we need a European common agricultural policy?**

To ensure food safety, sustainable development of agriculture and rural areas, a level playing field on the single agricultural market, a strong competitive position of the EU on the global agricultural market and to have an effective instrument focused on the new Community challenges such as the protection of natural resources, climate change, water management, biodiversity and renewable energies.

**2. What do citizens expect from agriculture?**

To provide safe and nutritious food produced in a sustainable way, to protect natural resources and environment of rural areas and mitigate climate change, to preserve countryside and rural areas as place for living and recreation.

**3. Why reform the CAP?**

The CAP should be able to better respond to new challenges and the direct payment system requires urgent changes consisting in further simplification and unification of its application in the entire EU. It is necessary to depart from the current arrangements where the rates of payments reflect historical levels of production and support intensities observed decades ago. The CAP has to provide level playing field in terms of competition for all farmers in the EU, helping this way also to enhance competitiveness of the European agriculture on global market.

#### **4. What tools do we need for the CAP of tomorrow?**

All three elements of the current CAP, that is, (i) direct payments, (ii) market management instruments, (iii) rural development policy should be maintained.

However, direct payments system should be adjusted to new situation and challenges. Direct payments should be further simplified and unified in terms of their application across the EU, linked with the area of agricultural land and operate on a flat rate payment basis. Market intervention measures should be strengthened functionally and financially by promotion activities and risk and crisis management instruments. As regards rural development policy, it should further take into account different starting point and needs of particular countries and regions in terms of modernisation and restructuring of agriculture and rural areas. Targeted measures of this policy should be available for those who would like to provide more than basic public goods. The improvement of rural development measures coordination under the CAP's second pillar and cohesion policy is necessary.

#### **5. What should be the objectives of the future rural development policy?**

- modernization of agriculture and food processing sector, including the very important for new member states process of catching-up;
- contribution to food security within the EU and food security in Member States;
- diversification and modernization of rural areas economy;
- increase in possibility of employment and getting incomes by inhabitants of rural areas without necessities of changing the place of living (accommodation);
- flatterling of access of inhabitants of rural areas to public services and improvement of quality;
- conservation, strengthening and better usage of nature, cultural, human and social capital in rural areas;
- realization of assignment related to the CAP new challenges, including first of all
- combating climate change and adaptation of rural areas to its effects; promotion and use of **renewable energy**; water management; biodiversity protection;

#### **6. How can the RD policy instruments be made more effective?**

- RDP and programmes within the Cohision policy should be common ,comprehensive toolkit for rural development;
- Complementarities and coordination of instruments, both within RDP and between RDP and programmes within the coherence policy is necessary.

#### **7. How can the management of the RD policy by improved?**

- introducing effective coordination measures from different programmes or European funds on regional level;
- introducing identification and monitoring system of instrument fir rural development within cohesion policy – functioning codes do not fulfill their roles.