



European
Commission



Agriculture
and Rural
Development

Assessing RDPs' contribution to climate change challenges

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2007-2013 RDPs

- **Basis for climate change related actions**
- **What has been done?**
- **How to assess/evaluate?**

2014-2020 RDPs

- **What is expected?**
- **What can be done?**
- **How to assess/evaluate?**

2007-2013 RDPs

Climate change references less explicit, but exist:

- **1698/2005 Recitals 31 & 38 “mitigate climate change”, “reduce GHG and ammonia”**
- **Recitals 41 & 42: reinforce protective functions and preventive actions in forestry – adaptation**
- **SWOT analysis must cover air pollution and climate change, GHG and ammonia reductions, links to agriculture and actions to achieve international targets**



2007-2013 RDPs

Reinforced through the Health Check and ERP:

- **Adjustment of strategies**
- **Clearer focus on climate change**
- **Separate monitoring of additional funds**



2007-2013 RDPs

What do we know so far?

- **MTE provided little information**
 - Too early for impacts
 - Too early for Health check activities to show in monitoring

Need to do better in ex post!

- **Link to NSP, RDP objectives (including Healthcheck), impact on Community priorities**
- **Identify likely measures to investigate**
 - RDP and monitoring data: Scale/extent of interventions
 - Move from outputs to achievements
 - Innovative/interesting good practices
- **Use CMEF indicators, + programme specific information**
- **More info coming in the ex post guidelines**



2007-2013 *potentially relevant measures*

- **121/123** (“overall performance”; resource efficiency often win-win)
- **124** (little used but maybe innovative)
- **126/226** (restoration & prevention: adaptation)
- **214** (mitigation e.g. leaching, & adaptation e.g. water & soil)
- **216/227** (non-productive investments)
- **221/222/223** (afforestation)
- **225** (forest environment)
- **321/322** (mitigation e.g. renewables)
- **LEADER**
- **111/114/333** (training and advisory services)



2007-2013 CMEF

- **Baseline**
 - Soil erosion, renewable energy, gas emissions, land cover, forest area, water use,
- **Output (measure level)**
- **Result**
 - Axis 1 new products/techniques; Axis 2 area under successful management related to climate change
- **Impact**
 - Renewable energy production



2014-2020 RDPs

- *Explicit "climate action" objective*
- *Linked to overall EU policy*
- *Mitigation and adaptation*

Europe 2020

CAP general
Objectives

Possible CAP Impact
Indicators

Pillar II
Priorities

Smart, sustainable and inclusive growth

CAP

Intervention logic for Pillar II

Viable food
production

Sustainable management
of natural resources and
climate action

Balanced territorial
development

2. Enhancing farm viability and competitiveness of all types of agriculture in all regions and promoting innovative farm technologies and sustainable management of forests

3. Promoting food chain organisation, including processing and marketing of agricultural products, animal welfare and risk management in agriculture

4. Restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems related to agriculture and forestry

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

6. Promoting social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas

1. Fostering knowledge transfer and innovation in agriculture, forestry and rural areas



1. Fostering knowledge transfer and innovation in agriculture, forestry and rural areas

**RD Focus
areas**

1A Fostering innovation, cooperation, and the development of the knowledge base in rural areas

1B Strengthening the links between agriculture, food production and forestry and research and innovation, including for the purpose of improved environmental management and performance

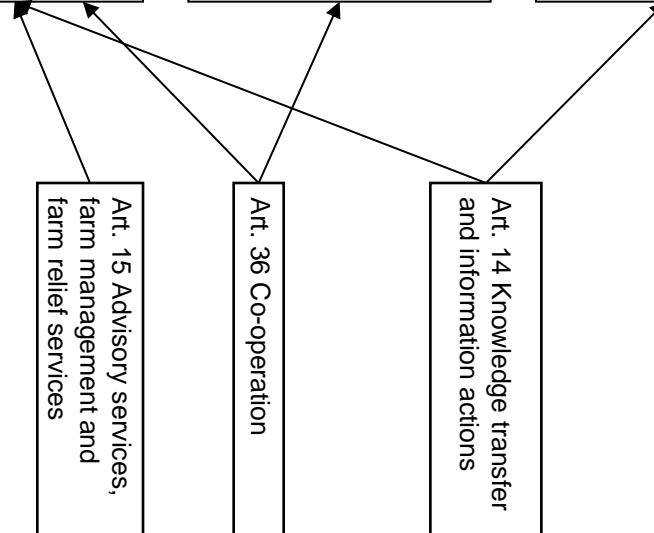
1C Fostering lifelong learning and vocational training in the agricultural and forestry sectors

**Relevant
measures**

Art. 15 Advisory services,
farm management and
farm relief services

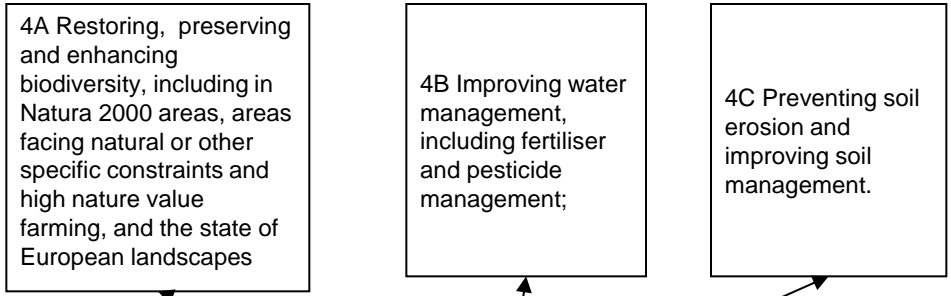
Art. 36 Co-operation

Art. 14 Knowledge transfer
and information actions

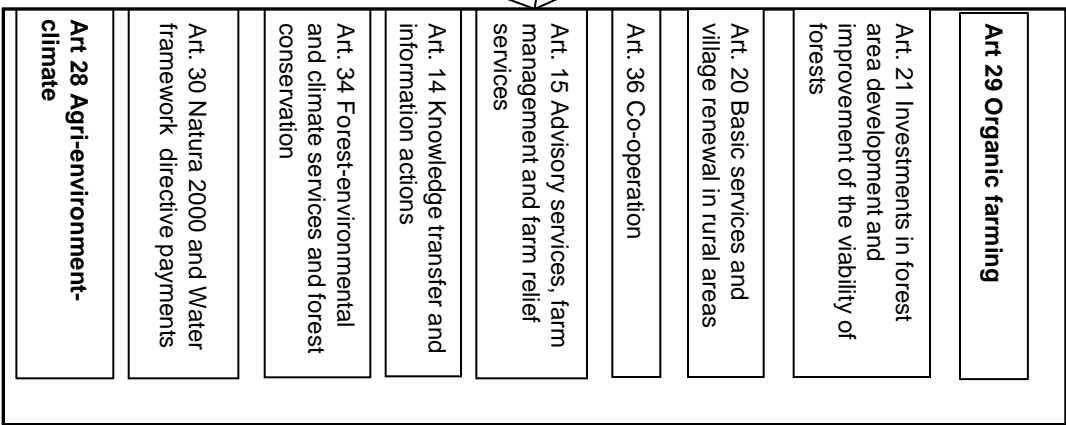


4. Restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems related to agriculture and forestry

Focus areas



Relevant measures



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

Focus areas

5A Increasing efficiency in water use by agriculture

5B Increasing efficiency in energy use in agriculture and food processing

5C Facilitating the supply and use of renewable sources of energy, of by products, wastes, residues and other non food raw material for purposes of the bio-economy

5D reducing green house gas and ammonia emissions from agriculture

5E Fostering carbon conservation and sequestration in agriculture and forestry

Relevant measures

Art. 14 Knowledge transfer and information actions

Art. 15 Advisory services, farm management and farm relief services

Art. 17 Investments in physical assets

Art. 36 Co-operation

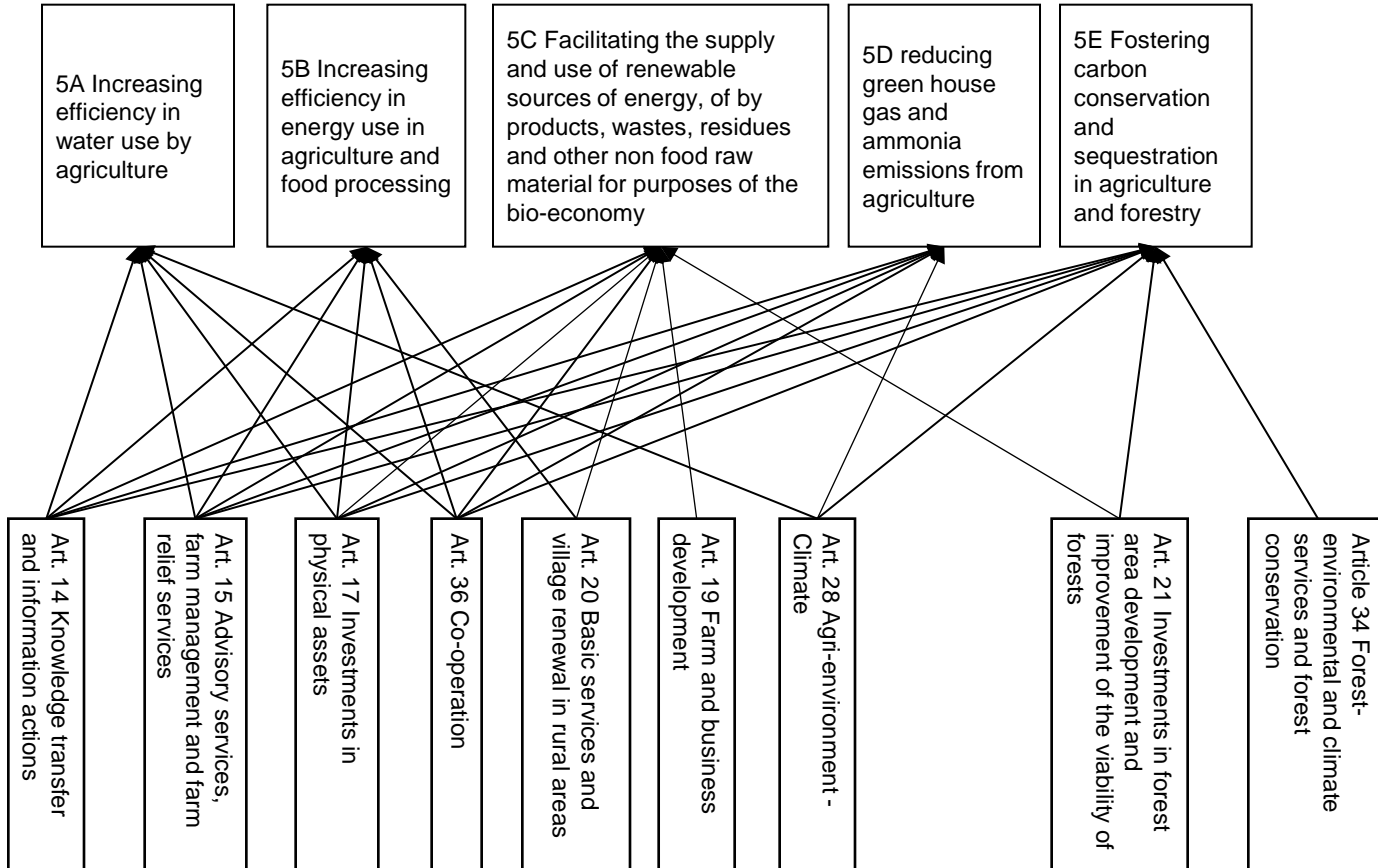
Art. 20 Basic services and village renewal in rural areas

Art. 19 Farm and business development

Art. 28 Agri-environment - Climate

Art. 21 Investments in forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests

Article 34 Forest- environmental and climate services and forest conservation





Analysis/ SWOT/ needs

- Identify the main **climate issues** to address
- climate action should also be seen as an **opportunity**, a driver for higher efficiency, economic resilience and innovation
- Assess **potential** for mitigation (M) and adaptation (A)
- Identify the **needs** by combining climate-related problems/opportunities and possible M/A
- **Holistic** context – overall assessment of territory

Strategy

- Set **objectives** (priorities and focus areas) based on the territorial analysis and identification of needs
- Justify **choice, combination and prioritisation** for funding – link to national/regional M and A strategies/action plans
- clearly outline the **potential** and the additionality for emission reduction or increased climate resilience
- **Opportunities** in many measures (AEC, forestry, training, investments, co-operation, Leader, sub-programmes)
- Identify **combinations** of measures (e.g. AEC, knowledge transfer)
- Actions with multiple benefits but also actions specifically **targeted** to address climate objectives
- **Balance** of RDP is key – manage tensions/conflicts

Resources planning

- Planned distribution of **resources** (financial allocation for measures/operations) should reflect the **prioritisation** of objectives
- EARDF should contribute to the 20% climate expenditure target in EU funds
- Target of 30% for environment/climate change mitigation and adaptation per RDP



Indicative activities possible within RDPs

Measures	Mitigation/Adaptation actions (examples)
Art. 14 Innovation and knowledge transfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training and demonstration activities on energy efficiency, reducing GHG emissions, soil management, climate change impacts and adaptation ▪ Preparation guidance documents, e-learning material
Art. 15 Advisory services, farm management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include GHG reduction/adaptation advice into existing advisory services ▪ Promote the use of "GHG assessment tools" to define farm GHG /energy profile and possible actions
Art. 17 Investments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Energy-efficient equipment and buildings ▪ Manure storage facilities, animal housing ▪ Equipment to improve efficiency of nitrogen fertilizer ▪ Installations/infrastructure for producing/using renewable energy (biogas, solar dry fodder) ▪ Restoring wetlands/peatlands ▪ Green infrastructure (linked to AEC) ▪ Improved efficiency of water use and irrigation
Art. 18 Restoring agricultural production potential, prevention actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adaptation of agricultural infrastructure (e.g., frost protection) ▪ Improvement of animal rearing conditions (shading and sprinklers, ventilation systems) ▪ Climate-resilient crops and breeds



Measures	Mitigation/Adaptation actions (examples)
Art. 20 Basic services and village renewal	<i>Climate proofing of local development plans</i>
Art. 21 Investments in forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests	Afforestation, including agroforestry Prevention and restoration of damage Investments
Art. 28 Agri-environment-climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Actions to reduce input intensity (fertiliser) ▪ Manure management ▪ Soil management practices (soil analysis, tillage methods, catch crops, avoid erosion, winter green cover, green covers in permanent crops) ▪ Diversified crop rotations ▪ Grassland management (grazing period, leguminous species, reduce N fertilization, improvement rangelands) ▪ Land use changes (conversion arable land to pastures, restoration organic soils, wetlands) ▪ Green infrastructure (e.g., wetlands, floodplains) ▪ Climate-resilient crops and breeds
Art. 29 Organic farming	<i>Organic is generally beneficial to mitigation by reducing energy- intensive production inputs and N₂O emissions from soils, and more climate-resilient</i>
Art. 36 Co-operation	Networks, pilot projects related to environment/climate change
Art. 42-44 Leader	<i>Mitigation and adaptation as integral element of Local Development Strategies,</i>



Challenges

Difficulties	Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Tackling agricultural emissions is a complex undertaking▪ Effective mitigation action needs a whole-farm approach (global management C and N cycles) and farm-level assessment▪ Absence in many MS of comprehensive strategies/action plans for mitigation/adaptation on agriculture - insufficient definition of actions, priorities for funding▪ Insufficient institutional co-ordination with authorities dealing with climate change plans▪ Emissions assessment weak – does not capture sufficiently mitigation actions (Tier 1 uses standard averages)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Synergies of climate actions (M and A) with the protection of natural environment▪ Optimising "climate performance" (emissions/unit output) implies optimizing agronomic and economic performance▪ Climate change is a global concern and agriculture is in the front line of expected effects – incentive to contribute to mitigation efforts



2014-2020 M&E (climate action)

- *Impact indicators*
 - **7 Emissions from agriculture**
 - **8 FBI**
 - **9 HNV farming**
 - **10 Water abstraction in agriculture**
 - **11 Water quality**
 - **12 Soil organic matter in arable land**
 - **13 Soil erosion by water**



2014-2020 M&E (climate action)

- *Result indicators*
 - **P1 through other priorities**
 - **P4 A biodiversity/B water/C soil**
 - % area under contract linked to objective
 - **P5 A increasing efficiency of water use**
 - % land switching to more efficient irrigation systems
 - *Increase in efficiency of water use*
 - **P5 B increasing efficiency of energy use**
 - *Increase in efficiency of energy use*



2014-2020 M&E (climate action)

- *Result indicators*
 - **P5 C Supply and use of renewable energy**
 - *Renewable energy production (T.O.E.)*
 - **P5 D Reducing GHG and NH3 emissions**
 - % LU covered by relevant investments
 - % UAA under contract to reduce GHG and/or NH3
 - *Reduced emissions of GHG and NH3*
 - **P5 E Carbon conservation and sequestration**
 - % land covered by contract to foster carbon conservation/sequestration



2014-2020 M&E (climate action)

- *As always:*
 - **Indicators should be treated with care!**
 - No use alone - Need appropriate evaluation
 - Assess validity of numbers – e.g. Tier 1 based on averages
 - **Complementary result indicators can (should!) capture achievements from all relevant projects**
 - Where climate action is main objective
 - And where it is a complementary/multiple benefit (e.g. to P2A)

Climate change "tracking" (Rio markers)

Coefficients for calculating amounts of support for climate change objectives in the case of the EAFRD

Article of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013	Priority / focus area	Climate marker
5 (3) (b)	Supporting farm risk prevention and management	40 %
5 (4)	Restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems related to agriculture and forestry (all focus areas)	100 %
5 (5)	Promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy in the agriculture, food and forestry sectors (all focus areas)	100 %
5 (6) (b)	Fostering local development in rural areas	40 %



It isn't easy, but it is important!

We need to use resources well
(so we need to know what “well” is!)

We need to assess what we are doing
and improve where we can
(the doing AND the assessment!)

RDPs can and should make a difference!!!