



DISCUSSION







- Should SSF be supported explicitly by Rural Development policy?
- What other policy measures can SSF use from the current menu?
- Is there a continuing role for the measure supporting SSF undergoing restructuring. Constraints. What to do?
- What are the impacts or RD policies on SSF?







Other measures:

- Pillar 1
- Cohesion policy
- Environmental policy
- Country regional policies

Impacts

- Reduction of SSF
- Disengagement
- Intensification to become viable
- Diversification into non agricultural activities



Connecting Rural Europe





Constraints:

- Eligibility (area, age)
- Education of farmers
- Registration of farmers
- Bureaucracy
- Low level of grants

What to do:

- Eliminate bureaucracy
- Educate farmers
- Try to organise them
- Raise the agriculture support
- Combine farming with diversification and off farm activities



Connecting Rural Europe





- How to reach semi-substistence farmers?
- How important are the advisory services?
- How can administration best reach SSF and manage their typically small aid applications efficiently and effectively?
 - Networking
 - Agricultural extension system
 - Cooperation or cooperative movements
 - Producers Association
 - Presentations from officials
 - TV magazines newspapers radio leaflets







Networking

- Networking refers to wider and typically less formalised channels used to connect different actors, share information and enhance experience
- RD policy supports the establishment of national and European level network
- Not an easy job
- First step formation of interest groups
- Leader
- Broadband to enhance or install networking

