



# Potentials for Climate Mainstreaming in Rural Development

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# The next EU budget 2014-2020

- Mainstreaming the climate-related share of the EU budget will be raised significantly to **20% of the whole EU budget** (at least €200bn for climate-related expenditures)
- **Horizon 2020**: around 35% of the Horizon 2020 budget should be climate-related expenditure.
- **Cohesion policy**: more developed and transition regions should allocate at least 20% of their ERDF resources to investment in efficiency and renewables. Less developed regions would allocate at least 6%.
- **Greening of the CAP, in particular...**
- **...Rural Development!**

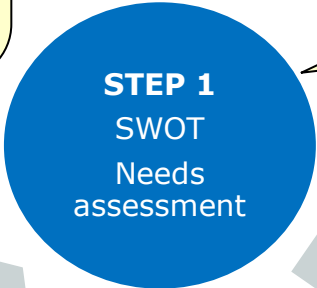
# Rural development: 6 Union Priorities (UP)

- *UP4: restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems related to agriculture and forestry*
- *UP5: promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low-carbon and climate resilient economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors*
- All priorities shall contribute to the cross-cutting objectives climate change mitigation and adaptation.



- Annual Monitoring Tables (committed climate related expenditure and realised climate related expenditure/outputs)
- Outputs/results/impacts related to climate objectives demonstrated through the appropriate indicators (under discussion of the RDC)

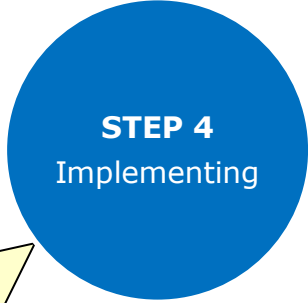
- Identify climate action related needs and hotspots
- Assess potential for the regional GHG mitigation and adaptation
- Identify possible mitigation and adaptation options



- Choose climate related priorities and targets in view of the needs and hotspots
- Role of climate in the intervention logic/targets
- Assess possible contribution of EAFRD to the 20 % climate expenditure target in the EU budget (2014-2020)



- Use climate criteria while designing sub-measures
- Innovate on climate measures
- Rank and select relevant measures and sub-measures
- Ensure additionality, avoid re-labelling of measures by just adding 'climate'
- Incorporate LEADER in integrating climate objectives



- Provide Training, Education and Advice on climate friendly and resilient agriculture in the regional context
- Ensure a prominent role of climate criteria in the selection process
- Ensure 'sound' implementation

# Climate related Hotspots - Examples for mitigation

- Fossil fuel CO<sub>2</sub> emission from field operations
- CO<sub>2</sub> released from soils due to tillage
- Risk of leaching (e.g. N<sub>2</sub>O from soils)
- Loss of soil organic carbon due to soil erosion
- Risk of emissions from manure storage
- Use of fertilizers for production of crops dedicated to animal feeding
- On farm energy use (diesel fuel and other fuel, electricity)
- Agricultural management of wetland or peatland

# Climate related Hotspots - Examples for adaptation

- Risk to production due to drier conditions
- Risk of flooding
- Risk of forest fires
- Risk of drought
- Risk of habitat fragmentation
- Risk of stress due to temperature increase
- Risk to biodiversity and of habitat fragmentation, increased vulnerability (erosion and fires)
- Risk of new pests and diseases



**Thematic Climate Subprogrammes**

**LEADER**

**Climate Mainstreaming**

Knowledge transfer,  
Advisory services

Restoring agricultural  
production potential

Risk management

Basic services and  
village renewal

**Greening Payment Scheme:**  
e.g. protection of  
permanent grassland

**Basic Payment Scheme:  
Cross Compliance**  
e.g.: Maintenance of soil organic  
matter level (GAEC 6)

Agroforestry systems

Forest environmental  
and climate services

Agri-environment  
climate

Afforestation and  
creation of woodland

Organic farming

## Studies which can support climate mainstreaming in rural development:

- OSCAR study  
<http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/aeru/oscar/>  
[http://ec.europa.eu/clima/events/0061/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/clima/events/0061/index_en.htm)
- Climate-ADAPT: the European Climate adaptation platform  
<http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/>
- Carbon Calculator - JRC  
<http://www.solagro.org/site/476.html>
- GGELS study - JRC  
<http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/analysis/external/livestock-gas/>



# How can climate objectives be mainstreamed into rural development programmes?

## OSCAR – Study aims and objectives

- DG CLIMA has launched this project to provide guidance material for the design of climate action in RDPs post-2013
- Study includes:
  - Assessment of national/regional climate "hotspots" - mitigation and adaptation
  - Estimates of cost and effects of different RDP operations in view of potential climate benefits
  - Due to substantial amount of data and calculations a **SOFTWARE tool** replaces a 'paper' manual



The poster for the OSCAR project features a globe on the left and the European Commission logo on the right. The title 'OSCAR' is in large orange letters, with 'Optimal Strategies for Climate change' and 'Action in Rural areas' below it. The 'Project Summary' section describes the project's focus on climate change impacts and the development of a manual and software tool. It mentions that the project is led by the Agriculture and Environment Research Unit (AERU) at the University of Hertfordshire. The 'Further Details' section provides contact information for the project team, including the website <http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/aeru/oscars> and contact details for AERU. The poster also includes two small images: a field of sunflowers and a bee on a flower.

**OSCAR**  
Optimal Strategies for Climate change  
Action in Rural areas

**Project Summary**

**The OSCAR Project**  
Climate change is now widely recognised as one of the greatest threats facing the world today, with human activities making a significant contribution to increased concentrations of atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs), with serious implications for our future climate, food and water security, as well as disease pressures and biodiversity impacts. As a result it has become imperative that the twin objectives of climate change policy, namely mitigation and adaptation, are taken into account during the development of policies and programmes of all sorts, not least those with implications for the rural environment and communities.

Chief amongst these over the next few years will be the Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) being developed for implementation in the post-2013 period. As a result, DG CLIMA of the European Commission engaged an international team of researchers, led by the Agriculture and Environment Research Unit (AERU) at the University of Hertfordshire, to develop procedures for integrating climate change policy objectives into those for rural development. The OSCAR project team has therefore completed an extensive review of published and other sources, together with case-studies in the UK, France and Poland, to develop a Manual and complementary Decision Support Tool to assist Managing Authorities in the development of climate change sensitive programmes.

**The OSCAR Manual & Software**  
The OSCAR Manual and Software have been developed to serve as practical tools which Managing Authorities may make use of whilst formulating their RDPs, such that as well as fulfilling a rural development role, they can make a vital contribution towards Member State greenhouse gas emission targets and wider climate change objectives. A step-by-step procedure for achieving this is both described and fully supported by an extensive decision support system, allowing complex environmental interactions to be assessed and considered within high level policy development procedures. Both the Manual and Software are free to download, and can be obtained by visiting the OSCAR website.

**Further Details**  
If you would like further details about the OSCAR Project and/or to join the mailing list, visit the OSCAR website at:  
<http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/aeru/oscars>

Or contact the project team at:  
AERU, University of Hertfordshire, College Lane,  
Hatfield, Herts., AL10 9AB, UK.  
Email: [seru@herts.ac.uk](mailto:seru@herts.ac.uk)  
Tel.: +44 1707 284548

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## Climate Change Adaptation in Europe

The European Climate Adaptation Platform (CLIMATE-ADAPT) aims to support Europe in adapting to climate change. It is an initiative of the European Commission and helps users to access and share information on:

- E
  - C
  - N
  - A
  - T
- 3 key elements of relevance for your work**
- Information on EU sector policies, including agriculture**
  - Overview of countries activities**
  - Case study search tool**



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- » Adaptation reporting power – final tranche of reports published

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- » Earth Systems Engineering 2012



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