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# **Thematic Working Group on « Delivery mechanisms of EU Rural Development Policy » - State of play and next steps -**

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# 1 Introduction



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## Why look into delivery mechanisms?

- Delivery mechanisms, i.e. the shared management mode associated with operational requirements of EAFRD support, determine how rural development support is implemented and how effective it is
- Delivery mechanisms are decisive for the outcome of EAFRD interventions and the associated value added.



# 1 *Introduction*



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## **Aim of the TWG:**

- to make an assessment of current delivery mechanisms related to the EU's rural development policy
- drawing lessons with a view to make the design and implementation of EU rural development policy more efficient and effective



# 1 *Introduction*



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## **Difficulties:**

- Significant complexity and variation of the delivery systems for different measures and in different Member States
- Assessment of delivery mechanisms is difficult because the identification of the associated effects is not always obvious and judgements are sometimes subjective
- Trade-offs inevitable e.g. between simplification and flexibility



## 2 *Issues*



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- Two perspectives which are of interest:
  - EU – Member State: *Top-Down*
  - Member State – beneficiary: *Bottom-Up*
  
- Delivery mechanisms at different stages
  - Programming and strategy
  - Implementation
  - Control and follow-up



## 2 Delivery issues related to programming and strategy



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- **Strategic approach and targeting**
  - 3-level strategic approach implemented for the first time in this period – What are its effects?
- **Coherence and complementarity – coordination with other EU instruments/funds**
  - How can complementarity be improved further to increase synergies between different EU funds?
- **Programming**
  - Analysis, strategy, setting-up of programmes
  - Level of detail in specification of measures



## 2 Delivery issues related to implementation



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- **Implementation procedures**
  - deadlines for applications, selection, payments
- **Architecture of the policy, axes, measures**
  - Coverage: details of specification of measures, basic legal act, eligibility rules, selection criteria
- **Partnership principle**
  - Partnership between Member States and Commission; Stakeholder involvement
- **Integrated, place-based development strategies - Leader**
  - What are the effects of mainstreaming Leader



## 2 Delivery issues related to control and follow-up



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- **Common Monitoring and Evaluation Framework**
  - Which elements need to be enhanced to better identify effects which are due to EAFRD interventions?
- **Controls**
  - Neither the need nor the obligations related to controls are in question
  - But, which procedures on controls are implemented and how could they be simplified?
- **Obligations of the beneficiaries of aid**





### 3 Work done to date ... and next steps



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## Work done to date

- 2 meetings
- Work plan established
- First 2 case studies conducted (Austria and Emiglia Romagna/Italy) and preliminary results presented in 2nd meeting (May 2010)
- Presentation of results from related studies (e.g. Rural development instruments study, RuDi Study)
- First discussion on effects of co-financing rates



### 3 Work done to date ... and next steps



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#### **Next steps:**

- Work on first case-studies to be completed
- Additional four case-studies (Bulgaria, Ireland, Spain/Cataluña, Latvia) will be carried out before the summer break
- Circulation of draft reports to TWG and discussion
- Synthesis of first case-studies in draft step 1 report (September)
- Refinement of approach and another six case-studies by end of the year



**Many thanks for your attention!!!**