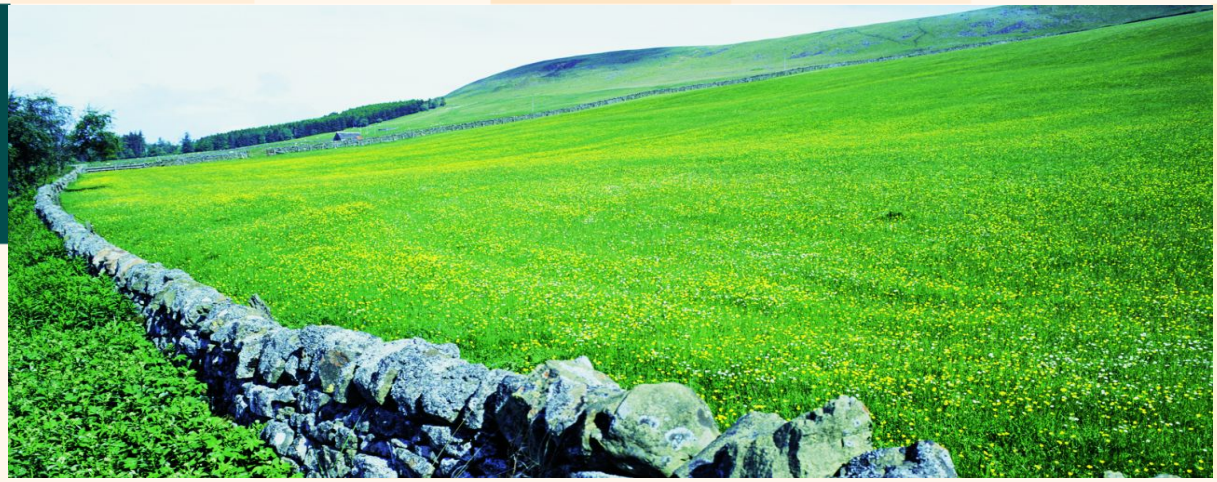
European Commission
Agriculture and Rural Development



Technical Working Group 3
‘Public Goods and Public Intervention’

Chair:
Martin Scheele – DG Agriculture and Rural Development

Wetland Habitats with Pollarded Willow Trees

European Commission
Agriculture and Rural Development

Bio-diversity

European Commission
Agriculture and Rural Development

Landscape Amenities and High Nature Values

European Commission
Agriculture and Rural Development

Technical Working Group 3 ‘Public Goods and Public Intervention’

European Commission
Agriculture and Rural Development

Objective:

- Assess operations and activities supported by Rural Development interventions with respect to their contribution to provision of public goods
- Draw conclusions with respect to enhancing respective benefit to society and to contribute to improving the quality of life in rural areas.

Deliverables:

- Conceptual Framework
- Factsheets and background papers
- Stakeholder exchange
- Communication strategy

Step 1: Development of a Conceptual Framework

European Commission
Agriculture and Rural Development

- Establish a sound theoretical framework for public goods
- Develop practical definitions and identify relevant types of public goods
- Explore means of measurement (costs, added value)

Step 2:
Policy Assessment

European Commission
Agriculture and Rural Development

- Identify relevant types of public goods provided through agriculture;
- Assess instruments and delivery mechanisms
- Pay particular attention to specificities of areas
- The role of local actors (administrations, NGOs, etc.)

Step 3:
Lessons Learned

European Commission
Agriculture and Rural Development

- Analyse how measures respond to needs
- Analyse the effectiveness
- Identify examples of good practice (including governance)
- Explore the role of public goods as an enabling factor
- Draw conclusions (lessons learned and recommendations)
- Dissimination (e.g. stakeholder conference, leaflet, web-site)

Results of Step 2: Public Goods considered

European Commission
Agriculture and Rural Development

Cultural landscapes	• "Sense of place" - visual, history and culture
Farmland biodiversity	• Diversity of semi-natural farmland habitats and species
The prevention of fires and other natural catastrophes	• Landscape resistant to wildfires; Reduced flood peaks and enhanced storage/absorption of flood waters etc
Good Soil Quality	• Low susceptibility to erosion ; Low levels of contamination ; Well structured soil with high infiltration capacity
Good Water Quality	• Low N/P contamination ; Low Faecal contamination; Low Pesticide contamination
Water Quantity	• Sustainable levels of ground and surface waters; Efficient use of abstracted water
Clean Air	• Low levels of contamination / pollutants (e.g. spray drift, air borne pollutants)
Farm Animal Welfare	• Standards of animal husbandry which go beyond the relevant mandatory standards
Food Security	• Maintaining the productive capacity of agricultural land into the future
Rural Vitality	• Social, cultural and economic vitality of rural areas

Results of Step 2: Most frequently used measures

European Commission
Agriculture and Rural Development

- **Most significant measures for PG delivery:**
  - Agri-environment
  - Non-productive Investments
  - Natural Handicap - LFA
  - Farm modernisation

- **Other significant measures:**
  - Advice and training
  - Infrastructure development
  - Natura 2000

Example: Hedging and dry stonewalling in the UK

European Commission
Agriculture and Rural Development

Maintenance of particular landscape features in Yorkshire, UK supported through the RD measure non-productive investments:

- Preservation of a particular cultural landscape
- Biodiversity benefits through nesting of birds in newly created hedges
- Benefit for local economy:
  - Increased tourism expenditure through enhanced attractiveness of the landscape
  - Local contractors with the required knowledge were hired for the walling (difference to building restoration etc. where external companies are hired)

Route des fromages – Auvergne, France

European Commission
Agriculture and Rural Development

Dairy farmers in the Auvergne formed an «Association des fromages d'Auvergne»

Agri-environment measures and quality production measures applied under Rural Development Programmes ensure:

- Preservation of cultural landscape and specific landscape features
- Extensive farming systems with their related benefits to biodversity, soila and water quality
- Production of high quality cheese – high prices

Accompanied by the « Route des fromages »

- Increased tourism in a mountain region