

# WALES – UNITED KINGDOM

## Basic Information:

The Wales Rural Development Programme (RDP) has budgeted for 2007-2013 total public expenditure of €1.07 billion (European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and Member State contribution). At the end of 2013, €626 million were spent out of the allocated budget (see Figure 1).

**Axis 1** (Improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector) has utilised 70% of its allocated budget.

**Axis 2** (Improving the environment and the countryside) has utilised 69% of its programmed expenditure.

**Axis 3** (Improving the quality of life in rural areas) has utilised 40% of its budget.

**Axis 4** (Leader) has utilised approximately 32% of the programmed expenditure.

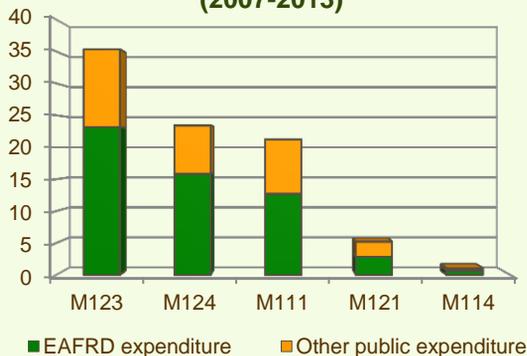


**Figure 1: Total public expenditure per axis in Wales (2007-2013)**

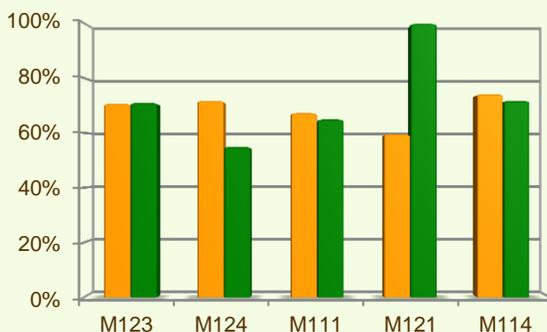


## Axis 1 - Improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector

**Figure 2: Axis 1 total public expenditure per measure in million EURO (2007-2013)**



**Figure 3: Axis 1 total public expenditure (2007-2013) against 2007-2013 budgets, main measures**



■ Total public expenditure (%) against 2007-2013 budgets / Regional level

■ Total public expenditure (%) against 2007-2013 budgets / National level

Axis 1 places an emphasis on Adding value to agricultural and forestry products (M123) and Cooperation for development of new products, etc. (M124), allocating to these measures 66% of the overall budgeted funds for Axis 1.

Analysis of the expenditure rates per measure up to 2013 shows that:

- ❖ Tree measures have utilised 70-75% of their programmed expenditure:
  - Use of advisory services (M114), 74%
  - Cooperation for development of new products, etc. (M124), 72%
  - Adding value to agricultural and forestry products (M123), 71%.
- ❖ The measures on Vocational training and information actions (M111) have utilised 67% of its allocated budget.
- ❖ The measure Modernisation of agricultural holdings (M121) has utilised almost 60% of its allocated budget.

Figure 3 provides an indication of the progress of the total public expenditure on the most important measures of Axis 1 against the 2007-2013 budgets, in comparison to the National level.

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## Measure 132 project example: Increased Capacity and Efficiency of a Potato Production Plant / United Kingdom – Wales

The Welsh RDP offers financial assistance for projects enabling primary producers to add value to their outputs. This project deals with restructuring the production facilities to improve accessibility, energy, water treatment, health and safety, all leading to enhanced efficiency and capacity of a potato production plant in respect of the environment.

The main project activities included: building of a new road improving vehicle access to the loading bays, an upgraded power supply to the existing potato packing line, construction of a new water treatment facility, relocation of a weighbridge, and the refurbishment of the packaging shed.

This combination of investments for increasing efficiency and capacity with environmental and health and safety measures enabled the company to remain among the market leaders.

**The total cost** of the project was €9,609,245, out of which €4,708,530 was EAFRD contribution.

**Link:** [http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/policy-in-action/rdp\\_view/en/view\\_projects\\_en.cfm?action=detail&backfuse=jsview&postcard\\_id=5941](http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/policy-in-action/rdp_view/en/view_projects_en.cfm?action=detail&backfuse=jsview&postcard_id=5941)

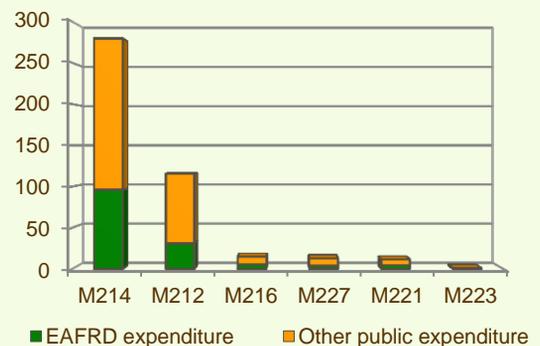
## Axis 2 - Improving the environment and the countryside

Axis 2 focuses on Agri-environment payments (M214) and Payments to farmers in areas with handicaps other than mountain areas (M212). The two measures represent the majority of the Axis 2 expenditure (see Figure 4). Together they have been allocated almost 54% of the total public budget programmed in the Wales RDP for 2007-2013.

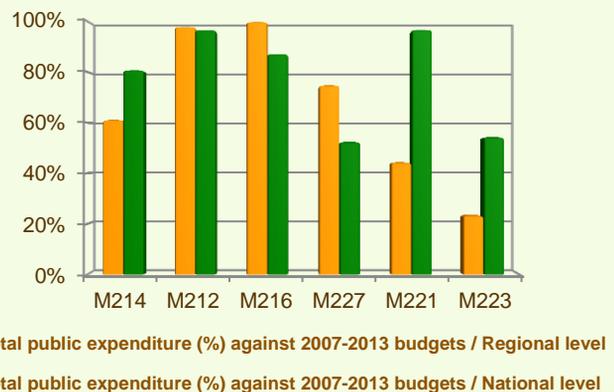
- ❖ Two out of the six measures offered by the Axis, have utilised all or almost all of their allocated budgets, namely:
  - Payments to farmers in areas with handicaps, other than mountain areas (M212),
  - Non-productive investments in agriculture (M216).
- ❖ Two measures Non-productive investments in forestry (M227) and Agri-environment payments (M214) have utilised respectively 75% and 61% of their programmed budgets.
- ❖ The measure on First afforestation of agricultural land (M221) has utilised 44% of its programmed budget.
- ❖ The measure on First afforestation of non-agricultural land (M223) has utilised 23% of its allocated budget.

Figure 5 provides an indication of the progress of the total public expenditure on the most important measures of Axis 2 against the 2007-2013 budgets, in comparison to the National level.

**Figure 4: Axis 2 total public expenditure per measure in million EURO (2007-2013)**



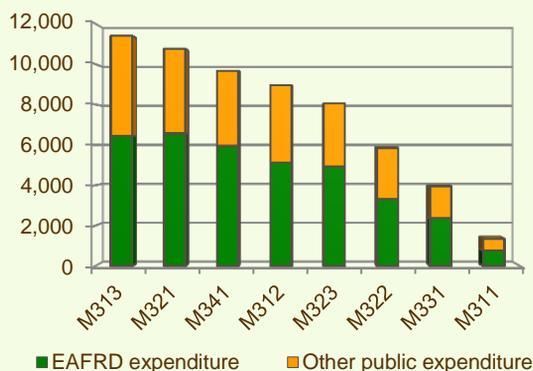
**Figure 5: Axis 2 total public expenditure (2007-2013) against 2007-2013 budgets, main measures**



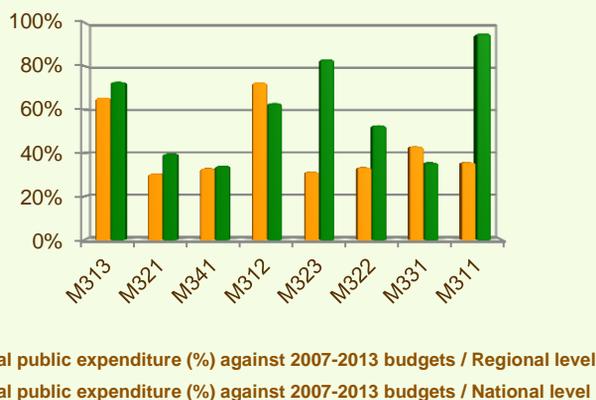
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## Axis 3 - Quality of life in rural areas and diversification of the rural economy

**Figure 6: Axis 3 total public expenditure per measure in thousand EURO (2007-2013)**



**Figure 7: Axis 3 total public expenditure (2007-2013) against 2007-2013 budgets, main measures**



Axis 3 of the Wales RDP focuses on Basic services for the economy and rural population (M321) and Skills acquisition and animation measure (M341) and which together represent almost 43% of the Axis budget and most of its total public expenditure (see Figure 6).

When comparing the expenditure rates per measure up to 2013, it is observed that:

- ❖ The measure Support for business creation and development (M312) has spent 73% of its programmed budget.
- ❖ The measure Encouragement of tourism activities (M313) has utilised 66% of its programmed budget.
- ❖ All remaining six measures of the axis have utilised between 30-45% of their programmed budgets, namely:
  - Training and information (M331), 43%
  - Diversification into non-agricultural activities (M311), 36%
  - Village renewal and development (M322), 33%
  - Skills-acquisition and animation measure (M341), 33%
  - Conservation and upgrading of the rural heritage (M323), 31%
  - Basic services for the economy and rural population (M321), 31%

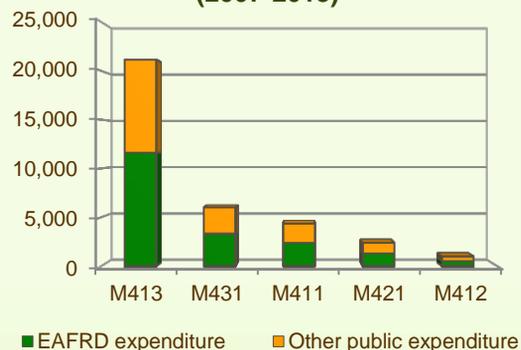
Figure 7 provides an indication of the progress of the total public expenditure on the most important measures of Axis 3 against the 2007-2013 budgets, in comparison to the National level.

## Axis 4 - Leader

The Leader Axis in the Wales RDP has allocated budget of €111 million, out of which €35 million have been spent by 2013. Within the Axis, emphasis has been given to the measure Quality of life/diversification (M413) which has been allocated 57% of the Axis budget.

When comparing the public expenditure per measure up to 2013, it is observed that Quality of life/diversification (M413) had the largest total public expenditure (see Figure 8).

**Figure 8: Axis 4 total public expenditure per measure in thousand EURO (2007-2013)**



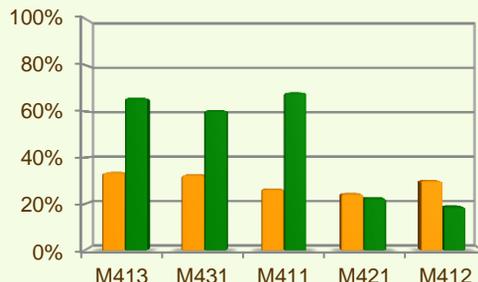
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## Axis 4 - Leader

- ❖ Three measures have utilised 30-35% of their allocated budget, namely:
  - Quality of life/diversification (M413), 34%
  - Running the LAG, skills acquisition, animation (M431), 33% and
  - Environment/land management (M412) 30%.
- ❖ Competitiveness (M411) and Implementing cooperation projects (M421) have utilised each 27% and 24% of their allocated budget.

Figure 9 provides an indication of the progress of the total public expenditure on the most important measures of Axis 4 against the 2007-2013 targets, in comparison to the National level.

**Figure 9: Axis 4 total public expenditure (2007-2013) against 2007-2013 targets, main measures**



■ Total public expenditure (%) against 2007-2013 targets / Regional level  
 ■ Total public expenditure (%) against 2007-2013 targets / National level

## Summary

- ✓ Within seven years of implementation, the Wales RDP has utilised about 59% (see figure 10) of the total public expenditure planned for the current Programming Period (including post Health Check and the European Economic Recovery Package modifications).
- ✓ Agri-environment payments (M214) is the measure with the highest allocated budget in the Wales RDP. Up to 2013, it has utilised 61% of its available budget and represents 45% of the total public expenditure of the programme.
- ✓ Payments to farmers in areas with handicaps, other than mountain areas (M212) has the second largest budget in the Wales RDP and the utilised expenditure is 98% of its allocated funds. M212 represents 18% of the total public expenditure of the programme.
- ✓ The third largest budget is for Quality of life/diversification (M413) which has used almost 34% of its programmed total public expenditure and represents 3% of the total public expenditure of the programme.
- ✓ Financial implementation has progressed at a faster rate for Axis 1 and Axis 2, than Axis 3 and Leader.

**Figure 10: Progress of total public expenditure up to 2013 (at regional and national level)**



*Source of the data: 1) Programmed expenditures 2007-2013: RDP budget allocation following Health Check revision (December 2013); 2) Expenditures 2007-2013: DG AGRI 3) Output indicators data are available only at National level; therefore at regional level a comparison of financial implementation progress is provided between the regional RDPs.*

For further detailed information on financial / physical and output indicators data please refer to the dedicated ENRD website section on Monitoring Indicators.