Measure 123 - Adding value to agricultural and forestry products

Basic Information:
Measure 123 – Adding value to agricultural and forestry products

Programmed total public expenditure, 2007-2013 (EU 27): €8.5 billion (of which €5.5 billion EAFRD contribution).

Actual total public expenditure, 2007 to 2013 (EU 27): €5.1 billion or 60.8% of the programmed expenditure for 2007-2013. (Figure 1 shows the financial implementation up to 2013, whereas the output data presented below are up to 2012).

Definition of output indicators of the measure:
1) “Number of enterprises supported” – refers to the number of micro, small or medium companies (including semi-large enterprises), receiving support for the tangible and/or intangible investments they made to improve the overall performance of the enterprise, to improve the processing and/or marketing of their farming/forestry products, or to enhance the development of new products, processes and technologies.

2) “Total volume of investment” – refers to the total amount (= the sum of all public and private expenditure) of all the tangible and/or intangible investments companies made to improve the processing and/or marketing of their farm / forestry products and for which they received support.

Measure 123 – Number of enterprises supported from 2007 to 2012*

*Data refer to the Member States for which information on the number of supported enterprises was available.

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Measure 123 - Adding value to agricultural and forestry products

- During the six years of implementation, 20,000 enterprises have been supported at EU 27 level through measure 123 (see figure 2). This number accounts for 55% of the number of enterprises envisaged to receive support for the period 2007-2013 (see figure 3).
- By 2012 Spain had supported the largest number of enterprises among the MS (almost 4,600 enterprises), reaching 43% of the national target set for the whole programming period.
- In terms of implementation rate, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have supported more than 100% of their target number of enterprises for 2007-2013. Portugal, Finland, Poland and the Luxembourg follow by having achieved 60% or more of their national target.

Measure 123 – Total volume of investments from 2007 to 2012*

Figure 4: Total volume of investments (in million EURO)

- At EU 27 level the amount of investments companies made to improve the processing and/or marketing of their farm / forestry products and for which they received support under measure 123 amounts to nearly €15.5 billion (see figure 4).
- In Spain and Italy the total volume of investments of the supported enterprises amounts to approximately €3.4 and €2.2 billion respectively. In terms of implementation rate (percentages against the 2007-2013 target) they account for 39% (Spain) and 71% (Italy) (see figure 5).
- Portugal and Finland have showed the highest implementation rate across EU equal to more than 100% of the envisaged volume of investments to be realised for the whole programming period.
- In Slovenia, Slovakia, Romania and the Czech Republic, the amounts of investments realised by the supported enterprises exceeds in all cases 75% of their national target.

*Data refer to the Member States for which information on the total volume of investments was available.

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**Key facts and figures**

Figure 6: Programmed total public expenditure on measure 123 per MS for 2007-2013 (in million EURO)

- Measure 123 is programmed in 85 out of the 88 Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) across the EU 27. It has not been selected in the RDPs of Ireland, the Netherlands and Germany-Sachsen.
- The largest RDP budget (programmed total public expenditure) allocated to Measure 123 - adding value to agricultural and forestry products - is €1.6 billion in Spain (see figure 6).
- Among the new Member States, Romania and Poland have programmed the largest RDP budget to the measure (€963 and €932 million respectively).
- The Member States which have allocated the largest shares of their Axis 1 – Improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector - funds to measure 123 are the UK, Bulgaria and Romania (34%, 33% and 29%, respectively).

**Measure 123 project example:**

**Collective production of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Portugal**

Production of high quality organic aromatic plants allowed a group of 12 Portuguese farmers to work collaboratively and face the difficult market conditions by modernizing agricultural production with the support of an innovative EAFRD project. Its main objective was to ensure a steady supply chain in order to increase the income of farmers.

Services offered through the project were: processing (drying and extracting essential oils), storing, and marketing and selling of the final products. Equipment was purchased and used by all members and they were offered technical support. The cooperative of the 12 farmers succeeded to produce an aggregate quantity which gave them a better position in the market. Cooperation among producers led to the modernization of agriculture and contributed to enhancing market conditions for farmers, thus increasing their income.

The total cost of the project was €1,370,173, out of which EAFRD contribution was €442,020.


**Source of the data:**

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