

1. General information

Geographical Area	Country	Italy
	Region	Sicily
Rural population (1)	Inhabitants (4)	2.7 million
	% of total population (4)	53.5 %
	Density - Inhab/km2 (4)	155.7
Rural area (1)	Km2 (4)	17 174.9
	% of total area (4)	66.8 %
Agricultural area <i>Total Utilised Agricultural Area (UAA)</i>	Ha (2)	1.4 million
	% of total territory (6)	54.0 %
Forest and other wooded land	Ha (5)	0.4 million
	% of total area (5)	14.8 %
Total employment	People (3)	1.5 million
Rural employment (1)	% of total workforce (3)	52.1 %

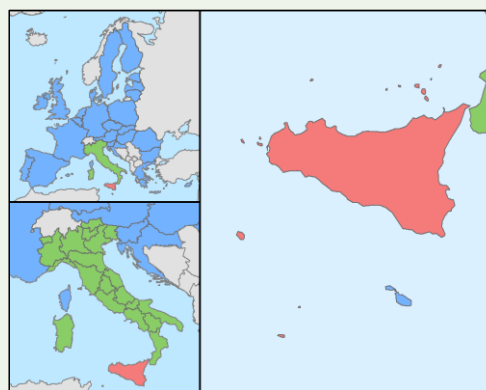
Data source: Italy – Sicilia 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme (RDP). Note: (1) OECD definition applies, including intermediate and predominantly rural regions; (2) 2010 data; (3) 2011 data; (4) 2013 data; (5) 2015 data; (6) 2010, calculation based on 2013 total region territory data.

EAFRD* support: EUR 1 338 712 000 <small>1.4 % of Total EAFRD support for EU-28</small>	National contribution: EUR 874 035 107	Planned total public expenditure: EUR 2 212 747 107
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* European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)

Primary sector contribution to Gross Value Added (GVA)	% of total (3)	3.8 %
No of agricultural holdings	No (2)	219 680
Average farm size	ha UAA/holding (2)	6.3
High Nature Value farming	% of total UAA (3)	56.7 %
Farmland Birds Index (FBI)	Index 2000 = 100	111.7
	<i>From 2000 to 2013 the FBI measuring the relative abundance of farmland bird species increased by 11.7 %.</i>	

Map: Italy - Sicily



Examples of expected achievements

- Almost 3 400 places will be made available in training courses. An important element is innovation: 78 projects will be supported to strengthen the link between agriculture, food and forestry sectors and research and innovation.
- The RDP will support the start-up of 1 625 young farmers and provide investment support and modernisation aid to some 1 800 farms.
- The RDP is expected to support the participation of 1 000 farms in quality schemes.
- About 30 % of agricultural land will be under contracts to improve water management. The problem of erosion will be tackled by placing almost 30.4% of the agricultural land under management contracts combating soil erosion. Moreover over 31.4 % of agricultural and forestry land will be under management contracts supporting biodiversity.
- About 35 % of the allocated EAFRD amount will be used for area-based payments to farmers for using environment/climate-friendly land management practices, including organic farming and support to areas facing natural constraints.
- Almost 1 % of total regional agricultural and forest land will be under management contracts contributing to carbon sequestration and conservation.
- Local Development Strategies (LDS) will be implemented through 17 LEADER Local Action Groups (LAGs) and will cover over 83 % of the rural population, creating 495 additional jobs.

Examples of key challenges

- Sicily is an insular region of southern Italy, classified as a less developed region.
- The unemployment rate is 21 % (2013) but it goes up to almost 54 % among the youngsters (age between 15 and 24 years).
- The region is facing structural changes: total Utilized Agricultural Area (UAA) and number of active agricultural holdings are decreasing as compared to early 2000.
- More than 45 % of farmers are over 60 years of age and 12 % are managed by farmers under 40.
- The main environmental challenges to be tackled concern pollution, plant diseases, landslides and soil erosion.

Source: DG AGRI, *Factsheet on 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme for Sicily*, November 2015
http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rural-development-2014-2020/country-files/it/factsheet-sicily_en.pdf

2. RDP focus areas: planned expenditure, measures and 2023 targets

This section illustrates each rural development priority (P) with a focus on: the indicative budget per Focus Area (FA) and its breakdown by selected measure; and the relation between the indicative planned total public expenditure and the expected 2023 targets set by the Managing Authority for each focus area. The target indicators identified with the country code (IT_SIC) are specific to the Sicily Programme.

P1 - Knowledge transfer & innovation: Fostering knowledge transfer and innovation in agriculture, forestry, and rural areas

Priority 1 is considered a cross-cutting priority: the budget under Priorities 2 - 6 contributes to the achievement of Priority 1 specific targets.

Focus Area 1A. Innovation & cooperation

Target indicator	Value
T1 - % of expenditure under Articles 14, 15 and 35 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 in relation to the total expenditure for the RDP	2.6 %

Focus Area 1B. Links with research & innovation

Target indicator	Value
T2 - Total number of cooperation operations supported under the cooperation measure (Article 35 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013) (groups, networks/clusters, pilot projects...), of which: Nr of EIP operational groups to be supported (establishment and operation)	78 50

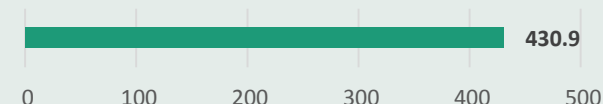
Focus Area 1C. Lifelong learning & vocational training

Target indicator	Value
T3 - Total number of participants trained under Article 14 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013	3 395

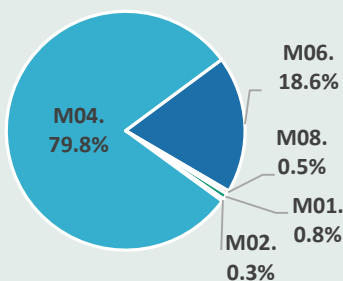
P2 – Competitiveness: Enhancing farm viability and competitiveness of all types of agriculture in all regions and promoting innovative farm technologies and sustainable management of forest

Focus Area 2A. Farm's performance, restructuring & modernization

Total public budget (million EUR)



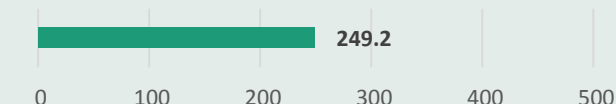
Breakdown of FA budget by measure (%)



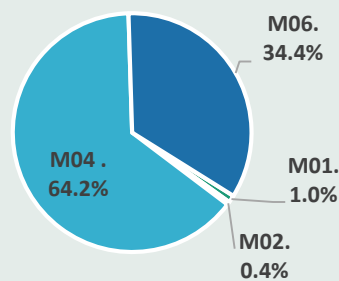
Target indicator	Value
T4 - % of agricultural holdings with RDP support for investments in restructuring or modernisation	0.8 %

Focus Area 2B. Entry of skilled/younger farmers

Total public budget (million EUR)



Breakdown of FA budget by measure (%)

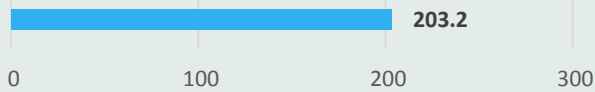


Target indicator	Value
T5 - % of agricultural holdings with RDP supported business development plan/investments for young farmers	0.7 %

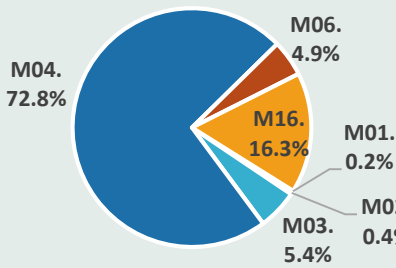
P3 – Food chain & risk management: Promoting food chain organisation, including processing and marketing of agricultural products, animal welfare and risk management in agriculture

Focus Area 3A. Agri-food chain integration & quality

Total public budget (million EUR)



Breakdown of FA budget by measure (%)



Measure m EUR

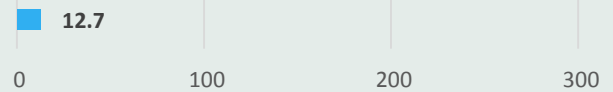
Target indicator

Value

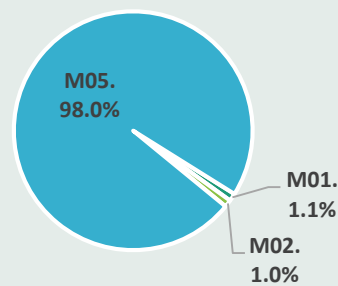
IT_SIC01 - Agri-food businesses supported under M8.1	2.7
T6 - % of agricultural holdings receiving support for participating in quality schemes, local markets and short supply circuits, and producer groups/organisations	0.5 %

Focus Area 3B. Risk prevention & management

Total public budget (million EUR)



Breakdown of FA budget by measure (%)



Measure m EUR

Target indicator

Value

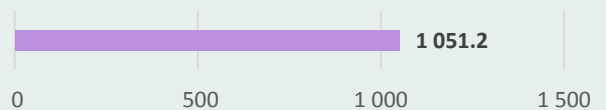
T7 - % of farms participating in risk management schemes	0.02 %
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P4 – Ecosystems management: Restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems related to agriculture and forestry

Focus Areas

- 4A. Biodiversity's restoration, preservation & enhancement
- 4B. Water management
- 4C. Soil erosion & soil management

Total public budget (million EUR)

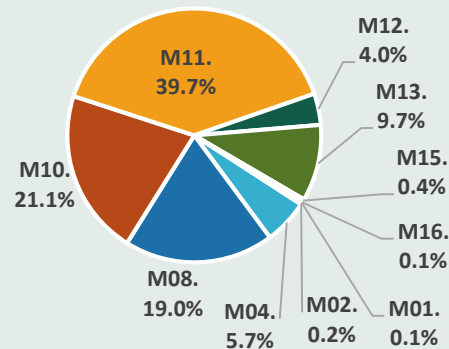


Target indicator

Value

IT_SIC02 - Area concerned for reforestation and afforestation M 8.1	18 044
T8 - % of forest/other wooded area under management contracts supporting biodiversity	0.09 %
T9 - % of agricultural land under management contracts supporting biodiversity and/or landscapes	31.4 %
T10 - % of agricultural land under management contracts to improve water management	30.4 %
T12 - % of agricultural land under management contracts to improve soil management and/or prevent soil erosion	30.4 %

Breakdown of FA budget by measure (%)

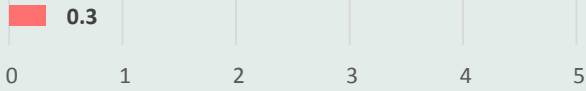


Measure m EUR

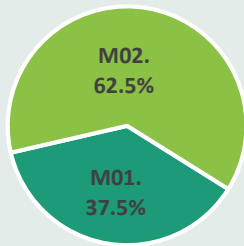
P5 - Resource efficiency & climate: Promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low carbon and climate resilient economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors

Focus Area 5A. Water use efficiency

Total public budget (million EUR)



Breakdown of FA budget by measure (%)



Measure	m EUR
M01	0.1
M02	0.2

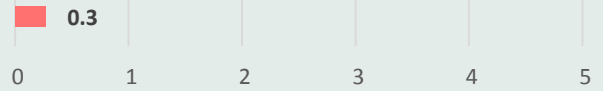
Target indicator

Value

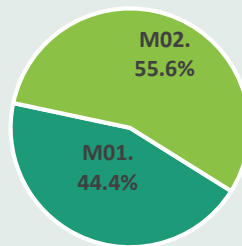
T14 - % of irrigated land switching to more efficient irrigation system 0.0 %

Focus Area 5B. Energy use efficiency

Total public budget (million EUR)



Breakdown of FA budget by measure (%)



Measure	m EUR
M01	0.1
M02	0.2

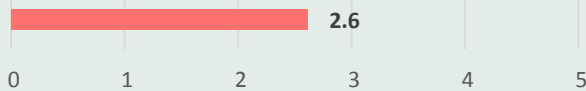
Target indicator

Value

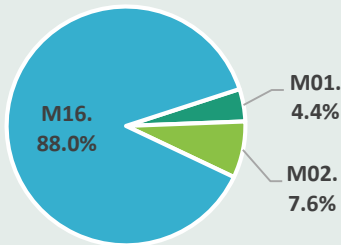
T15 - Total investment for energy efficiency (EUR) 0.0

Focus Area 5C. Renewable sources & waste management

Total public budget (million EUR)



Breakdown of FA budget by measure (%)



Measure	m EUR
M01	0.1
M02	0.2
M16	2.3

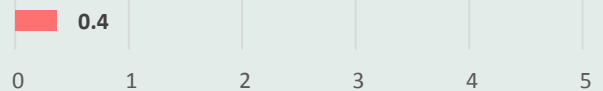
Target indicator

Value

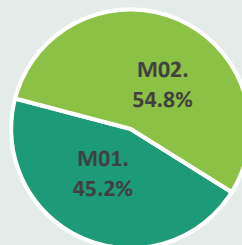
T16 - Total investment in renewable energy production (EUR) 0.0

Focus Area 5D. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) & ammonia emissions

Total public budget (million EUR)



Breakdown of FA budget by measure (%)



Measure	m EUR
M01	0.2
M02	0.2

Target indicator

Value

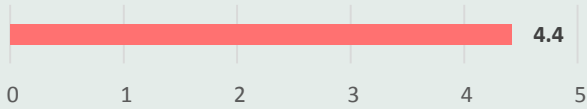
T17 - % of Livestock Units (LU) concerned by investments in livestock management in view of reducing GHG and/or ammonia emissions 0.0 %

T18 - % of agricultural land under management contracts targeting reduction of GHG and/or ammonia emissions 0.0 %

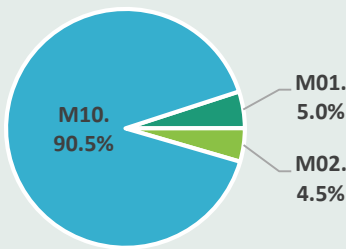
P5 - Resource efficiency & climate: Promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low carbon and climate resilient economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors

Focus Area 5E. Carbon conservation & sequestration

Total public budget (million EUR)



Breakdown of FA budget by measure (%)



Target indicator

Value

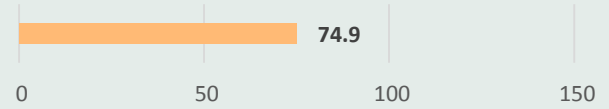
T19 - % of agricultural and forest land under management contracts contributing to carbon sequestration and conservation

0.1 %

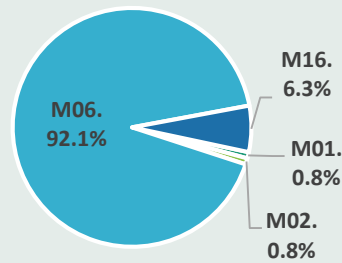
P6 - Social inclusion & local development: Promoting social inclusion poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas

Focus Area 6A. Diversification & job creation

Total public budget (million EUR)



Breakdown of FA budget by measure (%)



Target indicator

Value

T20 - Jobs created in supported projects

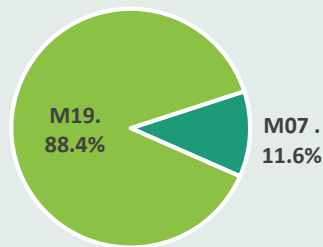
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Focus Area 6B. Local development

Total public budget (million EUR)



Breakdown of FA budget by measure (%)



Target indicator

Value

T21 - % of rural population covered by local development strategies

83.2 %

T22 - % of rural population benefiting from improved services/infrastructures

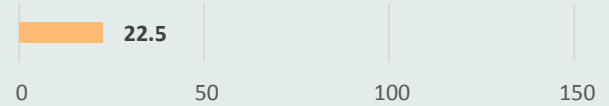
2.2 %

T23 - Jobs created in supported projects (LEADER)

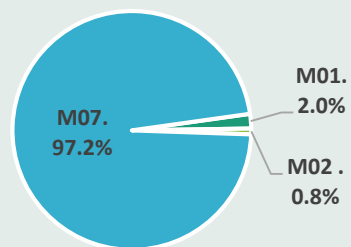
495

Focus Area 6C. Information & communication technologies (ICT)

Total public budget (million EUR)



Breakdown of FA budget by measure (%)



Target indicator

Value

T24 - % of rural population benefiting from new or improved services/infrastructures (ICT)

3.0 %

3. Planned expenditure per priority

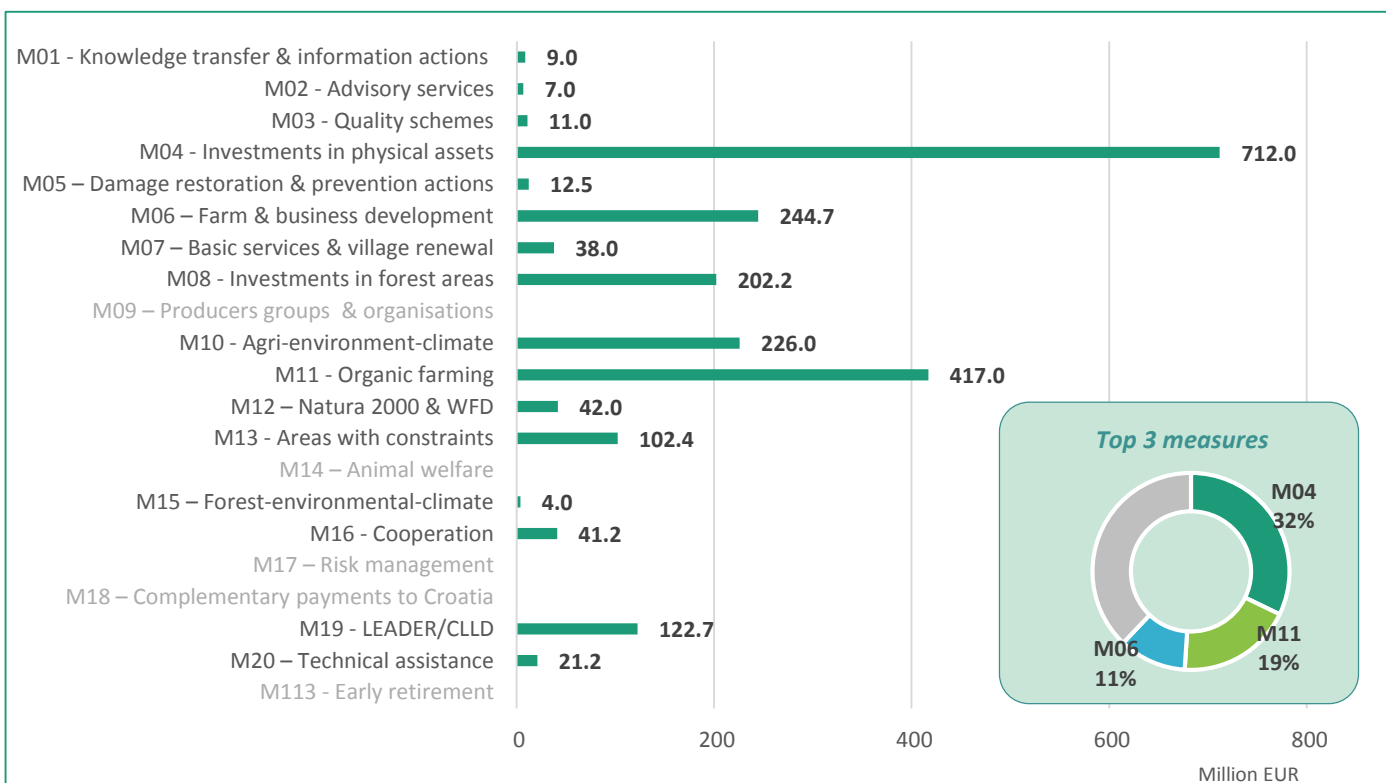
The following table shows how the planned total public expenditure (comprising the EAFRD support and the national contribution) is allocated between rural development priorities. Priority 1 is considered to be cross-cutting and no separate financial allocation is shown as the expenditure is distributed across other focus areas.

Priority	Total public expenditure per priority (million EUR)	% of total public expenditure*	
P1 - Knowledge transfer & innovation	P2 - Competitiveness	680.1	30.7 %
	P3 - Food chain & risk management	216.0	9.8 %
	P4 - Ecosystems management	1 051.2	47.5 %
	P5 - Resource efficiency & climate	8.0	0.4 %
	P6 - Social inclusion & local development	236.3	10.7 %

* Figures do not add up to 100 % because the budget for technical assistance is not included. The budget for technical assistance is available in Section 4.

4. Planned expenditure per measure (million EUR)

The following chart shows the indicative planned total public expenditure per measure (comprising the EAFRD support and the national contribution). The measures illustrated in the chart are the complete list of measures selected within the RDP. Measures in color light gray were not selected by the region.



5. Choice of measures by priority and focus areas

The following chart shows which priorities and focus areas are selected in the RDP and the combination of measures used to address them. For each measure the budget breakdown per focus area is given. Priority 1 is considered to be cross-cutting and no separate financial allocation is shown as the expenditure is distributed across other focus areas. Expenditure under Priority 4 is programmed for the priority as a whole, not for individual focus areas.

Priority	P1 Knowledge transfer & innovation			P2 Competitiveness		P3 Food chain & risk management		P4 Ecosystems management			P5 Resource efficiency & climate					P6 Social inclusion & local development			Total	Planned expenditure (million EUR)
	1A - Innovation & cooperation	1B - Links with research & innovation	1C - Lifelong learning & vocational training	2A - Farm's performance, restructuring & modernisation	2B - Entry of skilled/younger farmers	3A - Agri-food chain integration & quality	3B - Risk prevention & management	4A - Biodiversity's restoration, preservation & enhancement	4B - Water management	4C - Soil erosion & soil management	5A - Water use efficiency	5B - Energy use efficiency	5C - Renewable sources & waste management	5D - Greenhouse Gas & ammonia emissions	5E - Carbon conservation & sequestration	6A - Diversification & job creation	6B - Local development	6C - ICT - Information & communication technologies		
M01 - Knowledge transfer & information actions				38%	28%	3%	2%	9%			1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	7%		5%	100%	9.0
M02 - Advisory services				21%	15%	11%	2%	27%			3%	2%	3%	3%	3%	9%		3%	100%	7.0
M03 - Quality schemes						100%													100%	11.0
M04 - Investments in physical assets				48%	23%	21%		8%											100%	712.0
M05 - Damage/restoration /prevention actions							100%												100%	12.5
M06 - Farm & business development				33%	35%	4%										28%			100%	244.7
M07 - Basic services & village renewal																	42%	58%	100%	38.0
M08 - Investments in forest areas				1%				99%											100%	202.2
M09 - Producers groups & organisations																				
M10 - Agri-environment-climate								98%							2%				100%	226.0
M11 - Organic farming								100%											100%	417.0
M12 - Natura 2000 & WFD								100%											100%	42.0
M13 - Areas with constraints								100%											100%	102.4
M14 - Animal welfare																				
M15 - Forest-environmental-climate								100%											100%	4.0
M16 - Cooperation						81%		2%					6%			11%			100%	41.2
M17 - Risk management																				
M18 - Complementary payments to Croatia																				
M19 - LEADER/CLLD																100%			100%	122.7

6. Additional info

Date of RDP approval	24/11/2015
Italian National Rural Network	Rete Rurale Nazionale www.reterurale.it
Managing authority	Dipartimento Regionale Agricoltura – Assessorato Regionale dell'Agricoltura, dello Sviluppo Rurale e della Pesca Mediterranea – Regione Siciliana
Paying agency	AGEA Organismo Pagatore
Coordination body	/
RDP country documents	http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rural-development-2014-2020/country-files/it_en.htm
National Partnership Agreement summary	http://ec.europa.eu/contracts_grants/pa/partnership-agreement-italy-summary_en.pdf
Partnership Agreement	http://www.dps.gov.it/it/AccordoPartenariato
Rural Development Regulation 2014-2020	Regulation (EU) N° 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) [PDF en]

Source of information: All data and the figures presented in this summary come from the European Commission approved version of the Italy - Sicily 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme. The examples of expected achievements and key challenges on page 1 were retrieved from: DG AGRI, Factsheet on 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme for Sicily, November 2015.

Disclaimer: This document aims to provide an accessible summary of selected RDP content. The information provided should not be considered a comprehensive account of the original RDP content.

Summary version: Version 1

Last updated: January 2016

Corresponding RDP: IT - Sicily 2014-2020 RDP, code 2014IT06RDRP021, version 1.4, approved 24/11/2015.



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