

Promoting the Transition to a Green Economy ENRD Thematic Group on Resource Efficiency

Summary of relevant good practice examples

Thematic Group activities

Three related but distinct strands of work in the context of the TG activities to address resource efficiency through rural development policy:

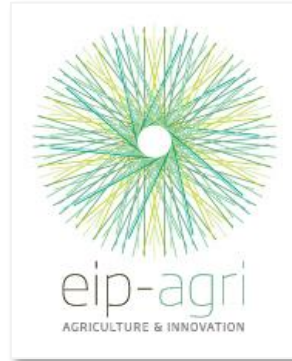
1. **Framing background analysis** of the content and focus of RDPs across the EU;
2. **A comparative regional analysis** in different RDP regions;
3. **Identification and collection of good practice examples.**

Objectives for collecting good practices

1. Take stock of existing projects and findings
2. Review success factors and barriers
3. Identify common factors and recommendations for discussion

Overview

- Over 100 projects from 3 different EU databases and 22 Member States



- **Origin of funding:**
 - 40 projects financed by the EAFRD
 - 49 by the LIFE programme
 - 14 from other sources (FP7, Horizon 2020, private)
- **Total value** of the examined projects amounted to 142.5 mil EUR.
 - Water availability → 71.6 mil EUR
 - Soil & nutrients → 40.5 mil EUR
 - Soil carbon → 16.1 mil EUR
 - Combinations → 14.3 mil EUR

Thematic focus

Projects Focus

Soils and nutrients:

To encourage the resource efficient use of nutrients, reduce water pollution, prevent soil compaction and erosion and approaches to increase ecosystem resilience and improve productivity.

Soils and carbon:

To improve the carbon conservation and sequestration potential of soils to improve soil health and contribute towards climate mitigation and adaptation.

Water availability:

To improve the efficient use of water in rural areas, reduce water demand and stress, and address floods and extreme events.

Projects activities

- Valorising wastes
- Managing wastes
- Reducing environmental impact of nutrients excess

- Green tools for climate adaptation
- Preserving fragile ecosystems

- New infrastructure and reconstruction
- Modernisation
- Adapting agricultural practice to the WFD
- Managing aquifers

No of projects per fund
Value in mil EUR

	EAFRD	LIFE	Other*
No of projects per fund	22	14	4
Value in mil EUR	8.9	31.5	n.a.

	EAFRD	LIFE	Other*
No of projects per fund	1	8	1
Value in mil EUR	0.5	15.6	n.a.

	EAFRD	LIFE	Other*
No of projects per fund	16	20	7
Value in mil EUR	39.6	32.1	n.a.

Combinations of the above three themes:

- Advisory programmes
- Cooperation
- Capacity building

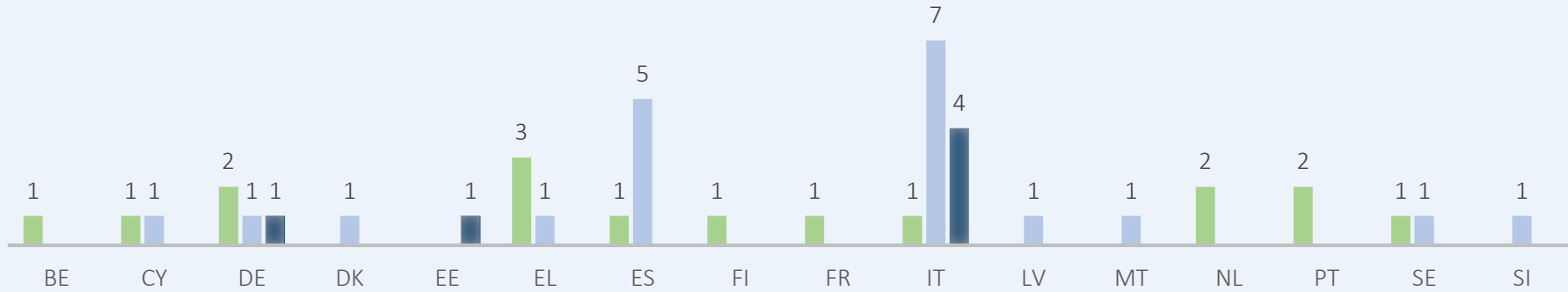
	EAFRD	LIFE	Other*
No of projects per fund	1	7	2
Value in mil EUR	0.09	14.2	n.a.

* Funded by FP7, Horizon 2020, private funds.

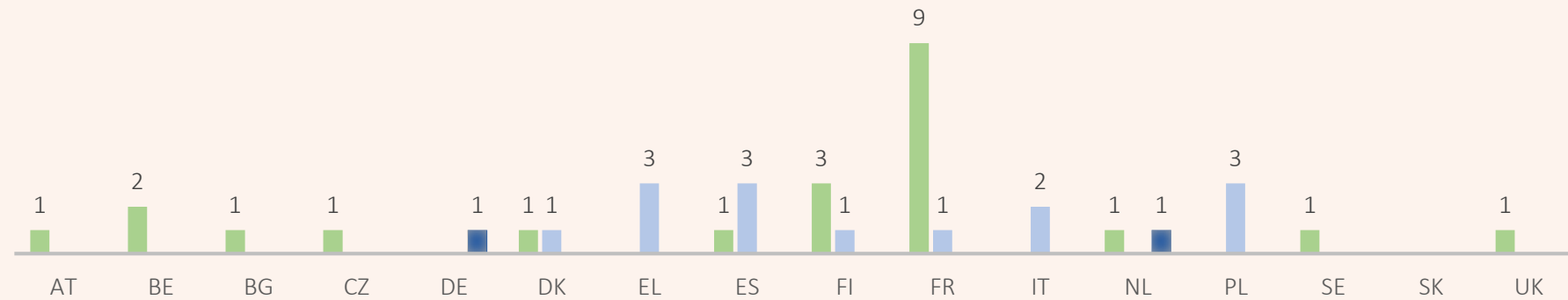
Number of projects per MS & Fund

■ EAFRD ■ LIFE ■ Other

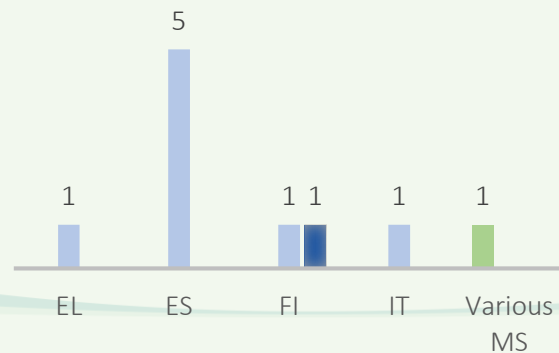
Water availability



Soil and nutrients



Soil and carbon



Identified success factors and barriers

The following **challenges** and **success factors** were identified from the reviewed projects:

Motivation gap

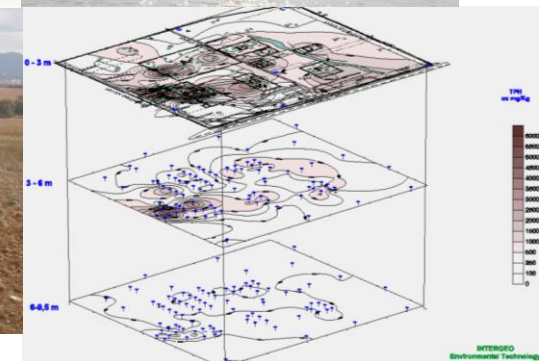
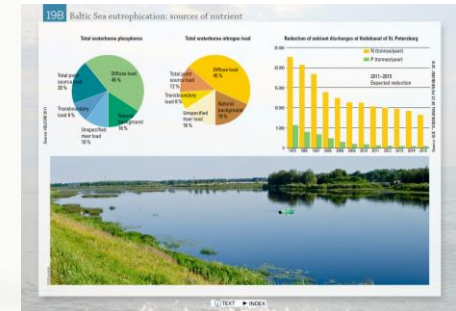
- ❑ Preference for easy and familiar solutions
- ❑ Complexity of available tools
- ❑ Challenges on 'upscaling to commercial'

Knowledge gap

- ❑ Lack of Understanding and misconceptions
- ❑ Need for raising awareness
- ❑ Data availability

Policy gap

- ❑ Policy delivery, e.g. monitoring, timing, etc.
- ❑ Engaging the private sector
- ❑ Promoting stakeholder engagement



Further information on the ENRD TG on Resource Efficient Rural Economy can be found at:

https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/thematic-work/greening-rural-economy/resource-efficiency_en

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