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Delegated and implementing acts Rural Development 2014-2020

Working party on Rural development – 25 February 2014



Delegated acts on Rural Development

Provisions supplementing rules on rural development measures

➤ Article 2 – **Young farmer**

- MSs establish conditions when young farmer is not setting up as a sole head of the holding
- control over the holding shall be held by young farmers
- exercise effective and long-term control:
 - manager or co-manager of the legal person
 - or take decisions either alone or together with other young farmers (art50(2) of DP Reg)

➤ Article 3 – **Farm and forest exchange**

- MSs define content of farm and forest exchange scheme and visits
- Focus on: **sustainable** farming and/or forestry methods, technologies, farm diversification, farm participating in short supply chains, improvement of forest resilience etc

Provisions supplementing rural development measures

➤ Article 4- **Quality schemes –promotion**

- group of producers – entities, irrespective of legal form, which bring together operators participating in a quality scheme
- actions eligible for support: actions designed to encourage consumers to buy the products covered by the quality scheme
- drawing attention to specific features or advantages of the products concerned (e.g. Specific production method, high animal welfare standards, respect of the environment)
- no support for information and promotion actions concerning commercial brands

Provisions supplementing rural development measures

➤ Article 5- **Farm and business development**

Minimum content of business plans and criteria to be used:

- for start-up aid to **young farmers**: initial situation of the agricultural holding, targets and actions for the development of activities
- for start-up aid for **non-agricultural activities** in rural areas: initial economic and financial situation of the person/enterprise applying for support, targets and actions for the development of activities
- for start-up aid for **development of small farms**: initial situation of the agricultural holding, actions that could support the achievement of economic viability (e.g investments, training, etc)

MSs establish the threshold in terms of production potential for agricultural holding

Provisions supplementing rural development measures

➤ Article 6- Afforestation and creation of woodland

Minimum environmental requirements:

- the selection of species to be planted, areas and methods to be use - avoid inappropriate afforestation of sensitive habitats such as peat lands, wetlands and negative effects on areas of high natural value farming
- the selection of species, varieties, ecotypes and provenances of trees - take into account of the need for resilience to climate change, natural disasters, pedological and hydrological condition of the area concerned
- establish other woody vegetation in case of environmental or climatic conditions, including environmental degradation
- afforestation operation leading to forests exceeding certain size:
 - ecologically adapted species
 - a mix of tree species: min 10% broadleaves trees or min three tree species, with least abundant 10% of the area

Provisions supplementing rural development measures

➤ Article 7 – **Agri-environment-climate**

- Commitments **to extensify livestock farming**: the whole grazed area shall be managed and maintained to avoid over and under- grazing ; livestock density – define – all grazing livestock kept on the farm

- Commitments **to rear local breeds in danger of being lost to farming or to preserve plant genetic resources under threat of genetic erosion**: local breeds, genetically adapted to one or more traditional production systems or environment; plant genetic resources naturally adapted to the local and regional conditions

Species accepted: cattle, sheep, goats, equidae, pigs, birds

Conditions: no. of females concerned should be stated, certification by a duly recognised scientific and technical bodies for the no and the engendered status of the list

Provisions supplementing rural development measures

➤ Article 8 – **conservation of genetic resources in agriculture and in forestry**

- definition of ‘in situ conservation’ for agriculture and forestry
- definition of ‘on-farm or on-forest conservation’
- definition of ex-situ conservation and collection

- operation for the conservation of genetic resources: targeted concerted and accompanying actions

Provisions supplementing rural development measures

➤ Article 9– **exclusion of double funding**

Measures: Agri-environment, Organic farming and Natura 2000

- the calculation of such payments shall take into account only the additional costs and /or income foregone linked to the commitments which go beyond the relevant obligatory practices
- for agri-envi commitments under RD for practices referred to in Art (43) for practices equivalent to one or more practices the payment shall be reduced by a lump sum corresponding to a part of the greening payment in the MS or region for each greening practice

Provisions supplementing rural development measures

- **Article 10– Animal welfare – upgrades standards or production methods** in particular for:
 - water and feed according to the needs of animal husbandry
 - housing conditions,
 - outdoor access etc

- **Article 11– Cooperation**
 - Support for short supply chains – covers only chains involving no more than one intermediary between farmer and consumer
 - Support for local markets – markets for which RDP set a km radius from the farm of origin of the products within which activities of processing and sale to the final consumer have to take place.
 - ”small operator” – micro- enterprise as defined by EC Recommendation 2003/361 or natural person or a natural person

Provisions supplementing rural development measures

➤ Article 12– **Risk management**

Commercial loans to mutual funds – duration of the loan shall be between 1 and 5 years

➤ Article 13– **Investments**

- in case of leasing – other costs such as lessor's margin, interest refinancing costs, overheads and insurance charges, shall not be eligible
- MSs should set in the RDP the conditions for eligible expenditure for second-hand equipment
- MSs require compliance with min. standards for energy efficiency for supported investments
- MSs establish thresholds for max proportions of cereals and other starch rich crops, sugar and oil crops use for energy production, including biofuels for different types of installations

Provisions supplementing rural development measures

➤ Article 14– **Conversion or adjustment of commitments**

Applicable conversion or adjustment of commitments under the measures in Art.28, 29,33 or 34

Conditions:

- Significant benefit to the environment or to animal welfare
- Reinforce substantially the existing commitments
- RDP includes the commitments concerned

Only if the RDP provides the possibility for such adjustment

➤ Annex – Correlation table for R 1698/2005, R 718/2007 and the current RD Reg.



Implementing act on Rural Development

Implementing act

- Article 1 - To facilitate the establishment of the RDP and their examination and approval – the need for uniform conditions
- Article 2 - Content of the rural development programmes and national framework
- Article 3 – Adoption of national rural network programmes and national frameworks
- Article 4 - Amendments of the programmes – no more than three times during the duration of the programming period
- Article 5- Amendments of national framework

Implementing act

- Article 6 - Knowledge transfer and information actions
 - expenses of participation possible to be covered through a vouchers system
- Article 7 – Selection of authorities or bodies offering advisory services
 - the call for tender should follow the national public procurement rules
- Article 8 – Business plans
 - when business plan refers to the use of other RD measures the MS may provide for that the approval of the application support also gives access to support under these measures

Implementing act

- Article 9 - Conversion units – for commitments under Article 28, 29 and 34 – for other units than those in annex II
- Article 10– standard assumption of additional costs and income foregone
 - For measures of Article 21(1)a, 28,29,30,31,33 and 34 MSs may fix the amount on the basis of standard assumptions of additional cost and income foregone
- Article 11 – Combination of measures
 - agri-environment-climate, organic farming and/or animal welfare commitments as well as forestry commitments under article 21 and 34 may be combined – complementarity and compatibility
- Article 12 – National Rural Network

Implementing act

- Article 13 – Information and publicity
- Article 14 – Monitoring and evaluation system
- Article 11 – Combination of measures
 - agri-environment-climate, organic farming and/or animal welfare commitments as well as forestry commitments under article 21 and 34 may be combined – complementarity and compatibility
- Article 12 – National Rural Network
- Article 13 – Information and publicity
- Article 14 – Monitoring and evaluation systems
- Article 15 – annual implementation report
- Article 16 – Evaluation Plan
- Annex I – Content of the RDP, Annex II – Conversion rates of LU, Annex III – Information and publicity etc