



## LPIS workshop 2014

### The 2% stability threshold

D.3 – Implementation support, monitoring, IACS and LPIS

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#### DISCLAIMER

This presentation has been prepared by DG AGRI staff in order to facilitate the discussion during the 2014 LPIS workshop in Brussels. The feasibility of the approach is still being assessed. This document cannot in any circumstances be regarded as the official position of the Commission.

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## Legal basis

- Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 - Article 70(1)
  - [...] Use shall be made of computerised geographical information system techniques, including aerial or spatial orthoimagery, with a homogenous standard that guarantees a level of accuracy that is at least equivalent to that of cartography at a scale of 1:5 000, while taking into account the outline and condition of the parcel. [...]
- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No .../... - Article 5(3)
  - Member States shall ensure that the maximum eligible area per reference parcel as referred to in paragraph 2(a) is correctly quantified within a margin of maximum 2%, thereby taking into account the outline and condition of the reference parcel.



## Background

- LPIS workshop 2012 Malta
  - MS raised concerns as regards the difficulties of photo-interpretation of e.g. irregularly-shaped parcels or parcels with fuzzy boundaries
  - MS requested to review of the LPIS update data flow, including clarifications and accommodating boundary stability (provisionally phrased as boundary delineation margin by NL) based on survey and measurement limitations...
- CAP reform – negotiations on the Basic Act (HZR)
  - MS proposed to include a tolerance margin for the LPIS "while taking into account an appropriate tolerance margin"...



## Background

- CAP reform – negotiations on the Basic Act (HZR)
  - MS proposal modified into  
"while taking into account the outline and condition of the parcel..."
  - Reason  
A "tolerance" in the measurement is an expression of technical imprecision  
LPIS is not a tool for area measurement BUT database with validated reference areas (MEA)

A tolerance margin for LPIS  
=> compromise the exactitude of these reference areas

## Objectives

- to address the difficulties of photo-interpretation
  - e.g. irregularly-shaped parcels or parcels with fuzzy boundaries
  - guidance on when (not) to update the reference area (not how) \_\_\_\_\_
- to keep the LPIS stable
  - by giving some leeway not to update the reference area in certain cases
- to avoid that farmers are confronted with frequent and small changes in the LPIS (sanctions)
  - limiting frequent changes due to measurement limitations
  - providing farmers w/ more reliable and stable information
  - less errors with the declaration of areas, less recoveries and sanctions



## How does the stability threshold work?

- guidance on WHEN (not) to update the reference area
- update is not required if difference between the reference area and a new/other measurement
  - is below 2%
  - is not due to clear changes of the eligible area (e.g. a newly built house, change in eligibility criteria or their interpretation, introduction of a pro-rata system)

It means that changes from e.g. a LPIS refresh which change the existing MEA for that field parcel by less 2% need not be applied, if the changes are due to the uncertainty of photo-interpretation, inter alia caused by the outline and condition of reference parcels.

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## How does the stability threshold work?

- it is based on the new area determined
  - photo-interpretation during LPIS update/upgrade/refresh,
  - LPIS QA,
  - results of on-the-spot checks,
  - farmers' geo-spatial declaration, etc.
- why 2%?
  - materiality thresholds used by the ECA
  - no higher threshold foreseen because the OTSC + CwRS technical tolerances area already incorporated (=> area determined, see above)
  - ETS margin (3%) does not apply => serves a different purpose

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## How does the stability threshold work?

- it is not about HOW or HOW OFTEN to update/upgrade/refresh the reference area
  - MS implement national guidelines for the update of the reference parcels
  - that ensure that the quantification of the eligible area stays within the 2% margin
  - taking into account the existing JRC guidelines.

MS should apply the stability threshold with caution in order to avoid that the exactitude of the reference areas is compromised!!!