



EFA layer

Purpose, challenges and realities

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 in the LPIS 2014 Workshop on the EFA-layer. 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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Purpose of the EFA-layer

- Supporting beneficiaries to declare EFA correctly
- Allowing administrative cross-checks between the EFA declared and the EFA layer
 - By providing information on type, size and location of EFA's
 - By using the Geo-spatial Aid application for the declaration of EFA (inc. determined area year before)
- To lower the error rate



Link with control rate for greening

- If the EFA-layer is not in place the control rate for greening shall be 10%
- However, in accordance with Article 30(3) of the draft IA IACS it is sufficient to record all the declared EFA in the LPIS before payment to avoid the application of the increased 10% control rate for greening.





EFA-layer : What should be in?

- Within the types of EFA's chosen by the MS, those EFA's which are stable in time and at farmers disposal
- EFA's are to be considered as stable in time:
 - As a general criteria, if they (are intended to) remain for at least 3 years



EFA-layer : General rule

- As a general rule the EFA-layer shall contain:
 - All potential types of EFA chosen by the Member State
 - At farmers disposal
 - Who (are intended to) remain for at least 3 years



Examples of what should be in

- The relevant specific commitments and/or environmental certification schemes that are equivalent to EFA
 - If applicable (farmer has declared)
 - If it concerns multiannual commitments / schemes based on some stable elements (Annex IX part III of regulation (EU) n° 1307/2013)
- The relevant elements protected under cross-compliance



Examples of what should be in

- Land lying fallow (depending on situation)
- Terraces -> IN
- Landscape features -> IN
 - However, field margins not necessarily
- Buffer strips (depending on situation)
- hectares of agro-forestry -> IN





Examples of what should be in

- Strips of eligible hectares along forest edges -> IN (at least the forest edge should be indicated)
- Areas with short rotation coppice -> IN
- Afforested areas referred to in point (b) (ii) of Article 32(2) of R1307/2013 -> IN
- Nitrogen fixing crops (depending on situation)

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Guidance how to establish the EFA-layer

- The EFA's shall be drawn and provided with attributes concerning, in particular:
 - The location
 - The type of EFA
 - The maximum size
 - The eligibility of landscape features
 - Where relevant, the use of the conversion and/or weighting factors

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Guidance how to establish the EFA-layer

- The use of ortho-photo's
- The use results of on-the-spot measurements
- The use of the declaration of the farmers as an indication where the EFA's are located (introduce an advance declaration)
- Include it in the update process of LPIS



Important issues

- EFA's are on (adjacent to) arable land
- The eligibility of landscape features
- Decide whether or not to use the transitional period (2018)

