

A better life in Rural Areas: Implementation of Cork 2.0



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Cork 2.0

"A better life in rural areas", 5-6 September 2016

20 years after the previous Cork conference "A living countryside", to assess the progress done and pave the way for the future.

***Outcome: 10 policy recommendations used for:
the CAP communication "The future of food and farming"
the legislative proposal for the CAP post 2020***





1- Promoting rural prosperity

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- Recognition of rural potential to deliver innovative, inclusive and sustainable solutions for societal challenges
- Rural proofing mechanism
- Integrated strategies and multi-sectorial approaches

Follow-up, including CAP proposal

- Balanced and comprehensive set of specific CAP objectives, reflecting added value of the policy and potential to deliver on a broad range of areas
- One specific objective on rural prosperity
- Impact Assessments (CAP and Cohesion Policy) and joint legal drafting
- Minimum spending on LEADER, possible multi-fund CLLD
- “Smart villages” initiative



2- Strengthening Rural Value Chains

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- Rural value chains and local productive networks
- Horizontal/vertical integration and collective action
- Consumers concerns: quality and healthy food

Follow-up, including CAP proposal

- Focus on rebalancing power in the food chain, extended opportunities for cooperation and action in the areas of the bio-economy, renewable energy, the circular economy and the digital economy
- Recognition of importance of collective and result-based environmental schemes for the provision of public goods at large scale
- New societal concerns explicitly address in CAP specific objectives





3- Investing in Rural Viability and Vitality

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- Competitive and diversified agriculture and rural economy
- Rural youth and generational renewal
- Digitalisation
- Innovative financial instruments
- Rural / urban linkages

Follow-up, including CAP proposal

- Opportunities for diversification and agricultural and rural business start-up
- Comprehensive strategy addressing generational renewal. Enhanced financial support for young farmers
- Refocusing support for infrastructures, basic services and business development
- Simplified framework for multi-fund CLLD ("lead-fund")





4- Preserving the Rural Environment

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- Policies must incentivise the delivering of environmental public goods
- Need to reflect the variety of local circumstances

Follow-up, including CAP proposal

- “no back-sliding” principle on environmental and climate ambition
- minimum 30% of EAFRD reserved for environment and climate action
- Opportunities for targeted action under first and second pillar (eco-schemes and agri-environmental-climate commitments)





5- Managing Natural Resources

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- Coordinated cross-sectorial policy responses
- Sustainable management of natural resources (water, soil, biodiversity)
- Innovative, science based solutions
- Effective knowledge exchange and advice

Follow-up, including CAP proposal

- Sustainability as a general policy objective, efficient management of resources as a CAP specific objective
- Enhanced conditionality
- €10 billion of next Horizon Europe program proposed for primary sectors, EIP





6- Encouraging Climate Action

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- Promoting effective climate mitigation and implementation strategies
- Encouraging farmers and foresters to provide climate services and engage in adaptation efforts
- Promoting bio- and circular-economy

Follow-up, including CAP proposal

- Stronger links with Union legislation and national targets
- €10 billion of next Horizon Europe program proposed for primary sectors
- Opportunities for targeted action under first and second pillar (eco-schemes and agri-environmental-climate commitments)
- “no back-sliding” principle on environmental and climate ambition
- Climate tracking (at EU level)



7 - Boosting Knowledge and Innovation

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- Social innovation, learning, education, advice and vocational training
- Peer to peer exchange, networking, cooperation
- Links to research and spreading of practical solutions

Follow-up, including CAP proposal

- Horizontal objective: AKIS, modernization, skills acquisition and knowledge transfer
- Broad scope for cooperation
- National and European CAP networks
- EIP and links to European framework for research





8 – Enhancing Rural Governance

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- Supporting local governance
- Common strategic and programming framework
- Respecting partnership principle
- Extended use of financial instruments

Follow-up, including CAP proposal

- Technical assistance available to improve administrative capacity
- Direct involvement of environmental ministries in the design of the plans
- New delivery system: comprehensive single CAP Strategic plan
- Provisions to ensure full involvement of partners in design and implementation of the plans
- Enhanced opportunities for using financial instruments (e.g. land acquisition by young farmers, working capital)



9 – Advancing Policy Delivery and Simplification

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- Flexibility, better targeting and simplification
- Reduction of administrative burden for beneficiaries
- E-governance and simplified cost options
- Proportionality in sanctions and controls

Follow-up, including CAP proposal

- Single CAP plan, enhanced leeway to MS for the definition of detailed eligibility rules, switch from compliance to result-driven system
- Simplification for beneficiaries to be specifically demonstrated in each CAP Strategic Plan
- Use of new technologies for monitoring, system audit
- Output-based clearance



10 – Improving Performance and Accountability

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- Accountability: credible monitoring and evaluation system
- Increased transparency

Follow-up, including CAP proposal

- Refocusing of indicator system, central role of common output and result indicators for clearance and performance review, respectively
- Policy steering through target setting at the level of result indicators
- Unique Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for first and second pillar
- Strong requirements on transparency (alignment with Cohesion Policy)



Thank you!