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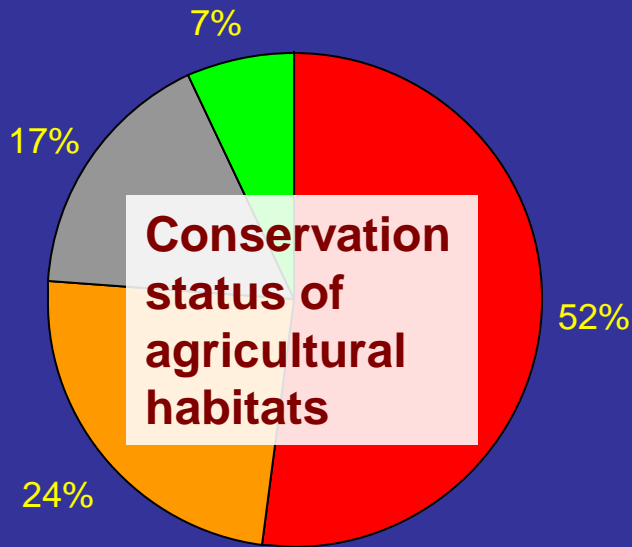


Proposal for a new EU Common Agricultural Policy

Trees Robijns, BirdLife International on behalf of:



We are facing daunting challenges – and agriculture is at their heart!

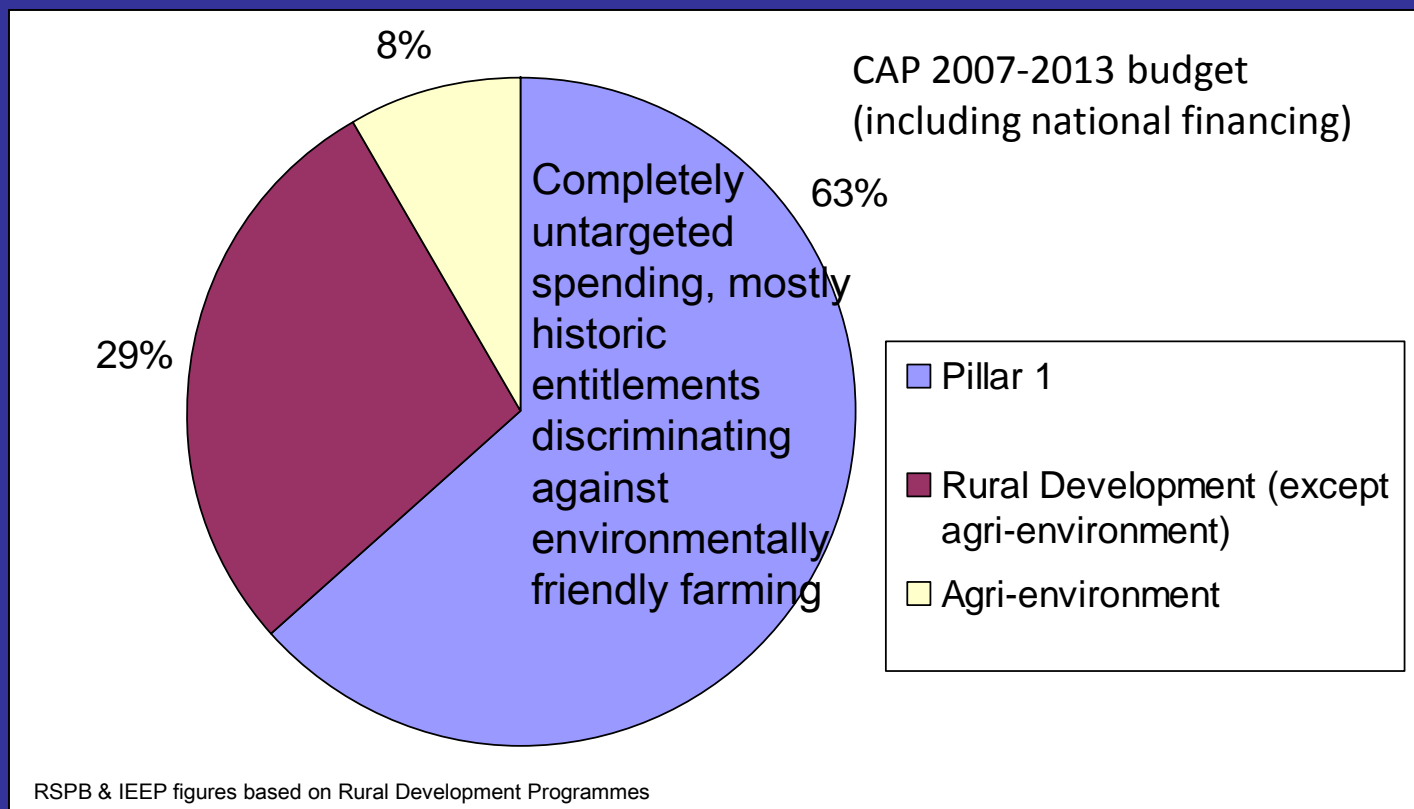


European Commission 2009



The current CAP is not delivering

The CAP sits under heading 2 of the EU budget
“Preservation and management of natural resources”



We still need
the CAP

...

but a different
one!



Public money for public goods



Non-rivalry and non-excludability

- Biodiversity and genetic resources
- Water quantity and quality
- Carbon storage
- Prevention of natural hazards
- Attractive landscapes



Not provided by the market

- Reward land managers for the provision of public goods
- Not undermine public goods delivery



Certain farming systems consistently deliver more public goods

- **High Nature Value farming systems**, e.g. extensive livestock systems and mixed small-scale farming. At risk of abandonment or intensification
- **Organic farming**: holistic approach to farm management, legally defined by EU, certified

Market failure: these systems cannot compete with unsustainable farming that externalises the cost of environmental damage



Policy objectives

- Sustain long-term agricultural production through protection of natural resources and ecosystem services
- Reduce reliance on fossil fuels and resilience to climate change
- Create conditions for supply of healthy, safe and high-quality food
- Protect and restore biodiversity
- Conserve agricultural genetic resources
- Restore quality of aquatic ecosystems (freshwater and seas)
- Contribute to overall climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Maintain historical heritage and cultural landscapes
- Maintain socio-economic vitality of rural areas when functional to provision of public goods
- Connect producers and consumers
- Enhance animal welfare

Policy Principles

- Contractual basis
- Targeting
- Programming
- Strategic approach
- Prioritization: European money for European goods
- Partnership principle (consultation)
- Accountability
- Budget
- Monitoring and evaluation
- A dynamic and cost-effective system
- Coherence
- Transparency
- Avoid negative effects on developing countries

Legal baseline = polluter pays principle

- No payments to respect it, but pre-condition to access any payment
- Rules in cross compliance as a good starting point
- Need to fill the gaps, e.g.:
 - Water framework directive
 - Future soil directive
 - Pesticides legislation
 - Strict protection of semi-natural grassland
 - Strict protection of landscape elements
 - Nutrient balance



Basic farm sustainability scheme

- Reward land managers who commit to **meaningful best practice**
- **Support green transition** of large areas of farmland
- Flat rate payment decoupled from production (EU ceiling)

Main requirements:

- 10% of farm area managed as Environmental Priority Area
- Agro-ecologically effective crop rotation on arable land
- Livestock density proportional to land availability and productivity
- Practices to improve soil conservation



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C. Gomersall RSPB-images.com

Support to systems delivering high levels of public goods

Top-ups to payment for *Basic farm sustainability scheme*
Decoupled payments

Organic farming

- As legally defined by the EU
- Different payments depending on broad types of cultivation (arable, grassland, tree crops, horticulture)

High Nature Value farming systems

- Identified by Member States with strong EU guidance and approval
- Payments based on farm level criteria (not zoning), extra compensation possible for natural handicap or particularly beneficial systems

High Nature Value Farming – a special case



CAP reform 2013

last chance to stop the decline of Europe's
High Nature Value farming?



Targeted agri-environment schemes

- To address specific problems (generic/widespread issues should be addressed by mandatory legislation, or basic farm sustainability scheme)
- Additional cost + income forgone
- Payments for non-productive investments
- MSs could test innovative approaches (e.g. auctioning, payment by result, bottom up collective schemes) under EC guidance & approval



RSPB images



Compensation schemes (Natura 2000 and Water Framework Directive)

- Management plans for Natura 2000 sites and river basins
- Reduce uneven burden arising from spatially explicit restrictions



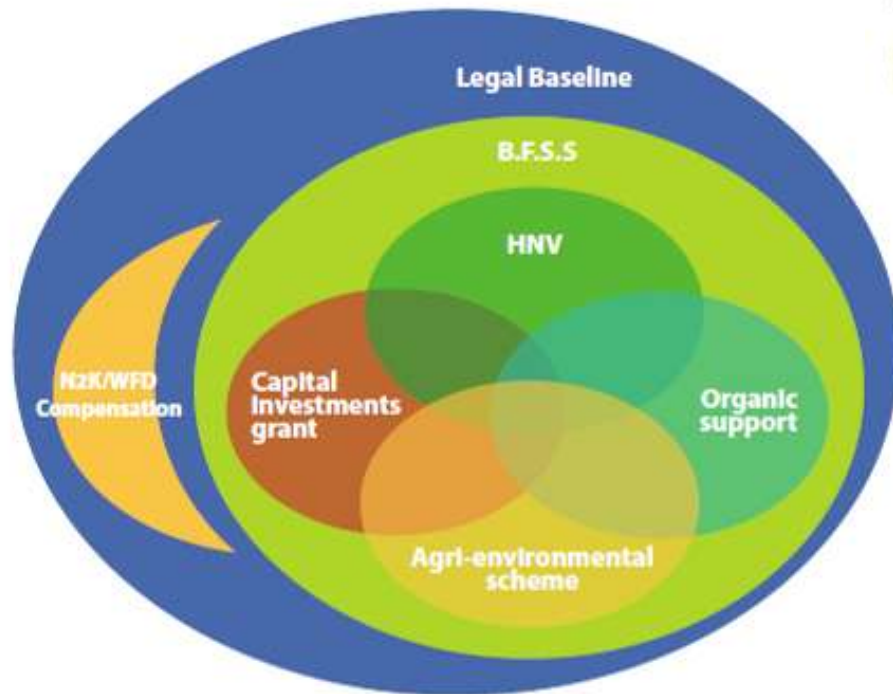
RSPB images

Wider support measures for sustainable land management and rural development

Only if clearly functional to delivery of public goods

- Public services e.g. advisory, area-wide pest monitoring, alert systems
- Capital investment grants
- Support for planning instruments
- Cooperation of farmers
- Marketing of organic or HNV products
- Support for rural communities where abandonment can cause environmental problems





Legend:

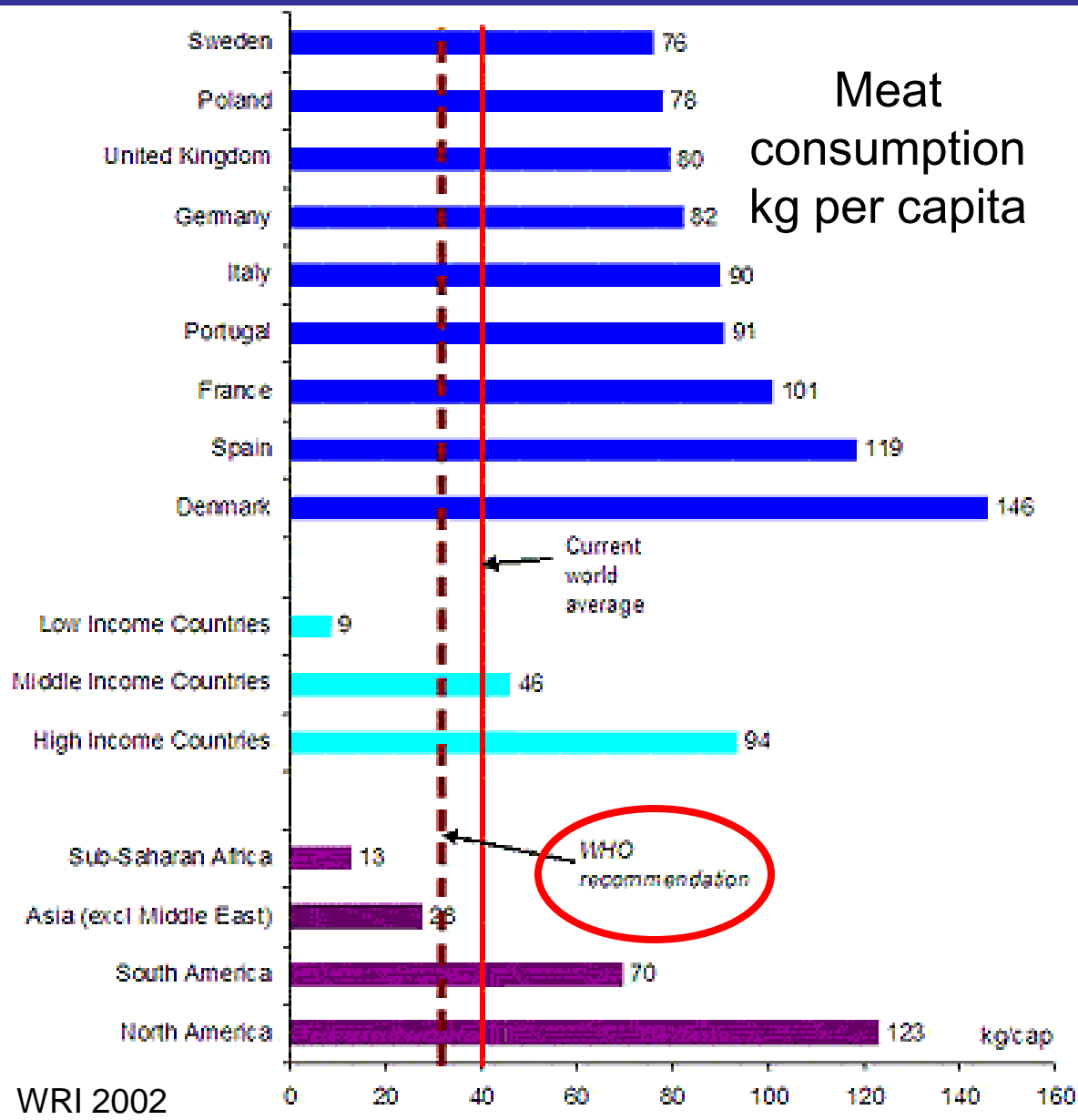
- Blue:** Non compensated - Respect of legislation
- Green:** Decouples payments
- Orange:** (Agri-environment; NzK/WFD);
Compensatory payments - Income foregone
- Red:** Investment grants
- Purple:** Other tools not involving directly payments to farmers.

- B.F.S.S.:** Basic farm sustainability scheme
- S.F.L.M.:** Support measures for sustainable farming and land management
- M.P.&C:** Support for management planning and cooperation
- S.R.C.:** Support for rural communities threatened by abandonment



Delivery of Public Goods to society

Sustainable production needs sustainable consumption



Raise awareness in consumers

Connect consumers and producers to promote sustainable production systems

The CAP cannot solve everything

- Consumption policies
- Environmental legislation and policies
- Input taxation, water pricing etc
- Land use planning
- Trade policy incorporating environmental concerns
- Energy policy



Leaked draft of the communication

- Greening or greenwash?
 - + 1st pillar with mandatory greening elements
 - HNV
 - Natura 2000
 - Agri environment schemes
 - Art. 68 type measures in pillar 1

Thank you for your attention!

