Nature conservation, agriculture and forestry: how to really green the CAP?

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1/ How much green is the CAP today?

2/ And tomorrow?

3/ Some ways to make the CAP greener ....

and may be really green
Since 1992
Pillar 2: Support for rural development
Regulation 1698/2005

Measures:

- Natural handicap payments
- Natura 2000 & Dir. 2000/60 payments
- Agri-environment payments
- Animal welfare payments

2 types of support:

- Compensation
- Payment
In both cases:

- The support covers the additional costs and income forgone

- i.e. the difference between a «normal» cost (not particularly environment friendly) and the cost of agri-environmental practices
French examples of AEP

- Diversity of crop rotations (4 different cultures)
- Reduction in the use of fertilizers and plant protection products
- Vegetal soil cover (between 2 cultures or buffer strips along water courses)
- Retention of landscape features (hedges, ponds, ditches trees in ligne...)
- Etc.
Since 2003
Pillar 2: income support
Regulation 73/2009

- Cross-compliance:

« A farmer receiving direct payments shall respect
- the statutory management requirements (...)
and
- the good agricultural and environmental condition » (art.4)
2 types of rules

**Statutory management requirements:**
- Existing EU texts (18)
- Network Natura 2000
- Ground water (dir. 80/68)
- Nitrates pollution (dir. 91/676)
- Etc.

**GAEC**
- Define by each Member State
- No other mandatory character
- Content less constrained
French examples of GAEC

- Buffer strips along water courses
- Diversity of crop rotation (3 different cultures)
- Retention of landscape features (peat and grasses in Natura 2000 area surfaces, hedges, ditches, etc.)

- *Nb: not very different from the AEM*
And Tomorrow?

- Will the reform really change the CAP?
- No…
- But there’s some interesting tracks
- Too many checkpoints

- Calculation of penalties (% reduction) too complicated (software required)

- Sanctions too weak: ex. for cross-compliance, direct supports are reduced 20% in case of “intentional fault” and 1% for secondary (less serious) “anomalies”

- means of controls are not very performing (as in classical administrative controls, at least in France).
Proposals for regulations

Pillar 2
- Regulation on support for rural development
  COM (2011) 627 final/2

  No major changes...

Pillar 1
- Regulation establishing rules for direct payments
  COM (2011) 625 final/2

  A little more green...
This reform introduces a strong greening component (...) thus ensuring that all farmers in receipt of support go beyond the requirements of cross-compliance and deliver **environmental and climate benefits** as part of their everyday activities.

Com (2011) 625 final/2
3/ Some ways to really green the CAP

- Links of dependency between agriculture & forest and environment
  - Structure & biodiversity of soils
  - Pollinating insects
  - Genetic diversity
  - Etc.

Environment & biodiversity are agricultural production’s components
Somes tracks...

- Change the objectives of the CAP
  - « sustainable management of natural resources and climate action »
  - « to provide environmental public goods »
And the agriculture definition

- “‘Agricultural products’ means the products of the soil, of stockfarming and of fisheries and products of first-stage processing directly related to these products.” TFEU, art. 38

- “‘Agricultural activity’ means the production, rearing or growing of agricultural products (...), or maintaining the land in good agricultural and environmental condition (...).” Reg. 73/2009, art. 2
Payment for (agri) environmental services (PES)

- Researching new agricultural production systems
- Defining real agri-environmental services in terms of increase biodiversity, quality of water, etc.
- Evaluating the agri-environmental services
  - ex. French adm. CGDD, Etude sur les valeurs attribuées à certains agosystèmes en voie de disparition
- Seeking other funding
Thank you!