

# Summary of the evaluation components of the AIRs submitted in 2019

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18<sup>th</sup> Expert Group meeting on Monitoring and Evaluating the CAP





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#### Outline

- Chapter 2: Progress in implementing the evaluation plan
- Chapter 7: RDP achievements and impacts
- What worked well and areas of improvements
- Challenges and limitations

#### **Process**



July

August

September.....December





- 20,000 pages screened by 24 HD Geographic Experts
- SFC tables:
  - Complementary result indicators
  - Common impact indicators
  - Additional indicators



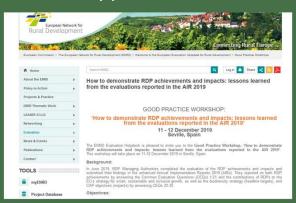
#### **EU** level synthesis

Summarizes RDP
 achievements for report to
 European Council and
 Parliament



### **Helpdesk support** on follow up of the AIR

- Capacity building in MS
- Good Practices
- Support for DOs









# Chapter 2: Progress in implementing the evaluation plan



### Background: sections of Chapter 2











A.
Modifications
of RDP
evaluation plan

B. Evaluation activities undertaken during the year

C. Data provision and management

D. Completed evaluations

E. A summary of completed evaluations



F. Communication activities



G. Follow-up given to evaluation results



### Sub-section d) Completed evaluations (N=230)

AIRs (2017, 2018, 2019), 38%

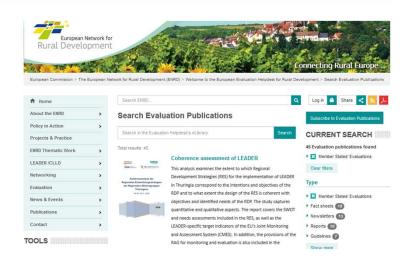
Thematic assessments related to RDPs, 38%

Other, 13%

Studies on agriculture and rural topics, 11%

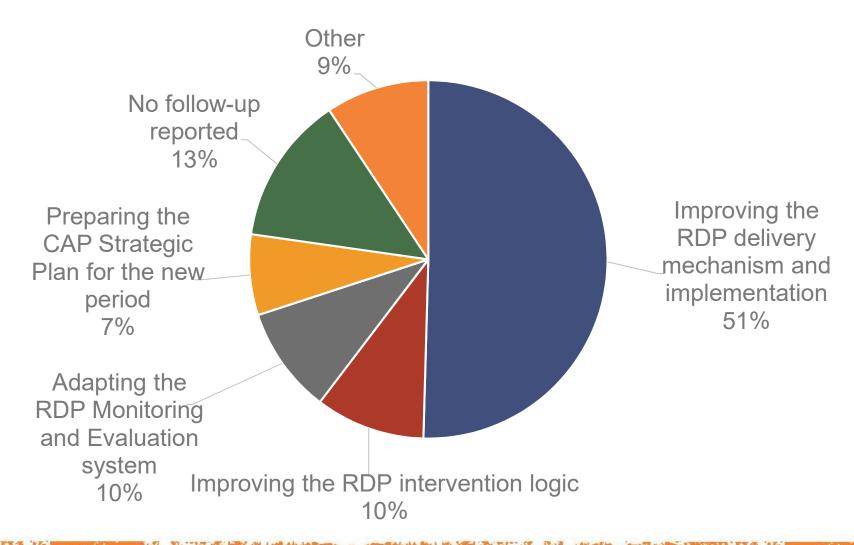
Most thematic assessments concerned 'sustainable management of natural resources and climate actions'.

Member States' completed evaluations are shared in yearly capacity building events and uploaded on the ENRD website!





# Sub-section g) Follow up actions given to evaluation results (N=367)



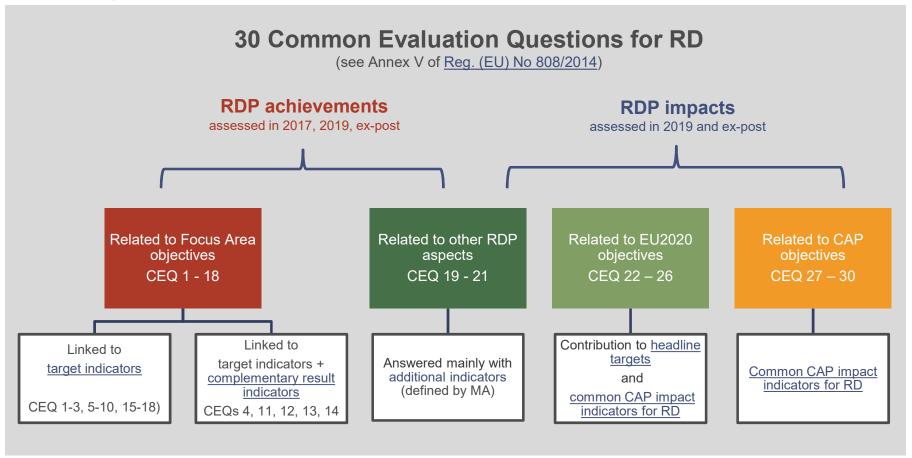




# Chapter 7: RDP achievements and impacts



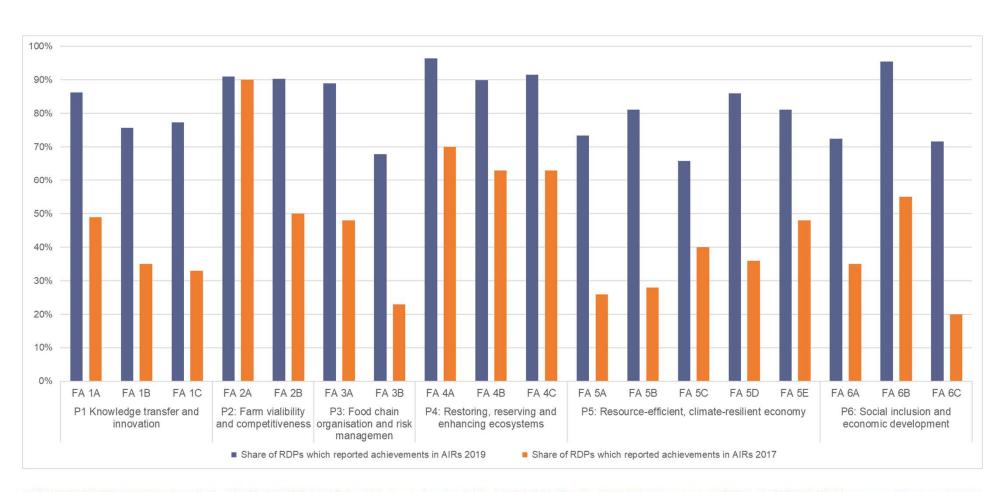
### Background: Chapter 7



- Reply box: Max. 17.500 characters to answer each CEQ
- SFC Tables: Common target/results, complementary result, and impact indicators
- SFC Table: Additional indicators



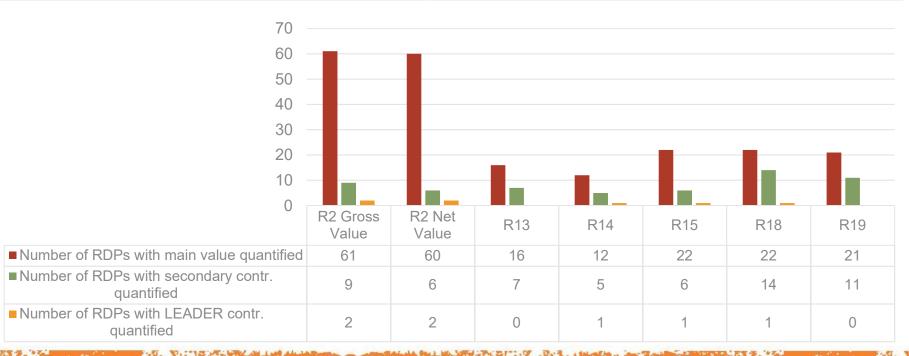
### Share of RDPs reporting achievements under the CEQs in the AIRs 2019 vs 2017





## How were achievements reported in CEQs 1-18?

Common	Additional
<ul> <li>Common target/result indicators</li> </ul>	Additional indicators
Complementary result indicators	<ul> <li>Context and other information on the implementation (e.g. financial expenditure)</li> </ul>





### CEQs 19-20-21



**SYNERGIES** 



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



NRN

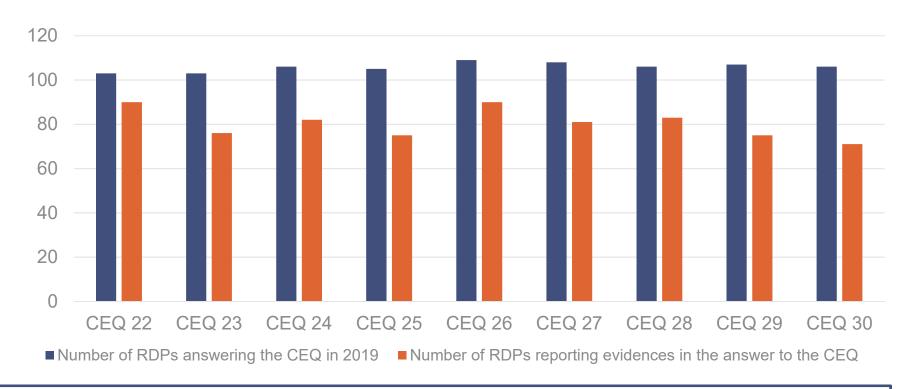
- 107 RDPs answered
- Mainly qualitative methods (e.g. expert opinions)
- Secondary contributions were often quantified
- Synergies were assessed at level of measures and FAs

- 111 RDPs answered
- Mainly qualitative methods (e.g. surveys)
- Answers based on carried out activities and services provided to:
  - Reduce administrative burden
  - Monitoring & Eval.
  - RDP communication

- 81 RDPs answered
- Mainly qualitative (e.g. online surveys)
- Answers based on activities, services, tools to:
  - Involve stakeholders
  - Improve RDP implementation
  - Communication
  - Fostering innovation



## Overview on reporting RDPs contributions to Union Level objectives



Overall, Managing Authorities reported the RDPs contributions to Union Level objectives, however the assessment of **net** contributions was often challenging and limited.



### Level of reporting on CAP (net) impact indicators





Net contributions more frequently reported:

- I.01 Agricultural Entrepreneurial Income
- **I.02** Agricultural Factor Income
- I.07 Emissions from Agriculture
- **I.09** HNV

Net contributions less frequently reported:

- I.08 Farmland bird index
- I.10 Water Abstractions
- **I.11** Water quality
- I.14 Rural employment rate
- **I.15** Degree of rural poverty
- I.16 Rural GDP





# What worked well and areas of improvements



### How were the CEQs answered?



#### What worked well

- The use of common or additional judgment criteria to structure the answers
- The use of a clear structure across the answers
- Visualisation elements, e.g. maps, figures, tables, graphs
- Quantitative findings were often contextualized: e.g. 'RDPs reduced XXX tonnes of CO2 equivalent, which corresponds to the YY% of the total emissions from agriculture in the region/country'





### Areas of improvements in the way to answer the CEQs

- Increase the transparency of the conclusions: i.e. by showing the link between the evidence and the conclusions
- Formulation of Judgment Criteria: some JC did not capture the success of the programmes (e.g. 'the context of the RDP has changed' ← is it because of the RDP??).
- **Higher focus on achievements and impacts:** i.e. some RDPs dedicated most of the space with descriptions of the level of uptake, achievement of targets, or any information on the implementation. *Keep a balance in the structure*.
- Double check the consistency with the values inserted in the answer and the value inserted in the SFC Tables



### How were the indicators reported in the SFC tables?



- Higher number of RDPs reported the values of complementary result indicators compared to the AIRs 2017: still, the reporting level was generally low across the RDPs, especially in the relation to environment and energy
- Explanations on the value inserted: RDPs often provided further information in the 'comment' column + in the answer to the CEQ (e.g. baseline data, interpretations, limitations, etc.)
- Clear explanations when findings referred to 'realised' or 'potential' achievements (i.e. potential of future achievements were often estimated in case of low number of realised projects, high number of committed projects)





### Areas of improvement in the reporting of indicators in the SFC tables

- Comparability of values across RDPs: this can be increased by keeping high the consistency with the indicator fiches, at least for the unit of measurement (see example in the next slide)
- Clarifying if a 'zero' value is based on an assessment: especially for impact indicators, 'zero' values are meaningful. They can be obtained from the netting out and show positive RDP effects compared to negative trends in non-beneficiaries
- Reduce typos: e.g. missing commas with decimal numbers, adding 'minus' or 'plus' before values consistently with the interpretations given in the answer





#### **Complementary Result Indicator R.13:**

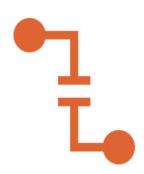
Increase in efficiency of water use in agriculture in RDP supported projects

**U.M. in the fiche:** change in m<sup>3</sup> water used/standard unit of output

#### However, in some cases, RDPs reported values in:

- Only m<sup>3</sup>
- Only m<sup>3</sup> water saved per year
- Only m<sup>3</sup> water saved over a longer period (cumulative)
- Changes expressed in %
- Changes expressed in absolute terms





What were the main challenges and limitations encountered in the assessment of RDPs achievements and impacts?



### Most frequently reported challenges and limitations concerned:



LEVEL OF RDP UPTAKE



METHODOLOGY



**DATA** 



**INDICATORS** 



TIME



**EVALUATION** RESOURCES





## Follow-up by Helpdesk



#### Publication of Summary Reports of Chapter 2 and 7 of AIRs 2019



Summary Reports → <u>Link</u> (upcoming)
Completed evaluations → <u>Link</u> (upcoming)

Good Practice Workshop, 11-12 December 2019, Sevilla



Discussing lessons learnt with stakeholders and identifying priority areas for ex post evaluation

Thematic Working Group no. 8 (in 2020)



Ex post evaluation of RDPs 2014-2020: learning from practice



#### Capacity building workshops in each Member State (Q4)



Improving evidence-based RDP evaluations in view of the ex-post

#### **Good Practice Workshop (in 2020)**



Feed the lessons into the preparation of the PMEF



### Thank you for your attention!

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