

The experience of a monitoring and evaluation activity for Italian Farm Advisory System

**Workshop “Farm Advisory System
implementation in the European
Union: experiences and prospects”**

Contents of presentation

- ❖ Status of analysis of the Italian Farm Advisory Systems (FAS): some difficulties and first theoretical results
- ❖ Realization of an informative system on implementation of Italian public extension services
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- ❖ Some remarks on qualifying features of the Italian FAS



Status of analysis of the Italian FAS



In Italy there have been many experiences that have tried to carrying out an analysis of the FAS.

But this kind of survey is very complicated, because structure and organization differ widely between each Italian region.



Main theoretical results



There are main common features of Italian FAS:

- ❖ the systemic approach belongs to all Italian regions;
- ❖ the classification of extension services is mostly recognized in the literature.

EXTENSION SERVICES CLASSIFICATION

First level services (target: farms and local territories)

<p>a Information</p> <p>a1. Technical magazines a2. Fairs and exhibitions</p> <p>a3. Conferences and seminars a4. Other</p>	<p>b. Basic and local services</p> <p>b1. Cultural activities b2. Basic farm advice</p> <p>b3. Technical advice b4. Marketing advice b5. Customer advice</p> <p>b6. Other</p>	
<p>c. Advanced level support services</p> <p>c.1 Network of environmental monitoring</p> <p>c.2 Specialized supports</p> <p>c.3 Marketing promotion</p> <p>c.4 Networks, data base and multimedia</p> <p>c.5 Other</p>	<p>d. Product specialized services</p> <p>d1. Test</p> <p>d2. Technical advice</p> <p>d3. Marketing advice</p> <p>d4. Farm advice</p> <p>d5. Other</p>	<p>e Managerial services</p> <p>e1. Accounting</p> <p>e2. Managerial and financial advices</p> <p>e3. Support to implement policy</p> <p>e4. Other</p>

Second level services (target: technical organizations)

1. Planning and management advices
2. Analysis of innovation demand
3. Other



Realization of an informative system

The realization of an informative system can give an efficient support to monitoring and evaluation of farm advisory system and also to improve the quality of services for farmers and local territories.

Structure of the experience

Two principal steps:

- ❖ a survey on employed human resources and reached users in order to activities funded by public sector, like regional institutions and farmers' professional associations;
- ❖ monitoring of implementation of the measures financing the Italian FAS by European Community funding.

Structure of the experience

In order to **the first point**, the survey has considered:

- ❖ the number of employed human resources in research, training and advice activities, the degree of structuring, the professional status, the period of time working;
- ❖ the number of reached users by advice and training activities, users' typologies as farmers or other operating bodies.



Structure of the experience



In order to **the second point**, the topics are:

- ❖ status of the announcements of accreditation of FAS advisers and also of the selection of farmers;
- ❖ criteria for selection process of advisers;
- ❖ financial resources;
- ❖ subjective and objective criteria for selection of farms or presence of priority;
- ❖ fields of activities;
- ❖ linkage with other measures or inclusion in packets or integrated projects;
- ❖ approaches or tools planned for advice;
- ❖ number of the FAS advisers;
- ❖ number of the accepted farmers and cost of implementation of the measures.

Some remarks



It is necessary to focus on other issues in order to qualifying features of the Italian FAS. These are the followings:

- ❖ the adopted methodologies for the survey of advice requirement;
- ❖ the approaches and tools for delivering advice activities to farmers;
- ❖ the inclusion of the FAS' measures in other packets or within integrated projects for larger effectiveness of results;
- ❖ the choice of target group of farmers beneficiaries of advice through priorities;
- ❖ the methodologies in order to analyze the change of farmer's behaviour after the delivered advice.

Thank you for your attention

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