

**WORKING DOCUMENT**  
**RURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**Member State / Region : IRELAND**

**1. APPROVED PROGRAMME:**

Rural Development Programme Ireland 2007-2013 C(2007) 4227 of 17<sup>th</sup> September 2007. The programme was modified by notification of 24<sup>th</sup> November 2008 and 15<sup>th</sup> May 2009 (approved by letter of 10th August 2009).

**2. LEGAL BASIS FOR THE MODIFICATION:**

The present modification is related to the first implementation of Article 16a of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005, changes requiring a Commission Decision.

**3. REASONS JUSTIFYING THE AMENDMENT / STRATEGY CHOSEN:**

The request to amend the programme was submitted via SFC on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2009 the final version was received on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010). It concerns:

A. The introduction of Health Check and Recovery Package Funding to axis 2 and consequent changes to the financial tables;

B. The introduction of Recovery Package funding for Measure 321 to fund broadband services in rural areas and consequent changes to the financial tables;

C: Major changes to axis 1 and 2 to reflect the contraction of the Irish economy since the start of the programming period and the consequent budget cuts which have been implemented in all public spending areas in Ireland.

The modifications were approved at the Monitoring Committee of 8<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

The following considerations are taken into account in this modification of the Irish RDP:

- Ireland received a total allocation of €146 326 000 from the Health Check (HC) and European Economic Recovery Package (€26 826 000 from the EERP). Including the member state co-financing element (25%), this gives a total public allocation for these two elements of €195 101 333.
- In the wake of the financial crisis, Ireland has had to make significant cuts in all areas of public spending. This includes the RDP which had originally foreseen €1.48 billion in top-ups for the period 2007-2013 (€1.3 billion of this was allocated to axis 2 measures). In the revised programme, these top-ups have been reduced to €0.5 billion. There has also been a reduction in the core budget for all axis 1 and 2 measures with the biggest impact in axis 2: the Irish government made the decision to close the original agri-environment and Natura 2000 support schemes to new applicants in July 2009 because they were deemed too expensive to continue (it will honour any commitments already made for the duration of the contract).

- Contributing to the environment and sustainability remains very high priority for Ireland (80% of funds are allocated to axis 2 measures and this will continue to be the case). Within axis 2, Ireland has traditionally invested heavily in biodiversity and actions to improve water quality. It has therefore decided to use the Health Check funds and half of the recovery package allocation to fund new agri-environment & Natura 2000 schemes prioritising these two "new challenges". Combating climate change is also flagged as a third priority to be addressed.
- Despite interventions from a number of other schemes (notably those co-funded under the ERDF), there are approximately 25 000 premises in rural areas which still have no broadband access. This is because they fall outside of the areas covered by these other schemes either because they are too remote, or for topological reasons or because the existing infrastructure needs upgrading. Ireland has therefore decided to use 50% of its allocation under the EERP (€13 413 000) to fund a new scheme to provide broadband access to these "unserved" rural premises in order to achieve the target of 100% broadband coverage by 2012.
- The following table summarises the allocation of HC and EERP funds to the new challenges:

<b>New challenges</b>	<b>Amount of allocation</b>	<b>As % of total funding (€146.3m)</b>
<b>Biodiversity</b>	€9m	61%
<b>Water management</b>	€25.6m	17.5%
<b>Climate change</b>	€8.3m	12.5%
<b>Broadband internet infrastructure in rural areas</b>	€3.4m	9%
<b>TOTAL</b>	€46.3m	100%

The first section of this working document deals with the changes to the programme related to the Health Check and Recovery Package. A second section covers other changes to the RDP resulting from the budget cuts.

For the revised financial tables, please see annex 1 and for table 5.3.6 summarising the new priorities please see annex 2, both attached to this document.

## **4 DESCRIPTION OF THE AMENDMENTS PROPOSED:**

### **4.1 CHANGES RELATED TO THE HEALTH CHECK & RECOVERY PACKAGE:**

#### **4.1.1 (321) Basic services for the economy and rural population (The Rural Broadband Reach Scheme):**

This is a new measure. It will be financed using 50% of Ireland's allocation under the EERP.

**Rationale:** To support the provision of broadband access to the remaining unserved rural premises and to compensate service providers who extend their networks to cover such premises.

**Scope:** to cover the cost of extending a service provider's network to c. 25 000 rural premises which currently have no broadband access and do not fall under any other broadband support scheme. These premises are generally remote and isolated and broadband service provision is not justifiable under normal market circumstances.

**Type of operation supported:** creation of and enabling access to infrastructure, and/or upgrade of existing infrastructure.

**Types of cost covered:** will depend on who wins the tender process but could include infrastructure such as masts, connection and/or instalment of backhaul infrastructure and installation of routers/modems. If a wired technology was adopted, costs could include installing/upgrading wires, associated civil works, & associated equipment such as digital switches, routers & modems. If satellite technology chosen, they would likely cover installation of satellite dishes, transmitting & receiving equipment & specialised routers and modems.

**Beneficiaries:** will be the service providers who win the tender process. They will submit invoices to the Department of Communications (who will supervise the rollout of this measure) on the basis of works carried out and will then be reimbursed accordingly.

**Demarcation:** Anyone applying to benefit under scheme must be "unserved" i.e. not eligible to receive funding under any other scheme. Therefore any premises falling under either the MANS scheme or within the NBS boundaries (both of which receive funding from the ERDF) will not be eligible for support under this scheme.

**Financing:** total cost €17 884 000 (€13 413 000 from EAFRD) financed under the EERP.

#### **4.1.2 (213) Natura 2000 payments and payments linked to Directive 2000/60/EC**

This is a new scheme introduced to replace the original scheme which was closed to new applicants on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2009. Its principles remain the same but the payment rate per hectare is lower:

**Objectives:** to contribute to positive environmental management of farmed Natura 2000 sites & river catchments in the implementation of the Birds Directive, Habitats Directive and Water Framework Directive.

**Beneficiaries:** Farmers actively farming designated Natura 2000 sites.

**Scope & Actions:** to introduce & implement sustainable management plans to enhance the conservation status of the site.

**Core actions:** participants must comply with the mandatory requirements for designated Natura 2000 sites. In addition, farmers must also employ an environmentalist to prepare a sustainable management plan stipulating appropriate farming practices compatible with the conservation of the site. Farming prescriptions for the following habitats have already been developed and must be complied with: conservation of the Burren, blanket bogs, heaths & upland grasslands, sand dune and machair areas, Shannon callows, wet grassland and corncrake habitat (for this, farmers must register with Birdwatch Ireland and follow their prescription for the site). For other habitats, planners must contact National Parks & Wildlife Service for instructions on conditions appropriate to the site & incorporate these into the plan.

**Payment rates:** €75/ha up to 40ha (additional costs incurred in preparation and implementation of sustainable management plan). €314/ha for the conservation of wild bird habitats (additional costs of following management plan, production of small scale cereal plots for bird food/cover & income foregone resulting from delayed mowing of meadows/centre out mowing).

**Total cost:** €90 million, all from Health Check Funds (€7.5 million EAFRD).

#### **4.1.3 (214) Agri-environmental payments: Agri-Environment Options Scheme:**

This is a new scheme introduced to replace the original scheme (REPS) which was closed to new applicants on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2009. It will be financed using HC funds and half of the allocation under the EERP.

**Objectives:** Promote biodiversity, encourage water management/quality & to a lesser extent combat climate change.

**Selection:** Selection will prioritise farmers whose holdings are in areas of greatest importance for water quality and biodiversity. Highest priority will be given to Natura and non-natura commonage land. Farmers in these areas must follow a specific management plan suitable to the particular habitat.

Habitats of secondary importance include those situated in an area of concern for water quality, situation in a non-designated area where bird species are at risk, proposal to include a genetic resource sub-measure & presence of non-designated species rich grassland. Farmers in these areas must choose one measure (from those below) relevant to the need being addressed and if the payment level per head allows, they may choose one or two complementary options (which must also be relevant to the environmental profile of the holding). Individual undertakings may be altered or restricted on the basis of their environmental merits (farmers may also be required to undertake commitments different to those proposed if they are more relevant to the holding).

Selection of beneficiaries will be done using scoring system based on status of the habitat, status of water quality, level of threat to bird species, environmental value of options chosen, area or number of units chosen, previous participation in an AE scheme & any other relevant factors. Minimum commitment is 5 years.

Applicant must choose one of the following actions (farmers will be required to choose a relevant option aligned to the need being addressed, suited to his environmental profile. S/he may then choose one or more additional options up to the maximum payment ceiling (these do not necessarily have to be from the same priority group).

**Actions & amounts of support (priorities being addressed indicated in brackets):**

**Actions promoting biodiversity:**

1. Commonage land outside Natura network: implement a sustainable grazing regime contributing to the maintenance of the habitat and avoidance of land abandonment. €75/ha

2. Establishment & maintenance of habitats: (new grassland habitats) Create and conserve areas of high biodiversity on farmland. Delineate site and restrict livestock access by fencing & maintain habitat by grazing (€0.08/m). Fencing will be supported under 216 at €3.30/m.

3. Tree planting & management: planting and maintenance of native trees with particular emphasis on broadleaf species. This measure is supported under 216, up to €2.70/tree.

4. Traditional hay meadows: allow grasses and wild flowers to mature and seed in situ. Nitrogen applications restricted to 30kg/ha (normally 100-120kg/ha). Meadow must not be mown before July 1<sup>st</sup>. €14/ha.

5. Species rich grasslands: Allow grasses and wild flowers to mature and seed in situ. No applications of fertilisers/pesticides allowed. A specific grazing regime to preserve the habitat must be implemented. Topping permitted only after 15<sup>th</sup> July. €14/ha

6. Animal genetic resources: preserve breeds in danger of being lost to farming. Rear & mate herbivores of specific native breeds, register (& register offspring) with an approved breed society, maintain records. €200/lu to max 10LU

7. Traditional Orchards: Establish a non-commercial orchard with traditional top fruit varieties selected from a specified list. 10 trees planted at 7m spacing to a minimum of 0.05ha. €75/tree (this element will be supported under 216). Maintenance will be supported under 214 at €5/tree.

8. Wild bird cover: Encourage small scale production of low-input cereal plots to provide cover and winter food source for farmland birds. €69/ha

9. Hedgerow planting & rejuvenation: Plant new additional hedgerows on suitable sites & fence (up to €32/m). Lay (€8m/yr) and coppice (€5m/yr) existing hedgerows. Planting of new hedgerows will be subject to the conditions of 216, otherwise this measure will be supported according to the principles of 214.

10. Traditional dry stone wall maintenance: follow an annual wall maintenance programme for the farm. €50/100m/yr

**Actions promoting water quality:**

11. Riparian margins: Create a permanently fenced margin, which cannot be used for agricultural purposes but must be maintained, adjacent to identified watercourses (fencing reimbursed up to €3.30/m under 216). Minimum of 2.5m wide buffer strip

(€0.14/m). This should be more where specified. 5m buffer: €0.34/m; 10m buffer: €0.74/m; 30m buffer: €2.70/m.

12. Provision of alternative water source for bovines: fence off water access drinking points. Installation of piped water and trough at suitable point at least 10m from water source. €200/trough (this measure is supported under 216)

**Actions combating climate change:**

13. Arable margins: create 3m wide margin around edge of arable fields. Mow margin each year after August 15<sup>th</sup>. €0.23/m

14. Green cover establishment from a sown crop: very light tilling to prepare seed bed, sow a specific green cover crop (e.g. mustard) at prescribed rate, post sowing rolling. €80/ha

15. Use of trailing shoe technology: all slurry on farm must be spread using trailing shoe or injection system by 1<sup>st</sup> June. €0.77/m<sup>3</sup>

16. Minimum tillage: Establish cereals using minimum tillage techniques. €23/ha

**Financing:** €160 217 333 (all public), of which €82 217 333 from Health Check & Recovery Package (EAFRD contribution is €65 413 000). The rest will be financed via top-ups.

## **4.2 OTHER CHANGES, NOT RELATED TO THE HC & EERP:**

These changes mainly concern the budget cuts made to all axis 1 and 2 measures in the wake of the financial crisis. It also includes the introduction of a new sub-measure under measure 121, modernisation of agricultural holdings, called the Targeted Agricultural Modernisation Scheme. This will help to meet investment needs under axis 1. It should also ensure that Ireland is still able to meet its axis 1 minimum spend requirement of 10% following the cuts made to all other measures.

### **4.2.1. Vocational training & Information Actions (111):**

This measure is linked exclusively to REPS, the original agri-environment scheme. The cost of it has been revised downwards from €4 million to €6.9 million to reflect the closure of and reduction in budget for REPS.

### **4.2.2. Setting up of Young Farmers (112):**

This measure was closed to new applicants on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2008 for budgetary reasons. Commitments made before this date will stand. The total cost of the measure has been revised down from €63 million to €4.9 million. Indicators and targets have been reduced accordingly.

### **4.2.3. Early retirement of farm and farm workers (113):**

This measure was also closed to new applicants in October 2008 for budget reasons. The total cost of measure has been revised downwards from €18m to €267.1m. Indicators and targets have been reduced accordingly.

### **4.2.4. Modernisation of Agricultural Holdings (121):**

The original scheme ("On-farm investment") was fully subscribed in October 2007 when it reached potential budget capacity and no new applications have been accepted since. The cost of this sub-measure has been revised down from €163m (€5m public) to €62.3m (of which €84.3m public). A new scheme, the "Targeted Agricultural Modernisation Scheme (TAMS)" is proposed. Though it will not be financed with Health Check/Recovery Package Funds, it has been designed to target "new challenges" and to complement the support offered under axis 2.

**Rationale for TAMS:** Maximise efficiency in the dairy sector; help pig & poultry producers to meet new animal welfare standards whilst maintaining existing production levels; increase willow/miscanthus production where growers have a proven link to end users; reduce water consumption on participating farms, with particular emphasis on dairy farms.

#### **Scope & Actions:**

**A. Investment in Dairy Enterprises:** Support to establish and upgrade dairy facilities. Covers only milking machine equipment (including new milking machines) & cooling, refrigeration & storage equipment.

**B. Investment in sheep enterprises:** targeted at farmers with active breeding flocks. Aid for sheep fencing & mobile handling facilities.

**C. Investment in Pig Welfare:** conversion from existing systems to loose housing for sows.

**D. Investment in poultry welfare:** conversion from unenriched laying systems to enriched, free range or barn systems (new buildings and enriched cages).

**E. Investment in water conservation:** grant aid for water harvesting and conservation facilities and equipment.

**F. Investment in bio-energy:** start-up assistance primarily targeted at tillage and dry stock farmers to plant willow and miscanthus.

**Types of investment:**

- (a) Dairy Equipment Scheme – Support for investment in equipment
- (b) Sheep Fencing / Mobile Handling Equipment - Support for investment in equipment
- (c) Loose Housing for Sows - Support for investment in buildings
- (d) Poultry Conversion Scheme - Support for investment in buildings/cages
- (e) Water Harvesting and Conservation - Support for investment in equipment
- (f) Willow / Miscanthus Scheme - Support for establishment costs

40% grant rate for all types up to a maximum grant level.

**Designation of the newly introduced Community standards (and of existing standards in the case of young farmers receiving setting-up support) for which support may be granted, justification related to the specific problems involved in complying with these standards and duration and justification of the grace period per standard concerned**

Commission Directives 2001/88/EC and 2001/93/EC amending Directive 91/630/EEC laying down minimum standards for the protection of pigs (farmers required to implement standards concerned by 1 January 2013). These requirements became law for all new built or brought into use facilities after 1 January 2003 and will apply to all current facilities after 2013.

An EU ban on unenriched (conventional battery) cages is due to enter into force from 1 January 2012, in line with Directive 1999/74/EC on minimum standards for laying hens.

**Total cost:** €275.1m (of which public expenditure €10.1m)

**4.2.5. Payments to farmers in LFAs, other than mountain areas (212):**

The total cost of the measure is reduced from €1 799m to €1 647m, for budgetary reasons.

**4.2.6. Natura 2000 payments and payments linked to Directive 2000/60/EC (213):**

The scheme was closed to new applicants and payment rates cut by 14% for existing applicants in July 2009 for budget reasons. On privately owned Natura land, payment rates per hectare will now be: €66/ha for 1<sup>st</sup> 40 hectares, €25/ha on the next 40ha, €18/ha on next 40ha and €5/ha over and above 120ha. On commonage natura land, payment rates will be €42/ha for first 40ha, €24/ha on next 40ha, €18/ha on the next 40ha and €5/ha over and above 120ha. Farmers wishing to apply for Natura support from July



2009 onwards may do so under the replacement scheme referred to in section 4.1, funded by Health Check funds.

Total cost of the measure is reduced from €465m to €438.5m.

#### 4.2.7. Agri-environment payments (214) (REPS):

The REPS4 scheme was closed to new applicants on 9<sup>th</sup> July 09 having almost reached its output target of 64 000 holdings receiving support. As commitments in 2009 will exceed the budgetary allocation it is not financially possible to continue to provide support for new applications under this scheme (an estimated 30 000 in the next 2 years). The Agri-Environment Options Scheme (AEOS) referred to earlier replaces REPS for the remainder of the programming period.

Under REPS, payment rates for each sub-measure are adjusted to the following:

	Amount
<b>General REPS Programme</b> (Core measures plus options)	€200 /ha up to 20ha €175 /ha for next 20ha up to 40 ha €70 /ha for the next 15ha up to 55ha €10 /ha thereafter
<b>Non-Natura 2000 commonage and NHA land</b>	€242/ha up to 40ha, €24 /ha for the next 40ha up to 80ha; €18 /ha for the next 40ha up to 120ha; and €5/ha thereafter

Supplementary Measures	Amount
Rare Breeds	€234 per livestock unit of the breed registered with the breed society.
Riparian Zones	€850 /ha up to a maximum of -4ha in respect of salmonid and crayfish sites and -4ha in respect of pearl mussel sites
Participation in LINNET Project	First hectare €700 From 1 to 2.5ha €400 per hectare
Low-Input tillage Crops	€316/ha up to maximum of 2.5ha
Minimum Tillage	€21/ha up to maximum of 40ha
Traditional Orchards	• €256 per holding
Traditional Sustainable Grazing	€43/ha up to a maximum area of 20ha
Mixed Grazing	€43/ha up to a maximum area of 20ha
Lake Catchments	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whole-Farm Reduction in Organic N by Reduction in Stock Numbers</li> <li>• Traditional Hay Meadows</li> <li>• Species Rich Grasslands</li> <li>• Increase Water Course Margin</li> <li>• Alternative Drinking Points</li> <li>• Buffer Zones</li> </ul>	€68/ha  €103/ha up to 2.5ha €103/ha up to 2.5ha €3 per 100m €4 per ha/per drinking unit €171/ha up to maximum of 2.5ha
Clover Swards	€26 /ha up to max of 40ha

Conservation of Wild Birds — Participation in Corncrake Project	€85 /ha
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The total cost of REPS has been revised downwards from € 503 298 800 to €1 810m.

## **5. THE EXPECTED IMPACTS OF THE AMENDMENTS**

Spending has been rebalanced to take account of IE's new budgetary situation (two thirds of the additional national financing originally programmed has been withdrawn). Under axis 1, there is renewed emphasis on investment support under 121 which should allow IE to meet its 10% spending requirement under this axis. Under axis 2, there has been a significant change to the agri-environment scheme to take account of budget restrictions and the new challenges. This means that while the new agri-environment scheme is likely to have a lower environmental impact than the previous scheme, it will allow targeting of specific priorities with the more limited resources available. Under axis 3, the introduction of the new broadband scheme using funds from the EERP should allow Ireland to achieve 100% broadband coverage, including in remote and isolated rural areas which to date have remained unserved by alternative schemes.

## **6. ASSESSMENT**

### **a) General assessment of the modification**

It has to be recognised that Ireland must execute the remainder of its RDP for this period in very different financial circumstances to those foreseen at the outset. In spite of this, the changes proposed remain consistent with the strategy and priorities identified and allow Ireland to keep to its original programming intentions of a 10/80/10 split between axes 1, 2 and 3.

As regards the EERP and HC funds, these are split between the identified priorities of needing to connect currently unserved rural premises to the national broadband network and providing additional funding to support actions promoting biodiversity and water quality. In allocating the majority of EERP and HC funds to biodiversity and water quality management, Ireland continues to place strong emphasis on the environment which is coherent to both the needs identified at the start of the programming period and those identified in its analysis of the new challenges. It also allows Ireland to compensate for some of the budget reductions in priority areas following the financial crisis.

The relevant state aid notification for the proposed broadband scheme has been approved by the Commission and all changes have been found to comply with the regulations.

### **b) Verification that the amendments are in line with the National Strategy:**

The NSP has also been amended to take account of both the new challenges and the new economic situation in Ireland. It is in line with the changes proposed in the RDP. Broadly speaking, the strategy remains the same – the majority of funds (80%) are allocated to axis 2 and environmental priorities – as programmed at the outset, in spite of the necessary budget cuts. A letter accepting the revised NSP for the Irish RDP was sent via SFC on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

### **c) Verification that the changes are in conformity with the Council Regulation (EC) No1698/2005 and with the Commission Regulation (EC) No 1974/2005**

The proposals have been assessed by the Commission and were found to be in compliance with the abovementioned regulations.

### **d) Appraisal of respect of competition rules, especially in case of support broadband infrastructure.**

Ireland notified its proposed broadband scheme to DG Competition in November. DG COMP has assessed the proposal and found it to comply with all the relevant competition rules. Ireland has been notified accordingly.

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## 7 Financing

**Table 6.1: Annual contribution from the EAFRD (in EURO)**

Table 6.1: Annual Contribution from the EAFRD (in EURO) 2,494,540,590							
Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Non-convergence region	373,683,516	355,014,220	331,071,422	335,372,252	326,098,528	318,171,063	308,803,589
Additional Funds from Article 69(5a) of Regulation No 1698/2005 – non-convergence region.	-	-	15,780,000	28,146,000	25,600,000	34,100,000	42,700,000
Total	373,683,516	355,014,220	346,851,422	363,518,252	351,698,528	353,271,063	351,503,589

### 6.2 Financial Plan by Axis (in EURO, total period)

Table 6.2: Financial Plan by Axis (in EURO, total period)			
Axis	Public Contribution		
	Total public	EAFRD contribution rate (per cent)	EAFRD amount
Axis 1	483,530,752	50.00 per cent	241,765,376
Axis 2	3,396,843,433	55.00 per cent	1,868,263,888
Axis 3	0	0	0
Axis 4 <sup>(1)</sup>	427,609,684	55.00 per cent	235,185,326
Technical Assistance	6,000,000	50.00 per cent	3,000,000
<b>1. TOTAL</b>	<b>4,313,983,869</b>		<b>2,348,214,590</b>
<sup>(1)</sup> Axis 3 measures are to be implemented using the LEADER (Axis 4) approach.			

Table 6.2: Financial Plan by Axis (in EURO, total period)			
Financial Plan for allocated Health Check and EERP funds			
Axis	Public Contribution		
	Total public	EAFRD contribution rate (per cent)	EAFRD amount
Axis 1	-	-	-
Axis 2	177,217,333	75.00 per cent	€132,913,000

<b>Axis 3</b>	17,884,000	75.00 per cent	€3,413,000
<b>Axis 4</b>	-	-	-
<b>2. TOTAL</b>	<b>195,101,333</b>		<b>€146,326,000</b>
NOTE: Broadband [measure 321] is reported under Axis 3 for SFC purposes.			

<b>Table 6.2: Financial Plan by Axis (in EURO, total period)</b>			
Overall Financial Plan for EAFRD, Health Check and EERP Funds			
<b>Axis</b>	<b>Public Contribution</b>		
	<b>Total public €</b>	<b>EAFRD contribution rate (per cent)</b>	<b>EAFRD amount €</b>
<b>Axis 1</b>	483,530,752	50.00 per cent	241,765,376
<b>Total Axis 1</b>	483,530,752	50.00 per cent	241,765,376
<b>Axis 2</b>	3,396,843,433	55.00 per cent	1,868,263,888
	177,217,333	75.00 per cent	132,913,000
<b>Axis 2 TOTAL</b>	<b>3,574,060,766</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,001,176,888</b>
<b>Axis 3*</b>	0	55.00 per cent	0
	17,884,000	75.00 per cent	13,413,000
<b>Axis 3* TOTAL</b>	<b>17,884,000</b>	<b>75.00 per cent</b>	<b>13,413,000</b>
<b>Axis 4</b>	427,609,684	55.00 per cent	235,185,326
<b>Total Axis 4</b>	<b>427,609,684</b>	<b>55.00 per cent</b>	<b>235,185,326</b>
<b>Total Axes 3 + 4</b>	445,493,684	-	248,598,326
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	6,000,000	50.00 per cent	3,000,000
<b>3. TOTAL</b>	<b>4,509,085,202</b>		<b>2,494,540,590</b>
*(Axis 3 measures are implemented through the LEADER (Axis 4). Broadband support [measure 321] is reported under Axis 3 for SFC purposes.			

**6.3 Indicative budget to operations referred to in Article 16a of Regulation (EC) 1698/2005 between 1 January 2009 and 31 December 2013 (Article 16a(3b) up to amount specified in Article 69 (5a) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005)**

Axis/measure	EAFRD contribution for 2009-2013
<b>Axis 2</b>	
<b>Measure 213</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Related to priorities listed in Article 16a(1), points (a) to (f) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005</li> </ul>	€7,500,000 [Natura 2000]
<b>Measure 214</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Related to priorities listed in Article 16a(1), points (a) to (f) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005</li> </ul>	€5,413,000 [Agri-envirom scheme]
<b>Total Axis 2</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Related to priorities listed in Article 16a(1), points (a) to (f) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005</li> </ul>	€132,913,000
<b>Axis 3</b>	
<b>Measure 321</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Related to priorities listed in Article 16a(1), point (g) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005</li> </ul>	€13,413,000 [Broadband]
<b>Total Axis 3</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Related to priorities listed in Article 16a(1), point (g) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005</li> </ul>	€13,413,000 [Broadband]
<b>Total programme</b>	€146,326,000
<b>Total under Axis 1,2,3, and 4 related to priorities listed in Article 16a(1), points (a) to (f) of regulation (EC) No 1698/2005</b>	€132,913,000
<b>Total under Axis 3 and 4 related to priorities listed in Article 16a(1), point (g) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005</b>	€13,413,000 [Broadband]

**Table 7:**

<b>Table 7: Indicative breakdown by Rural Development Measure (in EURO, total period)</b>			
3.1.1.1. Measure / Axis	Public Expenditure	Private Expenditure	Total Cost
(111) Vocational training and information actions	6,917,780	-	6,917,780
(112) Setting up of young farmers	14,945,000	-	14,945,000
(113) Early retirement of farmers and farm workers	267,167,972	-	267,167,972
(121) Farm modernisation	194,500,00	243,000,000	437,500,000
<b>Total Axis 1</b>	<b>483,530,752</b>	<b>243,000,000</b>	<b>726,530,752</b>

(212) Payments to farmers in areas with handicaps, other than mountain areas	1,152,984,198	-	1,152,984,198
(213) Natura 2000 payments and payments linked to Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD)	528,582,998	-	528,582,998
(214) Agri-environmental payments	1,892,493,570	-	1,892,493,570
<b>Total Axis 2</b>	<b>3,574,060,766</b>		<b>3,574,060,766</b>
(321) Basic services: broadband	17,884,000	-	17,884,000
<b>Total Axis 3</b>	<b>17,884,000</b>	-	<b>17,884,000</b>
The remainder of axis 3 is implemented through axis 4/Leader:		-	
(41) Local development strategies of which:			
- 411 Competitiveness	-	-	-
- 412 Environmental /land management	-	-	-
- 413 Quality of life/diversification	332,064,684	139,000,000	471,064,684
421 Cooperation:	10,700,000	-	10,700,000
431 Running costs, skills acquisitions, animation	84,845,000	-	84,845,000
<b>Total Axis 4</b>	<b>427,609,684</b>	<b>139,000,000</b>	<b>566,609,684</b>
<i>Total Axes 1, 2, 3 and 4</i>	<b>4,503,085,202</b>	<b>382,000,000</b>	<b>4,885,085,202</b>
<b>511 Technical Assistance</b>	<b>6,000,000</b>		<b>6,000,000</b>
of which amount for the national rural network (where relevant):	3,000,000	-	3,000,000
(a) Running costs	750,000	-	750,000
(b) Action plan	2,250,000	-	2,250,000
<i>Grand Total</i>	<b>4,509,085,202</b>	<b>382,000,000</b>	<b>4,891,085,202</b>

**Table 8:**

<b>Additional national financing (Article 16(f) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005) (In EURO, total period)</b>	
<b>Axis 1</b>	<b>nil</b>
<b>Measure / Axis 2</b>	
(212) Payments to farmers in areas with handicaps, other than mountain areas	495,000,000
(214) Agri-environmental payments	78,000,000
<b>Total Axis 2</b>	<b>573,000,000</b>



<b>Measure/Axes 3 and 4</b>	
<b>(413) Implementing Local Development Strategies</b>	<b>21,000,000</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>594,000,000</b>

**Competition/State aid appraisal:**

<b>State Aid (Table A)</b>			
<b>Annex II, point 9 A of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1974/2006</b>			
<b>Measures falling within the scope of Article 36 of the EC Treaty</b>			
<b>Measure Code</b>	<b>Name of the Aid Scheme</b>	<b>Indication of the lawfulness of the scheme</b>	<b>Duration of aid scheme</b>
<b>Axis 1</b>			
112	Setting up of young farmers	Registration Number XA 105/07	2007—2013
113	Early retirement of farmers and farm workers	Registration number XA 106/07	2007—2013
121	Farm modernisation	Information on compliance with Reg 1974/2006 set out in Appendix 5	2007—2013
<b>Axis 2</b>			
212	Payments to farmers in areas with handicaps, other than mountain areas	Information on compliance with Reg 1974/2006 set out in Appendix 5	2007—2013
213	Natura 2000 payments and payments linked to Directive 2000/60/EC	Information on compliance with Reg 1974/2006 set out in Appendix 5	2007—2013
214	Agri-environmental payments	Information on compliance with Reg 1974/2006 set out in Appendix 5	2007—2013

<b>State Aid (Table B)</b>			
<b>Measures falling outside the scope of Article 36 of the EC Treaty</b>			
<b>Annex 11 point 9B of Commission Regulation EC No. 1974/2006</b>			
<b>Axis 3</b>			
Measure Code	Name of the Aid scheme	Indication of the lawfulness of the Scheme	Duration of Aid scheme
311	Diversification into non-agricultural activities	Compliance with <i>De Minimis</i> Regulation 1998/2006	2007—2013
312	Support for the creation and development of micro-enterprises	Compliance with <i>De Minimis</i> Regulation 1998/2006	2007—2013
313	Encouragement of tourism activities	Compliance with <i>De Minimis</i> Regulation 1998/2006	2007—2013
321	Basic Services for the Economy and Rural Population	Compliance with State Aid Approval No. N607/2009	2007-2013
323	Conservation and upgrading of the rural heritage	Compliance with <i>De Minimis</i> Regulation 1998/2006	2007—2013
331	Training and information for economic actors operating in the fields covered by Axis 3	Compliance with <i>De Minimis</i> Regulation 1998/2006	2007—2013
341	Skills acquisition and animation with a view to preparing and implementing a local development strategy	Compliance with <i>De Minimis</i> Regulation 1998/2006	2007—2013

<b>Axis 4</b>			
<b>Measures falling outside the scope of Article 36 of the EC Treaty</b>			
<b>Annex 11 point 9B of Commission Regulation EC No. 1974/2006</b>			
<b>Measure Code</b>	<b>Name of the Aid scheme</b>	<b>Indication of the lawfulness of the Scheme</b>	<b>Duration of Aid scheme</b>
413	Quality of life/diversification	Compliance with <i>De Minimis</i> Regulation 1998/2006	2007—2013
421	Trans-national and inter-regional cooperation	Compliance with <i>De Minimis</i> Regulation 1998/2006	2007—2013
431	Running the local action group, skills acquisition, animation	Compliance with <i>De Minimis</i> Regulation 1998/2006	2007—2013

## Annex 2:

**List of types of operations referred to in Article 16a(3)(a) up to amounts referred to in Article 69(5a) of that Regulation**

Axis/ Measure	Type of operation	Potential Effects	“Existing” or “New” type of Operation (E) or (N)	Output indicator	Target
213	Setting up of management plans for Natura 2000	Protection of birds and other wildlife and improvement of biotope network, reducing entry of harmful substances in bordering habitats, conservation of protected fauna and flora	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers receiving support	8,000
				Total area under agri-environmental support	240,000 ha.
				Total number of contracts	8,000
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	240,000 ha.
213	Conservation of priority wild bird habitats	Protection of birds and other wildlife and improvement of biotope network, reducing entry of harmful substances in bordering habitats, conservation of protected fauna and flora	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers receiving support	701

				Total area under agri-environmental support	701 ha
				Total number of contracts	701
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	701 ha
<b>New Challenge: Biodiversity</b>					
214	Commonage land outside Natura network	Protection of birds and other wildlife and improvement of biotope network, reducing entry of harmful substances in bordering habitats, conservation of protected fauna and flora	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers receiving support	5,000
				Total area under agri-environmental support	125,000 ha.
				Total number of contracts	5,000
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	125,000 ha.
214/216	Establishment and maintenance of habitats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New grass habitats</li> </ul>	Protection of birds and other wildlife and improvement of biotope network, reducing entry of harmful substances in bordering habitats, conservation of protected fauna and flora	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers receiving support	3,754

				Total area under agri-environmental support	1,877 ha.
				Total number of contracts	3,754
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	1,877 ha.
216	Tree Planting & Management	Protection of birds and other wildlife and improvement of biotope network, reducing entry of harmful substances in bordering habitats, conservation of protected fauna and flora	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers receiving support	452
				Total area under agri-environmental support	45 ha
				Total number of contracts	452
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	9,043 trees
214	Traditional Hay Meadows	Conservation of species-rich vegetation types, protection and maintenance of grasslands.	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers receiving support	1,624
				Total area under agri-environmental support	6,497 ha
				Total number of contracts	1,624

				Physical area under agri-environmental support	6,497 ha
214	Species Rich Grassland	Conservation of species-rich vegetation types, protection and maintenance of grasslands.	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers receiving support	1,624
				Total area under agri-environmental support	6,497 ha
				Total number of contracts	1,624
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	6,497 ha
214	Conservation of animal genetic resources.	Conservation of animal genetic resources	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers receiving support	545
				Total area under agri-environmental support	18,000 ha
				Total number of contracts	545
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	18,000 ha
				Number of actions related to genetic resources	1

214/216	Traditional Orchards	Conservation of genetic resources	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers receiving support	605
				Total area under agri-environmental support	30 ha
				Total number of contracts	605
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	30 ha
				Number of actions related to genetic resources	1
214	Wild Bird Cover	Protection of birds and other wildlife and improvement of biotope network, reducing entry of harmful substances in bordering habitats, conservation of protected fauna and flora	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers receiving support	1,001
				Total area under agri-environmental support	2,002 ha
				Total number of contracts	1,001
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	2,002 ha
214/216	Hedgerow Planting and	Protection of birds and other wildlife and improvement of biotope network,	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers	1,183



	Rejuvenation	reducing entry of harmful substances in bordering habitats, conservation of protected fauna and flora		receiving support	
				Total area under agri-environmental support	236,636 m
				Total number of contracts	1,183
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	236,636 m
214	Traditional Dry Stone Wall Maintenance	Protection of birds and other wildlife and improvement of biotope network, reducing entry of harmful substances in bordering habitats, conservation of protected fauna and flora	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers receiving support	1,210
				Total area under agri-environmental support	1,210,000 m
				Total number of contracts	1,210
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	1,210,000 m
<b>New challenge: Water Quality</b>					
214/216	Riparian Margins	Protection and improvement of water quality	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers	1,840

				receiving support	
				Total area under agri-environmental support	2,760 ha
				Total number of contracts	1,840
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	2,760 ha
216	Provision of alternative water source for bovines	Protection and improvement of water quality	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers receiving support	3,125
				Total area under agri-environmental support	12,500 alternative water sources
				Total number of contracts	3,125
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	12,500 alternative water sources
<b>New challenge: Climate change</b>					
214	Arable Margins	Reduction of nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O), carbon sequestration	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers	1,353

				receiving support	
				Total area under agri-environmental support	1,826 ha
				Total number of contracts	1,353
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	1,826 ha
214	Green Cover Establishment from a sown crop	Reduction of nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O), carbon sequestration	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers receiving support	688
				Total area under agri-environmental support	6,875 ha
				Total number of contracts	688
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	6,875 ha
214	Use of trailing shoe technology	Reduction of methane (CH <sub>4</sub> ) and nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O) emissions	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers receiving support	1,374
				Total area under agri-environmental support	357,143m <sup>3</sup>
				Total number of contracts	1,374

				Physical area under agri environmental support	357,143m <sup>3</sup>
214	Min Till	Reduction of nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O), carbon sequestration	N	Number of farm holdings and holdings of other land managers receiving support	399
				Total area under agri-environmental support	11,956 ha
				Total number of contracts	399
				Physical area under agri-environmental support	11,956 ha
<b>New Challenge: Broadband</b>					
321	Creation of and enabling access to broadband infrastructure and upgrade of existing broadband infrastructure	To develop the capacity for rural dwellers to utilize broadband to access e-services and other public and commercial electronic applications.	N	Number of actions supported	25,000
				Total volume of investment	€17.884m

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