

Evaluation of the EU school scheme



AGRI.G.3 – 27 November 2018, Expert group for monitoring and evaluating the CAP

Agriculture and Rural Development





EU school scheme in a nutshell

- Aid scheme in Art 22 of Regulation (EU) <u>1308/2013</u> on common organisation of the agricultural markets
- Fruit, vegetables & milk to schools as part of wider education programme ⇒ under single legal framework from 2017 for simplification and more effectiveness
- Context ⇒ increasing child obesity and consumption of highly processed food with added sugar/salt/fat
- Objectives :
 - Durable increase fruit, veg, milk consumption (CAP => availability of current/future supply)
 - Promote healthy eating habits (health)



EU school scheme in a nutshell

- EUR 250 million per school year ⇒ EAGF expenditure (first pillar of CAP) shared management
- Breakdown EU budget by MS ⇒ fixed until 2023 in Annex of Regulation (EU) No <u>1370/2013</u>; Commission annual decision adjusting based on MS requests

HOW

- **Member States' strategies** 2017/2023 (notified, NOT approved by Commission): main elements
- Wide subsidiarity ⇒ <u>choices</u> (e.g. what age group, what products, what priorities) and <u>set-up</u> (e.g. central vs regional/local ...)



EU school scheme monitoring/evaluation

Legal references

- Art 110(1)(b) of Reg (EU) No <u>1306/2013</u> ⇒ CAP common monitoring/evaluation framework
- Art 24(2)(b) and 25(d) of Reg (EU) No <u>1308/2013</u> ⇒
 Member States obligation to monitor and evaluate effectiveness of the scheme
- Art 9 of Delegated Regulation (EU) <u>2017/40</u>
 - Evaluation of effectiveness against the objectives;
 - Details of information in MS annual monitoring reports;
- Art 8 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/39
 - ➤ Evaluation 5 school years ⇒ first reports by 1/3/2023



Enhanced focus on monitoring/evaluation: why

Previous school fruit/vegetables scheme (from 2009)

- MS annual monitoring reports
- MS multiannual evaluation reports ...

<u>External evaluator</u> (2012) \Rightarrow set up common format for MS evaluation reports + standards for evaluation methods and indicators

Previous school milk scheme (from 1977)

- MS annual statistics
- No evaluation requirement

External evaluator (2013) ⇒ define monitoring/evaluation indicators to allow assessment of performance and impact



Focus on monitoring/evaluation: how

- Member States <u>strategies 2017/2023</u>: information on objectives and targets pursued
- Member States annual monitoring reports (31/1/2019): common format and guidance ⇒ currently open for testing
 - Funds used for the supply of fruit, vegetables and milk & for the educational measures,
 - number of participating children and schools,
 - quantities of products supplied,
 - average portion size and cost



Focus on monitoring/evaluation: how

Member States' evaluation (due by 1/3/2023): guidelines to Committee/Expert Group on 24/10/2018

- Definitions/examples for shared understanding
- Common evaluation questions and indicators
 - 1. To what extent has the scheme increased children's consumption of fruit, vegetables and milk products

 \checkmark Change in direct/indirect consumption

 \checkmark % of children meeting the recommendations of 5 portions of fruit/veg per day ...

- 2. To what extent has the scheme increased children's awareness of the variety of agricultural products and the health benefits of their consumption?
 - ✓ Change in children who know how many portions of fruit/veg should be eaten daily
- Outline for evaluation report



Importance of evaluation

Joint <u>meeting</u> competent authorities/stakeholders on the scheme on $11/10/2018 \Rightarrow$ evaluation point

- Presentation
- Webstream for recording





EU school scheme website

https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/schoolscheme_en

(section: In your country ⇒ contact)

EU school scheme functional mailbox

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Thank you for your attention