



# GAEC reporting

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# Outline

- Context
- Main principles
- Beneficiaries
- GAEC 1
- GAEC 2
- GAEC 9
- (Landscape features)
- GAEC 10

# Context

- The GAECs are still being negotiated. Presentation subject to the reform compromise and finalisation of legal text, as well as where relevant secondary legislation.
- Output Indicator O.32 deleted from annex I
- Output Indicator O.31 still remains
- Conditionality is the foundation of the green architecture. Monitoring at EU-level is essential, for evaluating the CAP, and in light of the role of these GAECs for broader EU political priorities in relation to climate mitigation and biodiversity
- Individual data for monitoring and evaluation (see note “Data needs for Monitoring and Evaluation – simplification”, presented in the GREX on 27/4/2021)

# Main principles

- Simple: No extra burden for beneficiaries coming from reporting requirements. For Member States: focus on information already available, information needed to comply with the legal requirements linked to conditionality and to manage voluntary commitments on the same areas.
- Focus on declared area (not paid or determined)
- Calendar year versus financial year. Coherent approach to be set.
- Simplified reporting of data on selected GAECs
  - Beneficiaries
  - Areas
- Only four key GAECs: GAEC 1, 9 and 10 (current greening) + new GAEC 2 on wetlands and peatlands, which are key to climate mitigation and biodiversity.

# Beneficiaries

- The beneficiaries subject to:
  - GAECs 1, 2, 9 and 10
  - Simple yes/no question for each of the mentioned GAECs.
  - Total number of farmers subject to each of the four GAEC obligations (aggregated by DG Agri).

# GAEC 1

- GAEC text: “Maintenance of permanent grassland based on a ratio of permanent grassland in relation to agricultural area”
- Article 12(4): Empowerment for delegated act on the elements of the system of the ratio of permanent grassland: E.g. the year of reference (2018), obligation to convert above 5%, calculation/evolution of the ratio.
- To report on:
  - **Permanent grassland (PG) areas per beneficiary (behind the calculation of the PG ratio)**
- In case the Member State will apply a pro rata system on permanent grassland (to be confirmed), only areas after the application of pro rata should be reported.
- [The agricultural area per beneficiary (behind the calculation of the PG ratio), in principle already foreseen as part of the individual data to be submitted for monitoring and evaluation]

# GAEC 2 Wetland and Peatland

- Reporting on
  - Areas of peatland. Split on arable land, permanent grassland and permanent crops
  - Areas of wetland.
- To identify wetlands and peatlands on agricultural area, Member States may use existing national mapping and elaborate a specific cartographic layer based on this mapping.
- Maps of peatlands and wetlands to be protected under GAEC 2 could be incorporated into an additional layer in LPIS feeding farmers' declaration.
- Commission's JRC guidance for identification and mapping of carbon rich soils is being developed. JRC has recently started the project SEPLA which will provide technical guidance on the creation of LPIS carbon layer. MS will need to inform farmers about localisation and extent of areas under the obligation and check compliance with the requirements.

## GAEC 9 Share of non-productive features (tbc)

- GAEC still being negotiated. Possible limitation to arable land.
- Reporting on
  - Areas of non-productive features used to fulfill the obligation
  - *Split on: Land lying fallow, woody features, “herbaceous (field margins, strips, patches and buffer strips)”, “ditches and streams”, “small ponds and small wetlands”, “stonewalls, cairns and terraces” and cultural features (reflecting LUCAS landscape features categories. Note: not imposing the LUCAS definitions)*
  - [« Arable land » of farmers subject to this GAEC, is foreseen to be provided]
- Only declared areas to fulfil obligation on the share of non-productive features, no potential areas needed.
- Measurement based on actual dimensions of landscape features or by application of conversion factors if used by MS
- Delineation of areas is needed to calculate the ratio and check specific requirements (i.e. delineation of areas where there is no fertiliser use on bufferstrips, where there are field margins with no production). Where additional areas are supported of features are created under ES or 2<sup>nd</sup> pillar these need to be distinguished.
- Simplification in scope: No need to provide data on the « Retention » part of GAEC 9



# (Separate work on landscape features)

- Separate work on-going on landscape features:
  - JRC is collecting information on landscape Features both at EU and MS level for context and CAP implementation: data availability, quantification, implementation issues
  - Some streamlining at EU level on-going: Typology, data integration ...
  - Proposal for collaboration with MS on a voluntary basis: so far only BE-Wa, CZ, SI interested
  - Interested to participate: Email to [JRC-wiki-CAP-SP@ec.europa.eu](mailto:JRC-wiki-CAP-SP@ec.europa.eu)

## GAEC 10 Ban on converting or ploughing permanent grassland in Natura 2000 sites designated as environmentally-sensitive permanent grasslands in Natura 2000 sites.

- Report the areas under the obligation: Permanent grassland subject to ban of converting/ploughing per beneficiary
- Identification of these areas of permanent grassland is necessary to distinguish permanent grassland from temporary grassland and fallow land and thus to identify grassland that must not be ploughed or converted. Permanent grassland created and maintained with EAFRD AEC interventions or eco-schemes need to be distinguished if subject to other conditions (e.g. fertilisation, special type of vegetation).



Thank you for the attention