

EN

ANNEX I

Part 1 - Content of Rural development programmes

1. Title of the Rural Development Programme (RDP)

2. Member State or administrative region

- (a) Geographical area covered by the programme
- (b) Classification of the region.

3. Ex ante evaluation

Not applicable to national programmes dedicated to joint instruments implemented by the EIB referred to in point (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 39(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013

- (a) Description of the process, including timing of main events, intermediate reports, in relation to the key stages of Rural Development Programme development.
- (b) Structured table containing the recommendations of the *ex ante* evaluation and how they have been addressed.
- (c) The complete ex ante evaluation report (including the Strategic Environmental Assessment –SEA- requirements) shall be annexed to the Rural Development Programme.

4. SWOT and identification of needs

Not applicable to national programmes dedicated to joint instruments implemented by the EIB referred to in point (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 39(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013

- (a) SWOT analysis containing the following sections:
 - i. Comprehensive overall description of the current situation of the programming area, based on common and programme-specific context indicators and qualitative information
 - ii. Strengths identified in the programming area
 - iii. Weaknesses identified in the programming area
 - iv. Opportunities identified in the programming area
 - v. Threats identified in the programming area
 - vi. Structured table containing the data for the common and programme-specific context indicators.
- (b) Needs assessment, based on evidence from the SWOT analysis, for each Union priority for rural development (hereafter "priority") and focus area and the

three cross-cutting objectives (environment; climate change mitigation and adaptation; innovation).

5. Description of the strategy

- (a) A justification of the needs selected to be addressed by the RDP, and the choice of objectives, priorities, focus areas and the target setting based on evidence from the SWOT and the needs assessment. Where relevant, a justification of thematic sub-programmes included in the programme. The justification shall in particular demonstrate the requirements referred to in Article 8(1)(c)(i) and (iv) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013.
- (b) The combination and justification of the rural development measures for each focus area including the justification of the financial allocations to the measures and the adequacy of the financial resources with the targets set as referred to in Article 8(1)(c)(ii) and (iii). The combination of measures included in the intervention logic shall be based on the evidence from the SWOT analysis and justification and prioritisation of needs under point a.
- (c) A description of how the cross-cutting objectives will be addressed, including the specific requirements in Article 8(1)(c)(v).
- (d) A summary table of the intervention logic showing the priorities and focus areas selected for the RDP, the quantified targets, and the combination of measures to be used to achieve them, including the planned expenditure. The summary table shall be automatically generated from the information provided in points 5(b), 11 of this Annex [, using the characteristics of SFC2014 referred to in Article 4(a) and (b) of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No [CPR SFC].
- (e) A description of the advisory capacity to ensure adequate advice and support for the regulatory requirements and for actions related to innovation to demonstrate the measures taken as required in Article 8(1)(c)(vi).

6. Assessment of ex ante conditionalities comprising the following structured tables:

- (a) Information on the assessment of the applicability of ex-ante conditionalities
- (b) For each applicable general and priority-linked ex-ante conditionality in one table:
 - i. assessment of its fulfilment and;
 - ii. list of priorities/focus areas and measures to which the conditionality applies. An indicative list of priorities/focus areas and measures of particular relevance to each ex-ante conditionality is set out in Part 3 of this Annex;
 - iii. list of relevant criteria as well as an assessment of their fulfilment;
 - iv. references to the strategies, legal acts or other relevant document, including references to relevant sections, articles documenting the fulfilment of a given criterion.

- (c) Two separate tables, one for applicable general and one for applicable priority linked ex-ante conditionalities which are completely unfilled or partially fulfilled providing each the following information:
 - i. identification of the criteria not fulfilled,
 - ii. actions to be taken for the fulfilment of each of those criteria,
 - iii. deadlines for these actions, and
 - iv. bodies responsible for the fulfilment.

7. Description of the performance framework

Not applicable to national programmes dedicated to joint instruments implemented by the EIB referred to in point (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 39(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013

- (a) Justification of the selection of the indicators as referred to in Article 14(2) of this Regulation and, where relevant, key implementation steps, as well as of the allocation of the performance reserve. It shall also include the justification of the Milestones setting. However, the targets setting should be justified under the Strategy, point 5(a) of this Annex.
- (b) A table setting out for each priority the allocation of the performance reserve, and for each indicator:
 - i. Targets for 2023. Targets should not take into account additional national financing, as referred to in point 12 and 13 of this Annex 1;
 - ii. Milestones for 2018 based on the targets.

In case, the total EAFRD amount allocated to the performance reserve differs from the pro-rata distribution¹ of the total national EAFRD performance reserve allocation in the partnership agreement to all national and regional programmes, with the exception of national programmes dedicated to joint instruments implemented by the EIB in accordance with [Common Provisions Regulation \(CPR\)](#) article 39, justification of the amount of the performance reserve allocation.

8. Description of the measures selected

- (1) Description of the general conditions applied to more than one measure including, when relevant, definition of rural area, baselines, cross-compliance, intended use of financial instruments, intended use of advances, common provisions for investments, etc.
- (2) Description by measure including:
 - (a) Legal basis.
 - (b) General description of the measure including its intervention logic and contribution to focus areas and cross-cutting objectives.
 - (c) Scope, level of support, eligible beneficiaries, and where relevant, methodology for calculation of the amount or support rate broken down by sub-measure and/or type of operation where necessary. For each type of operation specification of eligible costs, eligibility conditions,

¹ Using the total EAFRD contribution to each of the programmes concerned.

applicable amounts and support rates and principles with regards to the setting of selection criteria.

- (d) Description of the verifiability and controllability of the measures and/or types of operations:
- i. Risk(s) in the implementation of the measures;
 - ii. Mitigating actions;
 - iii. Overall assessment of the measure.

- (e) Description specific to the each measure and/or type of operation as follows:

1. Knowledge transfer and information actions

- Definition of appropriate capacities of bodies providing knowledge transfer services to carry out their tasks in the form of staff qualifications and regular training;
- Definition of the duration and content of farm and forest exchange schemes and visits as referred to in Article 3 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013;

2. Advisory services, farm management and farm relief services

- General principles to ensure appropriate resources in the form of regularly trained and qualified staff and advisory experience and reliability with respect to the field of advice. Identification of the elements that the advice will cover;

3. Quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs

- Indication of eligible quality schemes, including farm certification schemes, for agricultural products, cotton or foodstuffs recognized at national level and confirmation that these quality schemes are fulfilling the 4 specific criteria of Article 16(1)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013;
- Indication of eligible voluntary agricultural product certification schemes recognized by the Member State as meeting the Union best practice guidelines;

4. Investments in physical assets

- Definition of non productive investments;
- Definition of collective investments;
- Definition of integrated projects;
- Definition and identification of the eligible Natura 2000 and other eligible High Nature Value Areas;
- Description of the targeting of the support to farms in accordance with the SWOT carried out in relation to the priority referred to in Article 5(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013;
- List of new requirements imposed by Union legislation addressed;

5. Farm and business development

- [Definition of a small farm scheme as referred to in Article 19(1)(a)(iii)] of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013;
- Definition of upper and lower thresholds as foreseen in Article 19(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013;
- Specific conditions for support for young farmers where not setting up as a sole head of the holding in accordance with Article 2(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013;
- Information on the application of the grace period referred to in Article 2(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013;
- Summary of the requirements of the business plan;
- Use of the possibility to combine different measures through the business plan giving access of the young farmer to these measures;
- [Domains of diversification covered]

6. Basic services and village reveal in rural areas

- Definition of small scale infrastructure;
- If applicable, specific derogation for investments in broad band and renewable energy, so that also bigger scale infrastructure could be supported;
- The minimum standards for energy efficiency referred to in Article 13(c) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013;
- Definition of the thresholds referred to in Article 13(e) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013;

7. Investments in forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests

- Definition and justification of the holding size above for which support will be conditional on the submission of a forest management plan or equivalent instrument;
- Definition of an "equivalent instrument";

Afforestation and creation of woodlands

- Identification of species, areas and methods to be used to avoid inappropriate afforestation as referred to in Article 6(a) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, including the description of the environmental and climatic conditions of the areas in which afforestation is foreseen as referred to in Article 6(b) of the same Regulation;
- Definition of the minimum environmental requirements referred to in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013;

Establishment of agro-forestry systems

- Specification of minimum and maximum number of trees to be planted per hectare and forest species admitted;
- Indication of environmental benefits of the supported systems;

Prevention and restoration of damage to forest fires and natural disasters and catastrophic events

- Where relevant, list of species of organisms harmful to plants which may cause a disaster;
- Identification of forest areas classified as being at medium to high risk of forest fire according to the relevant forest protection plan;
- In case of preventive actions concerning pests and diseases, description of a relevant disaster occurrence, supported by scientific evidence;

Investments improving the resilience and environmental value of forest ecosystems

- Definition of types of eligible investment and their expected environmental outcome;

8. Setting up of producer groups

- Description of the official procedure for recognising the groups;

9. Agri-environment -climate

- Identification and definition of the relevant baseline elements; this should include the relevant mandatory standards established under Chapter I of Title VI of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 (cross-compliance), the relevant criteria and minimum activities as established under points (c) (ii) and (c) (iii) of Article 4(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013, relevant minimum requirements for fertilisers and plant protection products use, and relevant mandatory requirements established by national law;
- minimum requirements for fertilisers must include, inter alia, the Codes of Good Practice introduced under Directive 91/676/EEC for farms outside Nitrate Vulnerable Zones, and requirements concerning phosphorous pollution; minimum requirements for plant protection products use must include, inter alia, general principles for integrated pest management introduced under Directive 2009/128/EC, requirements to have a licence to use the products and meet training obligations, requirements on safe storage, the checking of application machinery and rules on pesticide use close to water and other sensitive sites, as established by national legislation;
- List of local breeds in danger of being lost to farming and for plant genetic resources under threat of genetic erosion;
- Description of the methodology and of the agronomic assumptions and parameters (including the description of the baseline requirements as stated in Article 28(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 which are relevant for each particular type of commitment) used as reference point for the calculations justifying additional costs, income foregone resulting from the commitment made and level of the transaction costs; where relevant, this methodology shall take into account aid granted under Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013, including payment for agricultural practices beneficial for the climate and the environment in order to exclude double funding; where

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appropriate, the conversion method used for other units in accordance with Article 9 of this Regulation;

10. Organic farming

- Identification and definition of the relevant baseline elements; this should include the relevant mandatory standards established under Chapter I of Title VI of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 (cross-compliance), the relevant criteria and minimum activities as established under points (c) (ii) and (c) (iii) of Article 4(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013, relevant minimum requirements for fertilisers and plant protection products use, and relevant mandatory requirements established by national law;
- Description of the methodology and of the agronomic assumptions and parameters (including the description of the baseline requirements as stated in Article 28(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 which are relevant for each particular type of commitment) used as reference point for the calculations justifying additional costs, income foregone resulting from the commitment made and level of the transaction costs; where relevant, this methodology shall take into account aid granted under Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013, including payment for agricultural practices beneficial for the climate and the environment in order to exclude double funding; where appropriate, the conversion method used for other units in accordance with Article 9 of this Regulation;

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11. Natura 2000 and Water Framework Directive ("WFD") payments

- For WFD: definition of major changes in type of land use and existence of the programmes of measures of the river basin management plans;
- For natura 2000: The areas designated to implement Directives 2009/147/EC and 92/43/EEC and the obligations for farmers resulting from the corresponding national/regional management provisions;
- Identification and definition of the baseline elements; for Natura 2000 payments this should include the good agricultural and environmental condition provided for in Article 94 and Annex II of regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 and the relevant criteria and minimum activities established under points (c) (ii) and (c) (iii) of Article 4(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013; for WFD payments this should include mandatory standards established under Chapter I of Title VI of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 (cross-compliance) and the relevant criteria and minimum activities as established under points (c) (ii) and (c) (iii) of Article 4(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013;
- Identification of the restrictions/disadvantages based on which payments can be granted and indication of compulsory practices;
- The description of the methodology and the agronomic assumptions (including the description of the baseline requirements as stated in Article 30(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 for Directives 92/43/EEC and 2009/147/EC and in Article 30(4) of the same Regulation for Directive 2000/60/EC) used as reference point for the calculations justifying additional costs and income foregone resulting from the disadvantages in the areas concerned related to the implementation of Directives 92/43/EEC, 2009/147/EC and 2000/60/EC; where relevant, this methodology shall take into account payment for agricultural practices beneficial for the climate and the environment granted under Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013, in order to exclude double funding;

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12. Payments of areas facing natural and other specific constraints

- Definition of threshold level of area per holding on the basis of which the Member State calculates degressivity of payments;

Designation of areas facing natural and other specific constraints

- Description of the local unit-level applied for the designation of the areas;
- Description of the application of the method defined in Article 31 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 for the delimitation of the three categories for areas referred to in that Article including the description and results of the fine-tuning process for areas facing natural and other specific constraints other than mountain areas;

13. Animal welfare

- Definition and identification of the national and the EU requirements corresponding to the mandatory standards established pursuant to Chapter I of Title VI of Regulation (EC) No 1306/2013;
- The description of the methodology and of the agronomic/zoo-technical assumptions and parameters (including the description of the baseline requirements as stated in Article 33(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 which are relevant for each particular type of commitment) used as reference point for the calculations justifying additional costs, income foregone resulting from the commitment made;

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14. Forest-environmental and climate services and forest conservation

- Definition and justification of the holding size above for which support will be conditional on the submission of a forest management plan or equivalent instrument;
- Definition of an "equivalent instrument";
- Identification of relevant mandatory requirements established by the national forestry act or other relevant national legislation;
- The description of the methodology and of the assumptions and parameters (including the description of the baseline requirements as stated in Article 34(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 which are relevant for each particular type of commitment) used as reference point for the calculations justifying additional costs, income foregone resulting from the commitment made in accordance with Article 9 of this Regulation;

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15. Co-operation

- Specification of the characteristics of pilot projects, clusters, networks, short supply chains and local markets;

16. Risk management

- Description of mechanisms to ensure that no overcompensation takes place.

Crop, animal, and plant insurance

- Description of conditions for contracts to be eligible for support, to include at least:
 - (a) particular risks insured against,
 - (b) particular economic losses covered,

- Rules to be used for establishing the calculation of the proportion of the average annual production of a farmer which has been destroyed;

Mutual funds for animal and plant diseases and environmental incidents

- Principles for funding arrangements, constitution and management of the mutual funds, to include in particular:
 - (a) the list of adverse climatic events, animal or plant disease, pest infestation or environmental incidents which may give rise to compensation to be paid to farmers, including geographical scope where appropriate,
 - (b) the criteria for assessing whether a given event shall give rise to the payment of compensation to farmers,
 - (c) the methods for calculating of the additional costs which constitute economic losses,
 - (d) the calculation of the administrative costs;
 - (e) the method to be used for establishing the calculation of the proportion of the average annual production of a farmer which has been destroyed,
 - (f) any limits to the costs that are eligible for a financial contribution,
- Where the source of the financial compensation to be paid by the mutual fund is a commercial loan, minimum and maximum duration of the commercial loan;

Income stabilisation tool

- Principles for funding arrangements, constitution and management of the mutual funds (for granting of compensation payments to farmers), to include in particular:
 - (a) the conditions for financing the mutual fund,
 - (b) the calculation of the administrative costs,
 - (c) rules to be used for establishing the calculation of the drop in income,
 - (d) any limits to the costs that are eligible for a financial contribution,
- Where the source of the financial compensation to be paid by the mutual fund is a commercial loan, minimum and maximum duration of the commercial loan;

17. Community Led Local Development (LEADER)

- Description of the obligatory Community Led Local Development (hereafter "CLLD") elements of which the LEADER measure is composed: i.e. preparatory support; implementation of operations under the CLLD strategy; preparation and implementation of co-operation activities of the Local Action Group (LAG); running costs; and animation referred to in Article 35(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013;
- Description of the use of the LEADER start-up-kit referred to in Article 43 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 as specific type of preparatory support (if use is made);
- As regards LEADER cooperation referred to in Article 44 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013: Description of the system for ongoing application for co-operation

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projects in cases where co-operation projects are not selected by the LAGs; the procedure and timetable to select the local development strategies;

- Justification for selection of geographical areas for local development strategy implementation whose population falls outside the limits set out in Article 33(6) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013;
- Co-ordination with the other ESI-Funds as regards CLLD, including possible solution applied with regard to the use of the lead fund option, and any global complementarities between the ESI-Funds in financing the preparatory support;
- Possibility or not of paying advances;
- Definition of the tasks of the managing authority, the Paying Agency and the LAGs under LEADER, in particular with regard to non-discriminatory and transparent selection procedure and objective criteria for the selection of operations referred to in Article 34 (3) (b) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013;
- Description of co-ordination mechanisms foreseen and complementarities ensured with operations supported under other rural development measures especially as regards: investments in non-agricultural activities and business start-up aid under Article 19 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013; investments under Article 20 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013; and co-operation approaches under Article 35 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, in particular implementation of local development strategies by public-private partnerships;

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9. Evaluation plan, containing the following sections

Not applicable to national programmes dedicated to joint instruments implemented by the EIB referred to in point (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 39(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013

(1) Objectives and purpose

A statement of the objective and purpose of the evaluation plan, based on ensuring that sufficient and appropriate evaluation activities are undertaken, in particular to provide information needed for programme steering, for the Annual Implementation Reports in 2017 and 2019 and the ex-post evaluation, and to ensure that data needed for RDP evaluation is available.

(2) Governance and coordination

Brief description of the monitoring and evaluation arrangements for the Rural Development Programme, identifying the main bodies involved and their responsibilities. Explanation of how evaluation activities are linked with Rural Development Programme implementation in terms of content and timing.

(3) Evaluation topics and activities

Indicative description of evaluation topics and activities anticipated, including, but not limited to, fulfilment of EU requirements. It should cover activities needed to evaluate contribution of each Rural Development Programme priority to objectives, assessment of result and impact indicator values, analysis of net effects, thematic issues (including sub-programmes, cross-cutting issues, National Rural Network, contribution of community-led local development strategies). Planned support for

evaluation at Local Action Group level. Programme specific elements such as work needed to develop methodologies or to address specific policy areas.

(4) Data and information

Brief description of the system to record, maintain, manage and report statistical information on Rural Development Programme implementation and provision of monitoring data for evaluation. Identification of data sources to be used, data gaps, potential institutional issues related to data provision, and proposed solutions. This section should demonstrate that appropriate data management systems will be operational in due time.

(5) Timeline

Major milestones of the programming period, and indicative outline of the timing needed to ensure that results are available at the appropriate time.

(6) Communication

Description of how evaluation findings will be disseminated to target recipients, including a description of the mechanisms established to follow-up on the use of evaluation results.

(7) Resources

Description of the resources needed and foreseen to implement the plan, including an indication of administrative capacity, data, financial resources, IT needs. Description of capacity building activities foreseen to ensure that the evaluation plan can be fully implemented.

10. Financing plan, comprising separate structured tables setting out:

(a) The annual EAFRD contribution

- i. for all types of regions under Article 59(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013,
- ii. for the amounts referred to in Articles 59(4)(e) and (f) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, and voluntary adjustments in application of Article 10c of Regulation (EC) No 73/2009,
- iii. for resources allocated to the performance reserve in accordance with Article 20 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.

(b) The single EAFRD contribution rate for all measures broken down by type of region as referred to in Article 59(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013

(c) The breakdown by measure or type of operation with a specific EAFRD contribution rate:

- i. total Union contribution, EAFRD contribution rate, and indicative breakdown of the total Union contribution by Focus Area²,

² The indicative breakdown of the total Union contribution by Focus Area is to be used within the context of the contribution of rural development programme to the thematic objectives and climate change objectives referred to in Article 14(1)(a)(iv) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, of suspensions referred to in Articles 19(5) and 22(6) of the same Regulation and, when relevant, of the calculation of amounts to be reserved under Article 59(6) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013.

- ii. for the measures of Articles 17³ and 30 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 the total Union contribution reserved for operations falling within the scope of Article 59(6) of that regulation,
- iii. for technical assistance the total Union contribution and the EAFRD contribution rate used in line with Article 51(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013,
- iv. for the expenditure related to legal commitments to beneficiaries incurred under the measures of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005, which have no correspondence in the programming period 2014-2020, the total Union contribution and the EAFRD contribution rate.

When a measure or a type of operation with specific EAFRD contribution rate contributes to the financial instruments referred to in Article 38(1)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 (financial instruments set up at national or regional level), the table shall indicate separately the contribution rates for financial instruments and for other operations as well as an indicative EAFRD amount corresponding to the planned contribution to the financial instrument.

- (d) **For each sub-programme and indicative breakdown by measure** of the total Union contribution by measure

11. Indicator plan, comprising separate structured tables setting out:

- (a) by focus area, the quantified targets accompanied with planned outputs and planned total public expenditure of the measures selected to address the focus area.
- (b) for agriculture and forestry the detailed calculation of the targets of priorities of Articles 5(4) and 5(5)(d) and (e) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013.
- (c) qualitatively the additional contribution of measures to other focus areas.

12. Additional national financing:

For measures and operations falling within the scope of Article 42 of the Treaty, a table on additional national financing per measure in accordance with Article 82 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, including the amounts per measure and indication of compliance with the criteria under the same Regulation.

13. Elements needed for State aid assessment:

Not applicable to national programmes dedicated to joint instruments implemented by the EIB referred to in point (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 39(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013

For the measures and operations which fall outside the scope of Article 42 of the Treaty the table of aid schemes falling under Article 81(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 to be used for the implementation of the programmes, including the title of the aid scheme, as well as the EAFRD contribution, national cofinancing and additional national financing. Compatibility with State aid rules must be ensured over the entire life cycle of the programme.

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³ For the measure of Article 18 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, the EAFRD contribution reserved for operations falling within the scope of Article 59(6) of that Regulation corresponds to the contribution of the measure to the priorities Article 5(4) and 5(5) of the same Regulation.

The table shall be accompanied by a commitment from the Member State that, where required under State aid rules or under specific conditions, in a State aid approval decision, such measures, will be notified individually pursuant to Article 108(3) of the TFUE.

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14. Information on complementarity containing the following sections:

Not applicable to national programmes dedicated to joint instruments implemented by the EIB referred to in point (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 39(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013

- (1) Description of means for the complementarity/coherence with:
 - Other Union instruments and, in particular with European Structural and Investment (hereafter "ESI") funds and Pillar 1 and other instruments of the common agriculture policy.
 - Where a Member State has opted to submit a national programme and a set of regional programmes as referred to in Article 6(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, information on complementarity between them.
- (2) Where relevant, information on the complementarity with other Union instruments.

15. Programme implementing arrangements, containing the following sections:

Points (a), (b) and (c) only are applicable to national programmes dedicated to joint instruments implemented by the EIB referred to in point (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 39(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013

- (a) The designation by the Member State of all authorities referred to in Article 65(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 and a summary description of the management and control structure of the programme requested under Article 55(3)(i) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and arrangements under Article 74(3) of the same Regulation.
- (b) The envisaged composition of the Monitoring Committee.
- (c) Provisions to ensure that the programme is publicised, including through the National Rural Network, making reference to the information and publicity strategy, which describes the information and publicity arrangements for the programme in more detail, referred to in Article 13 of this Regulation.
- (d) Description of mechanisms of how to ensure coherence with regard to local development strategies implemented under Leader, activities envisaged under the "Cooperation" measure referred to in Article 35 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, the "Basic services and village renewal in rural areas" measure referred to in Article 20 of the same Regulation, and other ESI funds.
- (e) Description of actions to achieve a reduction of administrative burden for beneficiaries under Article 27(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.
- (f) Description of the use of technical assistance including activities related to the preparation, management, monitoring, evaluation, information and control of the programme and its implementation, as well as the activities concerning

preceding or subsequent programming periods as referred to in Article 59(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.

16. Actions taken to involve partners

Not applicable to national programmes dedicated to joint instruments implemented by the EIB referred to in point (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 39(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 List of actions taken to involve partners, subject and summary of the outcome of the corresponding consultations.

17. National Rural Network

Not applicable to national programmes dedicated to joint instruments implemented by the EIB referred to in point (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 39(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013

Description of:

- (a) The procedure and the timetable for establishing the National Rural Network (hereinafter NRN);
- (b) The planned organisation of the network, namely the way organisations and administrations involved in rural development, including the partners, as referred to in Article 54(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 will be involved and how the networking activities will be facilitated;
- (c) A summary description of the main categories of activity to be undertaken by the NRN in accordance with the objectives of the programme;
- (d) The resources available for establishing and operating the NRN.

18. Ex ante assessment of verifiability, controllability and error risk

Statement by the Managing Authority and the Paying Agency on the verifiability and controllability of the measures supported under the Rural Development Programme.

Statement by the functionally independent body referred to in Article 62(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 confirming the adequacy and accuracy of the calculations of standard costs, additional costs and income forgone.

Not applicable to national programmes dedicated to joint instruments implemented by the EIB referred to in point (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 39(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013

19. Transitional arrangements

Not applicable to national programmes dedicated to joint instruments implemented by the EIB referred to in point (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 39(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 Description of the transitional conditions by measure.

Indicative carry-over table

20. Thematic sub-programmes

20.1 SWOT and identification of needs

- (a) Analysis based on the SWOT methodology containing the following sections:

- i. Comprehensive overall description of the theme of the sub-programme using common and programme-specific context indicators and qualitative information
 - ii. Strengths identified with regard to the theme of the sub-programme
 - iii. Weaknesses with regard to the theme of the sub-programme
 - iv. Opportunities with regard to the theme of the sub-programme
 - v. Threats with regard to the theme of the sub-programme
- (b) Needs assessment, based on evidence from the SWOT analysis, for each priority and focus area and the three cross-cutting objectives (environment; climate change mitigation and adaptation; innovation) to which the thematic sub-programme contributes.

20.2 Description of the strategy

- (a) Where not all the needs identified under point 20(1)(b) can be addressed by the thematic sub-programme, a justification of the needs selected to be addressed by and the choice of objectives, priorities and focus areas based on evidence from the SWOT and the needs assessment.
- (b) The combination and justification of the of rural development measures for each focus area to which the thematic sub-programme contributes, including the justification of the financial allocations to the measures and the adequacy of the financial resources with the targets set as referred to in Article 8(1)(c)(ii) and (iii). The combination of measures included in the intervention logic shall be based on the evidence from the SWOT analysis and, where relevant, justification and prioritisation of needs under point a.
- (c) A description of how the cross-cutting themes will be addressed, including the specific requirements in Article 8(1)(c)(v).
- (d) A summary table of the intervention logic showing the priorities and focus areas selected for the sub-programme, the quantified targets, and the combination of measures to be used to achieve them, including the planned expenditure. The summary table shall be automatically generated from the information provided in points 5(b), 11 of this Annex[, using the characteristics of SFC2014 referred to in Article 4(a) and (b) of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No [CPR SFC].

20.3 Indicator plan, comprising separate structured tables setting out:

- (a) by focus area, quantified targets accompanied planned outputs and planned total public expenditure of the measures selected to address the focus area;
- (b) for agriculture and forestry: the detailed calculation of the targets of priorities Articles 5(4) and 5(5)(d) and (e) of Regulation (EC) No 1305/2013.

Part 2 – Content of national Frameworks

1. Title of the national framework

2. Member State

- (a) Geographical area covered by the framework.
- (b) Classification of the regions.

3. General presentation of the relations between national framework, partnership agreement and rural development programmes

4. Table summarising, by region and by year, the total EAFRD contribution to the Member State for the whole period

5. Description of the measures

- (1) Description of the general conditions applied to more than one measure including, when relevant, definition of rural area, baselines, cross-compliance, intended use of financial instruments, intended use of advances, etc.
- (2) Description by measure including:
 - (a) Legal basis.
 - (b) General description of the measure including general principles for its intervention logic and contribution to focus areas and cross-cutting objectives.
 - (c) Scope, level of support, eligible beneficiaries, description specific to the each measure, and where relevant, methodology for calculations of the amount of support rate broken down by sub-measure and/or type of operation where necessary. For each type of operation specification of eligible costs, eligibility conditions applicable amounts and support rates and principles with regards to the setting of selection criteria.
 - (d) General principles for verifiability and controllability of the measures and, when relevant, the methodology for the calculations of the amount of support.
 - (e) When relevant, description specific to each measure referred to in point 8(2) of Part 1 of this Annex.

6. Where relevant, additional national financing:

For measures and operations falling within the scope of Article 42 of the Treaty, a table on additional national financing per measure in accordance with Article 82, including the indication of compliance with the criteria under RD regulation.

7. Where relevant, elements needed for State aid

For the measures and operations which fall outside the scope of Article 42 of the Treaty the table of aid schemes falling under Article 81(1) to be used for the implementation of the programmes, including the title and the references of the aid scheme, as well as the EAFRD contribution, national cofinancing and additional

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national financing, Compatibility with State aid rules must be ensured over the entire life cycle of the programmes concerned.

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The table shall be accompanied by a commitment from the Member State that, where required under State aid rules or under specific conditions in a State aid approval decision, such measures will be notified individually pursuant to Article 108(3) of the Treaty.

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Part 3 - Indicative list of priorities/focus areas and measures of particular relevance to ex-ante conditionalities (EAFRD priority related and general) referred to in point 6(a)(ii) of Annex I

1. EAFRD SPECIFIC EX-ANTE CONDITIONALITIES

EU priority for RD / CPR: Thematic Objective (TO) (As laid down in Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, Annex V)	Ex ante conditionality (As laid down in Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, Annex V)	Criteria for fulfilment (As laid down in Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, Annex V)	Applicability Focus areas, measures
RD priority 3: promoting food chain organisation, including processing and marketing of agricultural products, animal welfare and risk management in agriculture TO 5: promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management	3.1. Risk prevention and risk management: the existence of national or regional risk assessments for disaster management taking into account climate change adaptation	- A national or regional risk assessment with the following elements shall be in place: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A description of the process, methodology, methods and non-sensitive data used for risk assessment as well as of the risk-based criteria for the prioritisation of investment; • A description of single-risk and multi-risk scenarios; • Taking into account, where appropriate, national climate change adaptation strategies. 	Focus area: 3A Measures <u>under Articles</u> : 18, 24, 36, 37, 38, 39
RD priority 4: restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems related to agriculture and forestry TO 5: promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management TO 6: Preserving and protecting	4.1 Good Agricultural and Environmental Conditions (GAEC): standards for good agricultural and environmental condition of land referred to in Chapter I of Title VI of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 are established at national level	- GAEC standards are defined in national law and specified in the programmes;	Focus area/s: 4A , 4B , 4C Measures <u>under Articles</u> : 28, 29, 30

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the environment and promoting resource efficiency	4.2 Minimum requirements for fertilisers and plant protection products: minimum requirements for fertilisers and plant protection products referred to in Article 28 of Chapter I of Title III of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 are defined at national level	- minimum requirements for fertilisers and plant protection products referred to in Chapter I of Title III of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 are specified in the programmes;	Focus area/s: 4A, 4B, 4C Measures <u>under Articles</u> : 28, 29
	4.3 other relevant national standards: relevant mandatory national standards are defined for the purpose of Article 28 of Chapter I of Title III of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013	- relevant mandatory national standards are specified in the programmes;	Focus area/s: 4A, 4B, 4C Measures <u>under Articles</u> : 28, 29
RD priority 5: promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low carbon and climate resilient economy in the agriculture and food sectors and the forestry sector TO 4: supporting the shift towards a low carbon economy in all sectors TO 6: Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	5.1 Energy efficiency: Actions have been carried out to promote cost effective improvements of energy end use efficiency and cost effective investment in energy efficiency when constructing or renovating buildings.	- The actions are: - Measures to ensure minimum requirements are in place related to the energy performance of buildings consistent with Articles 3, 4 and 5 of Directive 2010/31/EU of the European Parliament and the Council ⁴ ; - Measures necessary to establish a system of certification of the energy performance of buildings consistent with Article 11 of Directive 2010/31/EU; - Measures to ensure strategic planning on energy efficiency, consistent with Article 3 of Directive 2012/27 EU of the European Parliament and the Council ⁵ ; - Measures consistent with Article 13 of Directive 2006/32/EC of the European Parliament and the Council ⁶ on energy end use efficiency and	Focus area/s: 5B Measures <u>under Articles</u> : 17, 19, 20, 35

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⁴ Directive 2010/31/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 May 2010 on the energy performance of buildings (OJ L 153, 18.6.2010, p. 13).

⁵ Directive 2012/27/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on energy efficiency, amending Directives 2009/125/EC and 2010/30/EU and repealing Directives 2004/8/EC and 2006/32/EC (OJ L 315, 14.11.2012, p. 1).

⁶ Directive 2006/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2006 on energy end-use efficiency and energy services and repealing Council Directive 93/76/EEC (OJ L 114, 27.4.2006, p. 64).

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		energy services to ensure the provision to final customers of individual meters in so far as it is technically possible, financially reasonable and proportionate in relation to the potential energy savings.	
	5.2 Water sector: The existence of a) a water pricing policy which provides adequate incentives for users to use water resources efficiently and b) an adequate contribution of the different water uses to the recovery of the costs of water services at a rate determined in the approved river basin management plan for investment supported by the programmes.	In sectors supported by the EAFRD, a Member State has ensured a contribution of the different water uses to the recovery of the costs of water services by sector consistent with Article 9, paragraph 1 first indent of the Water Framework Directive having regard where appropriate, to the social, environmental and economic effects of the recovery as well as the geographic and climatic conditions of the region or regions affected.	Focus area: 5A Measures under Articles : 17, 35
	5.3 Renewable energy: Actions have been carried out to promote the production and distribution of renewable energy sources ⁷ .	- Transparent support schemes, priority in grid access or guaranteed access and priority in dispatching, as well as standard rules relating to the bearing and sharing of costs of technical adaptations which have been made public are in place consistent with Article 14(1) and Article 16(2) and (3) of Directive 2009/28/EC; - A Member State has adopted a national renewable energy action plan consistent with Article 4 of Directive 2009/28/EC	Focus area: 5C Measures under Articles : 17, 19, 20, 35

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⁷ Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources and amending and subsequently repealing Directives 2001/77/EC and 2003/30/EC (OJ L 140, 5.6.2009, p. 16).

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<p>RD priority 6: promoting social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas</p> <p>TO 2: Enhancing access to, and use and quality of information and communication technologies (Broadband target)</p>	<p>6.1 Next Generation Network (NGN) Infrastructure: The existence of national or regional NGA Plans which take account of regional actions in order to reach the Union high speed Internet access targets, focusing on areas where the market fails to provide an open infrastructure at an affordable cost and of a quality in line with the Union competition and State aid rules and to provide accessible services to vulnerable groups</p>	<p>- A national or regional NGN Plan is in place that contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a plan of infrastructure investments based on an economic analysis taking account of existing private and public infrastructures and planned investments; - sustainable investment models that enhance competition and provide access to open, affordable, quality and future proof infrastructure and services; - measures to stimulate private investment. 	<p>Focus area: <u>6C</u></p> <p>Measures <u>under Articles</u>: 20, 35</p>
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2. GENERAL EX-ANTE CONDITIONALITIES

<p><u>Ex ante conditionality</u> (As laid down in Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, Annex XI)</p>	<p><u>Criteria for fulfilment</u> (As laid down in Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, Annex XI)</p>	<p><u>Applicability</u> <u>Focus areas, measures</u></p>
<p>1. Anti-Discrimination</p> <p>The existence of administrative capacity for the implementation and application of Union anti-discrimination law and policy in the field of ESI Funds.</p>	<p>Arrangements in accordance with the institutional and legal framework of Member States for the involvement of bodies responsible for the promotion of equal treatment of all persons throughout the preparation and implementation of programmes, including the provision of advice on equality in ESI fund-related activities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arrangements for training for staff of the authorities involved in the management and control of the ESI Funds in the fields of Union anti-discrimination law and policy. 	<p>Focus area: <u>6B</u></p> <p>Measures <u>under Articles</u>: 14, 15, 35, LEADER</p>

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<p>2. Gender Equality</p> <p>The existence of administrative capacity for the implementation and application of Union gender equality law and policy in the field of ESI Funds.</p>	<p>Arrangements in accordance with the institutional and legal framework of Member States for the involvement of bodies responsible for gender equality throughout the preparation and implementation of programmes, including the provision of advice on gender equality in ESI Fund related activities;</p> <p>– Arrangements for training for staff of the authorities involved in the management and control of the ESI Funds in the fields of Union gender equality law and policy as well as on gender mainstreaming.</p>	<p>Focus area/s: 6A, 6B</p> <p>Measures <u>under Articles</u>: 14, 15, 19, 20, 35, LEADER</p>
<p>3. Disability</p> <p>The existence of administrative capacity for the implementation and application of the United Nations Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities (UNCRPD) in the field of ESI Funds in accordance with Council Decision 2010/48/EC⁸.</p>	<p>Arrangements in accordance with the institutional and legal framework of Member States for the consultation and involvement of bodies in charge of protection of rights of persons with disabilities or representative organisations of persons with disabilities and other relevant stakeholders throughout the preparation and implementation of programmes;</p> <p>Arrangements for training for staff of the authorities involved in the management and control of the ESI Funds in the fields of applicable Union and national disability law and policy, including accessibility and the practical application of the UNCRPD as reflected in Union and national legislation, as appropriate;</p> <p>– Arrangements to ensure monitoring of the implementation of Article 9 of the UNCRPD in relation to the ESI Funds throughout the preparation and the implementation of the programmes.</p>	<p>Focus area/s: 6A, 6B</p> <p>Measures <u>under Articles</u>: 19, 20, 35, LEADER</p>

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⁸ Council Decision of 26 November 2009 concerning the conclusion, by the European Community, of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, (OJ L 23, 27.1.2010, p. 35).

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<p>4. Public Procurement</p> <p>The existence of arrangements for the effective application of Union public procurement law in the field of the ESI Funds.</p>	<p>Arrangements for the effective application of Union public procurement rules through appropriate mechanisms;</p> <p>Arrangements which ensure transparent contract award procedures ;</p> <p>Arrangements for training and dissemination of information for staff involved in the implementation of the ESI funds;</p> <p>– Arrangements to ensure administrative capacity for implementation and application of Union public procurement rules.</p>	<p>Focus area/s: 2A, 5A, 5B, 5C, 6B</p> <p>Measures <u>under Articles</u>:14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 21 (e), 35, LEADER</p>
<p>5. State Aid</p> <p>The existence of arrangements for the effective application of Union State aid rules in the field of the ESI Funds.</p>	<p>Arrangements for the effective application of Union State aid rules;</p> <p>Arrangements for training and dissemination of information for staff involved in the implementation of the ESI funds;</p> <p>– Arrangements to ensure administrative capacity for implementation and application of Union State aid rules.</p>	<p>All focus areas and measures, provided that the operations under them fall outside <u>Article</u>, 42 of the Treaty</p>
<p>6. Environmental legislation relating to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and, Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)</p> <p>The existence of arrangements for the effective application of Union environmental legislation related to EIA and SEA.</p>	<p>Arrangements for the effective application of Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁹ (EIA) and of Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council¹⁰ (SEA);</p> <p>Arrangements for training and dissemination of information for staff involved in the implementation of the EIA and SEA Directives;</p> <p>– Arrangements to ensure sufficient administrative capacity.</p>	<p>Focus area/s: 2A, 3A, 4A, 4B, 4C, 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, 5E, 6A, 6C</p> <p>Measures <u>under Articles</u>: 17, 19, 20, 21, 21 (a), 21 (b), 21 (c), 21 (d), 21 (e), 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35</p>
<p>7. Statistical systems and result indicators</p> <p>The existence of a statistical basis necessary to undertake evaluations to assess the effectiveness and impact of the programmes.</p> <p>The existence of a system of result indicators necessary to select actions, which most effectively contribute to desired results, to</p>	<p>Arrangements for timely collection and aggregation of statistical data with the following elements are in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the identification of sources and mechanisms to ensure statistical validation; arrangements for publication and public availability of aggregated data; <p>An effective system of result indicators including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the selection of result indicators for each programme providing information on what motivates the selection of policy actions financed by the programme; 	<p>Is applicable but already fulfilled, CMEF</p>

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⁹ Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (OJ L 26, 28.1.2012, p. 1).

¹⁰ Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (OJ L 197, 21.7.2001, p. 30).

<p>monitor progress towards results and to undertake impact evaluation.</p>	<p>the establishment of targets for these indicators; the consistency of each indicator with the following requisites: robustness and statistical validation, clarity of normative interpretation, responsiveness to policy, timely collection of data; – Procedures in place to ensure that all operations financed by the programme adopt an effective system of indicators.</p>	
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Part 4 – Measure and Sub-Measure codification

<i>Measure under Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 or Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013</i>		<i>Measure code under this regulation</i>	<i>Sub-measure <u>for programming purposes</u></i>	<i>Sub-measure code under this regulation</i>
[RD] Article 14	knowledge transfer and information actions	1	support for vocational training and skills acquisition actions	1.1
			support for demonstration activities and information actions	1.2
			support for short-term farm and forest management exchange as well as farm and forest visits	1.3
[RD] Article 15	advisory services, farm management and farm relief services	2	support to help benefiting from the use of advisory services	2.1
			support for the setting up of farm management, farm relief and farm advisory services as well as forestry advisory services	2.2
			support for training of advisors	2.3
[RD] Article 16	quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs	3	support for new participation in quality schemes	3.1
			Support for information and promotion activities implemented by groups of producers in the internal market	3.2
[RD] Article 17	investments in physical assets	4	support for investments in agricultural holdings	4.1
			support for investments in processing/marketing and/or development of agricultural products	4.2
			support for investments in infrastructure related to development, modernisation or adaptation of agriculture and forestry	4.3
			support for non-productive investments linked to the achievement of agri-environment-climate objectives	4.4
[RD] Article 8	restoring agricultural production potential damage	5	support for investments in preventive actions aimed at reducing the consequences of probable natural disasters, adverse climatic events and catastrophic events	5.1

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	by natural disasters and introduction of appropriate prevention		support for investments for the restoration of agricultural land and production potential damaged by natural disasters, adverse climatic events and catastrophic events	5.2
[RD] Article 19	farm and business development	6	business start up aid for young farmers	6.1
			business start up aid for non-agricultural activities in rural areas	6.2
			business start up aid for the development of small farms	6.3
			support for investments in creation and development of non-agricultural activities	6.4
			payments for farmers eligible for the small farmers scheme who permanently transfer their holding to another farmer	6.5
[RD] Article 20	basic services and village renewal in rural areas	7	support for drawing up and updating of plans for the development of municipalities and villages in rural areas and their basic services and of protection and management plans relating to Natura 2000 sites and other areas of high nature value	7.1
			support for investments in the creation, improvement or expansion of all types of small scale infrastructure, including investments in renewable energy and energy saving	7.2
			support for broadband infrastructure, including its creation, improvement and expansion, passive broadband infrastructure and provision of access to broadband and public e-government	7.3
			support for investments in the setting-up, improvement or expansion of local basic services for the rural population including leisure and culture, and the related infrastructure	7.4
			support for investments for public use in recreational infrastructure, tourist information and small scale tourism infrastructure	7.5
			support for studies/investments associated with the maintenance, restoration and upgrading of the cultural and natural heritage of villages, rural landscapes and high nature value sites including related socio-economics	7.6

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			aspects, as well as environmental awareness actions	
			support for investments targeting the relocation of activities and conversion of buildings or other facilities located inside or close to rural settlements, with a view to improving the quality of life or increasing the environmental performance of the settlement	7.7
			Others	7.8
[RD] Article 21	investments in forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests	8	support for afforestation/creation of woodland establishment and maintenance	8.1
			support for establishment and maintenance of agro-forestry systems	8.2
			support for prevention of damage to forests from forest fires and natural disasters and catastrophic events	8.3
			support for restoration of damage to forests from forest fires and natural disasters and catastrophic events	8.4
			support for investments improving the resilience and environmental value of forest ecosystems	8.5
			support for investments in forestry technologies and in processing, mobilising and marketing of forest products	8.6
[RD] Article 27	setting up of producer groups and organisations	9	setting up of producer groups and organisations in the agriculture and forestry sectors	9
[RD] Article 28	agri-environment-climate	10	payment for agri-environment-climate commitments	10.1
			support for conservation and sustainable use and development of genetic resources in agriculture	10.2
[RD] Article 29	organic farming	11	payment to convert to organic farming practices and methods	11.1
			payment to maintain organic farming practices and methods	11.2
[RD]	Natura 2000 and	12	compensation payment for Natura 2000	12.1

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[RD] Article 30	Water Framework Directive payments		agricultural areas		Deleted: art
			compensation payment for Natura 2000 forest areas	12.2	
			compensation payment for agricultural areas included in river basin management plans	12.3	
[RD] Article 31	payments to areas facing natural or other specific constraints	13	compensation payment in mountain areas	13.1	Deleted: art
			compensation payment for other areas facing significant natural constraints	13.2	
			compensation payment to other areas affected by specific constraints	13.3	
[RD] Article 33	animal welfare	14	payment for animal welfare	14	Deleted: art
[RD] Article 34	Forest environmental and climate services and forest conservation	15	payment for forest environment commitments	15.1	Deleted: art
			support for the conservation and promotion of forest genetic resources	15.2	
[RD] Article 35	cooperation	16	support for the establishment of operational groups of the EIP for agricultural productivity and sustainability	16.1	Deleted: art
			support for pilot projects and for the development of new products, practices, processes and technologies	16.2	
			(other) co-operation among small operators in organising joint work processes and sharing facilities and resources, and for developing/marketing tourism	16.3	
			support for horizontal and vertical co-operation among supply chain actors for the establishment and development of short supply chains and local markets and for promotion activities in a local context relating to the development of short supply chains and local markets	16.4	
			support for joint action undertaken with a view to mitigating or adapting to climate change and for joint approaches to environmental projects and ongoing environmental practices	16.5	

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			support for cooperation among supply chain actors for sustainable provision of biomass for use in food and energy production and industrial processes	16.6
			support for non-CLLD local development strategies	16.7
			support for drawing up of forest management plans or equivalent instruments	16.8
			support for diversification of farming activities into activities concerning health care, social integration, community-supported agriculture and education about the environment and food	16.9
			Others	16.0
[RD] Article 36	risk management	17	Crop, animal and plant insurance premium	17.1
			Mutual funds for adverse climatic events, animal and plant diseases, pest infestations and environmental incidents	17.2
			Income stabilisation tool	17.3
[RD] Article 40	Financing of complementary national direct payments for Croatia	18	Financing of complementary national direct payments for Croatia	18
[CPR] Article 35	Support for LEADER local development (CLLD – community-led local development)	19	Preparatory support	19.1
			Support for implementation of operations under the community-led local development strategy	19.2
			Preparation and implementation of cooperation activities of the local action group	19.3
			Support for running costs and animation	19.4
[RD] art 51 - 54 (RD)	Technical assistance	20	support technical assistance (other than NRN)	20.1
			support for establishing and operating the NRN	20.2

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Part 5 – Priority and Focus Area codification

Priority	Article in the EAFRD Regulation/Code Focus Area	Focus Area
Priority 1: Fostering knowledge transfer and innovation in agriculture, forestry, and rural areas	Article 5 (1) (a) = focus area 1A	Fostering innovation, cooperation, and the development of the knowledge base in rural areas
	Article 5 (1) (b) = focus area 1B	Strengthening the links between agriculture, food production and forestry and research and innovation, including for the purpose of improved environmental management and performance
	Article 5 (1) (c) = focus area 1C	Fostering lifelong learning and vocational training in the agricultural and forestry sectors
Priority 2: Enhancing farm viability and competitiveness of all types of agriculture in all regions and promoting innovative farm technologies and sustainable management of forest	Article 5 (2) (a) = focus area 2A	Improving the economic performance of all farms and facilitating farm restructuring and modernisation, notably with a view to increasing market participation and orientation as well as agricultural diversification
	Article 5 (2) (b) = focus area 2B	Facilitating the entry of adequately skilled farmers into the agricultural sector and, in particular, generational renewal
Priority 3: Promoting food chain organisation, including processing and marketing of agricultural products, animal welfare and risk management in agriculture	Article 5 (3) (a) = focus area 3A	Improving competitiveness of primary producers by better integrating them into the agri-food chain through quality schemes, adding value to agricultural products, promotion in local markets and short supply circuits, producer groups and organisations and inter-branch organisations
	Article 5 (3) (b) = focus area 3B	Supporting farm risk prevention and management
Priority 4: Restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems related to agriculture	Article 5 (4) (a) = focus area 4A	Restoring, preserving and enhancing biodiversity, including in Natura 2000 areas, and in areas facing natural or other specific constraints, and high nature value farming, as well as the state of European landscapes

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Priority	Article in the EAFRD Regulation/Code Focus Area	Focus Area
and forestry	Article 5 (4) (b) = focus area 4B	Improving water management, including fertiliser and pesticide management
	Article 5 (4) (c) = focus area 4C	Preventing soil erosion and improving soil management
Priority 5: Promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low carbon and climate resilient economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors	Article 5 (5) (a) = focus area 5A	Increasing efficiency in water use by agriculture
	Article 5 (5) (b) = focus area 5B	Increasing efficiency in energy use in agriculture and food processing
	Article 5 (5) (c) = focus area 5C	Facilitating the supply and use of renewable sources of energy, of by-products, wastes and residues and of other non-food raw material, for the purposes of the bio-economy
	Article 5 (5) (d) = focus area 5D	Reducing greenhouse gas and ammonia emissions from agriculture
	Article 5 (5) (e) = focus area 5E	Fostering carbon conservation and sequestration in agriculture and forestry
Priority 6: Promoting social inclusion poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas	Article 5 (6) (a) = focus area 6A	Facilitating diversification, creation and development of small enterprises, as well as job creation
	Article 5 (6) (b) = focus area 6B	Fostering local development in rural areas
	Article 5 (6) (c) = focus area 6C	Enhancing the accessibility, use and quality of information and communication technologies (ICT) in rural areas

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ANNEX II

Conversion rates of Animals to Livestock Units ("LU") referred to in Article 9(2)

Bulls, cows and other bovine animals over two years and equine animals over six months	1,0 LU
Bovine animals from six months to two years	0,6 LU
Bovine animals below six months	0,4 LU
Sheep and goats	0,15 LU
Breeding sows > 50Kg	0,5 LU
Other pigs	0,3 LU
Laying hens	0,014 LU
Other poultry*	0,03 LU
Conversion rates may be increased, taking into account scientific evidence to be explained and duly justified in the rural development programmes.	

* for this category conversion rates may be decreased, taking into account scientific evidence to be explained and duly justified in the rural development programmes.

ANNEX III

Information and Publicity

Part I – Information and Publicity actions

1. Responsibilities of the Managing authority

1.1 Information and publicity strategy

The managing authority shall ensure that the information and publicity actions are implemented in accordance with its information and publicity strategy which shall cover at least the following:

- (a) the aims of the strategy and its target groups;
- (b) a description of the content of the information and publicity actions;
- (c) the indicative budget of the strategy;
- (d) a description of the administrative bodies, including the staff resources, responsible for implementing the information and publicity actions;
- (e) a description of the role played by the National Rural Network and how its communication plan requested under Article 51(3) (vi) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 will contribute to the implementation of the strategy;
- (f) a description of how the information and publicity measures shall be assessed in terms of visibility and awareness of policy framework, programmes and operations, and of the role played by the EAFRD and the Union;
- (g) an annual update setting out the information and publicity activities to be carried out in the following year

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1.2 Information for the potential beneficiaries

The managing authority shall ensure that potential beneficiaries have access to the relevant information, including updated information where necessary, and taking into account the accessibility of electronic or other communication services for certain potential beneficiaries, on at least the following:

- (a) the funding opportunities and the launching of calls under the rural development programmes;
- (b) the administrative procedures to be followed in order to qualify for financing under a rural development programme;
- (c) a description of the procedures for examining applications for financing;
- (d) the eligibility conditions and/or criteria for selecting and evaluating the projects to be financed;
- (e) the names of persons or contacts at national, regional or local level who can explain the way rural development programmes work and the criteria for selecting and evaluating the operations;
- (f) the responsibility of beneficiaries to inform the public about the aim of the operation and the support from the EAFRD to the operation in accordance with section 2 of part I. The managing authority may request potential beneficiaries to propose

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indicative communication activities, proportional to the size of the operation, in the applications;

- (g) a description of the procedures for the examination of complaints under Article 63 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.

1.3 Information for the general public

The managing authority shall inform the public of the content of the rural development programme, its adoption by the Commission and its updates, the main achievements in the implementation of the programme and its closure, as well as its contribution to the achievement of the Union priorities, as set out in the Partnership Agreement.

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The managing authority shall ensure the establishment of a single website or single website portal providing information as referred to in paragraphs 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3 (1), (2) and (3) under point 1 of this annex. The establishment of the single website shall not disrupt smooth implementation of the Funds and not restrict access for potential beneficiaries and stakeholders to the information compared to the previous situation. The measures for informing the public shall include the elements set out in Part II paragraph (1).

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1.4 Involvement of bodies acting as relays

The managing authority shall ensure, including through the National Rural Network, that bodies that can act as relays are involved in the information measures for potential beneficiaries, and in particular:

- (a) Partners as referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013;
- (b) information centres on Europe, as well as Commission representation offices, and Information offices of the European Parliament in Member States;
- (c) educational and research institutions.

1.5 Award notification

The managing authority shall ensure that the notification of award of the assistance informs beneficiaries that the action is being financed from a programme part-financed by the EAFRD and the measure and priority of the rural development programme concerned.

2. Responsibilities of beneficiaries

2.1 All information and communication measures provided by the beneficiary shall acknowledge support from the EAFRD to the operation by displaying:

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- (a) the Union emblem,
- (b) a reference to the support from the EAFRD.

Where an information or publicity action relates to an operation or to several operations co-financed by more than one Fund, the reference provided for in point

- (b) may be replaced by a reference to the ESI Funds.

2.2 During the implementation of an operation, the beneficiary shall inform the public about the support obtained from the EAFRD by:

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- (c) providing on the beneficiary's website, where such a website exists, a short description of the operation, proportionate to the level of support, including its aims and results, and highlighting the financial support from the Union;
- (d) for operations not falling under point (c) and depending on the operation funded (for example for projects under Article 21 on village renewal or

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LEADER projects), at least one poster with information about the project (minimum size A3), including the financial support from the Union, at a location readily visible to the public, such as the entrance area of a building. Where an operation under a rural development programme results in an investment (for example, on a farm or on food enterprise) whose total cost exceeds EUR 50 000, the beneficiary shall place an explanatory plaque with information about the project, including the financial support from the Union. An explanatory plaque shall also be installed in the premises of the local action groups financed by LEADER;

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- (e) putting up, at a location readily visible to the public, a temporary billboard of a significant size for each operation consisting of the financing of infrastructure or construction operations for which the total public support to the operation exceeds EUR 500 000.

2.3. No later than three months after completion of an operation, the beneficiary shall put up a permanent plaque or billboard of significant size at a location readily visible to the public for each operation that fulfils the following criteria:

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- the total public support to the operation exceeds EUR 500 000;
- the operation consists of the purchase of a physical object or of the financing of infrastructure or of construction operations.

This billboard shall state the name and the main objective of the operation as well as the financial support provided from the Union.

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The billboards, posters, plaques and websites shall carry a description of the project/operation and the elements referred to in Part II section 1. That information shall take up at least 25 % of the billboard, plaque or webpage.

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Part II. Technical characteristics of information and publicity actions

1. Slogan and logo

Each action of information and publicity shall contain the following elements:

- The Union emblem in accordance with the graphic standards as presented on http://europa.eu/abc/symbols/emblem/download_en.htm, together with an explanation of the Union's role, by means of the following statement:

"The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas".

- For the actions and measures financed by LEADER, the LEADER logo shall also be used:

++ LEADER logo++

2. Information and communication material

Publications (such as booklets, leaflets and newsletters) and posters about measures and actions co-financed by the EAFRD shall contain a clear indication on the title page of the Union's participation, as well as the Union's emblem if a national or regional emblem is also used. Publications shall include references to the body responsible for the information content and to the managing authority designated to implement the EAFRD and/or national assistance in question.

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In the case of information made available by electronic means (websites, databases for potential beneficiaries) or as audio-visual material, the first indent shall apply by analogy.

Websites concerning the EAFRD shall:

- mention the contribution of the EAFRD at least on the home page;
- include a hyperlink to the Commission website concerning EAFRD.

ANNEX IV

Common set of context, result and output indicators

1. Context indicators

- C1. Population
- C2. Age structure
- C3. Territory
- C4. Population density
- C5. Employment rate*
- C6. Self-employment rate
- C7. Unemployment rate
- C8. GDP per capita*
- C9. Poverty rate*
- C10. Structure of the economy
- C11. Structure of the employment
- C12. Labour productivity by economic sector
- C13. Employment by economic activity
- C14. Labour productivity in agriculture
- C15. Labour productivity in forestry
- C16. Labour productivity in the food industry
- C17. Agricultural holdings (farms)
- C18. Agricultural area
- C19. Agricultural area under organic farming
- C20. Irrigated land
- C21. Livestock units
- C22. Farm labour force
- C23. Age structure of farm managers
- C24. Agricultural training of farm managers
- C25. Agricultural factor income*
- C26. Agricultural entrepreneurial income*
- C27. Total factor productivity in agriculture*
- C28. Gross fixed capital formation in agriculture
- C29. Forest and other wooded land (FOWL)
- C30. Tourism infrastructure
- C31. Land cover
- C32. Less favoured areas
- C33. Farming intensity
- C34. Natura 2000 areas
- C35. Farmland birds index (FBI)*
- C36. Conservation status of agricultural habitats (grassland)
- C37. HNV ([High Nature Value](#)) farming*
- C38. Protected forest
- C39. Water abstraction in agriculture*
- C40. Water quality*
- C41. Soil organic matter in arable land*
- C42. Soil erosion by water*
- C43. Production of renewable energy from agriculture and forestry
- C44. Energy use in agriculture, forestry and food industry
- C45. Emissions from agriculture*

* Context indicators which incorporate CAP impact indicators

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2. Result indicators

R1 *percentage* of agriculture holdings with RDP support for investments in restructuring or modernisation (*Focus area 2A*)

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R2 Change in Agricultural output on supported farms/ AWU (*Annual Work Unit*) (*Focus area 2A*)*

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R3 *percentage* of agriculture holdings with RDP supported business development plan/investments for young farmers (*Focus area 2B*)

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R4 *percentage* of agricultural holdings receiving support for participating in quality schemes, local markets and short supply circuits, and producer groups/organisations (*Focus area 3A*)

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R5 *percentage* of farms participating under risk management schemes (*Focus area 3B*)

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R6 *percentage* of forest or other wooded area under management contracts supporting biodiversity (*Focus area 4A*)

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R7 *percentage* of agricultural land under management contracts supporting biodiversity and/or landscapes (*Focus area 4A*)

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R8 *percentage* of Agricultural land under management contracts improving water management (*Focus area 4B*)

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R9 *percentage* of forestry land under management contracts to improve water management (*Focus area 4B*)

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R10 *percentage* of Agricultural land under management contracts improving soil management and/or preventing soil erosion (*Focus area 4C*)

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R11 *percentage* of forestry land under management contracts to improve soil management and/or preventing soil erosion (*Focus area 4C*)

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R12 *percentage* of irrigated land switching to more efficient irrigation system (*Focus area 5A*)

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R13 Increase in efficiency of water use in agriculture in RDP supported projects (*Focus area 5A*)*

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R14 Increase in efficiency of energy use in agriculture and food-processing in RDP supported projects (*Focus area 5B*)*

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R15 Renewable energy produced from supported projects (*Focus area 5C*)*

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R16 LU (*Live-stock Unit*) concerned by investments in live-stock management in view of reducing GHG (*Green House Gas*) and/or ammonia emissions (*Focus area 5D*)

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R17 *percentage* of agricultural land under management contracts targeting reduction of GHG and/or ammonia emissions (*Focus area 5D*)

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R18 Reduced emissions of methane and nitrous oxide (*Focus area 5D*)*

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R19 Reduced ammonia emissions (*Focus area 5D*)*

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R20 *percentage* of agricultural and forest land under management contracts contributing to carbon sequestration or conservation (*Focus area 5E*)

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R21 Jobs created in supported projects (*Focus area 6A*)

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R22 *percentage* of rural Population covered by local development strategies (*Focus area 6B*)

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R23 *percentage* of rural population benefiting from improved services / infrastructures (*Focus area 6B*)

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R24 Jobs created in supported projects (Leader) (*Focus area 6B*)

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R25 *percentage* of rural Population benefiting from new or improved services / infrastructures (*Information and Communication Technology - ICT*) (*Focus area 6C*)

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Indicators in italics are also target indicators as listed under Point 4.

* Complementary result indicators

3. RD Output indicators

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Number	Output indicators	Measures
O.1	Total public expenditure*	All measures
O.2	Total investment	4 (Article 17), 5 (Article 18), 6 (Article 19), 7 (Article 21), 8 (Article 21 (8.7 and 8.6))
O.3	Number of operations supported	1 (Article 14), 2 (Article 15), 4 (Article 17), 7 (Article 20), 8 (Article 21 (8.6 and 8.7)), 9 (Article 27), 17 (Article 36 (17.2 and 17.3))
O.4	Number of holdings/beneficiaries supported	3 (Article 16), 4 (Article 17), 5 (Article 18), 6 (Article 19), 8 (Article 21 (8.1 to 8.4)), 11 (Article 29), 12 (30), 13 (Article 31), 14 (Article 33), 17 (Article 36 (17.1))
O.5	Area (ha)	4 (Article 17), 8 (Article 21 (8.1 to 8.4 and 8.6)), 11 (Article 29), 12 (Article 30), 13 (Article 31), 15 (Article 34)
O.6	Physical Area supported (ha)	10 (Article 28)
O.7	Number of contracts supported (ha)	10 (Article 28), 15 (Article 34)
O.8	Number of Livestock Units supported (ha)	14 (Article 33), 4 (Article 17)
O.9	Number (farm) holdings participating in supported schemes	9 (Article 27), 16 (Article 35 (16.4)), 17 (Article 36 (17.2 and 17.3))
O.10	Number of farmer benefiting from pay-outs	17 (Article 36 (17.2 and 17.3))
O.11	Number training days given	1 (Article 14)
O.12	Number of participants in trainings	1 (Article 14)
O.13	Number of beneficiaries advised	2 (Article 15)
O.14	Number of advisor trained	2 (Article 15)
O.15	Population benefiting of improved services/infrastructures (IT or others)	7 (Article 20)
O.16	Number of EIP groups supported, number of EIP operations supported and number and type of partners in EIP groups	16 (Article 35)
O.17	Number of cooperation operations supported (other than EIP)	16 (Article 35)
O.18	Population covered by LAG	19 (Article 32 CPR)
O.19	Number of LAGs selected	19 (Article 32 CPR)

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O.20	Number of LEADER projects supported	19 (Article 32 CPR)
O.21	Number of cooperation project supported	19 (Article 32 CPR)
O.22	Number and type of project promoters	19 (Article 32 CPR)
O.23	Unique number of LAG involved in cooperation project	19 (Article 32 CPR)
O.24	Number of thematic and analytical exchanges set up with the support of NRN	Networking (Article 54)
O.25	Number of NRN communication tools	Networking (Article 54)
O.26	Number of ENRD activities in which the NRN has participated	Networking (Article 54)

*This indicator corresponds to the Performance Framework indicator described in Art 5(2) of the CPR IA No [1348/2014](#).

4. Target indicators

T1 percentage of expenditure under Articles 14,15, 35, in relation to the total expenditure for the RDP ([Focus area 1A](#))

T2 Total number of co-operation operations supported under the cooperation measure (groups, networks/clusters, pilot project...) ([Focus area 1B](#))

T3 Total number of participants trained under Article 14 ([Focus area 1C](#))

T4 percentage of agriculture holdings with RDP support for investments in restructuring or modernisation ([Focus area 2A](#))

T5 percentage of agriculture holdings with RDP supported business development plan/investments for young farmers ([Focus area 2B](#))

T6 percentage of agricultural holdings receiving support for participating in quality schemes, local markets and short supply circuits, and producer groups/organisations ([Focus area 3A](#))

T7 percentage of farms participating under risk management schemes ([Focus area 3B](#))

T8 percentage of forest/other wooded area under management contracts supporting biodiversity ([Focus area 4A](#))

T9 percentage of agricultural land under management contracts supporting biodiversity and/or landscapes ([Focus area 4A](#))

T10 percentage of Agricultural land under management contracts improving water management ([Focus area 4B](#))

T11 percentage of forestry land under management contracts to improve water management ([Focus area 4B](#))

T12 percentage of Agricultural land under management contracts improving soil management and/or preventing soil erosion ([Focus area 4C](#))

T13 percentage of forestry land under management contracts to improve soil management and/or preventing soil erosion ([Focus area 4C](#))

T14 percentage of irrigated land switching to more efficient irrigation system ([Focus area 5A](#))

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- T15 Total investment for energy efficiency (Focus area 5B)
- T16 Total investment in renewable energy production (P5C)
- T17 LU concerned by investments in live-stock management in view of reducing GHG and/or ammonia emissions (Focus area 5D)
- T18 percentage of agricultural land under management contracts targeting reduction of GHG and/or ammonia emissions (Focus area 5D)
- T19 percentage of agricultural and forest land under management contracts contributing to carbon sequestration and conservation (Focus area 5E)
- T20 Jobs created in supported projects (Focus area 6A)
- T21 percentage of rural Population covered by local development strategies (Focus area 6B)
- T22 percentage of rural population benefiting from improved services / infrastructures (Focus area 6B)
- T23 Jobs created in supported projects (Leader) (Focus area 6B)
- T24 percentage of rural Population benefiting from new or improved services / infrastructures (ICT) (Focus area 6C)

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5. Proposed Performance Framework Indicators

	Indicators	Related Output Indicator
Priority 2 (P2)	Total Public Expenditure P2 (€)	0.1
	Nr of agricultural holdings with RDP support for investment in restructuring or modernisation (Focus area 2A) + holdings with RDP supported business development plan/investment for young farmers (Focus area 2B)	0.4
Priority 3 (P3)	Total Public Expenditure P3 (€)	0.1
	Nr of supported agricultural holdings receiving support for participating in quality schemes, local markets/short supply circuits, and producer groups (Focus area 3A)	0.4
	Number of agricultural holdings participating in risk management schemes (Focus area 3B)	0.9
Priority 4 (P4)	Total Public Expenditure P4 (€)	0.1
	Agricultural land under management contracts contributing to biodiversity (Focus area 4A) + improving water management (Focus area 4B) + improving soil management and/preventing soil erosion (Focus area 4C)	0.5
Priority 5 (P5)	Total Public Expenditure P5 (€)	0.1
	Nr of investment operations in energy savings and efficiency (Focus area 5B) + in renewable energy production (Focus area 5C)	0.3
	Agricultural and forest land under management to foster carbon sequestration/conservation (Focus area 5E) + Agricultural land under management contracts targeting reduction of GHG and/or ammonia emissions (Focus area 5D) + Irrigated land switching to more efficient irrigation system (Focus area 5A)	0.5

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Priority 6 (P6)	Total Public Expenditure P6 (€)	O.1
	Nr of operations supported to improve basic services and infrastructures in rural areas (Focus area 6B/C)	O.3
	Population covered by LAG	O.18

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ANNEX V

Common evaluation questions for rural development

Focus area-related evaluation questions

For each Focus Area included in the RDP, the related question should be answered in the enhanced *Annual Implementation Reports (hereafter "AIRs")* submitted in 2017 and 2019, and in the ex-post evaluation report.

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1. P1A: To what extent have RDP interventions supported innovation, cooperation and the development of the knowledge base in rural areas?
2. P1B: To what extent have RDP interventions supported the strengthening of links between agriculture, food production and forestry and research and innovation, including for the purpose of improved environmental management and performance?
3. P1C: To what extent have RDP interventions supported lifelong learning and vocational training in the agriculture and forestry sectors?
4. P2A: To what extent have RDP interventions contributed to improving the economic performance, restructuring and modernization of supported farms in particular through increasing their market participation and agricultural diversification?
5. P2B: To what extent have RDP interventions supported the entry of adequately skilled farmers into the agricultural sector and in particular, generational renewal?
6. P3A: To what extent have RDP interventions contributed to improving the competitiveness of supported primary producers by better integrating them into the agri-food chain through quality schemes, adding value to the agricultural products, promoting local markets and short supply circuits, producer groups and inter-branch organization?
7. P3B: To what extent have RDP interventions supported farm risk prevention and management?
8. P4A: To what extent have RDP interventions supported the restoration, preservation and enhancement of biodiversity including in Natura 2000 areas, areas facing natural or other specific constraints and HNV farming, and the state of European landscape?
9. P4B: To what extent have RDP interventions supported the improvement of water management, including fertilizer and pesticide management?
10. P4C: To what extent have RDP interventions supported the prevention of soil erosion and improvement of soil management?
11. P5A: To what extent have RDP interventions contributed to increasing efficiency in water use by agriculture?
12. P5B: To what extent have RDP interventions contributed to increasing efficiency in energy use in agriculture and food processing?
13. P5C: To what extent have RDP interventions contributed to the supply and use of renewable sources of energy, of by products, wastes, residues and other non-food raw material for purposes of the bio-economy?
14. P5D: To what extent have RDP interventions contributed to reducing GHG and ammonia emissions from agriculture?

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15. P5E: To what extent have RDP interventions supported carbon conservation and sequestration in agriculture and forestry?
16. P6A: To what extent have RDP interventions supported the diversification, creation and development of small enterprises and job creation?
17. P6B: To what extent have RDP interventions supported local development in rural areas?
18. P6C: To what extent have RDP interventions enhanced the accessibility, use and quality of information and communication technologies (ICT) in rural areas?

Evaluation questions related to other aspects of the RDP

The following questions should be answered in the enhanced AIRs submitted in 2017 and 2019, and in the ex-post evaluation report.

19. To what extent have the synergies among priorities and focus areas enhanced the effectiveness of the RDP?
20. To what extent has Technical Assistance contributed to achieving the objectives laid down in Art. 59 Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, of the CPR and Article 51 (2) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013?

21. To what extent has the National Rural Network contributed to achieving the objectives laid down in Article 54(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013?

Evaluation questions related to EU level objectives

The following questions should be answered in the enhanced AIR submitted in 2019, and in the ex-post evaluation report.

22. To what extent has the RDP contributed to achieving the EU 2020 headline target of raising the employment rate of the population aged 20-64 to at least 75%?
23. To what extent has the RDP contributed to achieving the EU2020 headline target of investing 3% of EU's GDP in R&D and innovation?
24. To what extent has the RDP contributed to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to achieving the EU 2020 headline target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% compared to 1990 levels, or by 30% if the conditions are right, to increasing the share of renewable energy in final energy consumption to 20%, and achieving 20% increase in energy efficiency?
25. To what extent has the RDP contributed to achieving the EU 2020 headline target of reducing the number of Europeans living below the national poverty line?
26. To what extent has the RDP contributed to improving the environment and to achieving the EU Biodiversity strategy target of halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services, and to restore them?
27. To what extent has the RDP contributed to the CAP objective of fostering the competitiveness of agriculture?
28. To what extent has the RDP contributed to the CAP objective of ensuring sustainable management of natural resources and climate action?
29. To what extent has the RDP contributed to the CAP objective of achieving a balanced territorial development of rural economies and communities including the creation and maintenance of employment?

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30. To what extent has the RDP contributed to fostering innovation?

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ANNEX VI

Main elements of technical support documents for the monitoring and evaluation system

One of the key elements of the monitoring and evaluation system for rural development is the technical support that is provided to Member States, evaluators and other evaluation stakeholders to build evaluation capacity and to increase the quality and consistency of evaluation activities. Technical support documents produced by the Commission working in conjunction with the Member States shall produce technical support documents covering the following topics:

Fiches for each of the common indicators, which include a definition of the indicator; the link to the intervention logic; the unit of measurement; methodology used to obtain values; the data required and the sources of the data; information on data collection including the body responsible and the frequency of data collection; reporting requirements.

Methodological guidance to support Member States and evaluators in fulfilling the requirements of the monitoring and evaluation system, covering its various components, including evaluation methodologies and approaches, and the provision of support on specific issues such as evaluation of CLLD.

Guidance on the ex ante evaluation of RDPs covering the purpose of ex ante evaluation, the process and roles of the actors involved, and the scope of the exercise and providing methodological support on suitable approaches and methods, and a toolbox of indicative templates.

Guidance on the preparation and Evaluation Plan guidance covering the purpose and benefits of an evaluation plan, the elements which should be included, and recommendations on appropriate processes to establish it. Considerations linked to governance and implementation are covered, as are indicative templates for aspects of the exercise.

Guidance on the use and establishment of proxy indicators, targeted particularly at regional RDPs describing the purpose and characteristics of proxy indicators and identifying data and methods which could be used where proxies are required.

Guidance document on the Indicator Plan covering the elements which should be included, the rules to be applied and the template tables.

Guidance document on the Monitoring covering the elements which should be included in the Annual Implementation Reports, rules to be applied and the template tables.

Guidance on the assessment of values for the complementary result indicators, covering identification of the relevant population of projects, sampling strategies, appropriate methodologies, data sources and assessment techniques.

Guidance on assessing the impacts of RDPs, covering the purpose and use of the impact indicators, linkages between rural development policy and other policies and factors which affect impact indicator values, and proposes methods for estimating the net effect of rural development interventions.

Guidance on answering the common evaluation questions for rural development, including links to the intervention logic and common indicators, and proposing additional data, judgement criteria and a range of possible approaches which could be used to answer the questions.

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Guidance on the ex post evaluation of 2014-2020 RDPs covering the purpose, process and scope of the exercise, providing methodological support and identifying good practices, and including indicative templates for aspects of the exercise.

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ANNEX VII

Structure and content of annual implementation reports (Article 50 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and 75 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013)

1. Key information on implementation of the programme and its priorities (Article 50 CPR and 72 RD Reg.)

a) Financial data

Financial implementation data giving, for each measure and Focus Area, a statement of the expenditure incurred and declared in the Declarations of expenditure. It covers the total incurred public expenditure as well as the financial recoveries and corrections brought by the Member States during the previous calendar year.

b) Common and programme-specific indicators and quantified target values

Information on RDP implementation as measured by common and specific indicators, including the progress achieved in relation to the targets set for each Focus Area and on realised output compared to planned output as set out in the Indicator Plan. Beginning from the annual implementation report to be submitted in 2017, the achievements towards the milestones set in the performance framework (table F). Additional information on the stage of RDP implementation is provided through data on financial commitments by measure and Focus Area, and the related expected progress towards targets.

Tables:

- Table A: Committed expenditure by measure and Focus Area
- Table B: Realised output indicators by measure and Focus Area
- Table C: Breakdown for relevant outputs and measures by type of area, gender and/or age
- Table D: Progress towards Targets
- Table E: Monitoring of transitional measures
- Table F: Achievement of the Performance Framework Indicators

2. The progress in implementing the Evaluation Plan (EP) should be presented as follows:

- (a) Description of any modifications made to the EP in the RDP during the year, with their justification.
- (b) A description of the evaluation activities undertaken during the year (in relation to section 3 of the EP).*
- (c) A description of activities undertaken in relation to the provision and management of data (in relation to section 4 of the EP).*
- (d) A list of completed evaluations, including references to where they have been published on-line.*
- (e) A summary of completed evaluations, focussing on evaluation findings.

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- (f) A description of communication activities undertaken in relation to publicising evaluation findings (in relation to section 6 of the EP).*
- (g) Description of the follow-up given to evaluation results (in relation to section 6 of the EP).*

* Reference should be made to the Evaluation Plan, any difficulties encountered in implementation should be described, together with solutions adopted or proposed.

3. Issues which affect the performance of the programme and the measures taken (Article 50 CPR)

Description of the steps taken by the Managing Authority and the Monitoring Committee to ensure the quality and effectiveness of programme implementation and in particular as regard to issues encountered in managing the programme and any corrective measures taken, notably in response to comments made by the Commission.

4. Steps taken to implement technical assistance and programme publicity requirements

- a) In case of coverage under the technical assistance of the establishment and functioning of national rural networks, the report shall describe:

Actions taken and state of play as regards the establishment of the national rural network and the implementation of its action plan;

- b) Steps taken to ensure that the programme is publicised (Article 13 of this Regulation).

5. Actions taken to fulfil ex ante conditionalities (in 2017 and in 2016 where relevant) (Article 50 CPR)

Descriptions of actions taken by priority/focus area/measure to fulfil the applicable priority-linked and general ex-ante conditionalities not fulfilled or partially fulfilled at the time of the adoption of the RDP. Reference should be made to the criteria which were not or only partially fulfilled, to any strategy, legal act or other relevant document including references to the relevant sections and articles, to the bodies responsible for fulfilment. Where necessary, Member States can provide explanations or additional information to complement that description.

6. Description of implementation of sub-programmes (Article 75 RD)

The AIRs submitted in 2017 and 2019 shall also include the information on the implementation as measured by common and specific indicators including on the progress achieved in relation to the targets set in the indicator plan of the sub-programme as well as on realised output and expenditure compared to planned output and expenditure set in the sub-programme.

7. Assessment of the information and progress towards achieving the objectives of the programme (Article 50 CPR)

The AIRs submitted in 2017 and 2019 shall also include the following information resulting from evaluation activities:

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Reporting and quantification of programme achievements, in particular through assessment of the complementary result indicators, and relevant evaluation questions.

The AIRs submitted in 2019 shall also include the following information resulting from evaluation activities:

- Reporting on the progress towards the objectives of the programme and its contribution to achieving the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth through *inter alia* assessment of the programme's net contribution to changes in CAP impact indicator values, and relevant evaluation questions.

8. Implementation of actions to take into account the principles set out in [Articles 6, 7 and 8 CPR](#) ([Article 50 CPR](#))

The AIRs submitted in 2017 and 2019 should also include the following information:

a) Promotion of equality between men and women and non-discrimination ([Article 7 CPR](#))

Assessment of actions taken to ensure that equality between men and women and the integration of gender perspective are taken into account and promoted throughout the preparation and implementation of programmes, including in relation to monitoring, reporting and evaluation.

b) Sustainable development (Article 8 CPR)

Assessment of actions taken to ensure that the objectives and implementation of EAFRD is in line with the principle of sustainable development and with the Union's promotion of the aim of preserving, protecting and improving the environment, as set out in Article 11 and Article 91(1) TFEU, taking into account the polluter pays principle.

In addition, information is provided on the support for climate change objectives (Climate change tracking).

c) The role of the partners referred to in Article 5 CPR in the implementation of the programme

Assessment of actions taken to ensure that the partners referred to in [Article 5 \(1\) CPR](#) are involved in the preparation of progress reports and throughout the implementation of programmes, including through participation in the monitoring committees for programmes in accordance with Article 48 CPR and in the activities of the National Rural Network.

9. Progress made in ensuring integrated approach

The AIRs submitted in 2019 shall also include the following information:

Description of progress made in ensuring an integrated approach to use the EAFRD and other EU financial instruments to support the territorial development of rural areas, including through local development strategies ([Article 75 RD](#)).

10. Report on Implementation of Financial Instruments ([Article 46 CPR](#))

The AIRs should also include as an annex:

a specific report covering the operations comprising financial instruments. The content of this report is set in Article 46(2) [of Regulation \(EU\) No 1303/2013](#), and this submission should be done through the ESI funds template.

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Content of an Annual Implementation Report for Rural Network Programme

Description of actions taken and state of play as regards the establishment of the national rural network and the implementation of its action plan.

Table; [Realised output for the National Rural Network](#)

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