Sustainable agriculture in the Danube River Basin

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A guidance for policy making

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Agriculture in the DRB

Important economic component
Favorable soil and climatic conditions

Commodity, food and job

Low share in total GDP
Less intensity in many regions
Less competitive where productivity is low

Share of small (<5 ha) farms

AKIS comparison

Fragmented

Integratesd

Weak
Strong/powerful

Greece
Portugal
Romania

Slovakia

Italy
Spain
United Kingdom
Netherlands

Slovenia
Sweden

Hungary

Bulgaria
Cyprus

Czech Rep.

Flanders
Poland
France

Luxembourg

Austria
Denmark
Ireland

Legend:
Small farms share (%)
<10
10 - 25
25 - 50
50 - 75
75 - 90
>90

Danube River Basin DCS
Danube River

Tributaries (with catchment area > 4,000 km²)
Lake water bodies (with surface area > 100 km²)
Transitional water bodies
Coastal water bodies

ICPDR IKSD
International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
Internationale Kommission zum Schutz der Donau
Agriculture-related water management issues in the DRB (nutrients & droughts)

DIN river loads to Black Sea

Drought events in the DRB

TN specific emissions
kg N/ha/year

Rural
Urban
From confrontation to mutual trust & ambition

Thematic Areas:
- Quantity
- Pollution
- Development
Guidance document on sustainable agriculture

- Providing **guiding principles** for mitigating drought impacts and reducing nutrient pollution from diffuse sources
- Recommending policy instruments, financial programs and cost-efficient agricultural measures
- Setting up a mechanism to effectively implement compulsory measures and better target voluntary measures
- Strategic framework to integrate individual national approaches towards tailor-made solutions
- Basis for designing targeted national measures according to national needs (“no one size fits all”)

**Policy context**

**Agricultural sector**

**Water management**

**Guiding principles**

**Measure catalogue**

**Best case examples**
Key messages – CAP post 2020

- Design flexibly and examine the potential of the **CAP green architecture** (conditionality, eco-schemes and AECMs)
- Make a significant investment in **strengthening FAS and building AKIS** and pay strong attention to capacity building
- Strongly and actively recommend and promote applying **nutrient management planning** in the farming practices
- Put emphasis on **soil management practices** and support applying soil conservation and water retention measures
- Use funding instruments to **compensate** certain difficulties and constraints (natural disadvantages, WFD measures)
- Promote community-led **local initiatives** (LEADER, SVs)
Key messages – policy making

- Establish a **partnership** between agricultural and water sector to jointly prepare CAP SPs for **synergy with RBMPs**

- Target measures on emission **hot-spots** and adjust requirements to the risks accordingly

- Pay specific attention to the **farming structure**, take into account **favourable and disadvantaged areas**

- Make voluntary measures **attractive, practicable** and financially **acceptable** with low administrative burden

- Foster **digital transition** by modern technologies, smart devices, internet access and digitised supporting tools

- Develop drought **monitoring** system & management **strategy**
Thank you for your attention!

For more information please visit the ICPDR website:

http://www.icpdr.org