



Rural Development Programme Mainland Finland 2014–2020

Measures available for
farmers

Presentation package 3/3



Contents

- Agri-environment-climate measures in the programme
- Advisory services
- Agricultural investments
- Non-productive investments
- Environment payments
- Organic production
- Natural constraint payments
- Animal welfare payments

In package 2

- Training
- Business support



Agri-environment-climate measures in the Rural Development Programme



Knowledge transfer and information actions

- Environmental skills development

Advisory services

- Advice also provided on environmental issues
- Modification of environment commitments

Investments

- Manure processing
- Controlled subsurface drainage
- Establishment of wetlands
- Restoration of natural pastures

Farm and business development

- Product and service development, innovations, job opportunities: e.g. productisation of manure, environmental entrepreneurship

Organic production

Environment payments

- Environment commitments and contracts

Natural constraint payments

- Eligibility of permanent grasslands

Animal welfare payments

- Promotion of grazing

Development of rural services and villages

- Includes communal environmental actions, renewable energy, recreation services, nature trail networks, living environment, landscape management plans

Cooperation

- Joint projects, including creation of networks, development projects, deployment of innovations and new practices or technologies, pilot projects

Leader

- Environmental projects implemented through local Leader groups





Rural Development Programme Mainland Finland 2014–2020

ADVISORY SERVICES



Advisory services under EU regulations

- Horizontal regulation 1306/2013
 - Member States have obligations related to an advisory services system for farms and its contents
- Regulation on rural development 1305/2013
 - Possibilities of funding advisory services
 - Training and advisory services as separate measures
 - Obligations to provide advice on environment payments
 - Support for advisory services provided by the Rural Network



Funding for advisory services from a variety of sources

- EU co-financing through the programme
 - Advisory services as a new measure under the programme
 - Procurement of expert services is an eligible cost in agricultural investments and business support
- Fully national funding
 - State aid for advisory services
 - Forestry advice



Negotiations with the Commission

- In the Partnership Agreement: Finland will meet the obligations concerning advisory services for farms under the horizontal regulation by means of EU co-financed programme funding and national funding
- Nutrient levels required for environment payments will be implemented through advisory services
- Health care, which previously was part of animal welfare payments, will now be implemented through advisory services



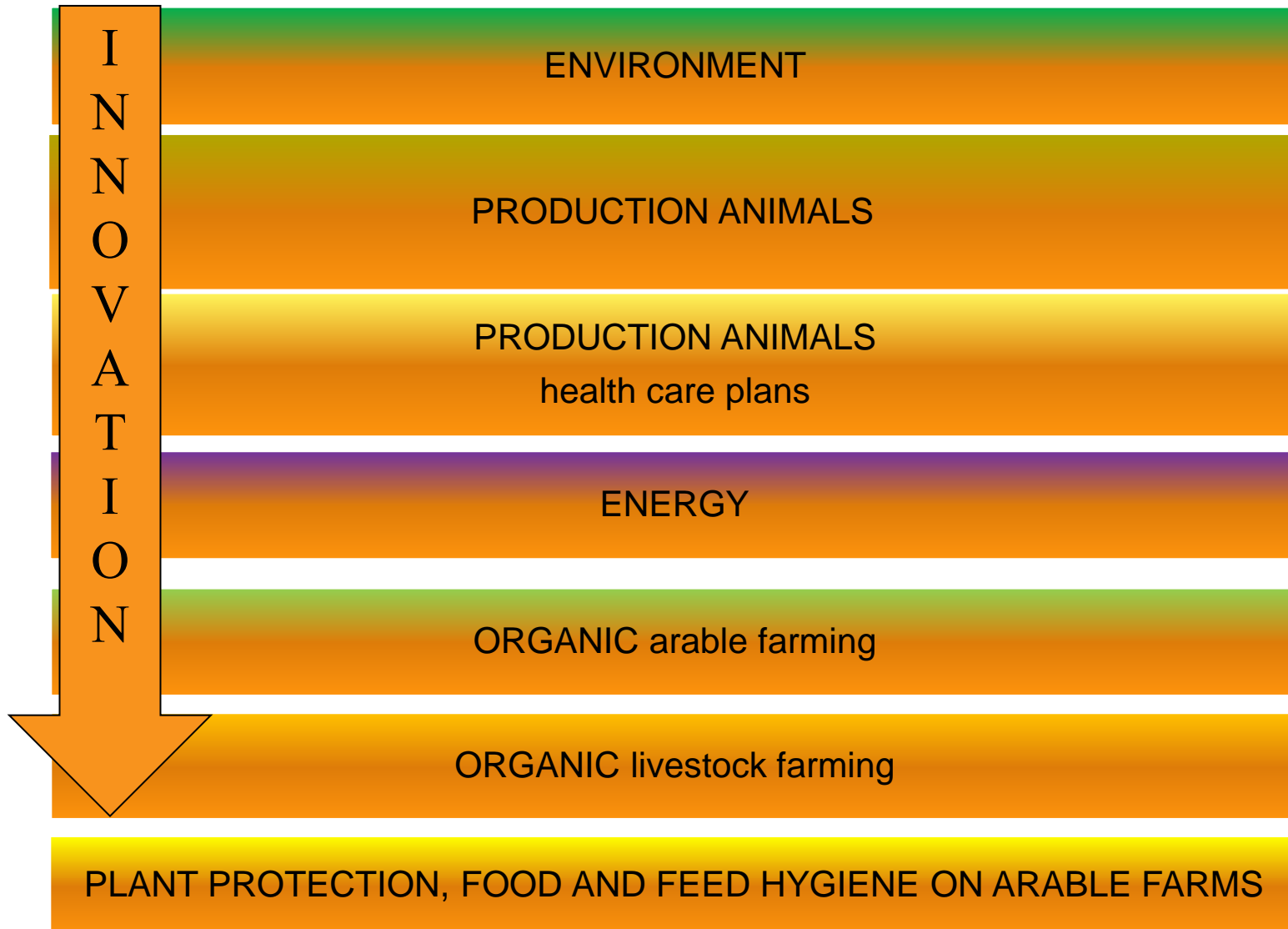
Advisory services as part of the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020



- Advice offered over a wide range of subjects
 - Cross-compliance conditions, greening payments, climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity, protection of water and soil, innovations, environment payments, maintaining agricultural land, organic production, plant protection and integrated control, welfare and health care of production animals, and issues related to environmental efficiency, including more efficient energy use and renewable energies
- In 2014, selection and initial training of advisors
 - Approval of advisors
 - Later additional selections being investigated



Advisory services for farms



Selection of advisors

- advisors will be selected by the Agency for Rural Affairs in compliance with the Public Contracts Act
 - Invitation to tender published on 16 September 2014 on the website www.hankintailmoitukset.fi
- Competitive bidding process will be based on advisors' qualifications and competence
 - Minimum requirements are suitable experience of advice provision and at least secondary level education and training
- The tenderers must meet certain minimum conditions
 - registration with the VAT register
 - undertaking to provide advice for a fixed hourly price



Training and registration of advisors

- Maintenance of advisors' professional competence
 - Initial training provided after selection
 - Continuing training
 - What kind of training will be needed?
- NEUVO 2020 pages on the Agency for R website
- Agency for Rural Affairs' register of advis
- Support for the advisors to be provided b Network



NEUVO 2020

Selection of advisors and payments



- Farmers will select a topic in which they need advice and an advisor in the register.
 - Advice provided as indicated by the farmer's needs
- Payment to be made to the advisor/advisory organisation
 - Eligible costs
- Payments for advisory visits will be time based.
- The time spent providing advice will be confirmed by the farmer. The farmer's confirmation is a precondition for making a payment.





Payments for advisory services

- Time spent on preparing for the visit and reasonable travel costs may also be eligible.
- At maximum, the costs of one hour of preparation per one hour of advice are eligible for payment if the visit is relevant to an animal health care plan, an environmental plan or an energy plan.
 - On these services, reports submitted in a specified format will be required
- While costs incurred for using the advisor's personal vehicle will be compensated in compliance with the state's travel regulations, in other respects the state's travel regulations will not be applied.



Monitoring and evaluation

- Work under the programme is expected to have an impact
 - Advisory services may also facilitate achieving the goals of other measures, reducing the number of sanctions imposed and supporting the coping of farmers
 - Preconditions for successful advisory services include not only skilled advisors but also marketing of the advisory services
- Advisory visits made / topics, numbers and euros
- Reports in connection with payment applications
- The Agency for Rural Affairs will send annually surveys to farmers having received advice and to advisors
- Potential dedicated studies





Rural Development Programme Mainland Finland 2014–2020

INVESTMENTS



Agricultural investment support



Objectives

- Preserving the current level of primary production
- Improving competitiveness and profitability of farms
- Improving animal welfare, production conditions and work environments
- Better energy efficiency and increased use of renewable energies
- Influencing the climate and environmental loading caused by farming



Agricultural investment support



Eligible actions

- livestock farming investments
- arable farming investments
- product warehouses and investments that promote putting products in marketable condition
- investments that improve the status of the environment
- investments aiming to improve quality
- investments in energy production on farms
- feasibility studies



Agricultural investment support

Eligibility conditions

- Beneficiaries must be aged 18 or over
- Adequate vocational skills
- A company must have the prerequisites for continuous profitable operation.
- Requisite permits, including building and environmental permits

In addition to the requirement of meeting eligibility conditions, a selection procedure will be in place for choosing the projects to be funded



Agricultural investment support

Support forms and amounts

- Support may be given in the form of a grant, a loan interest subsidy and a loan guarantee.
- The maximum amount of investment support will be EUR 1.5 million per farm over three tax years
- Depending on the target, the support level will be 10–50%. Increased rates apply to cooperation projects, young farmers and EIB projects



Setting up support for young farmers



Objectives

- Safeguarding the continuity of agricultural production by helping young farmers to set up
- Alleviating the financial risks of a young person setting up as a farmer and promoting the possibilities of developing the farm



Setting up support for young farmers

Eligibility conditions

- Beneficiaries must be under 40 years of age
- The beneficiary is setting up as a farmer responsible for agricultural production for the first time
- Adequate vocational skills
- The business must have the prerequisites for continuous profitable operation. The beneficiary must show by means of a business plan that they can achieve an income from farming amounting to a minimum of EUR 15,000 and a maximum of EUR 400,000 at the latest in the third year.

In addition to meeting eligibility conditions, a selection procedure will be in place for choosing the projects to be funded



Setting up support for young farmers

Support forms and amounts

- The grant amount will be EUR 10,000 if the applicant can prove by means of a business plan that they can achieve an income from farming amounting to a minimum of EUR 15,000 at the latest in the third year.
- The grant amount will be EUR 35,000 if the applicant can prove by means of a business plan that they can achieve an income from farming amounting to a minimum of EUR 25,000 at the latest in the third year.
- In addition, at maximum EUR 30,000 may be granted as income support so that, including exemption from transfer tax, the maximum amount of support is EUR 70.000





Retirement support

Objectives

- To extend the act on retirement support to 2015–2018 and thus make it possible to grant retirement support pensions that accelerate generation changes during this period

Target group

- Farmers who permanently go out of commercial farming and who hand over the fields and production facilities of the farm to a near relative

Modifications in the retirement support system

- Of a business income of EUR 15,000, at minimum EUR 12,000 must come from farming. At maximum EUR 3,000 of forestry income and income from other entrepreneurial activities on the farm will be taken into account.
- In 2017 and 2018, the age limit conferring eligibility to retirement support would be 60 years, rather than 59

Funding

Page 23

- National funding



Non-productive investments



- Wetland investments
- Initial clearing and fencing of heritage biotopes and natural pastures

Same actions as before with minor changes:

- Includes predator fences for pastures covered by a management contract
- Farmers, registered associations, and in wetland investments also water management organisations
- The ELY Centres will have improved possibilities of approving sites regarded as having appropriate impact
- Simplified cost procedures will be enabled





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ENVIRONMENT PAYMENTS



What are the environmental objectives based on?

WATER SYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY

- The Nitrates Directive, the Water Framework Directive, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the Pesticides Directive and the Floods Directive.
- Helcom Baltic Sea Action Plan, EU Strategy for the Baltic Region
- National water management plans, the marine management plan etc.
- The Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive, Action Plan for Biodiversity
- Prioritised Action Framework for Natura 2000 (PAF)
- Action Plans for the conservation of genetic resources

WEATHER, CLIMATE and the ENVIRONMENT in general

- UN Climate Change Convention, EU 2020 climate and energy package, the Emission Ceilings Directive, the Air Quality Directive
- Finland's National Climate and Energy Strategy and Action Plan for the Adaptation to Climate Change
- EU Strategy on resource efficiency, the EU's 7th Environment Action Programme
- etc.



Environment payments and baseline requirements

Gene bank conservation measures

- Keeping of local crop varieties
- Safety base collections of local crops
- Conservation of the genetic heritage of local breeds

Environment commitment

Environment commitments

Parcel-specific measures

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incorporation of slurry into fields - Recycling of nutrients and organic matter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Control of runoff waters - Environment management grasslands - Plant cover on fields in winter - Use of organic cover for horticultural plants and seed potatoes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biodiversity in agricultural environments - Alternative plant protection for horticultural plants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Management of wetlands - Biodiversity in farming environments and landscape management - Crane, goose and swan fields - Rearing of native breeds
<p>Farm-specific measure > precondition for selecting parcel-specific measures</p>			
<p>Baseline requirements for environment payments (not a basis for payments)</p>			

Baseline (not a basis for payments): incl. cross-compliance conditions (=statutory management requirements, requirements of good agriculture and environment) and maintaining agricultural land

Measures covered under greening payments are not eligible for environment payments

Elements of the environment payments system 1/2

- Environment commitment

An measure that concerns the entire farm:

- Balanced use of nutrients

Parcel-specific measures:

- Recycling of nutrients and organic matters
- Incorporation of slurry into the soil
- Control of runoff waters
- Environment management grasslands
- Plant cover on arable land in winter
- Use of organic cover for horticulture plants and seed potatoes
- Biodiversity in arable land environments
- Alternative plant protection for horticulture plants

Arable land must be eligible for payments under the programme

Fixed implementation conditions apply to parcel-specific measures, no need to have plans approved



Elements of the environment payments system 2/2



- Environment contract
 - Management of wetlands
 - Management of biodiversity in agricultural environment and landscape
 - Rearing of local breeds
 - Crane, goose and swan fields

Require a specific plan and a contract processed by an ELY Centre. An environment contract can be made without an environment commitment. Only the contracts on crane, goose and swan fields concern arable land

- Conservation in gene banks
 - Cultivation of local crops
 - Safety base collections of local crops
 - Conservation of the genetic heritage of local breeds

Not based on land areas



Environment payments vs. environment support

- Environment payments cover larger wholes and combinations of similar measures. Fully updated structure but with familiar elements.
- Nutrient use limits are now minimum requirements of environment commitments -> In the future, payments for farm-specific measures will cover planning, training etc.
- Some of the special support contracts will be replaced by parcel specific measures and environment contracts under the commitment
- A more targeted approach. Three measures have geographical target regions, and various limitations have also been introduced to target some of the other measures.
- As before, however, the payment level will consist of requirements that exceed the baseline. The fact that no payments can be made for the greening payment requirements of direct support has been accounted for in the calculations.
- Fixed payment levels in all measures



Environment payments vs. environment support

- No definitions for livestock farms or an actual horticultural farm
- No upper age limit
- The requirement of one day's training applies to all beneficiaries
- Minimum area under a commitment has been increased to 5 hectares, in horticultural farming to 1 hectare.
- More flexibility in the selection and implementation of measures
- Specific limitations of the surface area covered by a contract. Contracts can be made without an environment commitment.
- Uniform eligibility requirements will be applied to parcels in payments under the programme (however not to clearings)
- All previously made, incomplete environment payment commitments will expire in 2014 without recovery (modification clause). This also applies to most contracts.
- Beneficiaries will be encouraged to use the advisory services under the





Balanced use of nutrients

- A commitment action that concerns the entire farm
- Eligible costs: fertility studies, a 5-year cultivation plan that covers the entire commitment period (updated yearly if necessary), parcel-specific records, buffer strips of 3 metres in fields on shores of water systems, training day and self-evaluation of a soil quality test.
- The beneficiary must comply with separate minimum requirements of P and N fertilisation drawn up for the action without payment (nutrition tables).
- The minimum requirements of environment payments are
 - Limitations of nitrogen use based on organic soil content in the parcel
 - Limitations of nitrogen use based on fertility class
 - Nutrients in manure to be included up to the full amount



Incorporation of slurry into the soil

- A parcel-specific action under the commitment
- Slurry, urine, liquid fraction separated from slurry or a liquid organic fertiliser product must be spread using incorporation or earthing equipment.
- As indicated in the fertilization conditions of the commitment
- At minimum 20 m³/ha/year
- Payments made per spreading area based on notifications submitted in the autumn



Recycling of nutrients and organic matter

- A parcel-specific action under the commitment
- Organic material with an organic matter content of at least 20% is spread over arable land
- Materials: organic fertilisers, soil improvers or growing media under the Fertiliser Product Act, dry manure obtained from another farm for utilization and dry fraction separated from manure
- Manure, peat, straw, mowing waste and other similar materials from the farmer's own farm are not eligible
- The minimum volume to be spread must be 15 m³/ha/year
- Payments made per spreading area based on notifications submitted in the autumn



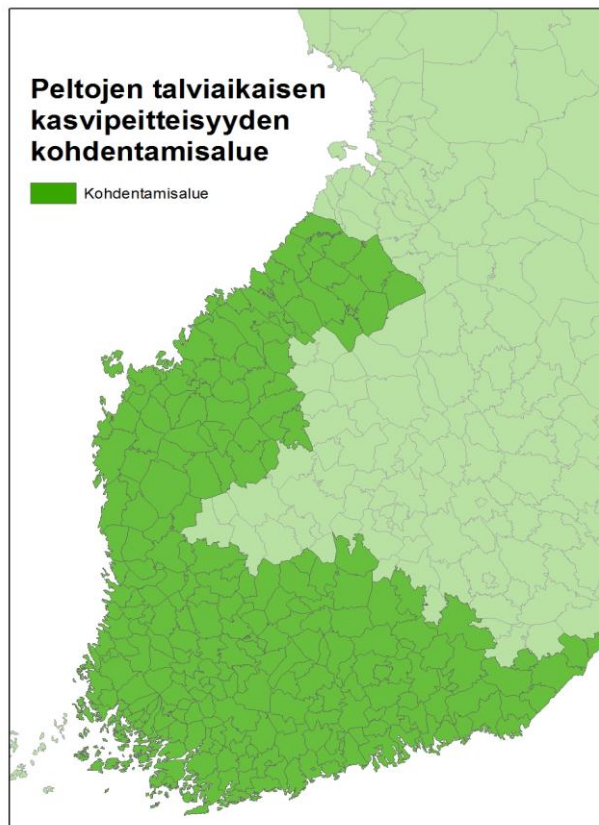
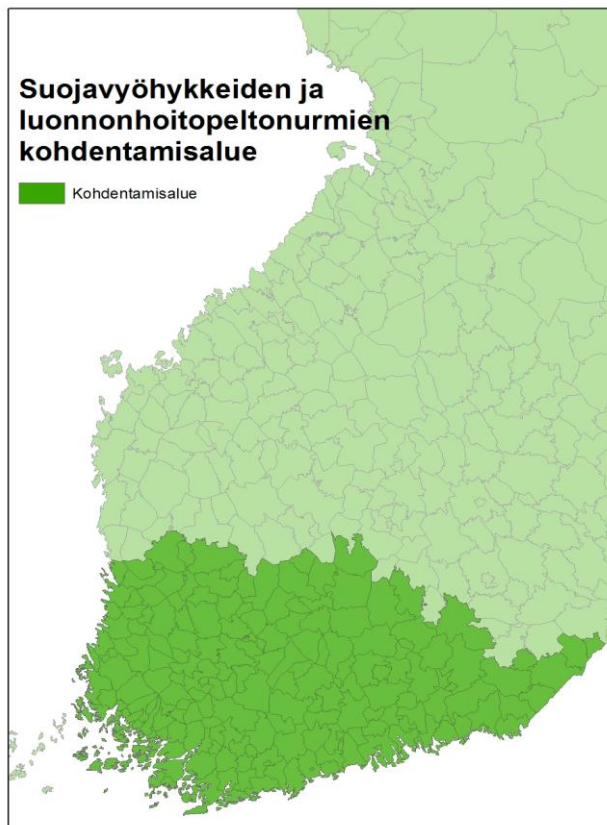
Control of runoff waters

- A parcel-specific action under the commitment
- Includes management measures of controlled subsurface drainage, controlled irrigation or recycling of drainage water
- Eligible for payments are
 - an area corresponding to that covered by a special support contract under the previous environment payment system
 - a parcel where a suitable system has been built and which contains acid sulphite soil or organic soil
 - soil sample
 - specific target area containing acid sulphite soils



Geographical targeting used in three parcel-specific actions

(environment management grasslands, control of runoff waters, and plant cover on fields in winter)



Geographical targeting also applies to arable land areas containing acid sulphite soils located in the area between the river basins of Sirppujoki and the rivers discharging into Liminganlahti Bay, including these river basins.



Environment management grasslands 1/3

- Environment management grasslands are a parcel-specific action under a commitment that contain three measures.
- Riparian zones: along watercourses and main ditches, in arable parcels in Natura 2000 areas and groundwater areas, or in arable parcels bordering on a wetland
 - Plant cover to be established during the first three years of the commitment and to be maintained until the end of the commitment period
 - A perennial grassland that is not fertilised and where no plant protection products are used
 - Vegetation is mowed and removed from the parcel on an annual basis, grazing is allowed
 - Payment levels for riparian zones are higher in the target region of this action than in other regions



Environment management grasslands 2/3

- Perennial environment grasslands: in groundwater areas or in field areas with peatland or mould soil, or on arable lands with acid sulphite soil in the specific target region
 - A soil sample is required
 - Plant cover must be established during the first three years of the commitment, and it must be maintained until the end of the commitment period without renewing by cultivation
 - Fertilizers and plant protection products may be used, and the area may be used for grazing. The vegetation must be mowed and removed every year



Environment management grasslands

3/3

- Nature management field grassland: at least biennial grassland that is not fertilised and where no plant protection products are used, or old grasslands with multiple species
 - Entire reference parcels or agricultural parcels
 - Mowed every second year, plants may be removed and used, may be used for grazing
 - Must be mowed every year in case of a severe weed infestation or to stop the growth of trees.
 - At maximum 20% of eligible area on the farm in the target region for this action, 5% in another area (the maximum total area of nature management field grasslands and biodiversity fields is also limited)



Plant cover on arable land in winter

- A parcel-specific measure under the commitment
- In the target region of this action, a more demanding implementation method and higher payment levels apply
- At minimum 20% of the eligible area must have plant cover in winter every year
- The area may vary annually: 20, 40, 60 or 80% in the target region (in other areas, 20, 40 or 60%)
- Payments will be made on the basis of notifications given in the autumn
- Reduced tillage can be carried out in 20% of the area, but in the target region areas exceeding this rate must have genuine plant cover (stubble or vegetation)
- Limitations to prevent double payments



Biodiversity in arable land environments

A parcel-specific action under a commitment that contains three measures

- Grassland for green manure
 - To be established by sowing with seed of grass or hay plants + at minimum 20% of nitrogen fixing plant seed
- Cultivation of renovation crops
 - Chinese radish, white mustard, marigold, or mixtures of these
 - May be tilled 2 months after seeding
- Biodiversity fields
 - Parcels established by sowing seed of game, landscape or meadow plants. Game and landscape fields must be preserved at least until the following spring, meadow fields for two growing seasons
 - Mowing is not compulsory (the growth of trees and shrubs must be prevented, weed infestations must be mowed), grazing not allowed
 - At maximum 15% of the eligible area



Use of organic cover for horticulture plants and seed potatoes



- A parcel-specific action under the commitment
- Rows of annual horticulture plants: straw, chippings, grass mulch, biodegradable plastic, paper covers or other organic material
- Rows of perennial horticulture plants: straw, chippings, grass mulch, biodegradable plastic, other organic material, paper covers or grass that can be mowed
- Between rows of perennial plants: grass that can be mowed or other organic cover
- For seed potatoes, rows and spaces between the rows to be covered with straw
- Not for caraway





Alternative plant protection for horticulture plants

- A parcel-specific measure under the commitment
- Use of certain biological or mechanical protection methods
- Follow-up of control success
- One protection measure/parcel, at minimum one parcel/year
- Cannot be selected by those with a commitment for organic production
- Not applicable to caraway



Environment contracts 1/3



- Environment contracts are similar to special support contracts in the previous programming period but with a fixed payment amount €/hectare. Discretion of the ELY Centre highlighted in decisions on the appropriateness of the plan and site
- Discretion of the ELY Centres in approving sites that promote programme objectives has been expanded.
- The contracts are separate from environment commitments.



Environment contracts 2/3



- Management of wetlands
 - Wetlands, restoring channels to their natural state, flood plains
 - Farmers, registered associations, water management organisations
 - Associations no longer require a statement from a Leader group to back their applications
 - A requirement of having impacts on farming applies to water protection and/or fostering biodiversity
 - Fixed payment levels
- Management of biodiversity in agricultural environment and landscape
 - Contains heritage biotopes, natural pastures, margin zones, copses etc.
 - Farmers and registered associations
 - Associations no longer require a statement from a Leader group to back their applications
 - Fixed payment levels, increased level for M and V class sites



Environment contracts 3/3



- Crane, goose and swan fields
 - For areas where arable fields are afflicted by mass occurrences of birds
 - Suitable vegetation and feeding
 - A plan approved by an ELY Centre is required
- Rearing of local breeds
 - East, west and north Finncattle, Finnish landrace goats, Finnish sheep, Åland sheep and grey sheep of Kainuu, Finnhorses and Finnish landrace hens
 - The number of animals stated in the contract must be reared and bred during the contract period
- **Minimum animal numbers have been increased**



Gene bank measures

- In the actions concerning the Conservation of the genetic heritage of local breeds and Safety base collections of local crops, the beneficiary is the national genetic resource programme coordinator that produces or outsources the required services following action plans prepared by it.
- The gene bank measures are not based on land areas.
- Payments for the conservation of local crop varieties are made directly to the party conserving the variety. Unlike in the earlier special support contracts, the requirement concerns ensuring the maintenance of the variety rather than its annual cultivation.





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ORGANIC PRODUCTION



Organic production



Objectives

- Increasing the area under organic cultivation and the number of livestock farms engaged in organic production

Target group

- Farmers

Changes in programming period 2014–2020

- Now a separate measure with commitments (previously a special support contract as part of an agri-environment support measure)
- An ambitious target: the share of organic production will be 20% by 2020

Funding in programming period 2014–2020

- EU-co-financing EUR 326 million (includes funding for organic contracts in 2014)



Organic production

- Organic farms may commit to several environment payment and animal welfare payment conditions
- Commitments not available for organic farms:
 - Alternative plant protection for horticulture plants
 - Only fertilizers permitted in organic production may be used in measures concerning the incorporation of slurry into the field and the recycling of organic matter
 - In the measure concerning biodiversity in agricultural environments, grassland for green manure is not eligible
- No payments or support may be paid for the same actions under two separate systems



Organic production



- Commitment for organic production
- A five-year commitment
 - Minimum area of arable land 5 hectares, for horticultural plants 1 hectare
 - Arable land must be eligible for payments under the programme
 - Organic plant production rules specified in Council Regulation (834/2007) must be complied with, and the farm must be registered with the organic production control system
 - Training requirement
 - The commitment must cover the entire holding; as an exception, a separate commitment may be made for field horticulture plants.
 - Requirement of producing plants for sale



Commitment for organic livestock production



- A five-year commitment
- The farm must have at minimum 0.3 livestock units/hectare (bovines, sheep, goats, pigs, hens, geese, ducks)
 - Minimum area of arable land 5 hectares, for horticultural plants 1 hectare
 - Arable land must be eligible for payments under the programme
 - Organic livestock production rules specified in Council Regulation (834/2007) must be complied with, and the farm must be registered with the organic production control system, also regarding the animal species reared organically
 - Training requirement
 - During the last year of the commitment, organic animal products or organic animals must be produced for sale





Rural Development Programme Mainland Finland 2014–2020

NATURAL CONSTRAINT PAYMENTS



Natural constraint payments 1/2



Objectives

- To promote the preservation of agricultural landscapes by securing the continued use of agricultural land regardless of adverse climatic conditions

Target group

- Active farmers who are beneficiaries of direct support

Changes in programming period 2014–2020

- A one-yearly measure, a uniform definition of a farmer will be introduced with direct support forms
- A minimum area of 5 hectares, and in the archipelago 3 hectares, is required.
- Extended eligibility: perennial grassland eligible for farm support is included
- The maximum permitted area of fallow land and nature management field grassland is smaller than in the previous period (25%).
- Degressive payment levels, or decreased levels for areas exceeding 150 hectares (-10%) and 300 hectares (-20 %)



Natural constraint payments 2/2

Changes in programming period 2014-2020 continued

- Different payments depending on line of production
 - Livestock farming, if at minimum 0.35 livestock units/hectare
 - Arable farms, other than the aforementioned
- The separate national additional part no longer available Increases will in the future be part of the programme (so-called top-up)

Funding in programming period 2014–2020

- Co-financing of EUR 3.734 million and EUR 1,924 million of additional national funding





Rural Development Programme Mainland Finland 2014–2020

ANIMAL WELFARE PAYMENTS



Objectives of animal welfare payments

- Improving animal welfare
- Promoting care in which production animals can follow their natural behaviours
- Increasing farmers' awareness of factors that influence animal welfare – also through farm advisory services
- Responding to consumer expectations
- Grazing also has an impact on landscape management



Framework

The Commission's delegated regulation specifies the requirements on which animal welfare payment conditions must be based

- a) Water, feed and animal care in accordance with the natural needs of animal husbandry
- b) Housing conditions, such as increased space allowances, flooring surfaces, enrichment materials, natural light
- c) Outdoor access
- d) In specific cases when mutilation or castration of animals is deemed necessary, the use of anaesthetics, analgesia and anti-inflammatory medication or immunocastration



General information

(1/3)

- Animal welfare payments were prepared by a broad-based working group supported by expert groups focusing on specific species
- Payments are based on losses of income, costs and benefits gained
- Conditions must exceed baseline requirements
- Conditions for bovines and pigs, and as new animal groups, for sheep, goats and poultry
- Some of the conditions contain details open to interpretation that cannot be measured, and clear instructions, shared procedures and training for beneficiaries, advisors and control authorities are thus needed
- No double payments for the same actions



General information

(2/3)

- All old commitments to expire on 30 April 2015. New ones can be entered into from 1 May 2015
- One-yearly commitments for specific animal species, which can be extended on a yearly basis
 - Period 1 will be exceptional: 1 May 2015–31 December 2016
- Payments will be made over a calendar year:
 - Same period and livestock unit coefficient as for other animal payments
 - Animal data mainly gathered from registers – specific counting days for poultry (monthly numbers or batches sent to slaughter)
- Payments made once or twice a year (advance/final)



General information

(2/3)

- Conditions regarding bovines and pigs have been modified on the basis of implementation experiences and new EU regulations
 - Health care contracts, visits and plans not included in the future
- Health care plans for production animals and advice related to their welfare will be available through the measure concerning advisory services
- Selection criteria will be applied if appropriations run out
 - Extensions of extending commitments



1. Conditions of animal welfare payments for bovines

- The previous conditions have been modified based on implementation experience and feedback from the Commission
- Minimum number of animals will be 15 livestock units
- Feeding and care applicable to all bovines on the farm, other conditions to the relevant group

1.1. Feeding and care

1.2. Improving conditions in which calves are kept (a, b or c)

1.3. Improving conditions in which bovines are kept (a or b)

1.4 Grazing and outdoor access of bovines (a or b)

1.5 Stalls for sick animals, calving and medical and other care of animals (a and/or b)



1.1. Feeding and care of bovines

- Feeding plans for animal groups
- Adequate volume of coarse-grain feed and continuous access to water
- Conditions in which animals are kept
 - Not to be isolated, beef cattle may not be kept tied to a stall
- Contingency plan in case of disruptions
 - Mechanical faults and interruptions in water and electricity supply
 - Plan and preparedness to use backup power



1.2. Improving the conditions in which calves are kept

1.2a. Improving the conditions in which calves are kept I

- Calves aged under 6 months, not on suckler farms
- To be kept in group pens, surface area requirement
- Lying area with a rigid foundation that is well-bedded and soft
- During the suckling period, feeding from teats and free access to coarse-grained feed from week 1 ->
- Disbudding carried out by a veterinarian using an anaesthetic

1.2b. Improving the conditions in which calves are kept II

- Same as 1a without a requirement of a certain area

1.2c. Improving the conditions in which the calves of suckler cows are kept

- Calves aged under 6 months
- Coarse-grained feed always available
- Surface area requirement mother + calf
- Lying area with a rigid foundation that is well-bedded and soft



1.3. Improving the conditions in which bovines are kept

Not for bovines reared outdoors. Only one can be selected.

1.3a. Bovines aged 6 months and over

- Lying area with a rigid foundation that is well-bedded and soft
- Beef cattle may not be kept tied to a stall

1.3b. Male bovines reared for beef aged 12 months and over

- Well-bedded lying area or a slat floor with mats
- In group pens, an area of 4.5 m²/animal, or in cold housing 6.5 m²



1.4 Grazing and outdoor access of bovines

Cannot be selected for bovines kept outdoors round the year or by organic cattle farms. Only one requirement can be selected.

1.4a. Grazing of bovines during the grazing season and outdoor access outside the grazing season

- Bovines aged 6 months and over must be grazing for 60 days between 1 May - 30 Sep. At other times, outdoor access twice a week weather permitting
- Grazing of bulls can be replaced by an outdoor exercise pen; area requirement 6 m²/bovine (pen area always at minimum 50 m²)

1.4b. More long-term grazing during the grazing season

- Bovines aged 6 months or over, no bulls, on pasture for 90 days 1 May-30 Sep



1.5 Stalls for sick animals, calving and medical and other care of animals for bovines (1/2)

- Farmers may select either 5a or 5b, or both
- Bedding requirements (rigid and well-bedded 5a or floor mats 5b for bovines aged over 6 months)
- Possibility of heating the room or the animal if necessary
- Visual contact with other bovines
- The animal that is cared for can be quickly secured and handled safely



1.5 Stalls for sick animals, calving and medical and other care of animals for bovines (2/2)

1.5a. Stalls for sick animals, calving and medical and other care of animals for dairy cows and suckler cows

- Possibility of milking in the stall
- Number of stalls that are fixed or can be assembled from parts 1/20 cows, area requirement 11 m²/animal

1.5b. Stalls for sick animals, calving and medical and other care of animals for bovines

- Bovines excluding calves aged under 2 months, dairy cows and suckler cows
- Number of stalls that are fixed or can be assembled from parts 1/50 cows, area requirement 6 m²/animal for bovines aged under 12 months and 10 m²/animal for those aged over 12 months



1. Animal welfare payments for bovines

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1.3b Improving the conditions in which male bovines at least 12 months old are kept	126
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1.4b More long-term grazing of bovines during the grazing season	24
1.5. Stalls for sick animals, care and calving	
1.5a Stalls for sick animals, care and calving for dairy cows and suckler cows	15
1.5b Stalls for sick animals, care and calving for bovines	15



2.1. Feeding and care of pigs

- Applicable to all pigs on the farm, excluding unweaned piglets
- Written feeding plan based on calculations for each animal group
- Adequate amounts of water of a good quality must be continuously available
- A written production plan on piglet production farms: insemination and weaning schedules, production process planning
- Plan and backup power system for disruptions



2.2. Outdoor access of dry sows and gilts

- Sows and gilts aged 8 months and over
- Weather permitting, outdoor access daily between 1 May - 30 Sep, or outdoor access at minimum twice a week round the year Outdoor access may be limited for reasons of animal diseases
- Possibility of rooting and, in the summer, wallowing
- A record must be kept of outdoor access
- This condition cannot be selected by organic pig farms



2.3. Improving the conditions in which sows and gilts are kept

- Sows and gilts aged 8 months and over
- In a group pen, the total unobstructed floor area outside the crates must be at minimum 2.25 m²/animal, and of this floor area, at minimum 1.3 m²/animal must be well-bedded and have a solid foundation
- Organic pig farms cannot select this condition



2.4 Improved farrowing conditions

- Sows and gilts aged 8 months and over
- Free farrowing (provision for exceptions)
- The minimum area of a farrowing pen is 6 m², of which at minimum 1 m² for piglets and space protected by pen structures
- The piglets must have a well-bedded lying area, which is large enough for all the piglets to lie down in simultaneously
- Nesting material must be offered continuously until the time of farrowing
- This condition cannot be selected by organic pig farms



2.5 Bedding in pens for weaned piglets and fattening pigs

- Well-bedded lying area with a rigid bottom, which is large enough for all the pigs to lie down simultaneously
- Bedding either by appropriate drainage or litter and dual climate pens, or in meat production facilities, underfloor heating combined with plenty of bedding
- A farm that selects the conditions concerning enrichment (2.7) cannot simultaneously select this condition
- This condition cannot be selected by organic pig farms



2.6. Treatment of castration pain and alternatives for surgical castration

2.6a. Treatment of pain:

- Male pigs aged 0-3 months on piglet production farms
- In connection with surgical castration and to treat post-surgery pain, male pigs must be given an analgesic either orally or as an injection

2.6b Use of immunocastration:

- Male fattening pigs in pig fattening houses and combination piggeries
- An immunocastration vaccine is administered twice, complying with separate instructions



2.7. Enrichment

- For all pigs, excluding unweaned piglets
- The pig pens must contain both fixed enrichment materials and those added daily
 - Fixed enrichment materials made from natural materials at least 1 / 6 pigs
 - Enrichment materials that are added daily must be provided in such large quantities that all pigs in the pen can use them simultaneously
- Cannot be selected simultaneously with the condition concerning bedding in pens for weaned piglets and fattening pigs (2.5)



2.8. Pens for sick animals and medical and other care of animals

- For all pigs, excluding suckling piglets
- A sick or injured pig can be moved to a pen provided for sick animals and medical care, where water of a good quality is constantly available
- Several pigs may be kept in the pen, but it must be possible to separate them
- A well-bedded lying area with a rigid bottom for all animals
- Possibility of heating the animal available



2. Animal welfare payments for pigs



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3. Conditions of animal welfare payments for sheep and goats

- At minimum 5 livestock units of sheep and goats

3.1. Feeding

3.2. Improving the conditions in which sheep and goats are kept

3.3. Care of sheep and goats

3.4. Grazing and outdoor access of sheep and goats (a or b)



3.1. Feeding of sheep and goats

- All sheep and goats on the farm
- A written feeding plan for each animal group and for different feeding stages based on calculations
- Adequate amount of coarse-grained feed and water of a good quality continuously available



3.2. Improving the conditions in which sheep and goats are kept

- All sheep and goats
- The pens must have a well-bedded and soft lying area with a rigid foundation with enough space for all the animals to lie down at the same time
- Pen surface area requirements for sheep of different ages and also for an individual pen for special situations
- Rams and billy goats kept in a group pen, possibility for exceptions
- Lamb creeps provided for lambs aged over two weeks
- Weaned lambs and kids must be kept in groups
- Animals kept in isolation must have visual contact with other animals of the same species



3.3. Care of sheep and goats

- All sheep and goats
- Sheep aged 1 year and over must be shorn twice a year, records to be kept of the shearing days
- Parasite control plan
- Pens for sick animals and medical and other care of animals
 - May be assembled around the sick animal, or a separate pen in shared use where an individual can be isolated if necessary
 - Requirements applicable to the lying area and surface area of the pen
- A lambing pen must be provided for a ewe and her newborn lambs

(at minimum 2,2 m², with possibility of heating, and/or the facility is thermally insulated)

- Water of a good quality is continuously available in the pens for lambing and sick animals



3.4. Grazing and outdoor access of sheep and goats

(1/2)

- All sheep and goats aged 3 months and over
- Temporary restrictions due to animal diseases to be accounted for
- Goats must have possibilities for climbing in the pasture
- Records must be kept of grazing and outdoor access. Either option a) or b) may be selected
- Cannot be selected by an organic sheep/goat farm



3.4. Grazing and outdoor access of sheep and goats (2/2)

3.4a. Grazing during the grazing season and outdoor access outside the grazing season

- Sheep and goats aged 3 months and over (excluding yews and nanny goats due to give birth within 2 weeks) must have access to grazing for 60 days between 1 May and 30 Sep, and weather permitting, they must also have outdoor access at least once a week outside the grazing season

3.4b. Long-term grazing during the grazing season

- Sheep and goats aged 3 months and over (excluding yews and nanny goats due to give birth within 2 weeks) must have access to grazing for 90 days between 1 May and 30 Sep



3. Animal welfare payments for sheep and goats



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3.4b More long-term grazing of sheep and goats during the grazing season	8



4. Conditions of welfare payments for poultry

- Applicable to laying hens, broilers and turkeys
- Minimum animal numbers 1,000 hens, 10,000 broilers or 2,500 turkeys
- Payment made for poultry to which the additional condition is applied

4.1. Feeding and care

4.2. Improving the conditions in which broilers and turkeys are kept

4.3. Improving air quality in an egg producing establishment

4.4. Enrichment

4.5. Platforms, ramps and perches

4.6. Outdoor access



4.1. Feeding and care

- A written feeding plan based on calculations for each animal group
- The protein content of any complementary feed mixed on the farm must be analysed
- Birds aged over one week must be offered whole grains mixed in with the feed for enrichment purposes
- During the first days of their lives, fattening poultry must be fed off paper liners. After this, the paper liners can be used as enrichment material.



4.2. Improving the conditions in which broilers and turkeys are kept

- All broilers and turkeys
- Conditions in the rearing establishment
 - The welfare of broilers will be measured by the percentage share of carcasses rejected due to ascites in meat inspections and the results of foot pad dermatitis assessments made by inspecting veterinarians in each batch. The percentage of carcasses rejected due to ascites should not exceed 1.0 per cent in the slaughter batch report, and the score of the foot pad dermatitis assessment must be less than 40 points
 - The indicator for turkeys is the percentage of entire carcasses rejected in each slaughter batch. These percentages must be less than 6.5% in batches slaughtered in the period 1 May–30 September, and less than 5% in batches slaughtered in the period 1 October–30 April.



4.3. Improving air quality in an egg producing establishment

- All egg producing establishments
- Manure is removed from the establishment three times a week
 - Ammonia concentration in the air of the establishment must be less than 18 ppm in floor rearing and less than 8 ppm in battery rearing
- A record is kept of manure removal and air ammonia concentration



4.4. Enrichment

- All laying hens, broilers and turkeys
- Cannot be selected in establishments with enrichment cages
- Enrichment objects include ropes, pieces of timber hanging on a chain or plastic objects that the birds can move around
- In broiler and egg production establishments, at least 4 enrichment objects must be provided per each 100 m² or part thereof
- In each section of a turkey rearing establishment, at least 2 enrichment objects must be found per each 100 m² or part thereof



4.5. Platforms, ramps and perches

- All laying hens, broilers and turkeys
 - however not for establishments with enriched cages
 - perches cannot be selected for laying hens
- Perches must be provided for 10% of fattening poultry so that the minimum length of perch is 15 cm per broiler and 20 cm per turkey.
- Platforms and ramps amounting to at minimum 10% of the establishment surface area must be provided for all poultry.
- The platforms, ramps and perches must be durable and safe



4.6. Outdoor access

- All laying hens and turkeys; not for establishments with enriched cages
- Weather permitting, outdoor access twice a week round the year (as exceptions, the initial rearing period and limitations due to animal diseases in 1 March -31 May.)
- A feeding area indoors, animals grazing in the summer, access to a covered outdoor area in the winter
- Possibility of following natural behaviours, including dust-bathing and scratching



4. Animal welfare payments for poultry



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4.2. Improving the conditions in which broilers and turkeys are kept	10
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Livestock unit coefficients for animal welfare payments



Also applied in other support systems

Bulls, cows and other bovines aged over 2 years	1.0
Bovines 6 months - 2 years	0.6
Calves aged less than 6 months	0.4
Sows	0.5
Other pigs	0.3
- weaned piglets: 2/3 of the age class 0-3 months	
Sheep and goats aged over 1 year	0.2
Lambs and kids aged over 3 months	0.06
Laying hens	0.014
Broilers	0.007
Turkeys	0.03

