

Rural Development plans and Animal Welfare



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CAP and overproduction

- Common Agricultural Policy: a force that has shaped the existing agricultural system
- Overproduction of grain ➡ overproduction of meat supporting the industrialization of livestock production (60.7% of cereal production ➡ animal feed)
- Industrial animal production – associated with:
 - Large amounts of animal feed
 - Use of resources (land and water)
 - Also, close confinement of animals (including cages, crates, stalls)
 - Use of antibiotics
 - Mutilations
 - Limited ability of animals to express natural behaviour
- Rural Development Regulation in 2005 – payments for voluntary adoption of animal welfare measures

Animal welfare payments

- 0.1% of the CAP spent on AW payments (2007-2013: €368 million, €52.6 million year)
- Limited and unclear welfare improvements
 - little evidence on how AW payments are spent
 - MS outcome reports do not give details
 - COM factsheets (2014-2020) on MS rural development programmes offer no information on the objectives of the payments

MS Factsheets - % of overall budget

AUSTRIA	2.69%
BELGIUM	0%
BULGARIA	1.98%
CROATIA	0%
CYPRUS	2.88%
CZECH REP	2.17%
DENMARK	0%
ESTONIA	4.1%
FINLAND	5.59%
FRANCE	?
GERMANY	?
GREECE	0.22%
HUNGARY	2.82%
ITALY	?

IRELAND	0%
LATVIA	0%
LITHUANIA	0%
LUXEMBOURG	0%
MALTA	0%
NETHERLANDS	0%
POLAND	0%
PORTUGAL	0%
ROMANIA	0% now 5.45% past
SLOVAKIA	5.19%
SLOVENIA	1.48%
SPAIN	?
SWEDEN	2.94%
UK	?

Farm Animals Directive 98/58

No species specific legislation for cattle, sheep/goats, rabbits.

Compliance with General Farm Animals Directive 98/58 of limited value: provisions are very broad



CAP AW payments do not always bring the expected results

@PhilHoganEU

12 Mar 2015

Modern farm facility part-funded
by [#EU RDP](#) in Arges County

Romania [@EU Agri](#)

[@CorinaCretuEU](#)

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Steps to achieve higher AW standards into the CAP

- Higher % of the CAP budget to improve animal housing systems and management practices
- Set required minimum spending on AW - Rural Development funds
- MS RD programmes should have specific objectives. CAP should require MS to specify in detail:
 - Upgraded standards of production methods eligible for funding
 - Improved AW outcomes expected from upgraded standards
(i.e. free farrowing systems, lower stocking densities, increased support for pasture based dairying, intact tails on pigs)
 - Support for lower yielding, slower growing animals
- Mechanisms to ensure payments do not have an adverse impact on AW – AW Impact Assessment
- Measures taken to improve effectiveness of cross-compliance
 - FVO reports continue to show high level of non-compliance from MS
 - More inspections, reduction of CAP payments, clarity as to what constitutes compliance with Directive 98/58, cross-compliance with all farm animal welfare legislation

Towards a sustainable food and farming policy

- Animal welfare not adequately addressed in the CAP
- Support a move towards more humane and sustainable farming practices across the EU
- The policy should be a weapon in the battle to end factory farming
- Deliver positive outcomes for the environment, farmers' livelihoods, human health.
- Our vision for the future: humane forms of animal farming, lowering consumption of animal products, increase in plant based foods. Sustainability.

