



European
Commission



Agriculture
and Rural
Development

Common Agricultural Policy (challenges, topics and user requirements)

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Challenges for EU agriculture

Economic, environmental and territorial

- **Agricultural income**
- **Volatility**
- **Functioning food chain**
- **Greening**
- **Climate change**
- **Pressure on natural resources**
- **Territorial diversity**
- **Structural change**

Political

INTERNAL

- Subsidiarity
- "Juncker" priorities: jobs and growth
- Agricultural budget

EXTERNAL:

- Trade agreements
- Climate policy agreements

Topics for agricultural sector

- Control with Remote Sensing (CwRS)
- Monitoring of permanent grassland (identification and mapping)
- Crop diversification (CD)
- Ecological Focus Area (EFA)
- Land Parcel Identification System (LPIS)
- CAP monitoring and evaluation
- Climate change
- Crop development monitoring
- Maximising EU contribution to the international efforts

Biodiversity

- We need reliable monitoring systems that allow us to measure the effects of the CAP. The agro-environmental indicators of the CAP represent a very useful monitoring tool.
- Data needs on land use are huge. Also for the bioenergy sector. More information on land use 'outside' direct payments would be very useful in order to better assess the potential of this land for biomass production as well as for biodiversity protection.

Precision agriculture

- Number of CAP measures available to encourage the uptake of precision agriculture in Europe and maximise the sustainability benefits that can be achieved with it.
- Due to precision technologies farmers are able to make the best use of pesticides and fertilizers, contributing to soil and groundwater protection while increasing production efficiency.
- Space technologies become a contributor to the development of precision farming practices.

COPERNICUS

- Development of the Copernicus services and in particular of Land Components are of interest to DG AGRI. The land monitoring service will provide information in support of the environmental monitoring of biodiversity, soil, water, forests and natural resources, as well as in general implementation of environmental good practices in agriculture.
- Free and numerous Copernicus imagery can also be very interesting especially in the frame of greening (crop diversification, permanent grassland and EFAs) *-more help needed (higher resolution?)*.

IACS/controls

- The huge amount of free and open data from frequent revisits available thanks to the Copernicus Sentinel 1 and Sentinel 2 could also lead to a re-think of the way controls of the CAP are designed.
- A strong and reliable methodology for real time notification of activities of the farmer by the farmer himself could also lead to a completely different approach for the controls. Today's technology could allow the farmer to give on real time conclusive proof to the paying agencies of compliance for specific requirements.

SOSTARE

SOSTARE is an example of a diagnostic tool for the assessment of farm performance.

It focuses on three main aspects:

- agronomic efficiency
- economic results
- ecological performance

This type of tools can be used:

- by farmers and advisory systems to identify weak points in management, to improve the overall farm sustainability by the regional administration to monitor policy implementation

EFA calculator

A software tool to support farmers decisions on Ecological Focus Areas (EFA)

Developed by: University of Hertfordshire, UK
Commissioned and coordinated by JRC

Objectives/functions of the software:

- Help the farmer to **calculate and allocate the 5% EFA target** (including checking implementation rules)
- Calculate the **potential impact of different features** on ecosystem services, biodiversity and management
- **Guide farmers** towards features which offer the greatest potential benefits (maximising benefits & minimising burdens)

What is the impact on the environment of my EFA choices?

Final remarks

- The use of space technology has great potential for the agriculture sector
- Global positioning is essential for precision farming
- Data collected by satellites can be a major building block for the digitisation of the agriculture sector
- On the spot checks require mostly Very High Resolution (VHR) images
- Further automatic processes should facilitate development of agricultural services
- Remote sensing data sources will have a positive impact on the development of precision agriculture
- Necessity to regular review of the CAP/Space technologies requirements
- The timing, fast delivery of images is essential

Thank you for your attention!