

8. The relationship between the National Strategy and the operational programmes

This National Strategy is the framework that lays down the direction and scope of the operational programmes to be presented by Swedish producer organisations in the fruit and vegetable sector. The operational programmes contain the measures that the organisations intend to carry out, and are co-financed by the EU by 50 %, or in some cases 60 %¹.

The operational programmes shall apply to the legislation below. The most important legislative texts are listed in Section 1. The following should be noted:

- The operational programmes shall meet at least two of the objectives referred to in Article 122 (c) and 103 (c) 1 of Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007.

Article 122 (c) acknowledges three different objectives for recognized producer organisations:

- (i) ensuring that production is planned and adjusted to demand, particularly in terms of quality and quantity;
- (ii) concentration of supply and the placing on the market of the products produced by its members;
- (iii) optimising production costs and stabilising producer prices.

Article 103 (c) 1 lists six objectives for the operational programmes of the producer organisations:

- a) planning of production
 - b) improvement of product quality
 - c) boosting the commercial value of products
 - d) promotion of the products, whether in a fresh or processed form
 - e) environmental measures and methods of production respecting the environment, including organic farming
 - f) crisis prevention and management
- Each separate measure of the operational programme shall meet at least one of the objectives in Article 122 (c) and Article 103 (c) (1) in Regulation (No) 1234/2007.
 - As laid down in Swedish regulation SJVFS 2008:32 § 10 the crisis management measures in Article 103 (c) (2) of Regulation (No) 1234/2007 that can be included in operational programmes in Sweden are:
 - training measures
 - harvest insurance
 - support for the administrative costs of setting up mutual funds
 - As laid down in Swedish regulation SJVFS 2008:32 § 10 support for harvest insurances may be granted for costs of insurance premiums, for insurances taken by the PO to cover for losses among its member companies when they are affected by plant pathogens, natural disasters and climatic events comparable to natural disasters.

¹ The conditions that may entitle to 60 % EU financing are laid down in Article 103 (d) of Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007.

- Investments that increase the environmental pressure are only allowed if effective measures have been taken to protect the environment from this pressure (Article 103 (c) (5) of 1234/2007). In line with this requirement, no investments that concern the use of petroleum-based plastic materials in production will entitle to support.
- The following are clarifications to Annex VIII of Regulation (EC) No 1580/2007 on measures that do not entitle to support:

Item 1.

- Perennial plants in the form of fruit trees entitle to support when it comes to replacing varieties, not new establishment..
- Specific costs for organic material for plant protection is compensated through the operational fund up to 60 % of total eligible costs, see Chapter 3 § 5 in Swedish Regulation 2008:32
- The following requirements apply to investments in individual companies (according to Chapter 3 § 17 in Swedish Regulation SJVFS 2008:32):
 - Investments in individual companies can only be accepted if they are a part of a larger strategy with a clearly quantifiable objective, and where the measure and the objective comprise several companies.
 - A inventory list showing the location of each investment shall be available at the producer organisation.
 - The investment shall be owned by the producer organisation, and this shall be clear from the inventory.
 - Any income from selling the investment shall go to the producer organisation, even if the object is fully depreciated.
- At least 10 % of expenses within the operational programmes for Swedish producer organisations shall refer to environmental measures i.e. measures listed under section 9.6 in the National Strategy. Section 9.6 is the Swedish National Framework for environmental actions for producer organisations (Article 103 (c) (3) in 1234/2007).
- The environmental actions, under section 9.6. of the National Strategy, selected under an operational program must:
 - Respect the requirements for agri-environmental payments set out in the first subparagraph of Article 39 (3) of Council regulation (EC) No 1698/2005, and in particular go beyond:
 - The relevant mandatory standards established pursuant to Articles 4 and 5 of and Annexes III and IV to Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003
 - Minimum requirements for fertiliser and plant protection product use established by national legislation;
 - Other relevant mandatory requirements established by national legislation.
 - Be conformed to the National Framework;
 - Be compatible and complementary with the other environmental actions implemented under the operational programme and, where appropriate, with the agro-environmental commitments, supported under the Rural Development programme, implemented by the members of the Producer Organisation.

- Where an operational programme entails the possibility of combining different environmental actions and/or where the environmental actions selected under the operational programme may be combined with agro-environmental measures supported under the Rural Development programme, the level of support must take account of the specific income forgone and additional costs resulting from the combination.
- The support for the environmental actions selected under an operational programme, which is intended to cover additional costs and income forgone resulting from the actions, could be modified in case of amendments of the relevant reference level (i.e., the set of standards beyond which an environmental commitment must go).
- In the case where the National Framework provides for an environmental action (other than investments) that is similar to an agri-environmental measure included under the Rural development Programmes (e.g. actions on matter of emission prevention, landscape and habitat protection or soil protection, where the duration is an essential condition for its effectiveness, i.e. for attaining the expected environmental benefits), the same duration should apply as the similar agri-environmental measure concerned, unless a different duration can be justified in the National Framework.
- In the case where the duration of the operational programme is shorter (i.e. 3 or 4 years) than the duration referred to above, the Producer Organisation should be obliged to continue the environmental action concerned in its subsequent operational programme, if this is necessary for attaining the duration applying for similar agri-environmental measures under the Rural Development Programmes, except for duly justified reasons, and in particular based on the results of the mid-term evaluation of the operational programme provided for in Article 127(3) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1580/2007.
- In the future, where relevant, the abovementioned requirements related to duration will also apply to other environmental actions newly included in the National Framework.

9.6 Strategy and measures – environmental and climate issues² (National Framework for environmental actions)

This section outlines the Swedish framework for environmental actions within the operational programmes of producer organisations in the fruit and vegetables sector.

Based on Article 103 (c) (3) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 as well as Swedish Regulation SJVFS 2008:32, Chapter 3 § 10, the operational programmes of Swedish producer organisations and the measures carried out shall to at least 10 % concern environmental measures.

Further requirements are set out in Chapter 8. Relationship with the Rural Development Programme is set out in section 10.4 and administrative procedures to avoid double financing between the aid to producer organisations and the Rural Development Programme are set out in Chapter 12.

The environmental work comprises several parts. Taking into account the analysis on needs and priorities made in previous chapters (mainly in chapters 6; 7.1.6; 7.2.6 and 7.3.6) the environmental actions will focus on:

- Climate effect
- Effects on land, air, water and the organisms living there
- Biodiversity
- Use of natural resources and waste management

When the operational programme and all its measures are designed, environmental aspects shall always be taken into consideration. When decisions include the weighing of various options (all kinds of decisions – not just about environmental aspects), environmental aspects shall be an important consideration. The Board of Agriculture's plans of action for crop production, organic production and for pesticide use in agriculture and horticulture³ (and perhaps a future plan of action on climate effects) shall be important tools in this work.

Article 103 (c) (5) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 establishes that investments that increase the environmental pressure may only be permitted if effective measures have been taken to protect the environment against the extra pressure. This means that no measures that concern plastics in production shall entitle to support in Sweden. Plastic covering of field crops, or use of plastics in greenhouse production, or of plastic tunnels to extend the cropping season, thus do not entitle to PO support in Sweden. Plastic materials made from at least 50 % renewable raw material are however eligible for support. For these materials support is given for the specific (extra) cost compared to conventional petroleum-based plastic materials. Measures leading to an increased use of energy or pesticides are also not eligible for aid.⁴

² The section on environmental measures is identical to the National Framework on environmental measures within the operational programme for the fruit and vegetable sector.

³ In the summer of 2008 a new edition has been published under the name "Plan of Action for sustainable plant protection".

⁴ Indirect effects are not included since this would eliminate support to participation in training programmes or study trips etc.

The environmental work should aim at minimizing:

- (a) leaching from fertilization,
- (b) leaching of chemicals during cultivation and other negative effects from their use
- (c) fuel consumption,
- (d) use of external energy and emissions of CO₂ and other undesired compounds from heating of greenhouses and storage-, distribution- and other production related facilities
- (e) quantities of non-biological waste.

The environmental work should also encourage:

- (f) replacement of fossil energy sources for the heating of greenhouses and storage-, distribution- and other production related facilities
- (g) conversion to organic production methods
- (h) use of fertilizers produced in an environment-friendly manner
- (i) use of organic waste

The following strategy is proposed:

- (a) Minimizing leaching from fertilization, and
- (h) Encouraging the use of fertilizers produced in an environment-friendly manner

The greenhouse subsector has come a long way regarding the development of needs-adapted fertilizing strategies and minimizing leaching by recirculating production systems where water and nutrients are circulated in a closed system kept in microbiological balance by a biofilter. However, a majority of growers still do not use this technology. Efforts to convert to recirculating production systems should therefore continue. The costs for investments in such systems should therefore entitle to support.

Field production of fruit, soft fruit and vegetables often involves the use of more fertilizer than necessary, and the cost is considered a risk premium⁵. Environmental work should focus on a transition from general fertilization recommendations to site-specific strategies and methods. Computer-based decision support could be a useful tool in this regard. Use of precision equipment for application will also help reduce leaching.

A well-functioning crop rotation contributes to catching and binding nutrients. Crop rotation based on knowledge about how and when plant nutrient leaching arises should therefore replace general crop rotation recommendations. Normal crop rotation work falls within the framework of Good Agricultural Practices and should therefore not be eligible for support. The cost of consultants and of work with site-specific crop rotation schemes shall, on the other hand, entitle to support under general measures (section 9.7.).

⁵ Fertilisation strategies for improving nutrient utilisation in field-grown potatoes and vegetables, 2007; Riley, H., Salo, T., Thorup-Kristensen, K., Sandin, H., Gertsson, U.

The objective should also be to use fertilizers produced with environmentally friendly technologies i.e. where production of the fertiliser only yields small discharges of carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide. The specific (extra) cost for fertilizers produced with a technology reducing emissions of greenhouse gases by at least 25 % compared to conventionally produced fertilizers shall therefore be eligible for support.

Risk analyses can identify sensitive areas and allow specific measures. Some areas that should be given extra attention are cultivation on light soils near watercourses. Production on organic soils should also be evaluated, not least in respect of the climatic impact.

Yet another important factor is irrigation strategies, since excessive irrigation leaches nutrients from the soil. Irrigation prognoses are useful tools in irrigation strategies, as is web-based decision support. The cost for developing or access to such tools should entitle to support, but the day-to-day work should not.

Actions that may entitle to support

1) *Description of the action:* Preparation and implementation of fertilization plan.

Justification: Reduction of fertilizer leaching.

Commitment: Following fertilization plan for a minimum of five years.

Eligible costs: Computer based decision support for fertilization; Computer based decision support for irrigation; Investment costs for precision equipment for application of nutrients and for irrigation.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

2) *Description of the action:* Recirculating water and fertilizer systems for greenhouse production (not including organic production).

Justification: Reduction of fertilizer leaching in the greenhouse sector.

Commitment: Installation of the system and use of the system according to specifications and recommendations.

Eligible costs: Investment costs.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

3) *Description of the action:* Specific costs for fertilizers produced in an environment-friendly manner.

Justification: Reduction of emissions of carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide from production of fertilizers.

Commitment: Using the environmental-friendly fertilizers.

Eligible costs: Specific, extra costs, for N and P fertilizers, for greenhouse production and field production, produced with a technology reducing emissions of greenhouse gases by at least 25 %.

(b) Minimizing leaching of chemicals during cultivation and other negative effects from their use

The overall objective regarding chemicals in fruit, soft fruit and vegetable production, for combating pathogens and weeds, should be to minimise use as far as possible. This should be done by increased focus on adaptation to need. Important tools in this work include the use of predators (if any) and computer-based decision support. In addition, the use of risk analysis should increase.

In the greenhouse sector, predators have long been used to combat pests. The concept of predator use also includes advisory services. To the extent that biological plant protection is available for the pest in question, there has to be a **very** good reason for deciding to use chemicals instead.

The use of risk analysis should increase for vegetable field crops as well as for fruit and soft fruit. Risk analyses can identify critical areas, and special steps can be taken to reduce the amount of chemicals used but also to reduce the negative effects of the substances used. Areas meriting special attention are mould in onions and in strawberries.

Prognoses and computer-based decision support are important tools in the combating of e.g. carrot flies, actebia and gherkin double-square spot in vegetable field crops, and of scab and other pathogens on apples and pears.

The importance of crop rotation for reducing the need for plant protection is addressed in Section 3. Normal crop rotation work falls within the framework of Good Agricultural Practices. The cost of consultants and of work with site-specific crop rotation schemes, should on the other hand entitle to support under section 9.7. general measures.

Increased precision in the application of pesticides is also a way of reducing chemical use. One example is a tunnel sprayer for use in orchards. Common investment in (often expensive) precision equipment can be a way to make them available also to smaller farms. Precision equipment purchased in order to decrease pesticide use shall therefore

Actions that may entitle to support

1) *Description of the action:* Preparation and implementation of plant protection plan.

Justification: Reducing leaching of plant protection compounds

Commitment: Following the plant protection plan for a minimum of five years

Eligible costs: Investment costs for precision equipment for application, 60 % of cost for predators, costs for computer based decision support, investment in spore filters, and cost of investment in forecasting equipment.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

2) *Description of the action:* Biobeds for storing sprayer in greenhouse

Justification: Reduces leaching from sprayer during storage

Commitment: Storing the sprayer in the biobed

Eligible costs: Investment cost for biobed

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

3) *Description of the action:* Preparation and implementation of weed control plan

Justification: Reducing leaching of weed control compounds

Commitment: Following the weed control plan for a minimum of five years

Eligible costs: Investment costs for precision equipment for application.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

4) *Description of the action:* Thermal weed control

Justification: Reducing leaching of weed control compounds

Commitment: Using thermal weed control in production

Eligible costs: Investment costs in equipment.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

(c) Minimising fuel consumption

One objective of the environmental work should be to minimise fuel consumption. A measure in this area is use of rail for long distance transport. Rail transport may however be more expensive than road transport. The specific, extra cost for rail transport should therefore be eligible.

Fuel consumption can be reduced by auditing the PO's logistic arrangements. Costs for this should therefore be eligible under general measures, section 9.7.

Actions that may entitle to support

Description of the action: Minimising fuel consumption.

Justification: Reducing carbon dioxide emissions from fuel consumption

Commitment: Use of rail transport in the cases where extra costs are supported

Eligible costs: Specific extra costs for rail transport.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

- (d) Minimising use of external energy and emissions of CO₂ and other undesired compounds from heating of greenhouses and storage-, distribution- and other production related facilities;
- (f) replacement of fossil energy sources for the heating of greenhouses and storage-, distribution- and other production related facilities

The basis for the environmental work regarding heating of greenhouses and other production facilities should be to reduce energy consumption in order to create systems with minimal input of external energy. Whether or not a zero vision⁶ is a realistic long-term goal need not be a central issue if the objective is to strive for as far-reaching a result as it is possible as well financially realistic.

Measures to conserve energy should be a central focus of this work. Use of thermal screens in greenhouse ceilings is widespread, but since the screens have a limited lifespan the measure has to be regarded as ongoing. Use of thermal screens along the walls is more limited, and should increase.

There are several technical solutions for replacing fossil energy sources. Investments in geothermal energy, bedrock heat pumps, air heat pumps, waste heat, wind turbines, wave energy and solar cells as well as conversion from oil or coal to woodchip heaters and pellet heaters means conversion to renewable energy sources. Conversion to gas heating means reduction of emissions of CO₂ and should therefore also be eligible for support. These investments are often supplemented by the installation of accumulator tanks (which store heat in water from warm periods to be used during colder periods). During the cold periods when the energy stored in the tank is used this energy also replaces a fossil energy source and these investments should therefore also be eligible under the same heading.

Considerable improvements in energy conservation can also be achieved by control and regulation techniques. These should therefore be eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

During part of the year, lighting greenhouses may consume considerable amounts of energy. In case conversion to new technology would result in significant savings, this should be welcomed and therefore be eligible for support. Developments in the area of light-emitting diodes may be worth following.

Actions that may entitle to support

⁶ A zero vision refers to a system requiring no external energy apart from what is received from sun, wind, water, earth and rock.

1) Description of the action: Energy saving.

Justification: Reduction of energy consumption, and thereby of emissions of greenhouse gases, for heating of greenhouses

Commitment: New installation of thermal screens or replacement of worn out screens. Use of the thermal screens according to recommendations and specifications.

The expected reduction in energy used will be assessed ex-ante on the basis of technical specifications; the expected reduction in energy use must be of 25 % at least. It may be less, but not lower than 10 %, when together with the reduction in energy use (and in CO₂ emissions) there is at least another environmental benefit combined (e.g. reduction in the emissions of air pollutants).

Eligible costs: Investments in thermal screens.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

2) Description of the action: Improved insulation of greenhouses.

Justification: Reduced CO₂ emissions

Commitment: Replacement of existing glassing (or equivalent material) with more energy conserving material.

The expected reduction in energy used will be assessed ex-ante on the basis of technical specifications; the expected reduction in energy use must be of 25 % at least. It may be less, but not lower than 10 %, when together with the reduction in energy use (and in CO₂ emissions) there is at least another environmental benefit combined (e.g. reduction in the emissions of air pollutants).

Eligible costs: Investment costs for conversion from single glassing to double or triple glassing (or equivalent materials) or from double glassing to triple glassing (or equivalent materials).

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

3) Description of the action: Replacement of fossil energy sources

Justification: Reduced use of fossil energy

Commitment: New installation and using the environmental friendly source of energy.

Eligible costs: Investment costs for conversion to geothermal energy, bedrock heat pumps, air heat pumps, waste heat⁷, solar panels and wind mills, and for conversion from oil or gas to heating with wood-chips and pellets. Investment costs for the installation of accumulation tanks.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7, general measures.

4) Description of the action: Conversion from oil or coal to heating with gas.

⁷ Waste heat means using surplus heat from power stations or industries.

Justification: Reduced CO₂ emissions.

Commitment: Replacing an installation and using the environmental friendly source of energy.

The expected reduction in energy used will be assessed ex-ante on the basis of technical specifications; the expected reduction in energy use must be of 25 % at least. It may be less, but not lower than 10 %, when together with the reduction in energy use (and in CO₂ emissions) there is at least another environmental benefit combined (e.g. reduction in the emissions of air pollutants).

Eligible costs: Investment costs for conversion from oil or coal heating to heating with gas.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

5) Description of the action: Flue gas cleaning

Justification: Cleaning of flue gas from emissions of environmentally non-friendly substances.

Commitment: New installation and thereafter maintaining the function of the system according to specifications and recommendations. The air pollutants to be reduced in the project must be clearly specified.

Eligible costs: Investment in flue gas cleaning technology going beyond the requirements set down by law.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

6) Description of the action: New low energy light technology

Justification: Reducing the need for energy for lighting.

Commitment: New installation and thereafter maintaining the installation according to specifications and recommendations.

The expected reduction in energy used will be assessed ex-ante on the basis of technical specifications; the expected reduction in energy use must be of 25 % at least. It may be less, but not lower than 10 %, when together with the reduction in energy use (and in CO₂ emissions) there is at least another environmental benefit combined (e.g. reduction in the emissions of air pollutants).

Eligible costs: Investment costs.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7, general measures.

(e) Minimising quantities of non-organic waste

Work on minimising the amount of non-organic waste may focus on several areas. One area is the use of plastic materials in production, as ground cover or for tunnels. In this case, there is room for more environment-friendly alternatives. Conventional, petroleum-based plastic materials shall not be eligible for support. Specific costs (extra cost) for plastic materials made of at least 50 % renewable raw material shall however be eligible for support⁸.

Another important area is conversion to recirculating packaging, i.e. plastic crates that are washed between uses. Costs for steam machines for cleaning plastic crates or extra cost for eco-labelled detergent for the cleaning of crates is eligible for support. As an option, the specific costs related to cleaning, collecting, sorting and distribution of clean boxes to the PO are eligible for aid.

Environmental aspects should be considered in relation to consumer packages. Therefore, the specific, extra cost for consumer packaging made from at least 50 % renewable materials may entitle to support according to Annex VIII, paragraph 1, third indent. Support is granted for 30 % of the packaging cost⁹, but no more than 10 % of the budget each year¹⁰.

In order to increase the amount of cardboard being recycled, compressors used to compress carton material may entitle to support.

Actions that may entitle to support

1) Description of the action: Encouraging the use of circulating plastic boxes/ crates.

Justification: Reduction of waste material

Commitment: Using the plastic crates

Eligible costs: Costs for cleaning, collecting, sorting and/or the transport of the plastic boxes/ crates. Investment costs for steam cleaning equipment for plastic boxes/ crates and the specific, extra cost for using eco-labelled detergent in the cleaning of boxes.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

⁸ "Specific cost" means the cost for the plastic material produced from at least 50 % renewable raw materials minus the cost for a comparable conventional petroleum-based plastic material.

⁹ This is equivalent to 15 per cent Community support and 15 per cent from the producers' contribution to the fund.

¹⁰ The eligibility of this action and the figures used have been set down after consultations with SIK, The Swedish Institute for Food and Biotechnology and with KTH, The Royal Institute of Technology, division of Environmental Strategies Research.

2) *Description of the action:* Encouraging increased use of plastic materials made of renewable raw materials instead of petroleum based materials.

Justification: Increased use of plastic materials made from renewable raw materials.

Commitment: Use of the more environmental friendly plastic material instead of petroleum-based plastic materials.

Eligible costs: Specific extra costs for plastic materials, in production and in consumer packages, made from at least 50 % renewable raw materials. Costs are eligible only when the alternative that is replaced is a petroleum-based material.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

3) *Description of the action:* Increased use of consumer packages with a lower energy consumption

Justification: Reduction of greenhouse gases emissions

Commitment: Using the consumer packages with low energy consumption

Eligible costs: Specific extra costs for consumer packages with at least 20 % lower energy consumption (based on life cycle) than the package it replaces.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

4) *Description of the action:* Compressing cardboard boxes.

Justification: Increased recycling of cardboard material

Commitment: Contract with authorized recycling installation

Eligible costs: Cost for investment in cardboard compression equipment.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7., general measures.

(g) Encouraging conversion to organic production

A grower who chooses to convert a part of his or her production will need to invest in extra equipment as equipment for fertilizers, harvesting and sorting need to be separate for organic production and conventional production. This is particularly true for greenhouse growers, since the organically grown products must be kept separate from the conventionally grown ones. Investments may concern extra fertilizer mixers/injectors and separate sorting equipment. It is thus logical to provide support for investment costs to make partial conversion possible.

Costs for consultancy services, training, certification and loss of income in relation to organic production are supported under the Rural Development Program.

Actions that may entitle to support

Description of the action: Separate equipment for partial conversion to organic production.

Justification: Supporting conversion to organic production.

Commitment: Conversion to organic production for a part of the cultivated area.

Eligible costs: Cost for investment in separate equipment for fertilizers, harvesting, sorting, washing and packaging.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7, general measures.

(i) Encouraging use of organic waste

Production of fruit and vegetables produces considerable amounts of organic waste. These may create negative effects on the environment if not taken care of appropriately. On the other hand, they may contribute positively to production and maintenance of soil structure if used well. Investments in equipment for converting organic waste to compost should therefore be eligible for aid.

Actions that may entitle to support

Description of the action: Conversion of organic waste into compost.

Justification: Reduce environmental impact of organic waste.

Commitment: Raw material for compost made should at least to 50 % come from members. In addition, the compost made must be used by members or sold.

Eligible costs: Cost for investment in compost making equipment.

Related costs for consultation services, qualified personnel, study trips and training are eligible under section 9.7, general measures.

Output indicators

- Number of holdings participating in the actions (compulsory)
- Number of actions undertaken (compulsory)
- Total value of investments (where relevant)
- Area or quantity comprised by environmental measures (where relevant)

Result indicators

- Estimated change in total mineral fertilizer consumption by type of fertiliser (N and P) (tons)
- Estimated change in total consumption of plant protection products by type of compound (Quantity used per ha or per m² for each crop)
- Estimated change in total consumption of herbicides by type of compound (quantity used per ha or per m² for each crop)
- Estimated change in total use of energy, by type of energy source or type of fuel or by CO₂-emissions
- Estimated change in used quantity of oil and coal, respectively

- Fuel quantity used (or discharge of carbon dioxide equivalent in kilos) related to the quantity of products released on the market
- Estimated change in volume of waste generated.
- Estimated change in annual use of packaging (tons)
- Share of IP products
- Share of organic products

9.7 Strategy and measures – General measures on training and advisory services

In this section measures of a more general nature are collected. They may not in themselves generate a quantifiable improvement for the environment or quality but may do so in connection with other measures. *A basic requirement is therefore that these costs are eligible only in connection with measures under other titles.*

Measures of a more general nature include

- Training
- Advice/ consultancy support
- Technical assistance
- Study trips
- Life cycle analyses
- Market surveys
- Energy and fuel audits
- Production planning
- Risk analysis

A description of the action must be provided, in order to specify that, for eligibility of support, the following requirements must be met concerning technical assistance, advice and training, water, soil, leaf and fruit analyses, life cycle analyses, market surveys and energy and fuel audits:

- a) The action is intended to complement (i.e. accompany and be associated with) other actions included in the National Strategy, which must therefore be included in the operational programme, and is specifically targeted to reinforce the effects of these actions. The actions concerned must be specified.
- b) The (technical assistance, advice, training, life cycle analysis) activities must be entrusted to additional (internal or external) qualified personnel.
- c) The operational programme must indicate the specific tasks that the additional qualified personnel are required to perform.

Concerning “study trips” the action must be intended to complement (i.e. accompany and be associated with) other actions included in the National Strategy, which must therefore be included in the operational programme, and are specifically targeted to reinforce the effects of these actions. The actions concerned must be specified.

Actions that may entitle to support

1) Description of the action: Training

Justification: Improved skill and level of knowledge for producers and staff.

Commitment: Respect of points (a), (b) and (c) outlined above.

Eligible costs: Costs for courses and for travel and food in line with § 14 of Swedish regulation SJVFS 2008:32. Compensation for time or loss of income is not eligible.

2) *Description of the action:* Advice and consultancy support

Justification: Improved production and reduced environmental impact of production. Improved product quality and improved marketing.

Commitment: Respect of points (a), (b) and (c) outlined above and in Chapter 3, § 15 of Swedish regulation SJVFS 2008:32.

Eligible costs: Hourly charge and costs for travel, food and accommodation for advisors and consultants.

3) *Description of the action:* Technical assistance.

Justification: Improved production and reduced environmental impact of production.

Commitment: Respect of points (a), (b) and (c) outlined above and in Chapter 3, § 15 of Swedish regulation SJVFS 2008:32.

Eligible costs: Hourly charge and costs for travel, food and accommodation for technical assistance.

4) *Description of the action:* Study trips

Justification: Improved production techniques and post-harvest handling and reduced environmental impact of production.

Commitment: Respect of point (a) outlined above.

Eligible costs: Costs for entrance fees to exhibitions and similar events, and for travel and food in line with Chapter 3, § 14 of Swedish regulation SJVFS 2008:32. Compensation for time or loss of income is not eligible.

5) *Description of the action:* Life cycle analyses

Justification: Provide information for decisions reducing environmental impact.

Commitment: Respect of points (a), (b) and (c) outlined above and in Chapter 3, § 15 of Swedish regulation SJVFS 2008:32.

Eligible costs: Hourly charge, charge for analyses and costs for travel, food and accommodation for the qualified personnel.

6) *Description of the action:* Market surveys.

Justification: Enable better positioning and niching on the market.

Commitment: Respect of points (a), (b) and (c) outlined above and Chapter 3, § 15 of Swedish regulation SJVFS 2008:32.

Eligible costs: Hourly charge for qualified personnel and costs for travel, food and accommodation for costs for travel, food and accommodation for the qualified personnel.

7) *Description of the action:* Energy and fuel audits

Justification: Identify possible areas for improvement in relation to heating of greenhouses and storage-, distribution- and other production related facilities and of vehicle fuel consumption.

Commitment: Respect of points (a), (b) and (c) outlined above and Chapter 3, § 15 of Swedish regulation SJVFS 2008:32.

Eligible costs: Hourly charge for qualified personnel and costs for travel, food and accommodation for costs for travel, food and accommodation for the qualified personnel.

8) *Description of action:* New and improved tools for production planning

Justification: Ensuring optimal planning of production.

Commitment: Respect of points (a), (b) and (c) outlined above and Chapter 3, § 15 of Swedish regulation SJVFS 2008:32.

Eligible costs: Hourly charge for qualified personnel and costs for travel, food and accommodation for costs for travel, food and accommodation for the qualified personnel.