## European Commission approves Spain's National Framework for Rural Development 2014-2020

The Spanish National Framework for Rural Development has been formally adopted by the European Commission on 13 February, 2015. Establishing common elements for some measures which will be implemented through the different Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) in Spain, the approval of this framework is a prerequisite for the subsequent adoption of the 18 Spanish RDPs. The framework defines a few common elements to measures which will be further detailed in the programmes. The framework also includes a mechanism of automatic transfer of funds between programmes to ensure a more efficient use of the EAFRD funds across regions.

Quote from EU Agriculture Commissioner Phil Hogan: "We have also approved the Spanish National Framework for Rural Development. This is an important step, although it has no budget, because it paves the way for the approval of the country's 18 Rural Development Programmes - which have a total of  $\leqslant$  9.45 billion EU funds allocated for the period 2014 to 2020, which will generate further investment from public and private funds."

Support under <u>Rural Development</u> (RD) is the 2nd Pillar of the <u>Common Agricultural Policy</u>. It provides Member States with an envelope of EU funding to manage, at either national or regional level, multi-annual, co-funded programmes. In total, 118 programmes are foreseen in all 28 Member States. The new <u>RD Regulation</u> for the 2014-2020 period addresses six economic, environmental and social priorities. Programmes contain clear targets setting out what is to be achieved. To better coordinate actions and maximise synergies with the other European Structural & Investment Funds (<u>ESIF</u>), a <u>Partnership Agreement</u> has been agreed with each Member State, highlighting its broad strategy for EU-funded structural investment.

For details in Spanish