



CDG meeting: policy study on CDGs

Directorate-General Agriculture and Rural Development

5 April 2019

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Introduction

Introduction

The Consortium together with AGRA CEAS Consulting SA is dedicated to the study of the Civil Dialogue Groups

Composition of the Consortium for the study on the Civil Dialogue Groups

Consortium			Subcontractor
Deloitte Consulting	AFC Consulting Group AG	Areté SRL	AGRA CEAS Consulting SA
<p>Professional service provider with 169 offices in all 28 EU Member States.</p> <p>Deloitte has a dedicated public sector service practice that has provided services to the European Commission for more than 25 years</p>	<p>Leading agri-food consulting firm with a strong network of professionals and scientific institutions.</p> <p>In addition to more than 60 professionals world-wide, AFC Consulting Group AG has an expert database of over 4,500 registered experts</p>	<p>Consultancy firm that has served many important institutional clients at the EU and national level on economic projects.</p> <p>With regard to European Institutions, Areté has focused on contracts in the agri-food sector</p>	<p>Joint venture between Imperial College London and Informa plc.</p> <p>Engaged in specialised consultancy services in the agricultural, food, environment, and rural development sector to renowned (inter)national organisations</p>

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Introduction

The policy study will analyse the role of the CDGs and their effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and consider operation improvements by means of four Study Themes

Overarching objective of the (policy) study

Provide **evidence** to feed into the **review** of the 2013 CDG decision¹ on setting up a framework for civil dialogue on matters covered by the CAP

Aim of study to meet the objective

- I** Examine the **role** of the CDGs in the overall **consultation strategy** and **decision-making process**, taking into account the context of Better Regulation
- The study will analyse the impact of the CDGs on policy-making and the interlinkage with elements of Better Regulation

- II** When examining the **composition and functioning** of the CDGs, identify areas where operations of the CDGs could be improved
- The study will assess the present operations against tasks set out in the CDG Decision¹

Study Themes

A

Essence of CDG – what is the essence of the CDGs (structural information)?

B

Interlinkage of CDG consultation with Better Regulation Tools – to what extent are CDGs used, or could be used, to achieve the objectives of the BR stakeholder consultation strategy?

C

Composition of CDGs – to what extent does the composition of the CDGs ensure a balanced representation of all interests?

D

Organisation and functioning of CDGs – to what extent is the organisation and functioning of the CDGs effective and efficient?

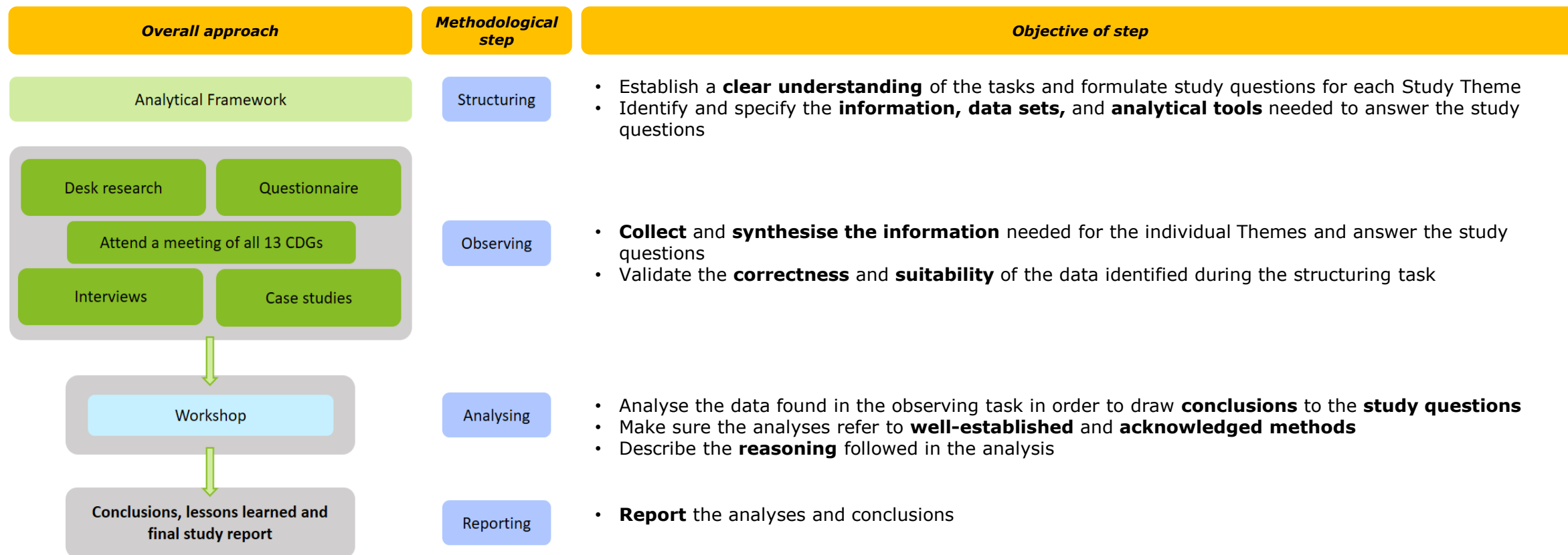
1) Commission Decision 2013/767/EU

Methodology

Methodology

The methodology for the study includes four steps (structuring, observing, analysing, and reporting), each corresponding to a particular objective and approach

Overview of the overall approach connected to the methodological steps



The different approaches allow for both a **qualitative** and **quantitative** component to analysing the four Themes

Methodology

The six data gathering tools during the observing and analysing step are all based on robust research methodologies

Overview of the six data gathering tools

	Source of information
Desk Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Analyse: agendas, minutes of CDG meetings, documents related to legal basis of the CDGs, Better Regulation Guidelines, documentation of other DGs on stakeholder consultation, and recommendations by previous research (e.g. European Ombudsman)
Online questionnaire	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Online questionnaire to all 68 participating member organisations and to representatives of the DG AGRI lead units in charge of the 13 CDG groups (survey can be shared within member organisations, with affiliated indirect participants, and external experts)
Interviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none">In-depth interviews (15 in total) with a selection of the relevant parties¹, such as: representatives from the European Commission, European Ombudsman, member organisation representatives active in the CDGs, and indirect participants
Attendance at CDG meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">One meeting from all 13 CDGs will be attended to get a better understanding of, and especially feeling for, the functioning and organisation of the CDGs
Case studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ten case studies will be performed to get a better understanding of the operation of CDGs within DG AGRI, and on how civil dialogue is organised in other DGsEach case study will make use of: desk research, interviews and roundtables
Half-day workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Half-day workshop where all relevant parties are invited, including: chairpersons, member organisations, contracting organisations, representatives from other DGs included in case study, indirect participants, external experts and Member State expertsWorkshop is aimed at discussing the lessons learned / suggestions for improvements of CDGs

1) Relevant parties will be determined end of March in close collaboration with DG AGRI

Methodology

In total, the following ten Case Studies will be conducted, where there are six Case Studies of type 1 and four Case Studies of type 2

Overview of Case Studies

	Case Study	
1	Case Study on Annual Work Program on Promotion Policy (applies from 1 December 2015) (CDG on Quality and Promotion)	CS Type 1: Case Studies linked to the operation of CDGs in DG AGRI
2	Case Study on the implementation of the new Greening policy of the CAP (applies from January 2015) (CDG on Direct Payments and Greening)	
3	Case Study on merging the school milk, vegetables and school fruit schemes (applies from 1 August 2017) (CDG on Horticulture, Olives and Spirits, CDG Milk)	
4	Case Study on the preparation of the legislative proposals for the CAP post 2020 (foreseen to apply from 1 January 2021) (CDG on CAP)	
5	Case Study on “indirect participation” of stakeholders to CDGs through the relevant EU-level organisations: mechanisms, added value, limitations and issues (CDG on CAP, CDG on Horticulture, olives and spirits, CDG on Rural Development)	
6	Case Study on the involvement of external experts in the functioning of CDGs: mechanisms, added value, limitations and issues. (CDG on Horticulture, olives and spirits, CDG on Animal products, CDG on Wine)	
7	Case Study on Advisory councils in Directorate-General Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE)	CS Type 2: Case Studies aimed to analyse how CD is organised in other DGs
8	Case Study in Directorate-General Health and Food Safety on Advisory group on the food chain and animal and plant health (DG SANTE)	
9	Case Study in Directorate-General Trade on Civil Society Dialogue (DG TRADE)	
10	Case Study in Directorate-General Regional and Urban Policy on structured dialogue with the European Structural and Investment Funds partners (DG REGIO)	

Methodologies used

Desk research

Interviews

Roundtables

Way forward

Way forward

Your input is key to drive the success of this policy study on the evaluation of the CDGs

Overview of the next steps where we request your input

- You can expect an invitation for the **online questionnaire** concerning the evaluation of the CDGs
- We will reach out to a selected group of member organisations¹ for **in-depth interviews**
- For CDGs participating in one of the **Case Studies**, we will reach out to a selection of member organisations¹ for interviews and roundtables
- In the beginning of July, we will host a **half-day workshop** open to all interested member organisations to discuss lessons-learned and suggestions for improvement


The study will result in a **policy report** to DG AGRI which will be delivered **end of the year**


1) Will be determined end of March in close collaboration with DG AGRI


Discussion

Discussion

Selection of some crucial questions to be used in the discussion (if time and opportunity allows)

-  **What is your overall judgement about this CDG's effectiveness in providing relevant and helpful contributions towards DG AGRI policies?**
 - Can you provide examples of occasions where conclusions and/or contributions from this CDG has resulted in changes or development of DG AGRI policies
 - On the contrary, can you provide examples of occasions where consultation did not allow for effective conclusions / provision of useful output?

-  **In your view as Member Organisation of this CDG, which indicators should be used to define a balanced representation of all interests?**

-  **To what extent do you believe that this CDG currently has a balanced representation of all interests?**



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