



# REFIT

# Regulatory Fitness and Performance Programme

Strengthening Geographical Indications Conference  
25 – 26 November 2020

# Background

- Long history of trying to simplify and reduce burdens
- Simplification and burden reductions are systematically considered in everything the Commission does but **WITHOUT** undermining policy objectives

# Background

- 2002 – Better regulation programme was a first step in simplifying and improving EU legislation
- 2007 Administrative Burden Reduction Programme (ABR)
- 2012 [Regulatory Fitness and Performance Programme](#) (REFIT)

# REFIT concept

- Initially Commission identified initiatives to simplify EU laws and reduce burdens under REFIT in an ad hoc manner based on their expected potential for burden reduction
- 2017 REFIT approach becomes systematic

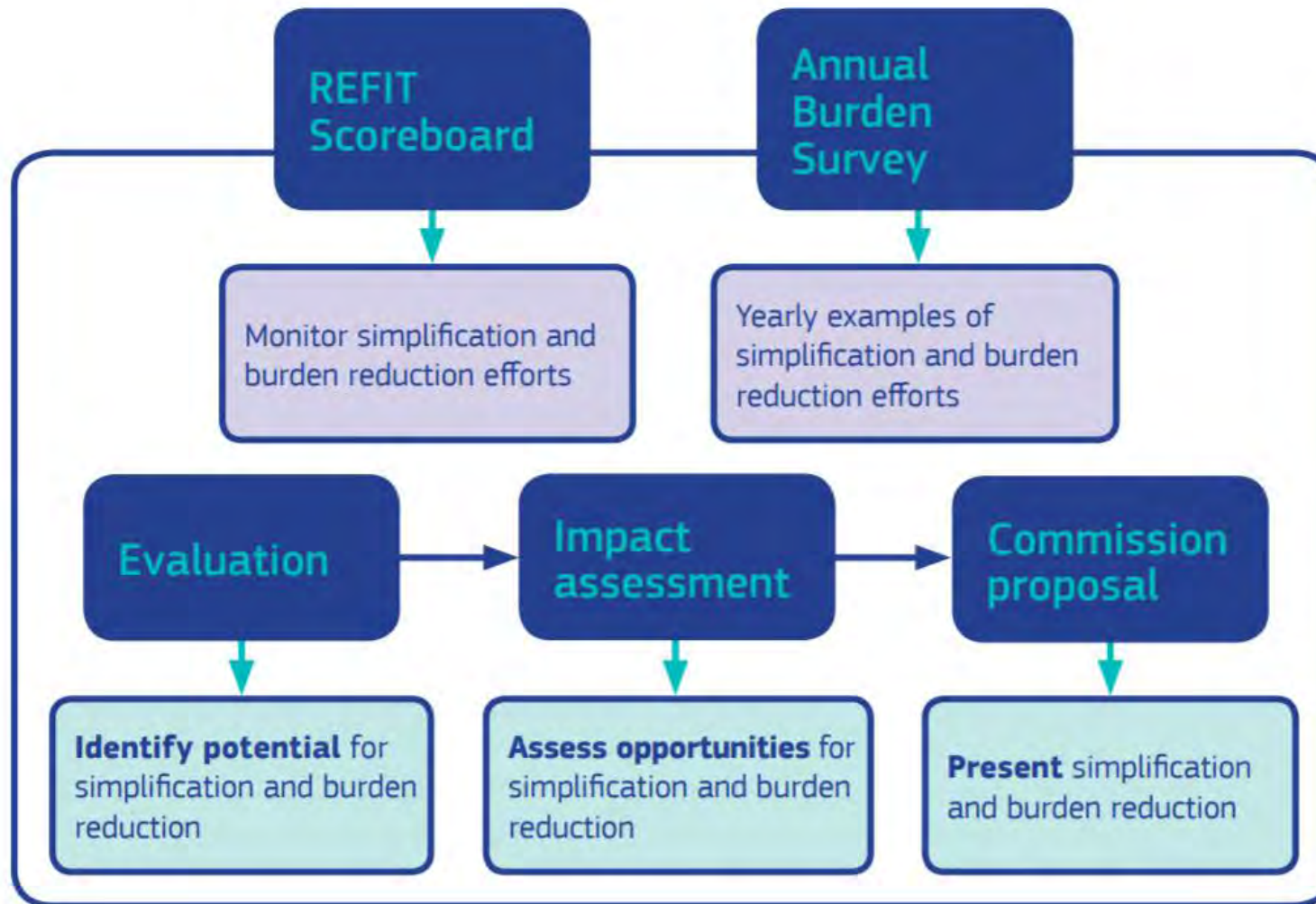
# In practice

- all revisions are REFIT
- all evaluations have REFIT potential

*REFIT is analysed through the better regulation tools*

- Stakeholders consultation allow public and stakeholders to provide their feedback
- [Fit for Future Platform](#)
- **Shared responsibility** // Commission, institutions, Member States

# In practice



# Stakeholder input

Have your say

## Welcome to Have your say

Citizens and businesses can share their views on new EU policies and existing laws.

### Subscribe

Subscribe to stay up to date on topics and initiatives that interest you.

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## Highlights



Uniform rounding rules for cash payments in euro – assessment

9352

Have your say >



Rural development – long-term vision rural areas

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## Have your say: Simplify!

Suggest how to simplify and modernise existing laws and reduce regulatory burdens

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Your suggestions

How is my feedback used

When can I send my suggestions?

Recent suggestions



The Fit for Future Platform builds on the experience with the REFIT Platform. Any submissions received since the end of its mandate on 31 October 2019 will be considered under the Fit for Future Platform's work.

## Your suggestions

The [Fit for Future platform](#) helps the Commission to simplify existing laws, reduce regulatory burdens, and ensure that EU laws are fit for the future in particular with respect to digitalisation. You can get involved in making EU laws more efficient and fit for future.

The Platform works on the basis of an [annual work programme](#). You can contribute to each of its topics by making suggestions to simplify, reduce burden of existing EU laws and increase their digitalisation potential. All suggestions are welcome.

Your feedback is instantly published, therefore it must adhere to the [suggestion rules](#). You are responsible for the personal data that you provide.



# REFIT Scoreboard



REFIT Scoreboard

Share your views on how to simplify EU regulation

REFIT - Making EU law simpler and less costly

## INTRODUCTION



"Our objective should be to adopt... create unnecessary burden, and de... culture of evidence-based policyma...

 AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT	 CLIMATE ACTION	 COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS, CONTENT AND TECHNOLOGY	 COMPETITION	 EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS, INCLUSION AND EDUCATION	 ENERGY
 ENVIRONMENT	 FINANCIAL STABILITY, FINANCIAL SERVICES AND CAPITAL MARKETS UNION	 HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY	 INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMES AND STATISTICS	 JUSTICE, CONSUMERS AND GENDER EQUALITY	 MARITIME AND FISHERIES POLICY
 MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS	 MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT	 REGIONAL AND URBAN POLICY	 RESEARCH AND INNOVATION	 TAXATION, CUSTOMS UNION AND ANTI-FRAUD	 TRADE AND EXTERNAL ACTION



# REFIT Scoreboard



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**Agriculture and rural development**

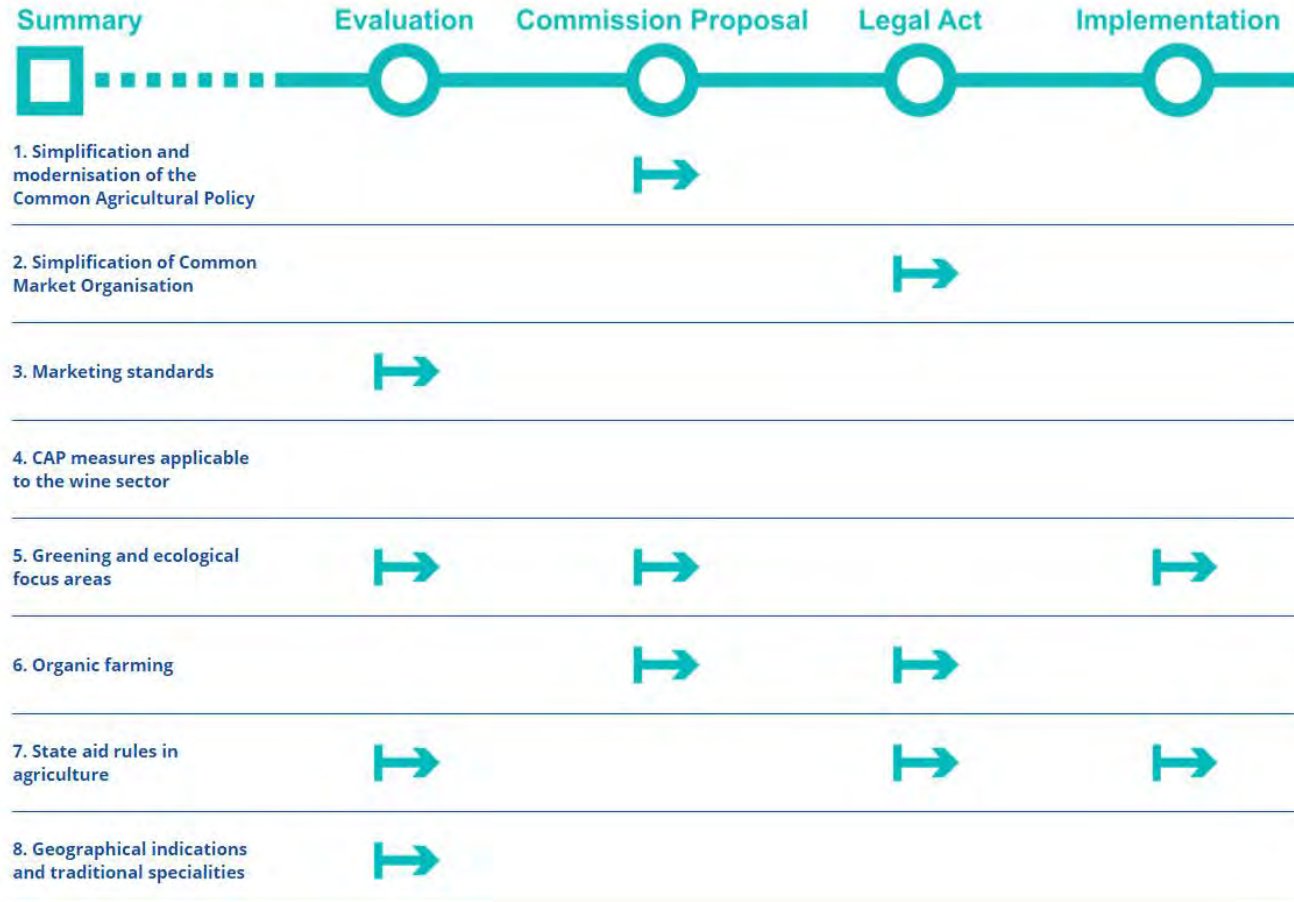
1. Simplification and modernisation of the Common Agricultural Policy
2. Simplification of Common Market Organisation
3. Marketing standards
4. CAP measures applicable to the wine sector
5. Greening and ecological focus areas
6. Organic farming
7. State aid rules in agriculture
8. Geographical indications and traditional specialities

Climate action

Communications networks, content and technology

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## Initiatives in the area of agriculture and rural development



# Annual Burden Survey



# Commission Work Programme REFIT Annex

## Annex II: REFIT initiatives<sup>2</sup>

No.	Title	Simplification objective / potential (short explanation of the REFIT objective of the revisions, and simplification potential for evaluations and fitness checks)
<b>A European Green Deal</b>		
1.	<b>Revision of geographical indications</b>	<p>This revision will strengthen geographical indications (GIs) for all agricultural sectors while maintaining the specificities of GIs in the wines and spirit drinks sectors. The fundamental structure of the EU GIs system is sound. The proposal will: increase the applicability of GIs for farmers and producers of sustainable products; increase the attractiveness of GIs notably for producers in the 'low use' Member States; correct legislative gaps including in the scope of coverage; improve protection and enforcement especially on the internet; empower GI producer groups; better valorise the GI scheme notably through use of the GI logos; modernise management of the GI registers. The traditional specialities guaranteed scheme (TSG), which has not after 28 years delivered the expected benefits for producers and consumers, will be replaced by a more-effective and flexible labelling mechanism essentially managed by Member States while providing EU level protection, where needed, through appropriate instruments.</p> <p>The proposed initiative will, as far as possible, merge the technical and procedural rules on geographical indications, provide for a single GI registration procedure and digital submission of applications by EU and non-EU applicants, with a view to shortening registration times. A simplified system would become more attractive to producers, be more understandable to consumers, and become easier to promote and lead to higher sales as the GI concept becomes better known. The evaluation is on-going.</p> <p>Planned adoption: Q4/2021; Legislative; Legal basis: Articles 43 and 118 of the TFEU. Impact assessment is envisaged.</p>
2.	<b>Ozone layer protection – revision of EU rules</b>	<p>The evaluation of the Ozone Regulation concluded that there is scope for simplification, clarity and better coherence. The Regulation could also be updated with the latest technological developments.</p> <p>Planned adoption: Q4/2021; Legislative; Legal basis: Article 192 of the TFEU. Impact assessment is envisaged.</p>
3.	<b>Revision of Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006 on Shipments of Waste</b>	<p>This initiative responds to the priorities announced in the European Green Deal, the new Circular Economy Action. The Commission will propose a revision of the Waste Shipment Regulation on basis of its evaluation to reduce the shipments of problematic waste outside of EU, update the shipment procedures to reflect the objectives of the circular economy and improve enforcement.</p> <p>Planned adoption date: Q2/2021; Legislative; Legal basis: Article 192 of the TFEU. Impact assessment is envisaged.</p>

# REFIT initiatives - examples

- **Energy policy:** assessment of reporting and monitoring obligations – streamlining reporting Regulation adopted in 2018 with an **estimated potential for cost savings of EUR 3.4 million** (according to the impact assessment)
- **Digital sector policy:** the rules regulating satellite and cable transmissions were revised; this will likely lead to a simplification regarding broadcasters' rights when making some of their **programmes available online** in other Member States and for retransmissions operators providing their services via means other than cable.

# Main takeaways

- considering REFIT potential is a **requirement**
  - revisions
  - evaluations
- firmly embedded in **Better Regulation**
- citizens and stakeholders can contribute through the various consultation activities (public consultation, targeted consultation, workshops, case studies, expert group meetings) and on Have your say: Simplify!



Thank you