



# Forestry related rural development measures in the period 2014-2020

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# Legal basis for Rural development measures

- **Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013** (OJ L 347 of 20/12/2013) on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).
- **Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 807/2014** supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 on support for rural development by EAFRD and introducing transitional provisions.
- **Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 808/2014** laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 on support for rural development by EAFRD
- Relevant environmental legislations; e.g. Natura 2000, IPM, Water...



## Required minimum budgetary allocations

- A minimum amount of the total EAFRD contribution to the Rural Development Programs shall be reserved:
- *At least 30% for:*
  - Environment and climate related investments (Article 17)
  - Forestry measures (Articles 21-26 and Article 34)
  - Agri-environment-climate (Article 28)
  - Organic farming (Article 29)
  - Natura 2000 (Article 30 with the exception of WFD related payments)
  - ANC's (Articles 31-32)



# RD Regulation No 1305/2013 (main forestry related elements)

## ***Investments in physical assets (Art 17)***

- *17.(c) concern infrastructure related to the development, modernisation or adaptation of agriculture and forestry, including access to farm and forest land, land consolidation and improvement, the supply and saving of energy and water*
- *Forest holders continue to be eligible for infrastructure e.g. construction and improvement of forest roads, bridges, forestry railway and cable way,*
- *Establishment of SRC can also be supported (Annex I product)*
- *Production of bioenergy for on-farm use*

# Articles 19 and 20



- ***Article 19 Farm and business development***

**19.1 (a) business start-up aid for:**

**(ii) non-agricultural activities in rural areas;**

**(b) investments in creation and development of non-agricultural activities;**

Example for activities: rural tourism, production of renewable energy exceeding the annual self-consumption

Processing of all types of input (Annex I or non-Annex I) is eligible if the output is a non-Annex I product.

- ***Article 20 Basic services and village renewal in rural areas***

Example: Investments in renewable energy, small scale tourism, management plans for N2000, rural heritage....



## Forestry measures Article 21. and 34.

### Forestry – more accessible and stronger EU support

- *New concept of beneficiaries*
  - The main objective is to provide support to the person/entity managing the forest. In the case of state-owned land, support goes to the body managing such land, the manager can be either a private body or a municipality
- *New types of support*
  - Preventive actions against pests and diseases.
  - Conservation and promotion of genetic resources.
  - The use of grazing animals in prevention of forest fires.
  - Support for purchase of forestry machinery to provide forest management services to a larger group of forest owners.
- *Forest Management Plan (FMP)*
  - FMP or equivalent instrument is requested for all forestry support. This information is required from beneficiaries exceeding the size limit set by the Member State.
  - Support is available under the Rural Development policy for a preparation of the FMP.

## Art. 22: Afforestation and creation of woodland

### Support available for:

- Costs of establishment up to 100% and annual premium per hectare to cover the costs of maintenance, including early and late cleanings, and for agricultural income foregone for a maximum period of 12 years
- Both on agricultural and non-agricultural land (incl. spontaneous process)
- Minimum environmental requirements to be met (set in Article 6 of the Delegated Regulation)
- No support for the planting of short rotation coppice (SRC), Christmas trees or fast growing trees for energy production
- In areas where afforestation is made difficult by severe pedo-climatic conditions, support may be provided for planting other perennial woody species such as shrubs or bushes suitable to the local conditions

**Beneficiaries:** Support for afforestation of land owned by public authorities or for fast growing trees shall cover only the costs of establishment.

## Art. 23: Establishment of agroforestry systems

### Support available for:

- Costs of establishment 80% (maximum rate).
- Annual premium per hectare to cover the costs of maintenance for a maximum period of 5 years.
- **"Agroforestry systems"** means land use systems in which trees are grown in combination with agriculture on the same land.
- The minimum and maximum number of trees per hectare shall be determined by the Member States taking account of local pedo-climatic and environmental conditions, forestry species and the need to ensure sustainable agricultural use of the land.





## **Art. 24: Prevention and restoration of damage to forests from forest fires and natural disasters and catastrophic events**

**Support for** the establishment of **protective infrastructure**.

- Local, small scale **prevention activities** against fire or other natural hazards, including the use of grazing animals
- Establishing and improving forest fire, pest and diseases **monitoring** facilities and communication equipment,
- **Restoring forest potential damaged** from fires and other natural disasters including pests, diseases as well as catastrophic events and climate change related events
  - need for formal recognition by the MS that a natural disaster has occurred
  - at least 20% of the relevant forest potential is destroyed



## Art. 24: Prevention and restoration (cont.)

### Eligibility

- In the case of **preventive actions** concerning pests and diseases, the risk of a relevant disaster occurrence must be supported by scientific evidence and acknowledged by scientific public organisations.
- Where relevant, the list of species of organisms harmful to plants which may cause a disaster must be provided in the programme,
- Eligible operations shall be consistent with the MS **forest protection plan**
- Forest areas classified as medium to high forest fire risk shall be eligible for support relating to forest fire prevention



## Art. 25: Investments improving the resilience and environmental value of forest ecosystems

### Support for:

- **Investments** shall be aimed at the achievement of commitments undertaken for **environmental aims** or **providing ecosystem services** and/or which enhance the **public amenity value of forest** and wooded land in the area concerned or improve the **climate change** mitigation potential of ecosystems, without excluding economic benefits in the long term.

## **Art. 26: Investments in forestry technologies and in processing, mobilising and marketing of forest products**

**Support for** investments enhancing forestry potential or relating to processing, mobilising and marketing adding value to forest products. *Note: aid intensity according to State aid rules!*

**Investments related to the improvement of the economic value of forests** shall be justified in relation to expected improvements to forests on one or more holdings and may include investments for soil and resource friendly harvesting machinery and practices.

**Investments related to the use of wood as a raw material or energy source** shall be limited to all working operations prior to industrial processing.

# Article 27: producer groups

Support can facilitate the setting up of producer groups and organisations in the agriculture and forestry sectors for the purpose of:

- (a) adapting the production and output of producers who are members of such groups or organisations to market requirements;
- (b) jointly placing goods on the market, including preparation for sale, centralisation of sales and supply to bulk buyers;
- (c) establishing common rules on production information, with particular regard to harvesting and availability; and
- (d) other activities that may be carried out by producer groups and organisations, such as the development of business and marketing skills and the organisation and facilitation of the innovation processes.



## Art. 30: Natura 2000 and WFD payments

**Support shall be granted annually** and per hectare of agricultural area or **per hectare of forest** in order to compensate beneficiaries for **additional costs** incurred and **income foregone** resulting from disadvantages in the areas concerned.

Support linked to WFD only for agricultural areas.

**Designated Natura 2000** agricultural and **forestry** areas  
- other delimited nature protection areas contributing to the implementation of Art.10 of Habitats Directive (up to 5% per RDP of the designated Natura 2000 areas covered by RDP)

**Beneficiaries:** farmers and to private **forest holders** and associations of private forest holders. In duly justified cases it may also be granted to other land managers.



## **Art. 34: forest environmental and climate services and forest conservation**

**Per hectare support** for operations consisting of one or more voluntary forest-environment commitments for a period of 5 to 7 years up to 200 EUR/ha/year (longer period possible for particular types of commitments, or higher amounts in duly justified cases)

- **Commitments to go beyond relevant mandatory requirements** to be specified in programmes
- **conservation and promotion of forest genetic resources outside forest-environmental commitments** (*Delegated Regulation Article 8*)

**Beneficiaries** *for genetic resources are public and private entities*



- **Payments shall compensate beneficiaries** for all or part of the additional costs and income foregone resulting from the commitments made. Where necessary they may also cover transaction costs to a value of up to 20% of the premium paid for the forest-environment commitments.
- In duly justified cases for operations concerning environmental conservation, support may be granted as **a flat-rate or one-off payment** per unit for commitments to renounce commercial use of trees and forests, calculated on basis of additional costs incurred and income foregone.



# Article 35 Co-operation



- promote forms of co-operation **involving at least two entities** and in particular:
  - **(a)** co-operation approaches among different actors in the Union agriculture and food chain, **forestry** sector and among other actors, including inter-branch organisations;
  - **(b)** the creation of clusters and networks;
- Co-operation in particular to the following:
  - **(a)** pilot projects;
  - **(b)** the development of new products, practices, processes and technologies in the agriculture, food and **forestry** sectors

## Co-operation (cont.)



- **(c)** co-operation among small operators **in organising joint work processes, sharing facilities and resources** and for the development and/or marketing of tourism services relating to rural tourism;
- **(d)** horizontal and vertical co-operation **among supply chain actors for the establishment of logistic platforms to promote short supply chains and local markets;**
- **(f)** joint action undertaken with a view to mitigating or adapting to climate change;
- **(h)** horizontal and vertical cooperation **among supply chain actors in the** sustainable production of biomass **for use in food,** energy production and industrial processes.
- **(j) drawing up of forest management plans or equivalent instruments.**

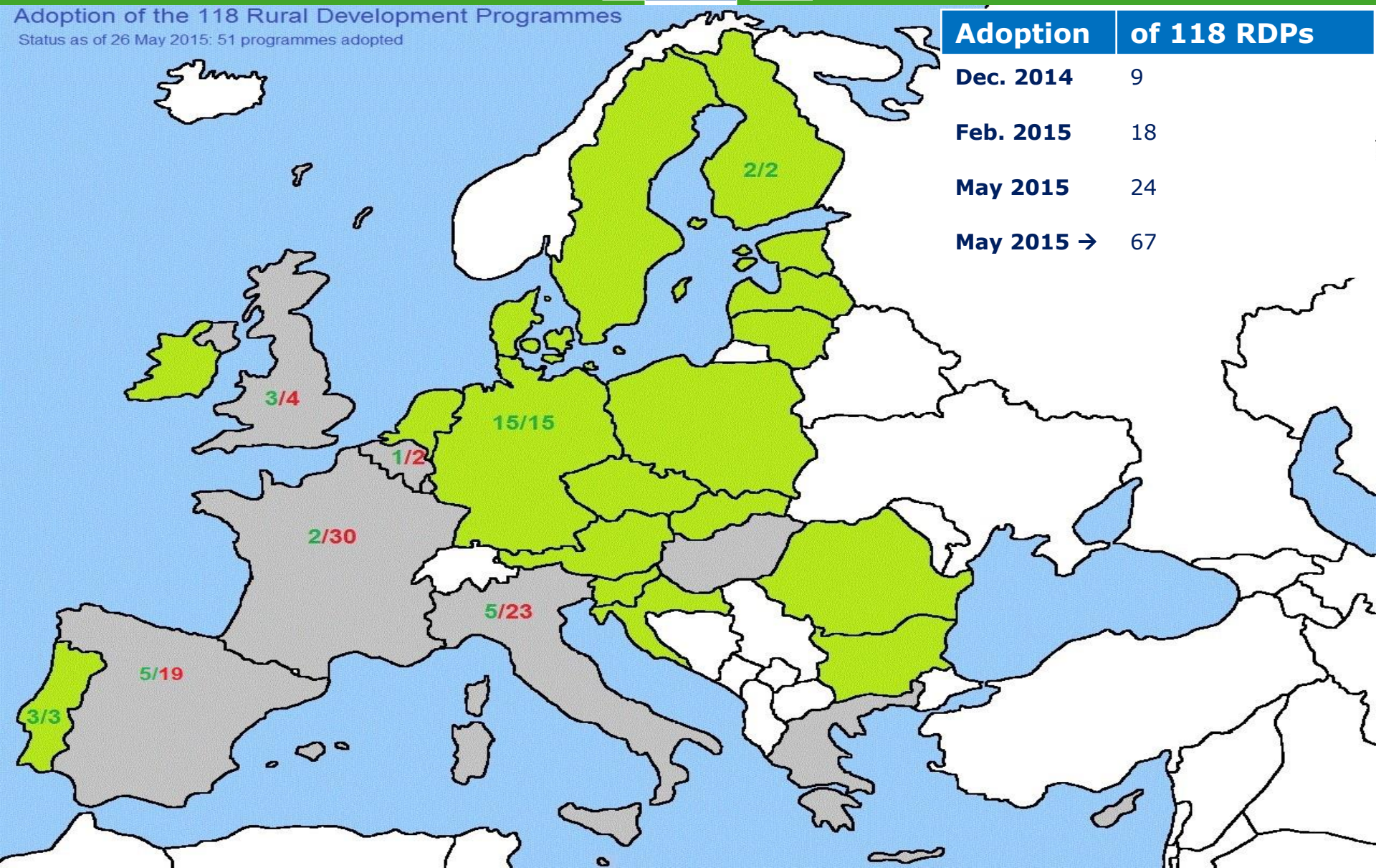
# *State of play in programming*



## Adoption of the 118 Rural Development Programmes

Status as of 26 May 2015: 51 programmes adopted

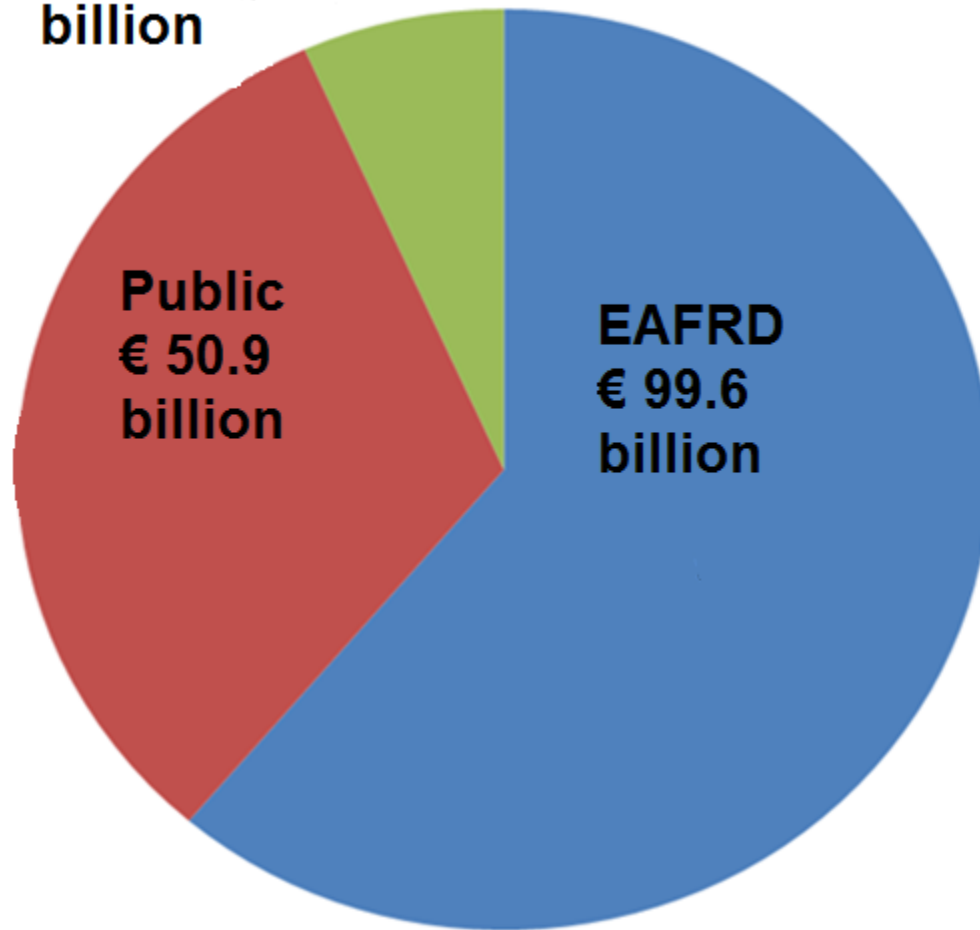
Adoption of 118 RDPs	
Dec. 2014	9
Feb. 2015	18
May 2015	24
May 2015 →	67



## **situation as of 16/06/2015**

118 RDPs received  
117 Observation Letters adopted  
13 revised RDPs received for adoption  
52 programmes adopted  
66 programmes still to be adopted

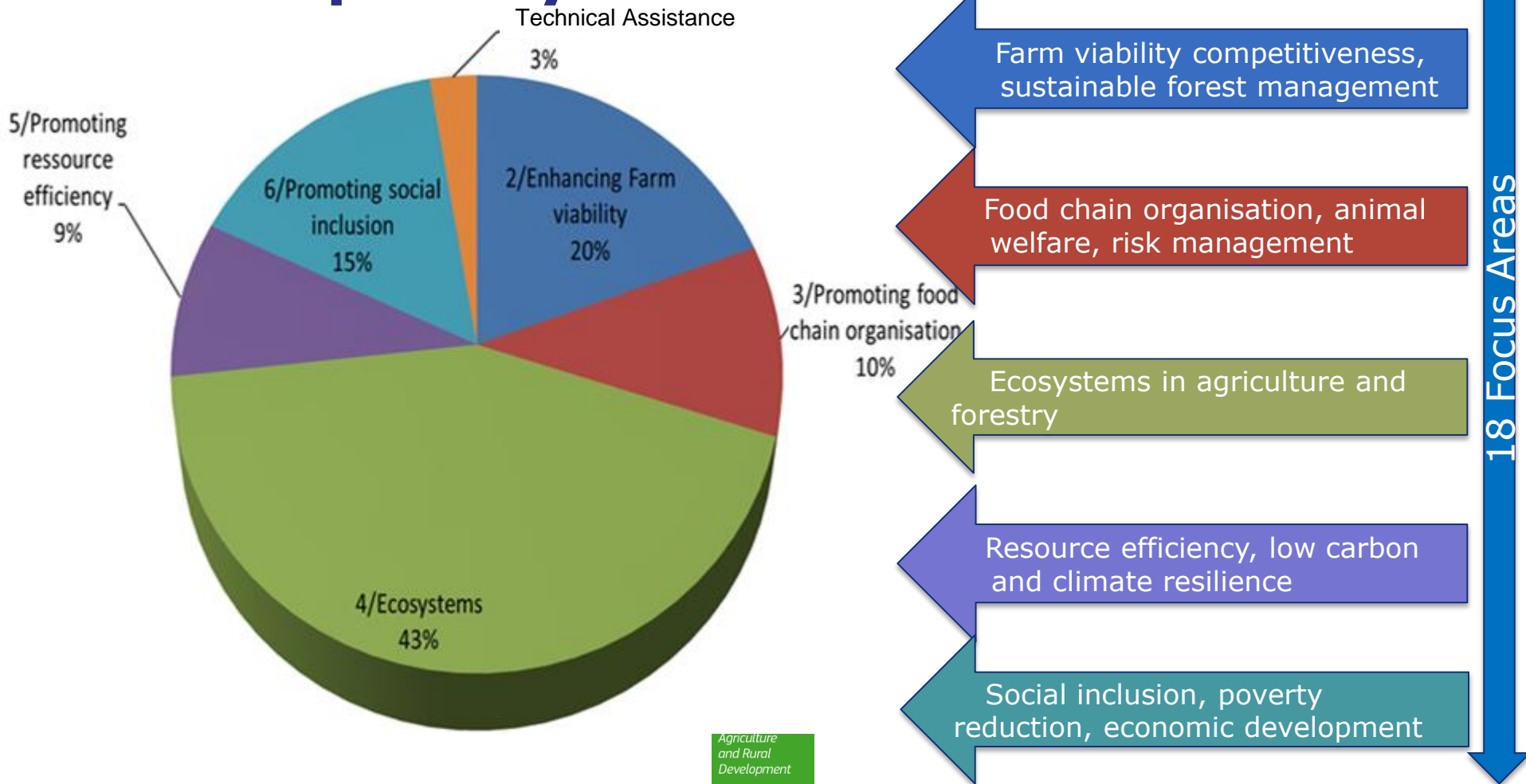
Top-up: €10.7  
billion



In total, around  
**€ 161** billion of  
total public  
funding

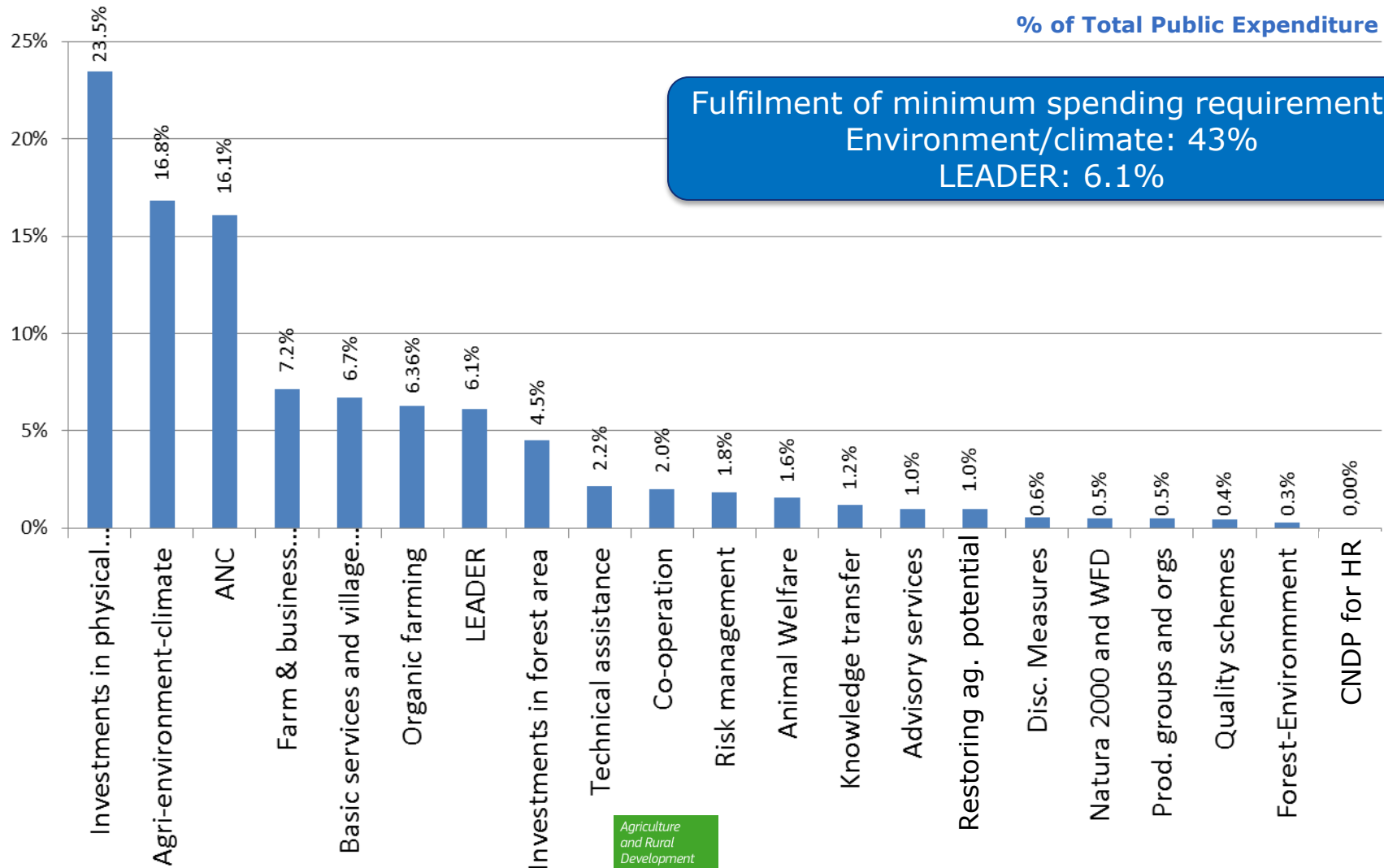


# Share of funds per RD priority



# Allocation of funds per measure

% of Total Public Expenditure





## Forestry measures Article 21. and 34.

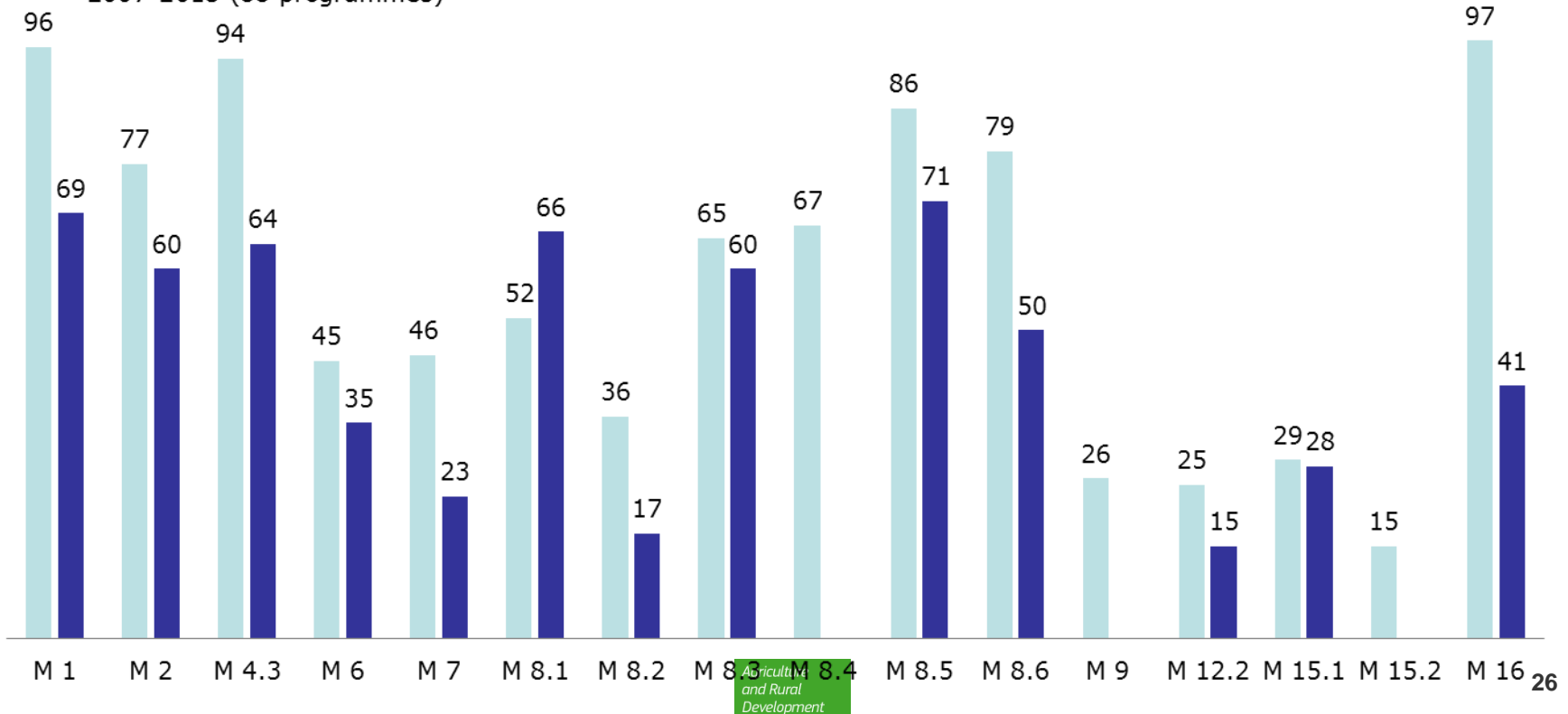
- Article 21 (M8) covers the following sub-measures:
  - Article 22 (M8.1) Afforestation and creation of woodland
  - Article 23 (M8.2) Establishment of agroforestry systems
  - Article 24 (M8.3) Prevention and (M8.4) restoration of damage to forests from forest fires and natural disasters and catastrophic events
  - Article 25 (M8.5) Investments improving the resilience and environmental value of forest ecosystems
  - Article 26 (M8.6) Investments in forestry technologies and in processing, mobilising and marketing of forest products
- Article 30 (M12) N2000
- Article 34 (M15) Forest-environmental and climate services and forest conservation

# State of play for forestry related measures.

## Number of programmes include forestry measures, sub-measures or measures with relevant parts for forestry (draft as of 3/3/2015)

■ Number of programmes include forestry measures, sub-measures or measures with relevant parts for forestry (draft as of 3/3/2015 based on 118 programmes)

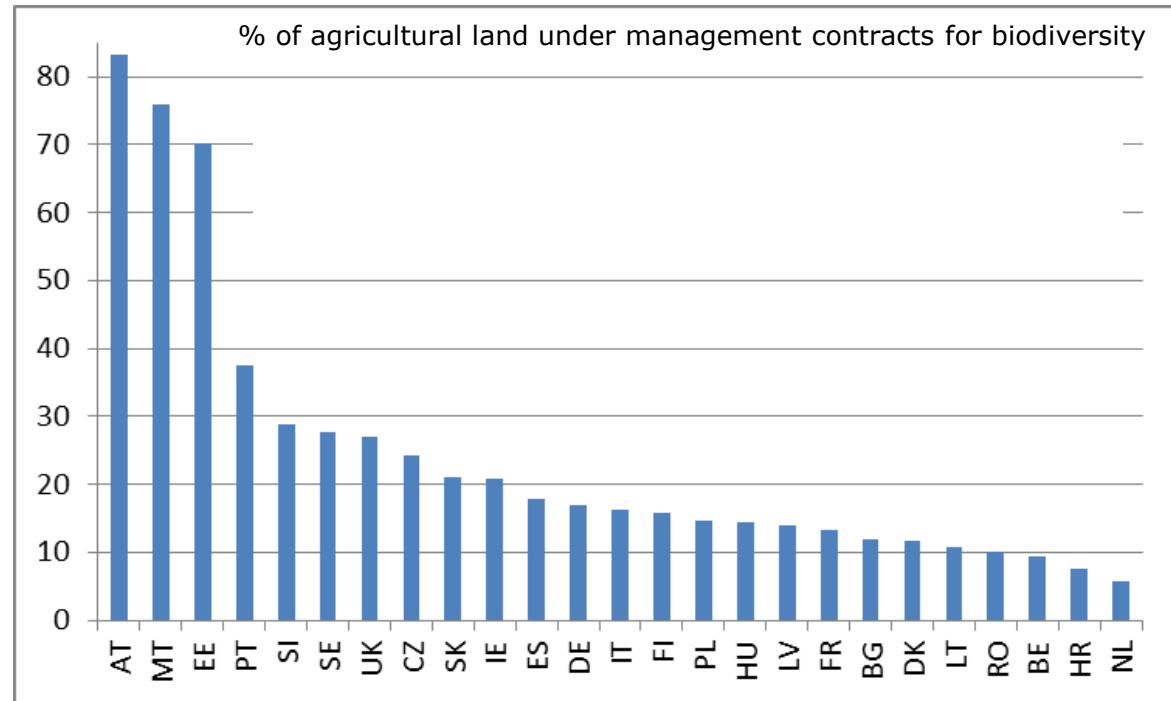
■ 2007-2013 (88 programmes)



# Target for Biodiversity

- *19% of total agricultural land under management contracts supporting biodiversity and/or landscapes*
- *4.4% of total forest area under management contracts supporting biodiversity*

## *FA4a: restoring preserving and enhancing biodiversity*





<http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/forest/>



**Thank you for your attention!**

