

The payment for agricultural practices beneficial for the climate and the environment - Greening

**Civil Dialogue Group
2 December 2016**

**Commission report March 2017
on Ecological Focus Areas**

*DG Agriculture and Rural Development
European Commission*



Context

- **Greening review after one year in 2015/2016**
- **Evaluation of green direct payment scheme from October 2016 to November 2017**
 - ✓ Full assessment including all greening practices and aspects (equivalence, exemptions)
 - ✓ Evaluation of greening impact based on evaluation questions (causal analysis, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence, relevance)
 - ✓ Results for the performance report due in 2018 in accordance with Article 110 of regulation n° 1306/2013

Legal basis

*In **Article 46(1)** of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013, there is a legal obligation for the Commission to present, by 31 March 2017, an evaluation report on the implementation of the obligation to have 5% ecological focus area on arable land.*

According to the legal act, where appropriate, this report on the implementation of the ecological focus area requirement will be accompanied by a proposal for a legislative act of the European Parliament and of the Council in accordance with Article 43(2) TFEU to increase the requirement from 5 % to 7 %.

Purpose of the report

- Assessment of EFA implementation:
 - ❑ The analysis will assess the impact of the various EFA compositions and of the EFA rate
 - ❑ Qualitative: impact of different EFA types
 - ❑ Quantitative:
 - ❑ Different geographical level → EU – MS – regional (NUTS 3)
 - ❑ Taking in account available figures on the context
- Articulation and synergy with the current framework:
 - ❑ Use of previous input from greening review

Draft structure of the report

- **Commission report (max 15 pages):**
 1. Introduction
 2. EFA's categories and (environmental) objectives
 3. Methodology
 4. State of play
 5. First results on EFA environmental effects
 6. Commission findings and conclusions
- **Accompanying document:**
 - ✓ Extended analysis and figures
 - ✓ Same structure as Commission report