

Agricultural Policy Forum

13th – 16th October, Pravets, Bulgaria

South Eastern Europe



Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group

Analysis of agriculture and rural development policies in Western Balkan

Working group discussion

the project is funded by



JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS)

NEEDS IN AGRICULTURAL POLICY

- Further development adopted agricultural strategies and their implementation.
- Larger impact of ministries, EU institutions and stakeholders on the dynamics of the EU integration proces.
- Future work on regional monitoring.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT AGRICULTURAL STRATEGIES

- WB countries adopted the main strategic documents for the period 2015-2020 in a line with EU integration Agenda.
- Intensive programming of new policy has taken place in the recent years and visible progress is witnessed in terms of content and structure.
- Introduction of CAP like objectives is used excessively in all the countries and planned measures show different (relatively weak) ambitions for adoption of CAP.
- It is necessary to further develop on these strategic documents through the National programs and Action plans (Road map to EU accession), with respecting the set strategical goals.

INVOLVEMENT OF MINISTRIES, EU INSTITUTIONS AND STAKEHOLDERS IN THE EU INTEGRATION PROCES

- Actual policy is mostly enough so close with new directions since CAP non-comparable measures (output payments, input subsidies) are still explicitly used and rural development is still a less important part of policy.
- Key decisions on policy programs and implementation is created within small circles which lead pragmatic and non consistent decisions. Wider Involvement stakeholders and stronger guidelines by EU could lead to more targeted and efficient EU integration process.
- Monitoring of EU policies appears only in the last stages of the accession negotiations.
- New ideas and institutional innovations are needed.

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FUTURE WORK ON REGIONAL MONITORING

- The importance of regional monitoring of agriculture policy, especially analysis of budgetary transfers and provision of impact assessments should be pointed out.
- The regional coordination of these tasks should be institutionalised and professionalised in one unit based on the national networks and close cooperation with the countries MoA.
- Options of this:
 - Special unit within SWG
 - The work delegated to one academic institution
 - Establishment of new institution

“NATIONAL POLICY INSTRUMENTS AND EU APPROXIMATION PROCESS: EFFECTS ON FARM HOLDINGS IN THE WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES (EUEWB)”

Project objectives:

- The overall objective: to strengthen cooperation among research community and administrations in the WB in order to create an effective and scientifically sound support to policy decision-making.
- The specific objectives:
 - Monitor and collect information on agricultural policy developments in the WB countries;
 - Evaluate the availability and quality of farm level data in the WB and examine their applicability for scientific analysis in supporting policy making;
 - Explore the possibility of extending the application of the EU based IFM-CAP farm model to the WB countries;
 - Conduct relevant quantitative policy impact analyses.

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“NATIONAL POLICY INSTRUMENTS AND EU APPROXIMATION PROCESS: EFFECTS ON FARM HOLDINGS IN THE WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES (EUEWB)”

Tasks:

- **Task 1:** Monitor and collect information on agricultural policy developments in the WB countries
- **Task 2:** Evaluate the availability and quality of farm level data in the WB and examine their applicability for scientific analysis in supporting policy making
- **Task 3:** Explore the possibility of extending the application of the EU based IFMCAP farm model to the WB countries
- **Task 4:** Conduct relevant quantitative policy impact analysis

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THANK YOU

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