# **RBPS** beyond these pilot projects



# FARMING FOR BIODIVERSITY

BUILDING ON KNOW-HOW FROM THE RESULTS-BASED (RBPS) PILOTS

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# Update on current implementation Setting panetwork

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### **Result Based schemes in Europe/Biodiversity**

Additional to the Pilots: Programs in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Netherlands, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland,

- Which objectives/results/indicators? (selected species of plants or animals, selected habitats, selected structures, selected mosaic of habitats,...)
- Payments (Calculation?, incentives for progress/success?, Score system (Points?),...)
- **Cooperation Farmers Experts?** (Advisory system?)
- Education and awareness?
- Addressee of the contract?
- Number of famers?
- **Program** (AE-Scheme?, Rural Development, EIP, LIFE)

#### Objectives

- Grassland biodiversity indicator species are defined on "state-level": Germany; France; Presence and frequency of selected positive and negative plant indicator species/structures on "plot-level": Slovenia (for 6210, 6230), Austria; Presence of selected animal species or habitats: Austria (grasshoppers, butterflies, birds, ...), Sweden (Wolf).
- Extensively farmed meadows and pastures, less intensively farmed meadows, straw meadow, species rich vineyards, alpine pastures; only floristic quality is considered: Switzerland; Stone walls, ditches, field islets, forest edges and other landscape elements at arable fields; payments are based on composed indicators for each type of field element: Sweden

#### Program

 Agri-Environmental schemes Germany, France, Austria; LIFE: Slovenia, Direct Payments: Switzerland; Rural Development/Project Funding: Sweden

#### Contract

• **Belgium:** Multi-year contract of local government with fixed annual payments to farmer environmental management group (cooperation of Farmers), the cooperation makes contracts with the single farmers with flexible result-based annual payments.



# *Can we move from results-based payments for biodiversity to broader range of ecosystem services, e. g. climate action carbon farming, water related services?*

- Goals for soil protection: preventing erosions
- Goals for protection from climate warming could be carbon storage in the soils
- Question: should we pay farmers for polluting less, for reducing negative effects or just for positive effects; reverence level is very important.
- **Yorkshire**: whole farm approach, also soil protection is considered.
- **Lower Saxon**: a project where nitrogen levels in groundwater are linked to the reduce of manure by farmers.
- Sweden: pilot where models are used to calculate the nitrogen runoff
- Austria: Plans to implement also soil protection, maybe climate- and water protection in the RBP scheme.
- **Switzerland:** avoid erosion, farmers are punished if erosion happens, measures are free to choose, but farmers must not have erosion.
- New Zealand: they use models to calculate sediment loads (based on slope, proximity,...)

### A Result Based Payment Network Why?

- Growing number of schemes, projects and research studies
- > No easy way to learn from other schemes and studies
- Large potential to improve agri-environmental policy measures



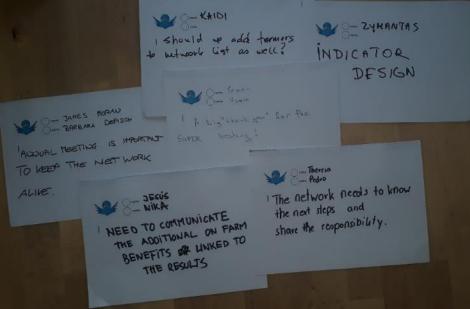
### A Result Based Payment Network

How?

Building a platform ...

- to **meet** academics, policy makers, farmers
- to **share** experiences, learning
- to get **info** about what is up
- to get **contacts**
- to make policy **initiatives**
- to make AEPs more efficient, promote biodiversity, farmers





### Ideas on the RBP network

- Knowledge exchange every year is important: annual conference, excursion
- It should be an open network, where anyone may join: scientists, policy makers, farmers, NGOs, etc.
- Goal of the network should be to provide information and have to possibility to ask questions

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