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EU forest-related policy framework

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Forest-related policy framework

- EU Forestry Strategy
- Forest Action Plan
- A number of Community policies

Community instruments to achieve policy objectives

Rural Development Fund

Forestry Action
Programme
Afforestation
Cork
Forest
protection

EU Forestry
Strategy

1957 → 1989 → 1992 → 1998 → 2006

European
Community
established
No
systematic
approach

Measures to
protect forests
from atmospheric
pollution and
fires strengthened
Forestry measures
in agriculture

EU
Forest
Action
Plan



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No "Common EU Forest Policy" (like CAP)

The Council Resolution on a Forestry Strategy
for the European Union (1998)

Established a framework for forest-related
actions in support of sustainable forest
management

Forest policy - competence of the Member
States - principle of subsidiarity and concept
of shared responsibility



EU Forest Action Plan

- FAP adopted in 2006
- 18 key actions
- For the period 2007-2011

A coherent framework for implementation of forest-related actions and an instrument of coordination between Community actions and the forest policies of the Member States



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Primary legislation - Legal base - Treaty

Since 1957 all actions in the area of forests and forestry have been carried out under legal bases relating to other policies, e.g.:

- Agriculture / Rural development
- Environment / Biodiversity cons.
- Energy / Climate change mitigation
- Internal market / forest products



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Community instruments to achieve policy objectives

- European Agricultural Rural Development Fund (EARDF)
- 7th Research Framework Programme
- Life+
- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- Intelligent Energy-Europe programme in the Competitiveness and Innovation framework programme
- Community programmes in the field of education
- Solidarity Fund



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Rural Development Fund

The main instrument to achieve the rural development objectives in the EU has been the Council Regulation No 1257/1999 - the Rural Development Regulation

New RDR: Council Regulation 1698/2005
(for the period 2007-2013)



Three core objectives (and four axes to implement the objectives):

- Improving the competitiveness of the farm and forestry sector through support for restructuring, development and innovation
- Improving the environment and the countryside through support for land management
- Improving the quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity



Axis 1: Improving competitiveness

Measures aiming at promoting knowledge and improving human potential:

- Vocational training and information
- Use by farmers and forest holders of advisory services
- Setting up of forestry advisory services (NEW)



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Axis 1: Improving competitiveness

Measures aiming at restructuring physical potential and promoting innovation:

- Improving the economic value of forests
- Adding value to primary agricultural and forestry production (NEW)
- Improving and developing infrastructure related to the development and adaptation agriculture and forestry



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Axis 1: Improving competitiveness

New measure introduced to promote innovation:

- Cooperation for development of new products, processes and technologies in the agriculture and food sector and in the forestry sector
- Between primary producers in agriculture and forestry, the processing industry and/or third parties



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Axis 2: Improving the environment and the countryside

- Afforestation
- Establishing agro-forestry systems
- Natura 2000 payments
- Forest-environment payments
- Restoring forestry production potential and introducing prevention actions
- Support for non-productive investments (amenity values)



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Axis 3: Diversification, quality of life

- Diversification of the rural economy
- Improvement of the quality of life
- Training and capacity building

Axis 4: Leader

Implementation of local development strategies through a Leader approach to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of one or several of the three other axes



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Thank you for your attention