

Synopsis of CAP Rural Development Plan 2014-2020

1. Funding

- Targets to spend €4.1bn RDP fund over 7 years.
- EU funding €2.2bn 54%.
- National funding €1.9bn 46%.

Est. Funding Allocation for RDP 2014-2020

Measure	Total National and EAFRD funding over RDP lifetime € millions
GLAS/GLAS+	1,450
Organic Farming Scheme	44
Locally led targeted Agri-Environment schemes	70
Areas of Natural Constraint (inc. support for island farmers)	1,370
TAMS II	395
BioEnergy	12
Knowledge Transfer Groups	100
EIP Operational Groups	4
CPD for advisors	2
Targeted Animal Health and Welfare Advisory Service	6
Support for Collaborative Farming	3
Beef Data and Genomics Programme	295
Leader (incorporating the 2 Food Measures)	250
Technical Assistance	6
TOTAL	4,007

2. Green Low Carbon Agri-Environment Scheme – (GLAS)

Proposed Structure

Core Measures

- Nutrient Management Plan.
- Training.
- Records Keeping.
- Farm Advisory Service.

Tier 1 - Priority Environmental Assets

- Farmland habitat of conservation.
- Conservation of Bird species.
- Upland conservation (agreement of 50% of the active shareholder on 50% of the commonage area).

- Natura.
- Farmers who have over 140kg of Nitrogen/ha or tillage farmers greater than 30ha they have to undertake mandatory actions to get in. These include low emission slurry spreading, minimum tillage, green cover establishment from a sown crop, wild bird cover (grassland farmers only).
- Organic farmers by selective actions appropriate to the farm.

Tier 2 - Environmental Assets and Actions

- Vulnerable Water Areas.
- Mandatory actions like Tier 1.

Tier 3 - General Actions

- Similar to many of the measures in AEOS.
- The selective criteria will be an issue if the number of people who apply is greater than the number of places available.
- GLAS+ - + €2,000 for farmers who carry out additional environmental actions.
- For commonage farmers who take part in a commonage plan, and where more than 50% of the active shareholders or more than 50% of the land area is part of the management plan then the GLAS+ of €2,000 will apply.

GLAS Payment Levels

<u>Action</u>	<u>€ per metre/year</u>	<u>€ per ha/year</u>	<u>€ per unit/year</u>
<u>Arable Grass Margins</u>			
a. 3 metre margin	€0.35		
a. 4 metre margin	€0.50		
a. 6 metre margin	€0.70		
Bat Boxes			€13
Bird Boxes			€6
<u>Conservation of Solitary Bees</u>			
a. Box			€6
a. Sand			€45
<u>Conservation of Farmland Birds</u>			
a. Breeding Waders		€366	
a. Chough Farm Scheme		€365	
a. Corncrake		€364	
a. Geese and Swans		€205	
a. Grey Partridge	€2.10		
a. Hen Harrier		€370	
a. Twite A: Semi Natural/Semi Improved Grassland Field Management Option		€375	
a. Twite B: Improved Grassland Field Management Option	€1.50		
Commonages		€120	
Conservation of Private Natura Sites		€79	
Coppicing of Hedgerows	€2.20		

Environmental Management of Fallow Land		€750	
Green Cover Establishment from a sown crop		€155	
Laying of Hedgerows	€3.70		
Low Emission Slurry Spreading (per m3 per year)			€1.20
Low Input Permanent Pasture		€314	
Minimum Tillage		€40	
Native Wild Flower Margin	€1.40		
Planting New Hedgerows	€5.00		
Protection of Archaeological Sites			
a. Tillage Option			€146
b. Grassland Option			€120
Protection of Water Courses from Bovines	€1.50		
Rare Breeds (per L.U)			€200
Riparian Margins			
a. 3 metre margin	€0.90		
a. 6 metre margin	€1.20		
a. 10 metre margin	€1.60		
a. 30 metre margin	€3.60		
Small Woodland Establishment			€0.90
Traditional Stone Wall Maintenance	€0.70		
Traditional Hay Meadow		€315	
Traditional Orchards			€23.50
Wild Bird Cover		€900	

Locally led Agri-Environment Schemes

- €10m allocated per annum.
- Extension of Burren scheme.
- Other areas can be included such as freshwater pearl mussel catchment areas, also other areas can be considered.

Organic Farming

- Standard rate €220/ha for conversion with a maintenance payment of €170/ha.
- Higher payments for horticulture of €300 and €200/ha up to 6ha. Lower payments thereafter.
- In the case of tillage payments will be €260 and €170/ha on up to 20ha. Lower payments thereafter.
- In addition, top-up €30/ha where red clover is included.

Other Issues

- GLAS applications will be on-line only.
- 30,000 places available in 2015.
- 50,000 places available by 2017.
- Farmers in AEOS can change over if GLAS is more beneficial.

3. Areas of Natural Constraint (ANC)

- No change in the payment rates on areas.
- Review of areas – deferred until 2018 at the latest.
- Mapping of areas within next 2 years based on new soil analysis – soil moisture saturation for more than 230 days.

Offshore Islands

- €250/ha up to a maximum of 34ha.
- Maximum payment €8,500.
- Additional payments of €5,100.
- Non-resident farmer payment top-up of €75/ha up to 34ha
- Additional payment of €2,550.

4. TAMS 2

Farm Investment Scheme

- 40% grant aid + 20% young farmers.
- Investment Limit €80,000 to include investment across all sectors.
- Initially focus will be on young farmer capital investment, beef and sheep handling, weighing equipment, dairy equipment, low emission slurry spreading and organic capital scheme.
- Farm nutrient management and animal housing will be included at a later stage in the TAMS programme.

5. Knowledge Transfer

- All sectors included - beef, sheep, dairy, equine, poultry and tillage.
- Payment of €750 p.a. with a separate payment of €500 issued to the facilitator up to a maximum of 15 members/group €7,500 on 10 in the case of Poultry (€5,000).
- Additional supports can be provided in the programme where it is deemed necessary.

6. Beef Data and Genomics Programme

- Allocation of €295m.
- Payments of €80 for each set of full actions carried out.

7. Leader

- Priorities include rural economic development/enterprise development/job creation.
- Incorporating rural tourism, broadband training and rural towns.
- Social inclusion through building community capacity training and animation.
- Rural environment.
- Support for distinctive regional products and artisan food producers (€15m ring-fenced).
- Leader operated through the LCDCs.

8. Future Timetable

- Plan will be examined by the EU Commission between now and September.
- Bilaterals to deal with issues.
- Budget 2015 crucial to ensure that payments flow to farmers in 2015.
- IFA seeking early implementation of all measures.