

CONSULTANCY AND EXTENSION SERVICES IN AGRICULTURE UNDER THE NEW CAP

Gabriela IGNAT¹, Carmen Olguta Brezuleanu¹, George UNGUREANU¹

E-mail: gabitu03@yahoo.fr

Abstract

From the perspective of the new agricultural policy, investment in extension services are potentially important tools for improving product agricultural productivity and increase farmers' income.

Advisory and extension services in agriculture are a real engine in promoting agricultural development and therefore the 2008 World Development Report (WDR), Agriculture for Development, focuses on the role of extension in agriculture and its effective development challenges in the coming decades.

Terms advisory services and agricultural extension covers the entire set of organizations to support and facilitate problem solving people involved in agricultural production and obtaining information, skills and technologies that improve their lives. Under the new agricultural policy, Member States may, in accordance with objective and criteria priority categories of farms with access to agricultural advisory systems

Advisory systems should provide advice to farmers at least the regulatory requirements management requirements and good agricultural and environmental conditions, participation in FAS is voluntary. In this context, Chapter 3, Articles 12-13 of Regulation (EC) no. 73/2009 requires all EU Member States to implement an advisory system to assist farmers to understand the rules on cross compliance and help meet the standards.

Key words: consultancy in agriculture, extension services, the Common Agricultural Policy

In the 2003 CAP reform, consulting services and land management and farms were called FAS (Farm Advisory System - FAS) and Member States were required to put in implemented by 1 January 2007. Consulting activities will try to cover at least the requirements for cross-compliance, but not limited to this. Extension services to farmers and agricultural advice in the past were known as the application of scientific research and new knowledge in agricultural practices through agricultural education. Therefore, providing new information (eg, distributing brochures) plays an important role in advisory. However, the classical approach of "technology transfer by informing farmers" applied many times in the past has shown the limits in addressing complex problems.

Extension services to farmers and agricultural advice in the past were known as the application of scientific research and new knowledge of agricultural practices through agricultural education.

The overall organization and the various operators include public and / or private that provides advisory services to farmers one a Member State (Article 12 of Regulation (EC) Regulation no. 73/2009).

An "advisory service" is the farmer receives service from a consultant consisting of oral or written advice that examines the practical problems faced by the farmer to farm it and provide guidelines to address them. Consultancy means the provision of competent technical advice on a particular subject in order to assist the farmer in making decision.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

Under the new CAP reform, "FAS" is a complex system consisting of various advisory bodies coordinated by a central body or authority.

This system ensures that every farmer in any Member State may request and receive advice on mandatory standards at least on all cross-compliance requirements.

The overall organization and the various operators include public and / or private that provides advisory services to farmers a Member State [Article 12 of Regulation (EC) Regulation no. 73/2009.

An "advisory service" is the farmer receives service from a consultant consisting of oral or written advice that examines the practical problems faced by the farmer to the farm and it provides guidelines for resolving them.

¹ University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Iași

Consultancy means the provision of competent technical advice on a particular subject in order to assist the farmer in decision making.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Under the new CAP reform, "FAS" is a complex system consisting of various advisory bodies coordinated by a central body or authority.

This system ensures that every farmer in any Member State may request and receive advice on mandatory standards at least on all cross-compliance requirements

The overall organization and the various operators include public and / or private that provides advisory services to farmers a Member State (Article 12 of Regulation (EC) Regulation no. 73/2009.

An "advisory service" is the farmer receives service from a consultant consisting of oral or written advice that examines the practical problems faced by the farmer to the farm and it provides guidelines for resolving them.

Consultancy means the provision of competent technical advice on a particular subject in order to assist the farmer in decision making.

In some Member States, advisory services were set up by integrating existing advisory bodies or private bodies consultancy advisory services and other Member States was created a new network consulting.

Farmers use the FAS voluntarily and remain responsible for the action taken on advice enjoyed. In this regard, FAS does not affect in any respect the obligations and responsibility they have to comply with legal requirements.

However, the EU legal framework recognizes that it is likely that farmers seeking advice to be more informed about how to comply with legal requirements.

Therefore, the selection of farms to be inspected, Member States may choose to believe that those farmers have a lower risk.

FAS, as defined under the first pillar of the CAP, may receive funding under the second pillar through two measures.

In most Member States, FAS became fully operational only in 2008.

In about half of the Member States, FAS is established that specific service, complement existing public information services.

In other cases, FAS was closely linked to the existing extension services.

In general (in 24 Member States), FAS is coordinated and supervised by public Advisory bodies are selected by means of auctions (in 14

Member States) and the designation of private bodies (in 5 states).

In 14 Member States, the FAS focuses exclusively on the cross, while in other Member States consulting reference refers to various aspects such as competitiveness of farms, the environmental impact of agricultural practices and support to implement rural development measures (eg agri-environmental commitments).

FAS helped farmers to meet the cross, which is the main reason which is the main reason why farmers have used the system.

Support from FAS has also contributed to increased capacity for financial management (accounting and improved record keeping accounting in terms of cross-compliance obligations).

Advisory in FAS may include several different aspects and strategic directions for example, improving business and environmental performance).

Basic aspect is to support farm to comply with cross compliance

Other environmental issues beyond cross-compliance may have different importance depending on the overall strategy

Since cross-compliance include basic environmental standards, water protection issues should therefore always be part of FAS.

Other water issues can have a high or low priority among environmental issues according to priorities of Member States

Regulation 73/2009 provides that Member States may, in accordance with objective criteria priority categories of farms that have access to FAS, Article 12.

Since, in practice, priorities are not manageable, many Member States have not yet applied the priority categories.

Approaches for prioritizing can be divided into four categories:

- Without target groups: AT, BE (Flanders), DE (11 provinces), FI, FR, IE, IT (3 regions), LU, PL, SE, SK, UK (Scotland and Wales);
- Farmers receiving more than 15 000 EUR in the form of direct payments under Pillar 1: (Ireland), DK, HU, LV, NL;
- Different target groups regardless of the amount of direct support received: BG, CY, IT (9 regions), PT, RO, UK (England);
- A combination of target groups and farmers receiving more than 15 000 EUR in the form of direct payments under Pillar 1: BE (Wallonia), CZ, DE (1 land EE, EL, ES, IT (9 regions), LT, UK.

Whether FAS consultants are employed by private organizations or public institutions seek to ensure the quality of advice.

Governments often require authorization and training consultants if they wish to provide advisory.

Authorization systems can rely on Studies (in agriculture) consultant and a minimum of specific training.

Level of experience ; Information on cross-compliance should be made available to all farmers. In accordance with Chapters 1.2 and 3, the FAS may be linked to a wide range of activities. Individual advice from outside the farm or can be combined with more interactive approaches and integrating of group activities.

The next section provides an overview of the most used tools and approaches that can complement the advice of the system the FAS series of factors related to farmers, but also affects the service provider to the court decisions the tools / methods to be used.

Advisory may contain a number of issues ranging from general commercial activity to specific environmental issues which focuses on legal requirements, as well as voluntary initiatives.

In many cases, several institutions are involved in consulting and information.

So far, the FAS has contributed little to improve the way farmers perceive CAP.

They often find that FAS is strictly related to the cross and for the inspection system for the inspection of holdings, making it appear in a negative light.

However, there are cases where FAS was able to build effective relationships based on trust between farmers and advisors The evaluation report recommends to maintain the idea of voluntary and flexible overall architecture of the FAS.

CONCLUSIONS

FAS is essential for successful implementation of the CAP, which supports efforts which supports the efforts of farmers to meet EU legal requirements regarding the environment food safety and animal health and welfare.

FAS is essential for successful implementation of the CAP, which supports efforts which supports the efforts of farmers to meet EU legal requirements regarding the environment food safety and animal health and welfare.

FAS, which assists farmers on the requirements of "cross", helps to avoid loss of payments from the CAP. maintain a broad scope of FAS, while respecting the rules which define the minimum scope: focus on the role of "general" of counsel in the FAS, which guides farmers where appropriate, to specialist advisors; use summary data from farm inspections to help provide a consult to the point; while taking into account the great importance of respect for the confidentiality of data obtained in the counseling.

Advisor of the FAS to act as a "generalist", putting, through a holistic approach, explaining various aspects of agriculture and farmers not only EU requirements but related objectives and policies.

FAS to promote specific measures, such as using appropriate opportunities to provide farmers list of advisors, ensuring that it reaches and small farmers; to promote FAS through measures such as use of appropriate opportunities to provide farmers list of counsellors; FAS to promote specific measures, such as using appropriate opportunities to provide farmers list ensuring that it reaches and small farmers to improve administration of the FAS and to exchange.

Furthermore, the Commission considers that the following actions are required: clarify the terms "advisory system" and "consulting services making a clear distinction between the mere provision of information advice and detailed and ensuring that the FAS is addressed to all farmers: making a clear distinction between the mere provision of information advice and detailed and ensuring that the FAS is addressed to all farmers; inclusion in the minimum scope of application of FAS minimum requirements under national law for for fertilizers and plant protection products and underlining the need for specific action on climate change; explaining the role of FAS in relation to other actors cross advice recommending a clear separation of agricultural inspections; promotion of FAS by introducing a flexible content and makes use of the frequency of advice, and by establishing the obligation for Member States to provide farmers advisers list.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Petrescu, Ruxandra Malina, 2007** – *Politica Agricolă Comuna- trecut, prezent si viitor*, Editura Fundatia pentru studii europene, Cluj Napoca.
- Socol, Cristian, 2010**- *Opțiunile de Politică Agricolă și dezvoltare durabilă a agriculturii*, Ed. Economică.
- Zahiu, Letitia, 2005** - *Politici și piete agricole (Reforma și integrare europeană)*, Ed Ceres.

***, **2010** - *Publication clés de UE: La Politique Agricole Commune en evolution constant dans une monde en mutation.*

***, **2010** - *European Commission, Agriculture and Rural Development, The Common Agriculture Policy after 2013, Public debate, Summary*

Report, 37 pp., http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/cap-post-2013/debate/report/summary-report_en.

*** - *La politique agricole commune après 2013, Débat public Synthèse des contributions*, ec.europa.eu