



**Independent network  
on European Agricultural  
and Rural development policies**

## **Implementation of the CAP reform in Finland** Preliminary version

Finland waits for the delegated and implementing acts of the CAP reform before adopting the official decisions on its implementation.

For the moment, Finland focuses on minimising the administrative burden and additional administrative costs implied by the reform. In particular, certain options of the new CAP seem to require a too important administrative burden and will therefore not be implemented in Finland.

The preliminary ideas on the implementation of the CAP reform in Finland include:

- **Payment entitlements**
  - Finland already operates a regional model ("dynamic hybrid"). Full regional flat rate will be reached in 2019. There are currently three regions, but it is planned to move into two regions.
  - Finland intends to maintain existing payment entitlements and the rate in which historical top ups are decreasing.
- **Active farmers**
  - The question of "non-active" beneficiaries is not a topic in Finland.
  - The discussion rather focuses on whether the short list would suffice or whether Finland needs to extend it nationally (this option is not likely).
- **Young farmers**
  - Finland will make use the full 2 % of national ceiling.
  - Hectare limit for aid per young farmer will be 90 hectares.
- **Small farmers scheme, additional aid for first hectares, first pillar NCA-support**
  - Finland does not intend to make use of these aid schemes.

- **Voluntary coupled support**
  - Finland intends to make full use of the possibilities for voluntary coupled support.
  - Sectors and amounts are still under discussion, but the emphasis will probably be put on animal husbandry and on Southern Finland.
  
- **Greening**
  - Finland will make use of the exemptions granted for areas north of 62. parallel as regards crop diversification and heavily forested areas as regards EFA-requirement.
  - EFA-areas: Catch crops and nitrogen fixing crops will most likely be set aside. Other areas are still under discussion as they may create additional administrative burden.
  - Equivalence: The topic is under discussion. More information is expected before making a decision.
  
- **Rural Development Programme**
  - The draft is quite advanced and currently unofficially discussed with the CION services. It will be finalised in March 2014.
  - The allocation of resources between the different purposes has been decided in November. There will be no transfer between pillars.
  - The 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme is more agri-environmental targeted. There will be more funding for organic farming and animal welfare commitments.
  - NCA-support will have to be paid in the whole country and the amount of support will be slightly increased.