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Frelih-Larsen, A., MacLeod, M., Osterburg, B., Eory, A.V., Dooley, E., Kätsch, S., Naumann, S., Rees, B., Tarsitano, D., Topp, K., Wolff, A., Metayer, N., Molnar, A., Povellato, A., Bochu, J.L., Lasorella, M.V., Longhitano, D. (2014). "Mainstreaming climate change into rural development policy post 2013." Final report. Ecologic Institute, Berlin.

The study report, including the Technical Guidance can be downloaded at: ec.europa.eu/clima

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Mainstreaming Climate Change Into Rural Development Policy

How can the EU Rural Development Policy support climate change mitigation and adaptation?

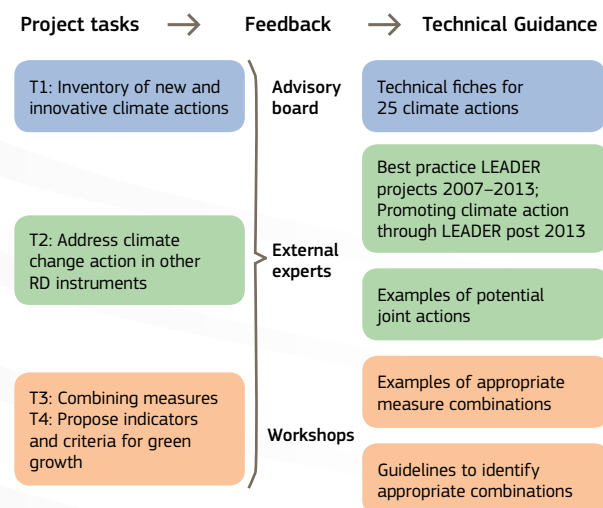
The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD, Regulation No 1305/2013) offers a wide range of opportunities to advance climate mitigation and adaptation activities through Rural Development Programmes (RDPs). Building on experiences gained in the 2007–2013 programming period, Member States can use RDPs to support many practical actions to help mitigate emissions and adapt to the changing climate in the agricultural sector and land management more broadly.

For the programming period from 2014 to 2020, Member States can support climate operations through measures such as the agri-environment-climate measure, investments in physical assets, or knowledge transfer and information actions. The new EAFRD Regulation also enables opportunities to facilitate collective and coordinated climate actions at a broader landscape level, beyond individual farm holdings.

The project “Mainstreaming climate change in rural development policy post 2013”, coordinated by Ecologic Institute, examined opportunities to support new and innovative technical actions through RDPs. The study developed Technical Guidance aimed at RDP Managing Authorities and other practitioners involved in the design and implementation of RDPs on how to further integrate new and innovative climate-oriented operations in RDPs.

Overview of the project

The overall structure of the project is shown below, where project tasks are linked to the elements of the Technical Guidance.



Structure of the Technical Guidance

The Technical Guidance is structured as Annexes to the study report, and includes:

- 25 technical fiches for new and innovative climate RD actions (**Annex 1**)
- Suggestions and guidelines for combinations of measures for the focus areas under Priority 4 and Priority 5 of RDPs (**Annex 2**)
- Best practice examples of 2007–2013 LEADER climate focused projects (**Annex 3**)
- Suggestions for promoting climate action into LEADER projects for the 2014–2020 programming period (**Annex 4**)
- Examples of potential joint action topics under the Cooperation Measure (**Annex 5**)
- List of LEADER climate action projects identified in the Member States (**Annex 6**)

