

THE CAP GREEN ARCHITECTURE POST-2020

DEEPING INTO ECO-SCHEMES

THE MEDITERRANEAN REALITY

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Dr. Emilio Gatto

Italian Ministry for Agricultural, Food, Forestry Policies and for Tourism





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The context of CAP green architecture.

The environmental ambition is strengthened but:

- obligations to be observed by farmers are more numerous;
- financial resources are decreased.



The role of green architecture: Italian point of view on Eco-schemes.

In relation to art. 28 (Schemes for the climate and the environment), there are a number of features of the proposal (for CAP Strategic Plans) which need to be improved, such as:

- 1. Eco-schemes are **compulsory** for Member States.
- 2. Beneficiaries of Eco-schemes are **genuine farmers**.
- 3. Eco-schemes are designed to meet one or more of the specific environmental and climate-related objectives laid down in **points (d), (e) and (f) of Article 6(1)**.
- 4. Eco-schemes commitments are different from commitments in respect of which payments are granted under Article 65.
- 6. Support for eco-schemes shall take the form of an annual payment.
- 7. Eco-schemes are implemented on **eligible hectares**.





The role of green architecture: Italian point of view on Eco-schemes.

1) Italy prefers "eco-schemes" to be voluntary for MS rather than compulsory: {shall} should be transformed into "may".

Italy prefers to pursue environmental objectives by art. 65 payments due to a number of reasons.

- 1) Genuine farmers are the beneficiaries of art. 28 payments. Genuine farmers are a narrower category with respect to "farmers and other beneficiaries" of art. 65 payments.
- 2) Eco-schemes are voluntary for farmers: therefore "specific environmental and climate-related objectives laid down in points (d), (e) and (f) of Article 6(1)" may not be pursued, at least at the needed degree, if no beneficiaries or less beneficiaries (than the number is needed) adhere to art. 28 (This is even more evident if we consider that commitments to be covered under art. 28 "are different from commitments in respect of which payments are granted under Article 65").
- 3) Environmental benefits are not ensured over time because Eco-schemes are implemented on annual basis; while article 65 "Environmental, climate and other management commitments" are implemented on multiannual basis.
- 4) Environmental benefits may be generated on a more restricted areas due to: i) art. 28 is applied to "eligible hectare", while art. 65 on agricultural area/territory; ii) under art. 65 management commitments, a collective approach is possible.





What we need? Echo-scheme tailored according to:

- Territorial approach;
- Specific environmental and climate issue.





Objectives of Eco-scheme:

- fostering sustainable management of natural resources such as water, soil and air, with a particular focus on the issue of nitrates in vulnerable zone and air quality;
- 2) contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- 3) contributing to the protection of biodiversity and to habitats and landscapes preservation.



Contribution to water and soil





GAEC 5 – Farm sustainability tool for nutrients – FaST

Implementation of both the eco-schemes (1st Pillar) and management commitments (2nd Pillar) aimed at reduction of fertilizers use, more efficient use of water resource.



GAEC 4 – Establishment of buffer strips along water courses.

Implementation of both the eco-schemes (1st Pillar) and management commitments (2nd Pillar) aimed at limiting water pollution and Plant Protection Products



Contribution to climate change mitigation





GAEC 2 - Protection of carbon-rich soils.

Appropriate protection of wetland and peatland.

1. Implementation of eco-schemes, which are higher than the conditionality obligations, such as interventions aimed at keeping the appropriate degree of wetness in the soil (minimum water table level during winter, application of dry-rewetting techniques, etc ...).





GAEC 3 - Ban on burning arable stubble, except for plant health reasons.

Maintenance of soil organic matter

1. Environmental commitments aimed at increasing the content of soil organic matter (mulching with crop residues, measures to increase the level of organic matter in the soil, direct sowing or conversion to "conservation agriculture").





Contribution to biodiversity





GAEC 9 - Minimum share of agricultural area devoted to non-productive features or areas.

Eco-scheme may be set aimed at increasing biodiversity level (higher share of land devoted to non-productive features, or cultivation, on the 5% of land, of certain listed species, traditional, good for pollinators.



GAEC 9 - Retention of landscape features.

1. Environmental commitments may be set as eco-scheme, within the category of interventions devoted to environmental enhancement of landscape features (extraordinary maintenance of landscape features, which includes restoration, in particular where the farming intensification has caused an over-simplification of the agricultural landscape).





THANK YOU!

e.gatto@politicheagricole.it a.frattarelli@politicheagricole.it

Italian Ministry for Agricultural, Food, Forestry Policies and for Tourism

Department for International and European Policies Directorate General for Rural Development

