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## ITAES Newsletter n°4

"Integrated Tools to design and implement Agro Environmental Schemes"

The second year of the ITAES project was devoted to the fine tuning of methods and data collection. The ITAES team also disseminated scientific and transfer documents with preliminary results. Here are presented progress of the two ITAES approaches, with the related references from the beginning of the project.

### 1/ The farm level approach:

Survey of farmers (WP8)- A survey has been conducted on more than 2000 European farmers and analysis are in progress. An important objective of this survey is to identify key factors underlying farmers decisions to apply an Agro-Environmental Scheme. The first statistical results obtained from each country database discriminate AES participating farmers from non participants according to their main characteristics: age, education, legal status of the holding and so on. Nevertheless, important data available from this survey remain to be analysed.

Analysis of private transaction costs (WP6, WP7)- An expressed preference modelling exercise was integrated into the survey. The objective is to investigate farmers' preferences for the governance attributes of AESs. Indeed, the voluntary nature of AESs means that inappropriate governance attributes may restrict participation and so, compromise scheme objectives. Five attributes of contracts are evaluated: length of contract, flexibility of prescriptions, average paperwork time, choice of area covered by agreement, annual payment.

In addition, each ITAES partner has followed up 30 farmers during one year. Farmers are asked to keep regularly records of time and costs invested in all activities related to the implementation of the agri-environmental contracts. The objective is to find a modelling framework that allows taking into account the costs farmers bear when informing about agro-environmental schemes, negotiating contracts, implementing schemes and controlling the outputs of the schemes.

### 2/ The regional and scheme level approach:

Institutional arrangements of AESs (WP4)- Scarce information does exist on how decisions on the design of AESs are actually made and how they are administratively implemented by EU Members. To address this issue, an examination of the decision making and the administrative process in detail has to be carried out in the ten case-studies. To reach this objective, interviews of stakeholders have been conducted at different political and administrative levels.

Environmental impacts of AESs (WP5)- An assessment of environmental effectiveness depends on a comparison of the environmental impacts of a scheme with the scheme's objectives and targets. Given the general lack of environmental targets and of monitoring data, experts interviews were chosen as a method to obtain the data necessary for assessing the environmental performance of AESs.

Multi-Criteria Analysis (WP10)- The use of MCA in ITAES was suggested as a tool aimed at carrying out a general comparison across different ways of implementing AESs. Indeed, AESs' impacts are by nature multiple and can be measured only considering different sources of information and measurement units. A key information in MCA is the set of weights to be used in order to compute some aggregated indicator of AES performances. The weights are the coefficients that express the relative importance of each criterion for the decision maker. Interviews of stakeholders have been carried out to estimate these weights.

**Communications:****Articles**

- Kröger L., 2005. Development of the Finnish Agri-Environmental Policy as a Learning Process. *European Environment*, 15, pp 13-26
- Kurz, I., and Finn, J. 2005. Evaluation of agri- environmental schemes. p. 40-41. In: Schulte, R.P.O., Richards, K., Finn, J. and Culleton, N. (eds.) *The Science of Ireland's Rural Environment: current research highlights from Johnstown Castle*. Teagasc, ISBN 1841703982

**Seminar communications**

- Bartolini F., Gallerani V., Raggi M. and Viaggi D., 2004: A methodology for evaluating agri-environmental schemes for policy design purposes, 87th EAAE-Seminar "Assessing rural development policies of the CAP", Vienna, 21-24 april 2004.
- Bartolini F., Gallerani V., Raggi M. and Viaggi D., 2004: Improving contract design for multifunctional agriculture, 90th EAAE Seminar "Multifunctional agriculture, policies and markets: understanding the critical linkages", Rennes, October 28-29, 2004, pp. 197-205.
- Bartolini F., Finn J., Kurz I., Samoggia A. and Viaggi D., 2005. Using information of mid-term evaluation of RDP for the multi-criteria analysis of Agro-Environmental Schemes. Presented in the EAAE conference, August 2005, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- Bougherara D. Dupraz P., Pech M., 2005. Le mode de faire-valoir influence-t-il la mise en œuvre de la politique agro-environnementale? (Does land tenure system affect the implementation of agro-environmental policy?). Presented at the "Premières Journées Scientifiques de l'Economie de l'Environnement; Les Stratégies des Acteurs", Algiers, Algeria, October 1-2, 2005.
- Ducos G., Dupraz P., 2005. Agro-environnement et nouvelles structures de gouvernances : les contrats agro-environnementaux, séminaire de l'Unité Mixte de Recherche Métafort CEMAGREF-ENITAC-INRA, 1<sup>er</sup> Décembre 2005. 31 pages.
- Ducos G., Dupraz P., 2006. Private provision of environmental services and transaction costs: Agri-Environmental contracts in France, "Third world congress of Environmental and Resource Economics", Kyoto, July 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> 2006.
- Dunne, W. and Cushion, M.. 2005. Decoupling: Irish farmers attitudes and planning intentions. Paper presented at the European Association of Animal production (EAAP) annual meeting in Uppsala, Sweden, 5 -8 June 2005
- Dupraz, P., Latouche, K. and Bonnieux, F., 2004 : Economic implications of scale and threshold effects in agri-environmental processes, 90th EAAE Seminar "Multifunctional agriculture, policies and markets: understanding the critical linkages", Rennes, October 28-29, 2004.
- Dupraz P., Latouche K., Turpin N. 2005. Effets de seuils et coordination des efforts environnementaux (Thresholds and coordination of environmental efforts), Symposium "territoires, et enjeux du développement régional" Lyon, France, March 9-11, 2005.
- Finn, J.A., Bourke, D. and Kurz, I. 2005. Invited presentation to workshop at Joint Research Centre. (EU-DG-JRC) "Assessing Environmental Effectiveness of Rural Development Measures Across Europe and How to Bridge the Local Experience". Presentation of lessons from WP5 of ITAES project, and from AE-Footprint project. November 28-29th, 2005, Ispra, Italy.
- Finn, J.A. and Kurz, I., 2005 Presentation of lessons from WP5 of ITAES project to Irish agri-environmental stakeholders. Johnstown Castle, October 25th, 2005.
- Huhtala A. and Marklund P.O., 2005. Environmental Targets and Shadow Prices of Bad Outputs in Organic and Conventional Farming. Contributed Paper presented at the European Association of Agricultural Economists 11th Congress, Copenhagen, Denmark.

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- Kröger, L., Aakkula, J., Jokinen, P., 2004. The assimilation of the ideas of multifunctional agriculture in Finnish agri-environmental policy, 90th EAAE Seminar “Multifunctional agriculture, policies and markets: understanding the critical linkages”, Rennes, October 28-29, 2004.
- Kröger, L. 2005. Institutional Change and Policy Learning: The Case of Agri-environmental Policy in Finland. ESEE 2005 - the 6th International Conference of the European Society for Ecological Economics, 14th-17th June 2005, Lisbon, Portugal.
- Jongeneel, R.A., Polman N.B.P. and Slangen L.H.G., 2005. Multifunctional alternatives for agriculture in changing landscapes. Paper presented op conference “Multifunctionality of landscapes; analysis, evaluation, and decision support”, 18-19 May, Justus-Liebig University, Giessen (Germany), abstract: p. 153
- Peerlings, J. and N. Polman, 2004. Modelling the choice for agri-environmental schemes (AES), 90th EAAE Seminar “Multifunctional agriculture, policies and markets: understanding the critical linkages”, Rennes, October 28-29, 2004.
- Peerlings, J.H.M. and Polman, N.B.P., 2005. Plant species protection contracts: modelling contract choice for specialised dairy farms and mixed dairy pig fattening farms in the Netherlands. Contributed paper presented at XIth congress of EAAE (European Association of Agricultural Economists), Copenhagen, 24-27 August

### ***Posters***

- Bonnieux, F., Dupraz, P. and Latouche, K. 2004. Agri-environmental programmes: Convergence and difference between the EU and other countries. Proceedings Part 2 of the 90th EAAE Seminar “Multifunctional agriculture, policies and markets: understanding the critical linkages”, Rennes, October 28-29, 2004, pp. 245-246.
- Kurz, I., Finn, J. and Dunne, L. 2005. Integrated tools to design and implement agri-environmental schemes (ITAES). Poster presentation to tour as part of International Grassland Conference. Johnstown Castle, 29th June, 2005.
- Finn, J., Kurz, I., and Dunne, L. 2005. Integrated tools to design and implement agri-environmental schemes (ITAES). Poster presentation at AgBiota conference. ‘Biodiversity in the farmed landscape: building a knowledge base to inform agri-environmental policy’, University College Dublin, 31st March, 2005.
- Hurrelmann A. and Beckmann V., 2005. Institutional Arrangements for Agro Environmental Schemes in Europe: An Analysis within the ITAES Research Project. Poster presented at the 11th EAAE Congress, August 24-27, 2005 in Copenhagen, Denmark
- Lütteken, A., Beckmann, V., 2004. Presentation of ITAES Project. Presented at 44th GEWISOLA Annual Meeting, Berlin, 27-29 September 2004.

### ***Transfer papers***

- Tiede ja Teknologia [Science and Technology] 4/2003. Tutkimustiedosta potkua maatalouden ympäristösuunnitteluun [Research as a means to improve planning of the EU agri-environmental policy]. The project was introduced in the magazine of Tekes (the National Technology Agency).

This document presents results obtained within the EU project SSPE-CT-2003-502070 on Integrated tools to design and implement Agro Environmental Schemes (<http://merlin.lusignan.inra.fr/ITAES/website>). It does not necessary reflect the view of the European Union and in no way anticipates the commission's future policy in this area.