European Commission

Supporting Checks by Monitoring Implementation and Uptake in 2019

Ana BRNCIC

Unit D3 – Implementation support and IACS

MARS conference

Prague, 27 Nov 2019

Agriculture and Rural Development

The legal framework has been further adapted

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/ 1084 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) No 809/2014 adopted on 28 October 2018

- Addresses issue stemming from the interplay of monitored and non-monitored schemes:
  - Derogation from the obligation to take into account all information stemming from CbM for non-monitored schemes + conditions linked to the use of the derogation
- Gives further flexibilities to MS in setting the final date for amending applications (the '15 days period')
- Further clarifies the principles shaping the communication with beneficiaries and rules on selection of parcels for checks of non-monitorable criteria
- **Allows MS to use CbM for cross-compliance**

Further clarifications to MS have been provided

- Draft **Addendum to the Q&A on monitoring for CY 2018-2020** and onwards prepared
  - Rev 4 presented on 26 June 2019 in the joint Committee for Direct Payments and Rural Development
  - Document currently revised by Commission's legal experts
  - Final version will be published on Circabc (date tbc)

→ No other replies, all the answers to MS consolidated in the two Q&A documents on monitoring

Procedure of assessment of notifications developed

- **Notifications are reviewed and assessed** on compatibility with the provisions of Article 40a of R809/2014 and the explanations provided in the Q&A documents on monitoring
- Replies to notifications are sent by the Director General
  - Letters acknowledge the possibility that systemic issues may arise when introducing this major innovation in IACS and express **readiness of DG AGRI to provide timely support and work together to find appropriate solutions** (→ "comfort letter")
  - Letters highlight any issues observed by DG AGRI during the assessment

Support to the uptake of monitoring continued

- **10 missions** to MS in 2019 (**overall 17 MS** since 2017)
  - Focused on clarifying the paradigm shift, the legal and technical aspects and reviewing Member States' approach to monitoring
- AGRI – JRC:
  - Access to DIAS providers
  - HHR delivery ('time-stacks')

DG AGRI audit approach developed

- **2 audit missions** carried out in 2019 by DG AGRI H3 (DK, ES)
- What was reviewed during the audit?
  - Are the pre-conditions met e.g. LPIS(QA)?
  - Does the CbM implemented respect the principles in the Q&A on monitoring and the technical discussion documents (JRC)?
  - Are the CbM executed in line with DG AGRI's letter of comfort?
  - Are the MS's Quality Checks performed to standard?

Challenges remain: priorities for 2020

- **Developing the Quality Assurance (QA) framework**
  - First discussions held in AGRI/JRC
  - Approach will be discussed with MS in technical groups
- **Reviewing the approach to Certification Bodies' work on re-performance of checks** where checks by monitoring are applied
- **ECA report on new technologies –** will it trigger new priorities?
  - e.g. increased focus on environmentally-relevant payments?