

BIODIVERSITY 2020
The Resource Holder's Role
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The Challenges Faced

The World faces complex and demanding demographic, climatic, ecological and economic challenges.

FARMS AND FORESTS ARE 'MULTI PUBLIC GOOD' PROVIDERS

But economics dictate that

- **A market only pays for some of the outputs of farms and forests.**

For example:- food, fibre, feedstocks, forest products, fuels, renewable energy, recreation and tourism.

- **No real market returns exist for environmental goods.**

For example:- biodiversity, habitats and species, landscapes, flood protection, water storage, heritage and culture, archaeology, carbon sequestration.



The Challenges Faced

Land management provides and is rightly expected to provide these multiple outputs.

- ~ What is and how do we achieve the optimum combination of all these outputs?
- ~ How do we achieve the maximum output of these public goods?
- ~ Land managers must produce more and impact less

The resource holder will have to be supported and enabled to deliver this 2020 target!



BUT HOW?



THE “HOW”

The debate must now concentrate on moving from political intention to practice on the ground, be it farmland or forest floor

For the resource holder, the land manager, the farmer it is about:

- Practical delivery – *the day to day work involved*
- The economics of delivery - *can the land manager/farmer afford it*
- The will and ability to deliver - *are they able and prepared to do it*
- The understanding of what is to be delivered – *do they have the knowledge and support*
- The continuity of delivery - *can the output be maintained longer term*
- The responsible and sustainable use of natural resources – *can they balance maximum output with minimum impact*

INFORM - INVOLVE - INTEGRATE - INCENTIVISE

INFORMATION

PROBLEMS

- Research has been scaled back over last decade or two.
- A lack of information and its transfer exists.
- Extension services are often inefficient or immature and not tailored to land managers' needs or capabilities

SOLUTIONS

- Research, development and efficient extension are essential
- Information and knowledge transfer highlighted in CAP reform
- Land managers will react positively to information sharing but an understanding of private ownership and owners objectives is required

INVOLVEMENT

PROBLEMS

- Micro businesses have limited resources of time and finance and land managers often isolated and lack a will for partnership working
- Agri-environmental schemes often complex and difficult to access
- Natura 2000 and other designations seen as threats and involvement in the control of Invasive Alien Species misunderstood

SOLUTIONS

- Schemes must address the delivery of a network of corridors between Natura 2000 sites. This entails wide partnership working for *Green Infrastructure*
- A menu of environmental schemes is needed for both farm & forest and assistance required to expand the uptake of positive conservation programmes
- Need wider acceptance of and involvement in Natura 2000 (participation to Bio-geographical Workshops) and the control of Invasive Alien Species

INTEGRATION

PROBLEMS

- Political interests and decisions are often short term whereas land ownership and management is intergenerational
- CAP often wrongly seen as two separate pillars or policies Pillar 1 depends on Pillar 2 and *vice versa*
- Policies often conflict, are not properly integrated and can give negative messages to land managers

SOLUTIONS

- Improve the integration of policies at Commission and National level to support partnership working to the benefit of biodiversity
- Expand understanding that the management of natural resources and biodiversity are dependent on agricultural and forestry practices
- Accept that Natura 2000 sites are often working areas of farms or forests and ensure the delivery of ecosystem services can expand biodiversity over wider areas

INCENTIVES

PROBLEM

- Current lack of targeted and adequate funding for Natura 2000 sites along with possible under funding of agri-environmental schemes
- Too much reliance on regulation and not enough emphasis on positive action for the management of natural resources and biodiversity.
- Several serious difficulties in new CAP reform proposals, *eg greening measures, payment caps on larger farms, active farmer definition*

SOLUTIONS

- Realistic funding must be found and applied for the support of management in Natura 2000 sites and green infrastructure
- Recognition that unviable farm and forest businesses will lead to inadequate management and consequently biodiversity loss
- A great deal more work is required to improve the CAP reform and to make the proposals workable in the support of ecosystem services, *eg the equivalence of positive agri-environment schemes*

CONCLUSION

To Achieve Success for Biodiversity 2020

Land managers are key players in reversing the loss of biodiversity and in natural resource management.

Political leadership and active public-private partnership working will provide the platform to achieve the 2020 strategy.



INFORMATION
INVOLVEMENT
INTEGRATION
and
INCENTIVE

can help deliver our objectives.

The CAP should be a leading means of achieving a Food and Environment Security Policy. If the 2020 objective is to be reached then there is considerable further work to do.

Thank you for your attention

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