Ensuring interventions targeted to the identified needs

The Austrian experience

Melanie Dittenberger, Veronika Madner DG II - Agriculture and Rural Development Brussels, 23. October 2018

Content

- Introduction to the Austrian context
- Experiences from the RD programming process 2014 2020
- Setting targets and milestones
- Preparing the CAP Strategic Plans an outlook
- Opportunities and Challenges

General Framework



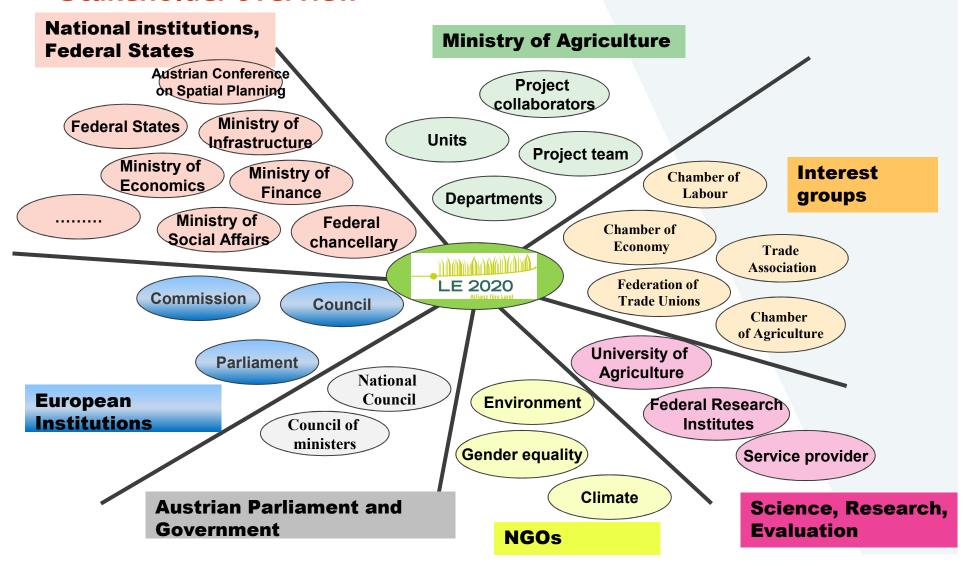
- Austria is a federal state with 9 regions (Bundesländer)
- One single Rural Development Programme since 2000 with funding from federal (60%) and regional level (40%); national co-financing ~50%
- ~2/3 of payments for pillar 2 (1.100 Mio. out of ~ 1.800 Mio. CAP-payments)
- Federal Ministry of Sustainability and Tourism is the **Managing Authority** and responsible for the programming, coordination and implementation of RDP
- Agrarmarkt Austria (AMA) is the Paying Agency for pillar 1 and pillar 2
- Regions are involved in the programming and the implementation of the programme, moreover they are granting authorities for specific non-IACSmeasures

Experiences from the programming process RD 2014-2020

- Start of the project "LE 2020" in April 2012 \rightarrow Aim: RD-Programme for Austria
- Submission of RD-Programme in April 2014 \rightarrow approval on 12th December 2014
- Project organisation:
 - Project team, Project Contractor Committee, Project core team,
 - Individual number of **working groups** per priority with relevant stakeholders
- Participation process:



Experiences from the programming process RD 2014-2020 Stakeholder overview



Setting targets and milestones

- Experiences from the current period
 - Defining quantitative milestones and targets can be quite challenging,
 especially for a 7-year period → flexibility is needed!
 - What are the possibilities for a MA when planned outputs and the realised outputs deviate?
 - Find out the reasons: internal and/or external factors?
 - Explanations and/or take action!
 - Examples: development of new technologies, economic crises, lager projects than expected, slow implementation start

Preparing the CAP Strategic Plans – an outlook

- Programming process will be based on the experiences from period 2014-2020
 - Strategic approach
 - analysis and needs assessment (involvement of scientific experts) →
 strategic choices → design of interventions → setting targets and
 milestones
 - Thematic working groups, participation process for broader public
- Continue with existing governance structures at national & regional level
- Aim: submission of the CAP Strategic Plan before the deadline

Opportunities and Challenges

- + Strategic approach for the whole CAP in one single plan
- + Better coordination between the two pillars (especially for the environmental & climate architecture and young farmers)
- Process becomes more complex (more cooperation, more stakeholders involved)
- Programming, predefined specific targets (indicators), strategic approach, approval process and national evaluation new for pillar 1
- Annual planning of outputs/unit amounts/milestones challenging
- Annual vs. multiannual interventions (Eco-Scheme ↔ AECM ↔ multiannual GEACs)

Open Question: Does more subsidiarity lead to more simplification?

Thank you for your attention!

Veronika Madner: <u>Veronika.madner@bmnt.gv.at</u>

Melanie Dittenberger: <u>Melanie.dittenberger@bmnt.gv.at</u>