



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
 DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Director-General

Brussels,
 SO/ch

Subject: Observations on the Performance Framework of the rural development programme for the Netherlands pursuant to Article 50(8) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013

Ref.: 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme of the Netherlands [CCI 2014NL06RDNP001]

Dear Mr de Peuter,

The Commission has carefully examined the values achieved by the indicators of the performance framework as indicated in the Annual Implementation Report received on 28 June 2018. This data illustrates the progress made until the end of 2017 and provides important indications as to whether any priority of the programme is at risk of not achieving its milestone by the end of 2018.

Within the context of the 2019 Performance Review (Article 21 of the Common Provisions Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013), pursuant to Article 22 (4) of the same Regulation, failure to achieve the 2018 milestones for a programming priority, as defined in Article 6 (2) of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 215/2014, will result in the loss of the reserve for the priority concerned and its reallocation to other priorities which have achieved their milestones. Furthermore, a serious failure to achieve the 2018 milestones as defined in Article 6 (3) and (4) of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 215/2014 may lead to the suspension of interim payments within the meaning of Article 22 (6) of the Common Provisions Regulation. The suspension of interim payments would be in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 41(2) of Regulation (EU) No. 1306/2013.

In accordance with Article 50(8) of the Common Provisions Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 we would like to draw your attention to the instances listed below, where the achieved values for indicators reported in the 2017 AIR are low in comparison with the milestones set for 2018. At this stage of the programming cycle – just one year before the 2018 cut-off date – this raises concerns as regards the risk of serious failures in achieving milestones by the end of 2018 as referred to in article 22(6) of the Common Provisions Regulation.

REGIEBUREAU
 Mr G. de Peuter
 Director of the Managing Authority Plattelandsontwikkelingsprogramma
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List of cases and implementation weaknesses:

- Priority 2: the financial indicator at 50%, the output indicator at 60% and alternative output indicator at 75%.
- Priority 6: the financial indicator at 12 %.

Taking into account the declaration of expenditure for the second quarter of 2018, the additional information provided in the annual report, and the modification of the performance framework in 2018, good progress is observed for Priority 2 (the financial indicator at 63%, the output indicator at 72% and the alternative indicator at 81%).

However, for Priority 6, pending the achievement level of the Key Implementation Step as added recently in the programme modification, there remains a potential risk for serious failure for the financial indicator, as its achievement level is at 17.5% of the milestone value. The Managing Authority should step up the efforts and take all necessary actions in order to avoid the risk of serious failure in achieving the milestones set.

For each of the cases identified, please provide all necessary information with regard to those observations and inform the Commission, within 3 months, of the reasons for the identified implementation weaknesses and delays, including an outline of all measures already taken or considered necessary to address those issues.

Yours faithfully,

(e-signed)

Jerzy PLEWA