IRRIGATION

QUELLES STRATÉGIES POUR ÉCONOMISER L’EAU ?
WHAT STRATEGIES FOR WATER SAVINGS ?

REGARDS CROISÉS EUROPÉENS
SHARING EUROPEAN VIEWS

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Water Savings In Irrigation - Hungary

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Rural Development supports for water savings

• The fundamental aim of the operations is to support measures necessary for example water saving irrigation methods, sustainable land use.

• Farmers as water users play a key role in water management. Therefore to promote water efficiency developments among farmers has significant impact in the whole water sector.

• In Hungary three operations have been identified in the field of water management in our Rural Development Program.

• One of these are the investments to improve water retention, to improve the efficiency of water use.
The three operations in the field of water management in our Rural Development Program.

• Investments in melioration,
• Investments to improve water retention, to improve the efficiency of water use,
• Increase the surface of irrigated areas.

All operations take into account the recommendations of the National River Basin Management Plan related to the planned agricultural measures.

To complete the objectives we published different call for tenders: Modernization of horticulture – support for establishing plantations with the possibility to develop irrigation, Development of the water management sector, cooperative measures in the irrigation sector.
Irrigated farming development improving water use efficiency

- This scheme involves investments aiming at the sustainable improvement of agricultural water use, the application of water- and energy-efficient irrigation systems, the reduction of water loss in various facilities.
- Primarily the watersaving investments serve the purposes of environment among the developments to improve the use of resources.

Under this operation we support the following:

- Efficient irrigation technologies, the improvement of water efficiency in irrigation facilities, as well as the improvement and reconstruction of efficient irrigation infrastructure and the related facilities.
- Support for the purchase of new irrigation facilities, as well as the establishment of new irrigation water services.
- Support for the purchase of energy-efficient irrigation technologies and the improvement of the energy efficiency of irrigation facilities.
- Extra support for young farmers
Examples for water saving developments in Hungary

**Example I.**
- Purchase of new irrigation equipments and creating new water supply infrastructures
- The applicant would like to renew it’s old irrigation system with linear and water efficient system.
- The new machines will cover their whole 46 ha irrigated area.
- The new equipment will have GPS, timer, pipes, water meters.
- Irrigated water saving will be 20%, the energy saving will be 80%
- Requested amount: EUR 72141.02

(Similar as can be seen on the next slide)

**Example II.**
- Development of irrigation infrastructure and developing of existing irrigation systems by improving their effective water use
- The aim of the project purchasing of 1 induction, cable control, linear self-propelled irrigation equipment,
- A small family farm is the beneficiary,
- Approx. 25,4 ha of irrigated area,
- Requested support approx. EUR 70029
- The old machine was only 60-65% effective -> not really watersaving,
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**Legislation used in 2014-2020**

- 1305/2013 - Article 46 „Investments in irrigation”
- If the investment affects bodies of ground- or surface water whose status has been identified as less than good in the relevant river basin management plan for reasons related to water quantity,
- An investment resulting in a net increase of the irrigated area affecting a given body of ground or surface water shall be eligible only if, the status of the water body has not been identified as less than good in the relevant river basin management plan for reasons related to water quantity,
- Plus an environmental analysis shows that there will be no significant negative environmental impact from the investment; such an environmental impact analysis shall be either carried out by or approved by the competent authority and may also refer to groups of holdings.

**Commission proposal for Strategic Plans**

- Investments in Irrigation is part of Art. 68 (Investments)
- Member States shall establish a list of ineligible investments and categories of expenditure (negative list)
- „investments in irrigation which are not consistent with the achievement of good status of water bodies, as laid down in Article 4(1) of Directive 2000/60/EC, including expansion of irrigation affecting water bodies whose status has been defined as less than good in the relevant river basin management plan”
Newsletters

Negotiations

• The proposed text by the Commission is stricter than the current rules for irrigation.
• The last versions of the text ensure the very much needed derogation for irrigation, therefore we call for maintaining the current text.
• The derogation was introduced by the Austrian presidency and also kept by the Romanian and the Finnish presidency.
• The derogation says that the investments in irrigation may be made eligible if an ex-ante environmental analysis shows that there will be no significant negative environmental impact from the investment.
• An additional rule to complete the regulatory framework.

Future steps

• “By way of derogation from point (f) investments in irrigation may be made eligible if an ex-ante environmental analysis shows that there will be no significant negative environmental impact from the investment. Such an environmental impact analysis shall be carried out by the competent authority or be approved by it.”
• Hungary’s position to keep the derogation in the text.
Thank You For Your Attention!