National updates and priorities for the SARD Protocol implementation

- Poland

5th Meeting of the Carpathian Convention Working Group
Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD)

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The Carpathian region comprises ca. 6% of the land area of the country.
Agriculture in the Carpathians in Poland is characterized by:

- difficult climatic conditions:
  - low temperatures
  - long-lasting snow cover
  - high precipitation
  - short vegetation season
Poland is characterized by:

- a large, over 58%, share of areas with natural constraints, including mountain areas 1.7%,
- over 47% areas other than mountain areas.
Agriculture in the Carpathians in Poland is characterized by:

- low degree of urbanisation and industrialisation
- traditional farming
- small, multi-directional, individual farms
- the average size of the agricultural land area on a farm in 2021:
  - in the Małopolskie: 4.22 ha,
  - in the Podkarpackie 5.03 ha.
- a large number of areas under the form of nature protection
- substantial fragmentation of agricultural lands, separated by boundary strips and buffer strips
Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD Protocol) - Status of Signature and Ratification

POLAND

✓ 22 May 2018 – Poland signed the Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development

✓ 24 July 2019 - National Ratification, Accession, Acceptance or Approval

✓ 25 July 2019 - Deposit of Instrument of Ratification

✓ 1 January 2020 - Entry into Force
Priorities for the SARD Protocol - Poland:

- strengthening the local agricultural economy, sustainable development of the region and preservation of the natural values and cultural heritage of the Carpathians;

- implementation of the provisions of the Protocol, so as to create favorable conditions for the development and growth of agricultural production, including in particular production carried out using organic methods,

- increasing the level and quality of life of the inhabitants of the Carpathians; strengthening the competitiveness and attractiveness of the Carpathian region based on the internal development potential while maintaining cultural and environmental values;

- promoting activities and programs that use the potential of agriculture and rural areas to improve the quality of life and enable the increase and diversification of the income of the rural population in the Carpathian region;

- ensuring international cooperation throughout the region, especially cross-border cooperation, ensuring greater effectiveness in achieving ecological cohesion and the implementation of the objectives of the Protocol.
Instruments of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) in the Carpathians

- Direct payments
- Environmental activities under the Rural Development Programme (RDP)

PROVISIONS OF SARD PROTOCOL

- Article 9 Protection and management of traditional cultural landscapes
- Article 10 Integrated land resource management
RDP area payments in the Carpathians

- Payments to areas facing natural or other specific constraints (LFA) - Support is provided to compensate for the effects of the existing difficulties in agricultural production in areas including mountainous and submontane.

- Agri-environment-climate measure - Promotes practices contributing to sustainable land management and the preservation of biodiversity by protection of:
  - valuable natural habitats and endangered birds species
  - endangered genetic resources of cultivated plants and farm animals

- Organic farming measure - Promotes sustainable plant and animal production, as well as application of biological and mineral substances, which were not technologically processed

- Afforestation measure - It contributes to: prevent erosion, prevent the fragmentation of forest complexes, create new plantings adapted to habitat conditions. Payment rates are higher in unfavorable conditions (slope).

- Creation of mid-field forestation - New in Polish RDP i.e.: (1) rows or strips of trees and shrubs and (2) clusters up to 0.5 ha. This change will contribute to preventing water erosion of soil, increasing water retention and improving water quality. It will have positive impact on biodiversity (melliferous tree and shrub species will be preferred) and landscape quality in rural areas. Payment rates are higher in unfavorable conditions (slope).
Register of protected designation of origin (PDO) and protected geographical indications (PGI)*

44 names of Polish agricultural products and foodstuffs in the register

8 of them are the names of products produced in the Carpathians

* European register includes products whose quality is a result of a given geographical origin
Register of protected designation of origin (PDO) and protected geographical indications (PGI)

Names of Polish products produced in the Carpathians register in EU as PDO or PGI:

1. Bryndza podhalańska
2. Oscypek
3. Redykołka
4. Podkarpacki miód spadziowy
5. Jagnięcina podhalańska
6. Miód spadziowy z Beskidu Wyspowego
7. Suska sechłońska
8. Jabłka łąckie
PDO – PGI protection = maintenance of traditional landscapes, national heritage, pastoral traditions and products

Oscypek

Bryndza podhalańska

Redykołka