

Agriculture Training group work 1: List of environmental problems related to agriculture

- Livestock → nitrogen (3 votes)
- Decline of biodiversity (4 votes)
- Bad status of habitats
- Water pollution (rivers)
- Polluted water used in agriculture (1 vote)
- Ammonia from cattle affecting Natura 2000
- Eutrophication (2 votes)
- Pesticides → accumulation in organisms (7 votes)
- Health impact of chemicals from agriculture
- Waste of food (calculation)
- Availability of data on agriculture (sometimes data is old)
- New problems connected to organic farming
- Food quality, small farms not controlled (1 vote)
- Soil degradation
- Lowering of ground water level
- Landscape (2 votes)



Agriculture Training group work 2: Gaps and policy conflicts, stakeholder analysis

Group 1

Risks:

- Gaps in legislation
- Lack of cooperation
- Not enough control
- Lack of knowledge among small procedures
- No specific goals

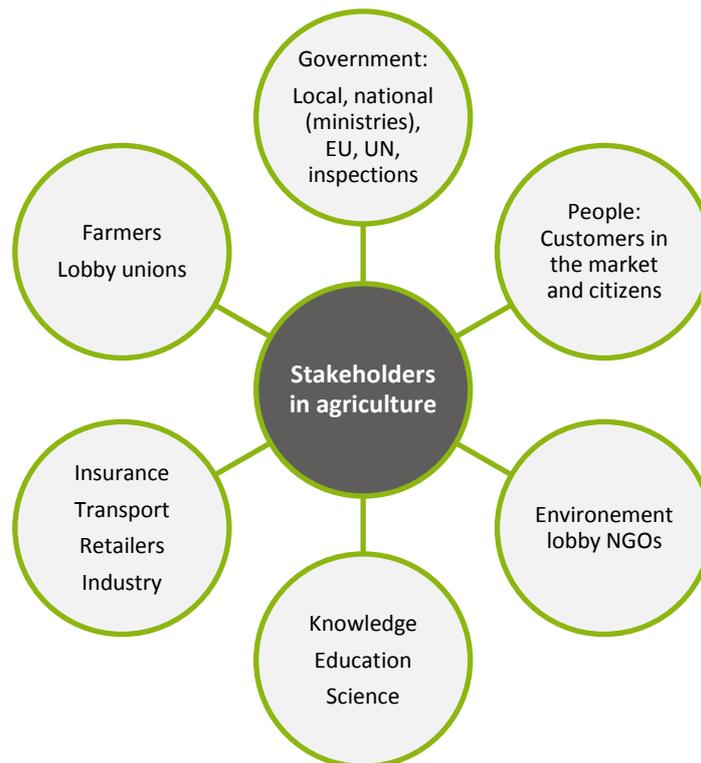
Stakeholders:

- Food producers
- Involved public entities
- Consumers (health)

Group 2

Conflicting policies need to be aligned

- agriculture vs. water, health, air
- self sufficiency vs. environment friendliness, intensive farming, energy production



Gaps between:

- Protecting the environment
- Economic growth
- High quality of living



Agriculture Training group work 3

Group 1: Use of pesticides

Problem: Improper use of pesticides

Objective: How effectively the pesticide use is organised?

1. Lack of ex ante evaluation for new measures
2. Conflicting aims of agricultural policy and environmental policy
3. Green elements in CAP – how green is green?
4. Long term impact of the measures
5. Indicators (measurable!)
6. Different ways of implementation between member states

Main question 1 - Whether the legal framework contributes to the effective use of pesticides?

1.1. Is there regulation in place?

Criteria: Law, international procedures, best practice

1.2. Is the regulation in accordance with international regulation?

Criteria: International regulations, environmental law, Rotterdam convention

1.3. Does the regulation address prevention, monitoring and supervision?

Criteria: Law, international regulations, best practice

Main question 2 – Has the regulation been implemented in effective way?

2.1. Is the prevention sufficient?

Criteria: Trainings; communication with stakeholders, users, farmers, media about the use of pesticides; certification of the products; technology

2.2. Is the monitoring sufficient?

Criteria: Independent, permissions, contracts, environmental monitoring, product monitoring, farmers' monitoring, testing of the product, no of conducted controls

2.3. Are the sanctions effective?

Criteria: Discovery of violations → sanctions applied, repeated sanctions, fee, amount of sanctions, proportionality

Methods:

- 1) Document review,
- 2) Interviews,
- 3) Product testing,
- 4) Field works together with controls,
- 5) Database analysis.

Group 2: Biodiversity

Questions: Are there projects effective in halting the loss of biodiversity? (look for good practice) How do we stop the loss of biodiversity?
How did the national authority approach the problem? (consistency of regulations)
Is there a budget?
Is there a national plan?
Is it voluntary or obligatory?

Is there a monitoring system in place?
What is the influence of stakeholders?
What are the unintended effects on biodiversity?

Has the policy to halt the biodiversity loss been effective?

Regulations: consistency
gaps/coverage
obligation

Budget: Is there one?
Is it sufficient?

Plan: National → responsibility? Coordination?
EU → how is it structured?
well designed to task, well addressed to implement

Projects/actions: “Best” projects (and worst)
Clear indicators
Monitoring system
Failed projects

Group 3: Nitrogen - livestock

Problem: Too much livestock is causing too much Nitrogen, which reduces water quality

Questions: 1) What measures are taken on national level?
2) Are new measures based on updated scientific knowledge and lessons learned from earlier evaluation of measures?
3) Is there a well functioning monitoring system?
4) Is the implementation of the measures effective?

Criteria, Q2: There should be an evidence based theory of change (all relevant scientific knowledge should be taken into consideration).
Lessons learned from evaluations should be applied.

Criteria, Q4: The effectiveness should be determined.

Method: 1) Questionnaire to scientists
2) Interviews with scientists, policy makers
3) Document reviews – reporting to the EU, past evaluations, progress reports
4) Comparison of countries – measures, control systems, effectiveness

