



An update on the evaluation and planned revision of sustainable use of pesticides Directive (SUD)

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Evaluation of SUD and impact assessment of its planned revision

Aims to deliver on:

- EU Green Deal ambition to bring forward legislative proposals to reduce the use and risk of chemical pesticides
- Specific pesticide reduction targets announced in Farm to Fork Strategy
- Links with other initiatives and targets: Biodiversity Strategy, Zero Pollution action plan, CAP reform and revised agricultural statistics proposals etc.
- Target to deliver a new SUD legislative proposal in Q1 2022

Better Regulation **evaluation**: criteria to be assessed

- Relevance: needs/concerns/problems have changed or are still relevant ?
- Coherence (coordination/complementarity): in SUD and with other policies
- Effectiveness in achieving objectives of SUD
- Efficiency: costs/benefits in implementing and applying SUD
- EU added value of EU level SUD versus actions by Member States alone
- Challenges/limitations in SUD implementation, application, enforcement

Better Regulation **evaluation**

- Evaluation should also consider external factors – relations with non-EU trading partners, global positioning of EU agricultural production...
- Impacts upon non-EU and developing countries, incl. food security ?
- Administrative burden on Member States and stakeholders to implement, apply and enforce the SUD ?
- The Commission's impact assessment for the original SUD proposal is a key document to take into account for the evaluation
- Evaluation expected to conclude in Q2 2021 (outcome planned to be published in Q1 2022 along with expected legislative proposal)

Future **impact assessment** of planned revision of SUD

- Policy options: preliminary ideas set out in evaluation roadmap and inception impact assessment published 29 May 2020
- Policy options to be included in impact assessment will be refined based on preliminary evaluation results
- Need to take into account ambition to comply with Farm to Fork strategy pesticide reduction targets by 2030
- Consider subsidiarity and proportionality aspects
- Impact assessment expected to conclude in Q4 2021

Possible impacts to consider in impact assessment

- Assess economic, social, health, environmental impacts of proposed policy options
- Any impacts on citizens' fundamental rights, fair and just working conditions (e.g. health and safety aspects) ?
- Impacts on legislative simplification and administrative burden

Initial public feedback

- Combined evaluation roadmap and inception impact assessment for planned SUD revision
- Published 29 May, was open for public feedback until 7 August
- Via Better Regulation portal website, 360 comments received, viewable at:
- <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12413-Sustainable-use-of-pesticides-revision-of-the-EU-rules>
- Feedback will be taken into account by the Commission during the procedure, including in planned supporting external study terms of reference

Planned external study

- To support evaluation and impact assessment (“back-to-back” initiative)
- Preliminary results from evaluation will inform policy options to be considered in impact assessment
- External study will include stakeholder consultation events, interviews, surveys, questionnaires, workshops etc.
- Stakeholders will be welcome to provide input, position papers etc.
- Procurement for external study is ongoing, further updates will be provided once available

Stakeholder consultation events

- Both the external study contractor and the Commission will organise stakeholder consultation events
- An online public consultation/Have Your Say event planned for Dec. 2020
- A dedicated one-off BTSF event with MS competent authorities in April 2020 postponed due to COVID rescheduled as remote event 17-19 Nov.
- Legislative proposal planned to be finalised Q1 2022
- Commission will keep stakeholders informed and updated of ongoing developments, via SUD WG, PAFF, SUD webportal, Advisory Group etc.

Input from Economic and Social Committee

- The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) plan to give a specific input to the evaluation, expected to be published April 2021
- EESC will form a study group, organise hearings with relevant stakeholders
- EESC plan to carry out a questionnaire/survey
- EESC plan fact-finding missions (remote/virtual ?) to 5 representative MS
- EESC will contact those proposed MS in due course

Thank you, any questions, points/issues to raise ?



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