Review of sustainable use of pesticides Directive (SUD)

Rex Horgan, DG Health and Food Safety

External study workshop 4 May 2021
Planned timeline for overall initiative

• Better Regulation evaluation of SUD to conclude in Q2 2021

• Impact assessment of planned revision of SUD to conclude in Q4 2021

• Commission aims to adopt its legislative proposal in Q1 2022
Activities so far

• Combined evaluation roadmap and inception impact assessment for the initiative published for public feedback 29 May to 7 August 2020

• 360 feedback comments received, all published on Commission’s Better Regulation Portal

• https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12413-Sustainable-use-of-pesticides-revision-of-the-EU-rules

• Remote one-off Better Training for Safer Food workshop organised with Member State competent authorities November 2020 (postponed from April 2020 due to covid pandemic)
Activities so far

• 23 December 2020: Contract signed for 41 week external study to support Commission’s evaluation of SUD and impact assessment of its planned revision

• 18 January 2021: Online public consultation/have your say launched, remained open until 12 April 2021, approximately 1,700 responses received

• 19 January 2021: Commission 1st remote SUD stakeholder event organised with support of PT Council Presidency
Discussion re possible future policy options

• Member States competent authorities consulted via SUD working group December 2020 onwards: 23 Member States have responded so far

• Stakeholders consulted February 2021 via Advisory Group on the Food Chain and Animal and Plant Health, approximately 12 organisations responded
Topics which MS and stakeholders were consulted on

- IPM, PAE, HRIs, aerial spraying/drones, information/communication activities
- Improving health and environmental monitoring
- Legally binding targets on pesticide use and risk
- Possible legislative simplification, reduction of administrative burden, coherence and complementarity with other EU legislation and policies
- PPPs: colour-coded labelling, taxation, use restrictions, prescription system
- Recycling and safe disposal of empty PPP containers
- Improving effectiveness of Member State National Action Plans
Recent developments

• 29 March 2021: Commission signed a contract for a 6 month Foresight study aiming to develop future vision scenarios on the sustainable use of pesticides, including on how the Farm to Fork Strategy and Biodiversity Strategy pesticide use and risk reduction targets can be achieved by 2030

• https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/strategic-planning/strategic-foresight_en

• April 2021: European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) section adopted its planned information report input to SUD evaluation

• Evaluation on Directive on the Sustainable Use of Pesticides (Information report) | European Economic and Social Committee (europa.eu)
Next steps

• Analysis of approximately 1,700 online public consultation responses

• Commission plans another 2 remote SUD stakeholder events during 2021, next event provisionally planned for 25 June, access details will be published in due course

• Commission decides on the possible policy options to be subject to impact assessment
Thank you, any questions, points/issues to raise?