



PRACTICE ABSTRACT NR. 113

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Implementation of the EU Farm advisory system influenced Czech advisory services

EU Farm Advisory System (EU-FAS) was announced by EC in the Council Regulation (Reg. No. 1782/2003) in order to motivate Member States to implement advice provision at least on key environmental protection issues. This requirement together with the possibility to support advice from the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) triggered the creation of an advisory accreditation system in the Czech Republic. Currently (2021), only individuals can be accredited. Financially, EU-FAS related advice is supported from national public funds and mainly in the form of helpdesk (usually by phone), web-based tools, e-mails, and brochures provided mostly by accredited advisors, who are hired by the Ministry of Agriculture. The funds provided by the EU are not used to fund the provision of advice, only training. The main topics covered by the advisory service (under EU-FAS) are cross-compliance, beneficial practices for the climate and the environment, agri-environmental schemes and organic farming, and water, with a special attention given to the Nitrate Directive. According to the rules in force up to 2020, any advisor willing to apply for public funding needs to be accredited. In the new programming period also non-accredited advisors could be hired by newly eligible beneficiaries of advisory support. The accreditation process is based on a minimum training of the future advisor, followed by an exam and the defence of an advisory project. In order to keep the accreditation, advisors have to attend training related to the area of expertise they are accredited for on an annual basis (advisors get credits at training and they have to reach prescribed level). All these measures are the main factors ensuring the quality of advice in the Czech Republic.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Practice abstracts, from 101 to 141 can be found here:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/find-connect/projects/agrilink-agricultural-knowledge-linking-farmers-0>



ABOUT AGRILINK

AgriLink is a multi-actor project funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. It brings together 16 partners from 13 countries, including universities, applied research institutes, advisors and consultants from public organisations, private SMEs, a farmer-based organisation and specialists in communication and distance learning.

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All the Practice Abstracts prepared by the AgriLink project in the EIP-AGRI common format can be found here:
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