CAP Czech Republic

Implementation of the CAP in previous period and readiness in the future period 2023-2027 in Czech republic

Doc. JUDr. Ing. Radek Jurčík, Ph.D.

jurcik@mendelu.cz

European Union

 The new Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) was adopted in the European Union on 2 December 2021 and will apply from 2023 to 2027. The rules adopted are in line with the Green Agreement for Europe. Each EU country should now draw up a national strategic plan for the CAP. The rules for the common agricultural policy include general objectives that must be observed when drawing up national plans. The national strategic plans are intended to meet the adopted objectives of the CAP, as well as the "Farm to fork" strategy and the Green Agreement for Europe.

European Commission

The European Commission presented its proposal for the reform of the common agricultural policy in June 2018. The Commission presented three legislative proposals on the future of the CAP:

- Proposal for a regulation on CAP strategic plans
- Proposal for a regulation on a single common market organization
- Proposal for a horizontal regulation on the financing, management and monitoring of the CAP

Proposed regulation

• The proposed regulations were originally due to apply from 1 January 2021. Due to delays in the negotiations, partly due to the MFF negotiations, the Commission proposed in October 2019 a regulation on transitional provisions, which was later adopted by the Council and the EP.

Regulations

After two years of operation of the transitional rules, and in particular after extensive negotiations between the European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the European Commission, an agreement has finally been reached. The new CAP was formally adopted on 2 December 2021 and is due to apply from 1 January 2023 until the end of 2027. The legislation adopted should ensure a "fairer, greener and more efficient CAP". These are, in particular, the three regulations as follows:

- 1. Regulation on strategic plans of the CAP
- 2. Single CMO Regulation
- 3. Horizontal regulation on the financing, management and monitoring of the CAP

The common agricultural policy is still one of the EU's most important policies, with almost a third of the budget. However, the cost of the CAP has historically been declining.

- 1. Ensure a fair income for farmers The EU wants to provide farmers with as much income as possible. In 2017, farmers earned only less than half of what could be obtained in other jobs.
- Increasing competitiveness Increase competitiveness and agricultural productivity in a sustainable way in order to meet higher demand in a resource-constrained world, all with a view to climate.
- Improving the position of farmers in value chains Empowering farmers through measures such as enhanced cooperation between farmers, increasing market transparency.
- 4. Climate change measures Contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as to the sustainability of the energy sector.

- 5. Care for the environment Promoting sustainable development and the proper management of natural resources, such as water, soil and air.
- 6. Landscape protection and biodiversity Emphasis on the highest possible protection of biodiversity, improvement of ecosystem services and preservation of natural habitats and landscapes.
- 7. Support of generational exchange Generational change in connection with the development of technology and increasing salary conditions.
- 8. Rural development Support for employment in the natural environment of rural areas, rural agriculture incl. forestry.
- 9. Food quality assurance and health protection Developing food quality in connection with increasing demand for healthy agricultural products.

Two more main objectives need to be added to these nine objectives, namely the simplification of the administrative burden for all participants in any CAP relationship and the pressure on national knowledge of innovation, ie. involving new opportunities as much as possible in drawing up country plans.

Two more main objectives need to be added to these nine objectives, namely the simplification of the administrative burden for all participants in any CAP relationship and the pressure on national knowledge of innovation, ie. involving new opportunities as much as possible in drawing up country plans.

Farm to fork The above-mentioned objectives are based, among other things, on the objectives of the "Farm to fork" or "From farm to fork" or "From farmer to consumer" strategy. The strategy aims to accelerate our transition to a sustainable food system, in particular by ensuring:

- 1. Neutral or positive impact on the environment
- 2. Helping to mitigate and adapt to climate change
- 3. Limiting biodiversity loss
- 4. Food security, nutrition and public health and to ensure that everyone has access to a sufficient supply of safe, nutritious and sustainable food
- 5. Maintaining food affordability while generating fairer economic returns, fostering the competitiveness of the EU supply sector and promoting fair trade

The CAP is therefore one of the tools for making the 'farmer to consumer' strategy a reality.

New rules The new CAP is intended to direct support to those who need it most. The new rules are to stipulate:

- Compulsory distribution of support to small and mediumsized farmers: EU countries will have to distribute at least 10% of their direct payments in order to better address the income needs of small and medium-sized agricultural holdings;
- New definition of active farmers: The legislation contains a mandatory but flexible definition of active farmers to be introduced by EU countries, including the level of activities carried out. Only active farmers can receive some EU support;

- Better working conditions: CAP payments will be linked to compliance with certain EU labor standards and beneficiaries will be motivated to improve working conditions on farms;
- - Convergence of payments: in the new CAP, the level of income support will converge, both within and between EU countries;
- Support for young farmers: EU countries will have to allocate at least 3% of their budget to support young farmers in the form of income or investment support or start-up support for young farmers;
- Improving gender balance: Gender equality and increasing women's participation in agriculture are
- for the first time part of the objectives of the CAP strategic plans. EU countries need to assess and identify with these issues.

The new CAP aims to strengthen the position of farmers in the supply chain and to support the competitiveness of the agri-food sector, in particular through:

- Improving bargaining: the new rules will strengthen producers' cooperation, encourage farmers to cooperate and enable them to create countervailing power in the market;
- Market orientation: the new CAP maintains the overall market orientation of previous reforms and encourages EU farmers to adapt supply to demand in Europe and beyond;
- Crisis reserve: the reformed CAP includes a new financial reserve of at least EUR 450 million per year to deal with future crises. This reserve should address price fluctuations and market fluctuations;
- Support for the wine sector: specific rules have been agreed to improve support for the wine sector.

New rules and the Green Agreement for Europe As with the previous revision of the CAP, the environmental component of agriculture is once again emphasized. The individual revisions of the common agricultural policy have gradually shifted from direct support to the greening of the sector. The current reform continues in these trends. The new CAP rules are intended to make a significant contribution to meeting the objectives of the Europe Green Agreement:

- Higher environmental ambitions: CAP plans will be in line with environmental and climate legislation. In its CAP Strategic Plan, each EU country will be required to implement higher environmental ambitions and climate action compared to the previous programming period and will be required to update the plan as climate and environmental legislation changes;

- Green Agreement objectives: the national strategic plans for the CAP will contribute to the objectives of the Green Agreement (the CAP recommendation sets out how this contribution is expected); Enhanced conditionality: CAP beneficiaries will have their payments subject to a stricter set of mandatory requirements. For example, in order to obtain a subsidy, minimum limits will be set for arable land to take care of biodiversity;
- Ecological schemes: at least 25% of the direct payments budget will be allocated to ecological schemes, which will provide stronger incentives for agricultural practices and climate and environmentally friendly approaches, such as:
- protection of carbon-rich soils through the conservation of wetlands and peatlands,
- mandatory use of nutrient management tools to improve water quality and reduce ammonia and nitrous oxide,
 - crop rotation instead of diversification;

- Rural development: at least 35% of funding will be allocated to measures to promote climate, biodiversity, the environment and animal welfare;
- Operational programs: in the fruit and vegetables sector, operational programs will allocate at least 15% of their environmental expenditure (compared to 10% during the current programming period);
- Climate and biodiversity: 40% of the CAP budget will have to deal with climate and strongly support the general commitment to devote 10% of the EU budget to biodiversity targets by the end of the EU's Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) period.

According to the rules, each Member State determines its own implementation through national strategic plans for the CAP. Individual EU countries should also carry out an assessment of their needs based on an analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (so-called SWOT analysis) of their territory and the agri-food sector. The national plans should be ready and sent to the Commission by 31 December 2021.

These national plans should take into account: 1. Local conditions and needs 2. Increased ambitions of the European Union in the field of sustainability 3. Nine common EU objectives and a cross-cutting goal of knowledge and innovation

The individual indicators are to be monitored through annual performance reports and a biennial performance review of CAP strategic plans in order to assess the progress of EU countries in achieving their objectives and CAP objectives.

The Commission's role in relation to the National CAP Plan is for EU countries to make full use of the new CAP and its instruments to support their farmers in moving towards greater sustainability throughout the process of preparing their strategic CAP plan, and for each national CAP plan to include an intervention strategy explaining what CAP instruments will be used to achieve the objectives of the CAP, in line with the ambitions of the Green Agreement.

From 1 January 2023, the new common agricultural policy will bring new rules for the redistribution of funds to farmers, while taking even greater account of the environment. It is clear from the objectives and individual rules that the improvement of the position of agricultural workers, small and medium-sized farmers as entrepreneurs and biodiversity will also be taken into account. The specific form of the Member States' adjustments is set out in the national CAP plans, which should be drawn up by 31 December 2021. These plans must respect the newly adopted rules and emphasize the objectives set not only in the new CAP but also in the Green Agreement for Europe or strategy " From farmer to consumer. "

Member States shall describe in detail in detail how they will manage the allocated funds. The new system gives individual EU countries more freedom to choose their own strategy, so they can take appropriate action to address regionally specific problems. On the other hand, this framework also increases the risk of countries imposing less climate and environmental conditions in order to make it easier for farmers and agricultural holdings to draw subsidies.

Strategic support plan Common agricultural policy for the period 2021-2027 for the Czech Republic version October 2020

(processed on the basis of the EC template for the internal needs of the Czech Republic; individual chapters will be supplemented gradually and updated in the light of legal developments regulations and recommendations from the ex ante evaluation)

https://eagri.cz/public/web/file/661117/SP SZP verze rij en 2020 pro web.pdf

374 pages

Draft, provisions are general. Is the question, if we know directly what we want

I.g.:

Strategic statement Strategy overview - what the CAP will do in the Member States. This statement will focus on key objectives and interventions of the Member State strategy. The text of the chapter can be organized according to the three main objectives of the CAP, both is defined in Article 5. It will be processed in the final phase

Draft, provisions are general. Is the question, if we know directly what we want. It is political guestion.

l.g.:

Strategic statement Strategy overview - what the CAP will do in the Member States. This statement will focus on key objectives and interventions of the Member State strategy. The text of the chapter can be organized according to the three main objectives of the CAP, both is defined in Article 5. It will be processed in the final phase

For most candidates for the future Minister of Agriculture, it is important to maintain the competitiveness of Czech agriculture, maintain a diverse and healthy landscape and support young farmers, despite European measures.

According to the candidates, livestock production, in which the Czechia is not self-sufficient in all sectors, should also receive more significant support. "Agriculture should be precise, so robotic where possible. State or EU support should be where we create burdens, so that farmers can be sure that it makes sense to be active. It is necessary to produce healthy food and promote sustainable biodiversity."

General political aim:

"We must ask our citizens to prefer Czech food. This will also save the environment. There is no point in transporting potatoes from Spain or the Netherlands if we are able to arrange them ourselves and bring them from a supermarket that is 20 meters from the house, " "Farmers have to farm as regular farmers for x years. We must therefore support good farmers."

"Focus on supporting farms that care well for the landscape, have plant and livestock production and have the character of family farms," she said, adding that young and novice farmers or farmers focusing on improvement should also receive support. animal welfare, such as laying hens.

The support of small and medium-sized enterprises is emphasized by the Association of Private Agriculture (ASZ) instead of the large ones.

"The Czech Republic must increase payments per first hectare and limit the amount of subsidy limits for other titles, similarly to all developed European countries, which not only ensure that food security and sustainability are spread throughout the country and rely not only on those the largest agricultural holdings, but also a whole range of smaller and smallest producers, "

Thank You for attention