



The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development:
Europe investing in rural areas

Annual implementation report

United Kingdom - Rural Development Programme (Regional) - Scotland

Annual implementation report	
Period	01/01/2019 - 31/12/2019
Version	2019.0
Status - Current Node	Accepted by EC - European Commission
National reference	SRDP 2014-2020 - AIR 5
Monitoring committee approval date	15/07/2020

Programme Version in force	
CCI	2014UK06RDRP003
Programme type	Rural Development Programme
Country	United Kingdom
Region	Scotland
Programming period	2014 - 2020
Version	7.1
Decision Number	C(2019)9230
Decision Date	16/12/2019
Managing authority	Scottish Government, Agriculture and Rural Development Division
Coordination body	UK Co-ordinating Body

Table of contents

1. KEY INFORMATION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME AND ITS PRIORITIES	4
1.a) Financial Data	4
1.b) Common and programme-specific indicators and quantified target values	4
1.b1) Overview table.....	4
1.c) Key information on RDP implementation based on data from a) and b) by Focus Area.....	14
1.d) Key information on achievements towards the milestones set in the performance Framework based on Table F	27
1.e) Other RDP specific element [optional].....	28
1.f) Where appropriate, the contribution to macro-regional and sea basin strategies.....	28
1.f1) ATLSBS	29
1.g) Currency rate used for conversion AIR (non EUR countries).....	33
2. THE PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE EVALUATION PLAN.....	34
2.a) Description of any modifications made to the evaluation plan in the RDP during the year, with their justification	34
2.b) A description of the evaluation activities undertaken during the year (in relation to section 3 of the evaluation plan).....	34
2.c) A description of activities undertaken in relation to the provision and management of data (in relation to section 4 of the evaluation plan).....	36
2.d) A list of completed evaluations, including references to where they have been published on-line.....	37
2.e) A summary of completed evaluations, focussing on evaluation findings	38
2.f) A description of communication activities undertaken in relation to publicising evaluation findings (in relation to section 6 of the evaluation plan)	42
2.g) Description of the follow-up given to evaluation results (in relation to section 6 of the evaluation plan).....	44
3. ISSUES WHICH AFFECT THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND THE MEASURES TAKEN.....	45
3.a) Description of steps taken to ensure quality and effectiveness of programme implementation.....	45
3.b) Quality and efficient delivery mechanisms	45
4. STEPS TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND PROGRAMME PUBLICITY REQUIREMENTS.....	47
4.a) Action taken and state of play as regards the establishment of the NRN and the implementation of its action plan.....	47
4.a1) Actions taken and state of play as regards establishment of the NRN (governance structure and network support unit).....	47
4.a2) Actions taken and state of play as regards the implementation of the action plan.....	47
4.b) Steps taken to ensure that the programme is publicised (Article 13 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 808/2014)	49
5. ACTIONS TAKEN TO FULFIL EX ANTE CONDITIONALITIES.....	51

6. DESCRIPTION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF SUB-PROGRAMMES	52
7. ASSESSMENT OF THE INFORMATION AND PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME	53
8. IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIONS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PRINCIPLES SET OUT IN ARTICLES 5, 7 AND 8 OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013.....	54
9. PROGRESS MADE IN ENSURING INTEGRATED APPROACH TO USE EAFRD AND OTHER UNION FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS.....	56
10. REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (ARTICLE 46 OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013).....	57
11. ENCODING TABLES FOR COMMON AND PROGRAMME-SPECIFIC INDICATORS AND QUANTIFIED TARGET VALUES.....	58
Annex II	59
Documents	72

1. KEY INFORMATION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME AND ITS PRIORITIES

1.a) Financial Data

See annexed documents

1.b) Common and programme-specific indicators and quantified target values

1.b1) Overview table

Focus Area 1A						
Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
T1: percentage of expenditure under Articles 14, 15 and 35 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 in relation to the total expenditure for the RDP (focus area 1A)	2014-2019			1.37	63.67	2.15
	2014-2018			0.93	43.22	
	2014-2017			0.53	24.63	
	2014-2016			0.19	8.83	
	2014-2015			0.13	6.04	

Focus Area 1B						
Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
T2: Total number of cooperation operations supported under the cooperation measure (Article 35 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013) (groups, networks/clusters, pilot projects...) (focus area 1B)	2014-2019			25.00	39.06	64.00
	2014-2018			20.00	31.25	
	2014-2017			13.00	20.31	
	2014-2016			4.00	6.25	
	2014-2015			1.00	1.56	

Focus Area 1C						
Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
T3: Total number of participants trained under Article 14 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (focus area 1C)	2014-2019			17,374.00	163.64	10,617.00
	2014-2018			14,683.00	138.30	
	2014-2017			13,065.00	123.06	
	2014-2016			12,118.00	114.14	
	2014-2015			9,227.00	86.91	

Focus Area 2A							
Target indicator name		Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
T4: percentage of agricultural holdings with RDP support for investments in restructuring or modernisation (focus area 2A)		2014-2019	7.31	44.71	7.31	44.71	16.35
		2014-2018	5.55	33.95	5.55	33.95	
		2014-2017	4.21	25.75	4.21	25.75	
		2014-2016	3.09	18.90	3.09	18.90	
		2014-2015	2.39	14.62	2.39	14.62	
Number of participants trained under Article 14 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (Number of participants trained)		2014-2019			16,209.00	96.49	16,799.00
		2014-2018			14,431.00	85.90	
		2014-2017			13,065.00	77.77	
		2014-2016					
		2014-2015					
Measure	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
M01	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	3,065,990.70	86.48	2,768,650.30	78.09	3,545,279.00
M02	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	6,514,840.22	79.33	5,042,655.16	61.40	8,212,800.00
M04	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	48,413,142.12	105.67	44,266,425.09	96.62	45,815,297.00
M06	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	1,032,074.00	110.26	602,933.64	64.42	936,000.00
M13	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	190,886,581.34	78.87	190,162,098.28	78.57	242,029,200.00
M16	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	2,735,152.38	75.02	2,621,418.65	71.90	3,645,900.00
Total	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	252,647,780.76	83.06	245,464,181.12	80.70	304,184,476.00

Focus Area 2B							
Target indicator name		Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
T5: percentage of agricultural holdings with RDP supported business development plan/investments for young farmers (focus area 2B)		2014-2019	0.51	186.57	0.51	186.57	0.27
		2014-2018	0.50	182.92	0.50	182.92	
		2014-2017	0.39	142.67	0.39	142.67	
		2014-2016	0.31	113.41	0.31	113.41	
		2014-2015	0.11	40.24	0.11	40.24	
Measure	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
M02	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	1,628,711.05	79.33	1,259,881.36	61.36	2,053,200.00
M06	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	14,015,738.35	99.78	13,907,461.65	99.01	14,046,985.00
Total	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	15,644,449.40	97.17	15,167,343.01	94.21	16,100,185.00

Focus Area 3A							
Target indicator name		Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
T6: percentage of agricultural holdings receiving support for participating in quality schemes, local markets and short supply circuits, and producer groups/organisations (focus area 3A)		2014-2019	14.69	94.56			15.54
		2014-2018	14.69	94.56			
		2014-2017	14.69	94.56			
		2014-2016	14.69	94.56			
		2014-2015	14.69	94.56			
Percentage of total agri-food businesses supported under Article 17 of the Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (Percentage of total number of agri-food businesses)		2014-2019			14.51	111.62	13.00
		2014-2018			12.57	96.69	
		2014-2017			9.83	75.62	
		2014-2016			6.29	48.38	
		2014-2015					
Measure	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
M03	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	960,652.73	100.13	960,366.64	100.10	959,365.00
M04	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	71,148,932.95	91.02	43,130,514.06	55.17	78,170,739.00
M14	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	5,514,031.74	100.26	5,506,511.32	100.12	5,499,776.00
M16	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	2,882,914.76	266.94	1,079,232.80	99.93	1,080,000.00
Total	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	80,506,532.18	93.93	50,676,624.82	59.13	85,709,880.00

Focus Area 3B

Focus Area 3B							
Target indicator name		Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
Number of participants trained under Article 14 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (Number of participants trained)		2014-2019					530.00
		2014-2018					
		2014-2017					
		2014-2016					
		2014-2015					
Measure	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
M02	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	814,355.53	79.33	631,505.70	61.51	1,026,600.00
Total	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	814,355.53	79.33	631,505.70	61.51	1,026,600.00

Priority P4						
Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
T13: percentage of forestry land under management contracts to improve soil management and/or prevent soil erosion (focus area 4C)	2014-2019			5.31	13.98	37.99
	2014-2018			4.68	12.32	
	2014-2017			2.72	7.16	
	2014-2016			1.74	4.58	
	2014-2015			1.03	2.71	
T11: percentage of forestry land under management contracts to improve water management (focus area 4B)	2014-2019			5.31	13.98	37.99
	2014-2018			4.68	12.32	
	2014-2017			2.72	7.16	
	2014-2016			1.74	4.58	
	2014-2015			1.03	2.71	
T8: percentage of forest/other wooded area under management contracts supporting biodiversity (focus area 4A)	2014-2019			5.31	13.98	37.99
	2014-2018			4.68	12.32	
	2014-2017			2.72	7.16	
	2014-2016			1.74	4.58	
	2014-2015			1.03	2.71	
T12: percentage of agricultural land under management contracts to improve soil management and/or prevent soil erosion (focus area 4C)	2014-2019			26.41	138.04	19.13
	2014-2018			17.91	93.61	
	2014-2017			13.70	71.60	
	2014-2016			11.78	61.57	
	2014-2015			11.78	61.57	
T10: percentage of agricultural land under management contracts to improve water management (focus area 4B)	2014-2019			23.86	120.51	19.80
	2014-2018			16.30	82.33	
	2014-2017			12.58	63.54	
	2014-2016			10.88	54.95	
	2014-2015			10.88	54.95	

T9: percentage of agricultural land under management contracts supporting biodiversity and/or landscapes (focus area 4A)	2014-2019			29.11	128.05	22.73	
	2014-2018			19.66	86.48		
	2014-2017			14.76	64.93		
	2014-2016			12.63	55.56		
	2014-2015			12.63	55.56		
Measure	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
M01	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	183,557.00	71.15	196,069.83	76.00	258,000.00
M02	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	4,886,131.16	79.33	3,795,294.15	61.62	6,159,600.00
M04	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	42,022,864.26	168.90	31,712,929.56	127.46	24,880,869.00
M08	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	112,888,076.04	104.07	85,710,937.93	79.02	108,469,661.00
M10	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	154,301,374.46	60.02	140,282,769.79	54.57	257,064,130.00
M11	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	17,620,882.49	90.69	15,239,035.01	78.43	19,429,471.00
M13	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	190,886,581.34	78.87	190,162,098.27	78.57	242,029,200.00
M15	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	15,908,865.58	99.19	14,925,438.57	93.06	16,038,014.00
M16	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600,000.00
Total	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	538,698,332.33	79.82	482,024,573.11	71.42	674,928,945.00

Focus Area 5B							
Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023	
Number of participants trained under Article 14 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (Number of participants trained)	2014-2019			502.00	71.71	700.00	
	2014-2018						
	2014-2017						
	2014-2016						
	2014-2015						
Measure	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
M01	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	99,081.00	31.76	91,753.11	29.41	312,000.00
M02	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	2,443,065.58	77.81	1,900,777.35	60.54	3,139,800.00
M16	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	140,890.00	16.77	46,076.91	5.49	840,000.00
Total	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	2,683,036.58	62.52	2,038,607.37	47.50	4,291,800.00

Focus Area 5C						
Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
Number of participants trained under Article 14 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (Number of participants trained)	2014-2019					525.00
	2014-2018					
	2014-2017					
	2014-2016					
	2014-2015					

Focus Area 5D							
Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023	
T18: percentage of agricultural land under management contracts targeting reduction of GHG and/or ammonia emissions (focus area 5D)	2014-2019			25.83	111.42	23.18	
	2014-2018			18.27	78.81		
	2014-2017			13.76	59.35		
	2014-2016			10.88	46.93		
	2014-2015			10.88	46.93		
T17: percentage of LU concerned by investments in live-stock management in view of reducing GHG and/or ammonia emissions (focus area 5D)	2014-2019			0.29	21.90	1.32	
	2014-2018			0.01	0.76		
	2014-2017						
	2014-2016						
	2014-2015						
Measure	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
M02	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	1,002,049.00	92.25	974,021.17	89.67	1,086,276.00
M04	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	1,861,717.00	55.24	1,735,276.57	51.48	3,370,530.00
M10	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	17,044,277.00	74.82	15,801,925.01	69.36	22,781,724.00
Total	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	19,908,043.00	73.09	18,511,222.75	67.96	27,238,530.00

Focus Area 5E							
Target indicator name		Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
T19: percentage of agricultural and forest land under management contracts contributing to carbon sequestration and conservation (focus area 5E)		2014-2019			19.41	120.29	16.14
		2014-2018			13.23	81.99	
		2014-2017			10.12	62.72	
		2014-2016			8.71	53.98	
		2014-2015			8.70	53.92	
Measure	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
M08	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	180,666,471.36	71.63	116,870,521.76	46.33	252,229,590.00
M16	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	728,010.00	202.23	109,436.11	30.40	360,000.00
Total	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	181,394,481.36	71.81	116,979,957.87	46.31	252,589,590.00

Focus Area 6A							
Target indicator name		Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
T20: Jobs created in supported projects (focus area 6A)		2014-2019			17.00	100.00	17.00
		2014-2018			17.00	100.00	
		2014-2017			17.00	100.00	
		2014-2016			17.00	100.00	
		2014-2015			17.00	100.00	
Measure	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
M04	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	720,000.00
M06	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	1,277,950.78	80.22	1,546,768.36	97.10	1,593,037.00
M08	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	1,360,400.92	141.71	1,478,835.77	154.05	960,000.00
Total	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	2,638,351.70	80.61	3,025,604.13	92.44	3,273,037.00

Focus Area 6B							
Target indicator name		Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
T23: Jobs created in supported projects (Leader) (focus area 6B)		2014-2019			30.00	5.44	551.00
		2014-2018			18.00	3.27	
		2014-2017					
		2014-2016					
		2014-2015					
T22: percentage of rural population benefiting from improved services/infrastructures (focus area 6B)		2014-2019			6.85	67.57	10.14
		2014-2018			2.61	25.75	
		2014-2017			1.33	13.12	
		2014-2016					
		2014-2015					
T21: percentage of rural population covered by local development strategies (focus area 6B)		2014-2019			86.76	100.01	86.76
		2014-2018			86.76	100.01	
		2014-2017			86.76	100.01	
		2014-2016			86.76	100.01	
		2014-2015			86.76	100.01	
Measure	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
M07	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	13,093,623.00	80.49	10,263,316.86	63.09	16,268,156.00
M19	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	100,253,466.43	101.88	50,918,784.25	51.75	98,400,000.00
Total	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	113,347,089.43	98.85	61,182,101.11	53.36	114,668,156.00

Focus Area 6C

Focus Area 6C							
Target indicator name		Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
T24: percentage of rural population benefiting from new or improved services/infrastructures (ICT) (focus area 6C)		2014-2019					0.00
		2014-2018					
		2014-2017					
		2014-2016					
		2014-2015					
Measure	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
M07	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	48,946.00	99.00	47,068.57	95.20	49,440.00
Total	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	48,946.00	99.00	47,068.57	95.20	49,440.00

1.c) Key information on RDP implementation based on data from a) and b) by Focus Area

This is the fifth Annual Implementation Report (AIR) on the Scottish Rural Development Programme (SRDP) 2014-2020 and it covers the calendar year 2019.

This report is prepared for and submitted to the European Commission (EC) in accordance with Article 75 of Regulation (EC) No 1305/2013 and Article 50 Regulation (EC) No 1303/2013.

The SRDP 2014-2020 was submitted for approval by the European Commission in October 2014 and approved on 26 May 2015 under Commission Decision C(2015)3489.

The Scottish Government's Agriculture and Rural Economy Directorate is responsible for the SRDP; the Agriculture Policy Division is the Managing Authority and the Rural Payment and Inspections Division is the Paying Agency.

The SRDP 2014-2020 will be delivered by 15 schemes:

- Agri-Environment Climate Scheme – Measures 4, 10, 11 under Focus Area 4, and Measure 4 under Focus Area 5D;
- Beef Efficiency Scheme – Measures 2 and 10 under Focus Area 5D;
- Broadband Scheme – Measure 7 under Focus Area 6C;
- Crofting Agricultural Grant Scheme – Measures 4 and 16 under Focus Area 2A;
- Farm Advisory Service – Measure 2 under Focus Areas 2A, 2B, 3B, 4 and 5B;
- Food Processing, Marketing and Co-operation – Measures 4 and 16 under Focus Area 3A;
- Forestry Grant Scheme – Measure 4 under Focus Area 2A, Measures 8 and 15 under Focus Area 4, Measures 8 and 16 under Focus Area 5E and Measures 4 and 8 under Focus Area 6A;
- Improving Public Access – Measure 7 under Focus Area 6B;
- Knowledge Transfer and Innovation Fund – Measures 1 and 16 under Focus Areas 2A, 4 and 5B;
- LEADER – Measure 19 under Focus Area 6B;
- Less Favoured Area Support Scheme – Measure 13 under Focus Areas 2A and 4;
- New Entrants Capital Grant Scheme – Measure 4 under Focus Area 2A;
- New Entrants Start-Up Grant Scheme – Measure 6 under Focus Area 2A;
- Small Farms Grant Scheme – Measure 4 under Focus Area 2A; and
- Young Farmers Start-Up Grant Scheme – Measure 6 under Focus Area 2B.

During 2019, the majority of schemes were open to new applications and were approving and supporting new project under the 2014-2020 Programme. Of the 15 schemes, six were closed to new applications in 2019: Beef Efficiency Scheme, Broadband Scheme, Improving Public Access, New Entrants Capital Grant Scheme, New Entrants Start-Up Grant Scheme and Young Farmers Start-Up Grant Scheme.

In addition, as part of the sixth modification of the Programme, approved in December 2019, the Broadband Scheme was closed. The Scottish Government announced the Reaching 100 (R100) Programme in December 2017. The R100 Programme is a €720 million national infrastructure programme, with the aim to give every home and business in Scotland access to superfast broadband of 30 Megabits per second.

As a result of the introduction of the R100 Programme the SRDP 2014-2020 Broadband Scheme will no longer support any projects to Stage 2 of the project development process, this is where capital costs for building and installing community broadband solutions would have been incurred. Therefore, nobody will be benefiting from improved ICT services as a result of the Scheme. However, it is anticipated that the

benefits to rural Scotland will still be delivered through the R100 Programme.

It was initially forecasted that the Broadband Scheme would support 13 projects under the 2014-2020 Programme. The Scheme did work with four projects during 2017, but three of these projects subsequently withdrew. During 2018, the Broadband Scheme continued to work with one project, although this project was not formally approved when it would have moved to Stage 2. This remaining project subsequently withdrew from the process after failing to secure a fully sustainable bid. While no projects were supported in 2019 money was drawn down from the European Commission to reimburse funds that Community Broadband Scotland, who administered the Broadband Scheme on behalf of the Scottish Government, paid to the four Stage 1 projects that they worked with. Stage 1 involved engaging professional expertise to support the procurement of suitable broadband.

During the 2014-2020 Programme period to date, just under 40% of the realised expenditure has been for commitments made under the 2007-2013 Programme, when there were different reporting requirements. It has not therefore been possible to populate some of the monitoring tables with the required data. For example, for Measure 14 the number of livestock units supported is a reporting requirement for the 2014-2020 Programme. The expenditure under Measure 14 is an on-going commitment relating to Measure 215 from the 2007-2013 Programme. For Measure 215 there was no requirement to record the number of livestock units supported. In addition, for some indicators the Scottish Government was not able to report the required requirements under the 2007-2013 Programme and this will continue to be the case for these on-going commitments.

In addition, for the 2014-2020 Programme each LEADER project has to be allocated a predominant Focus Area. There is a different reporting requirement attached to each of the Focus Areas. All the LEADER projects that were funded as a result of on-going commitments from the 2007-2013 Programme did not have a predominant Focus Area allocated to them. Therefore, for these 263 LEADER projects the data that should be used to monitor contributions to all of the predominant Focus Areas are not available.

Committed Expenditure

Table A shows that 12 of the 15 measures that are programmed as part of the SRDP 2014-2020 had expenditure committed against them during 2019. As in 2018, Measures 3 and 14 did not have any committed expenditure during 2019. Both of these measures are purely on-going commitments from the 2007-2013 Programme and are not used by any of the schemes programmed as part of the SRDP 2014-2020. As a result, these commitments have reduced and are starting to end as the 2014-2020 Programme period has progressed. Therefore, it is to be expected that there was no expenditure committed for these two measures during both 2018 and 2019. In addition, during 2019 there were no commitment made under Measure 6.

The New Entrants Start-Up Grant Scheme and Young Farmers Start-Up Grant Scheme both use Measure 6, as well as some on-going commitments from the 2007-2013 Programme. As these two schemes were closed to new applications in 2019, and do not involve annual recurrent payments, it is to be expected that there were no commitments made during 2019 under Measure 6.

In 2019, there was a committed expenditure of €211.4 million. Of this expenditure, 33% was committed to Measure 13, 30% to Measure 8 (over 90% of which has been committed to Sub-Measure 8.1), 12% to Measure 10, and a further 9% to both Measures 4 and 19.

Realised Expenditure

The Financial Annex of this report shows the total public expenditure (EAFRD and national funding) paid during 2019, as opposed to the expenditure that has been committed. In total there was a realised expenditure of €224.6 million. In addition, there was a further €5.2 million of Additional National Financing expenditure during 2019, all of which was under Measure 8. Therefore, the overall total expenditure during 2019 was €229.8 million. Of the overall total realised expenditure, 34% (€77.2 million) was on Measure 13 with a further 22% (€50.8 million) of expenditure on Measure 8 and 14% on both Measure 10 (€32.4 million) and Measure 4 (€31.0 million).

During the life of the 2014-2020 Programme there has been a realised expenditure of over one billion Euros (€1.012 billion). Of this expenditure €388.6 million has been commitments originally made under the 2007-2013 Programme, as stated above this is just under 40% of the total realised expenditure. During the first two years of the 2014-2020 Programme period over 95% of the realised expenditure was on commitments made under the 2007-2013 Programme. As would be expected, as the Programme has progressed the proportion of the realised expenditure on commitments made under the 2007-2013 Programme has decreased. In 2019, only €11.8 million of the total realised expenditure was on commitments made under the 2007-2013 Programme. This is 5% of the total realised expenditure in 2019.

Similarly to the realised expenditure seen in 2019, the majority of realised expenditure during the whole Programme period to date has been under four measures (Measures 4, 8, 10 and 13). The total realised expenditure under these four measures has been €861.3 million, which is 85% of the total realised expenditure. The breakdown between the four individual measures is: 38% under Measure 13 (€380.3 million), 20% under Measure 8 (€204.1 million), 15% under Measure 10 (€156.1 million) and 12% under Measure 4 (€120.8 million).

Common and Programme Specific Indicators

Focus Area 1A

There is one target indicator under Focus Area 1A which is the percentage of expenditure under Measures 1, 2 and 16 in relation to the total planned expenditure of the Programme.

From the start of the 2014-2020 Programme period until the end of 2019, there has been a total expenditure of €3.1 million under Measure 1, just over €13.6 million under Measure 2 and a further €3.9 million under Measure 16.

During the period the 2014-2020 Programme has been running there has been a total expenditure of just over €20.5 million under Measures 1, 2 and 16. This is 1.37% of the total planned expenditure of the Programme. This compares to a target value of 2.15%. Of the total expenditure for these three measures, 14% has been due to commitments made under the 2007-2013 Programme. When Measure 2 is omitted, as there no on-going commitment relating to Measure 2, 40% of expenditure for Measures 1 and 16 have been due to commitments made under the 2007-2013 Programme.

As part of the third and sixth modifications of the Programme the co-financing rate was altered and the finance plan was updated. As a result, the initial overall Programme budget decreased and the planned expenditure for Measures 1, 2 and 16 was revised. Therefore, the target for the percentage of expenditure under Measures 1, 2 and 16 in relation to the total planned expenditure of the Programme was changed from 3.78% to 2.15%.

Focus Area 1B

The target indicator under Focus Area 1B relates to the total number of co-operation operations supported under Measure 16, which is the measure that supports co-operation. A number of schemes utilise Measure 16: the Crofting Agricultural Grant Scheme (CAGS), the Food Processing, Marketing and Co-operation (FPMC) Scheme, the Forestry Grant Scheme (FGS) and the Knowledge Transfer and Innovation Fund (KTIF).

The initial target was to support 229 co-operation projects during the lifetime of the Programme. Following the sixth modification the target was reduced to supporting 64 co-operation projects. With 25 European Innovation Partnership (EIP) Operational Groups and 39 other co-operation operations to be supported.

The original target for the number of Operational Groups to be supported via KTIF was 50. When the initial estimate was set, it was for the number of co-operation operations to be supported as opposed to the number of Operational Groups to be established. It was then understood that Operational Groups could support multiple co-operation operations. Following clarification it is now understood that an Operational Group can only support one co-operation operation. The misinterpretation has resulted in the decrease in the forecasted number of Operational Groups to be supported from 50 to 25.

There are a number of reasons for the reduction in the planned number of co-operations to be supported under the non-EIP element of Measure 16 from 179 to 39, which include:

- The withdrawal of the Environmental Co-operation Action Fund (ECAAF) as part of the fourth modification of the SRDP 2014-2020. It had been anticipated that the ECAAF would support 16 co-operation operations under Sub-Measure 16.5. As part of the fourth modification these 16 operations had already been removed from the planned output indicator; and
- As part of CAGS there is a one off grant (based upon a standardised cost of €600) available to engage a consultant to facilitate establishment of Common Grazings Committees under Sub-Measure 16.0. There was an initial ambitious planned output to assist with the creation of 100 such Common Grazings Committees, due to budget reductions this was reduced to 85 as part of the third modification of the Programme. While Common Grazings Committees have continued to be set up during the 2014-2020 Programme period there has only been one approved application for the use of SRDP 2014-2020 funds to assist with the setting out of a Committee. Feedback from stakeholders is that the rules that have to be adhered to in order to access support under Sub-Measure 16.0 are too prescriptive with regard to the engaging of a consultant. Due to this and the time left in the 2014-2020 Programme period the planned number of operations to be supported under Sub-Measure 16.0 was reduced from 85 to four.

In 2019, one new EIP Operational Group was actually supported, although 12 Operational Groups were approved for support during the year. In total four new co-operation operations were supported in 2019, three by the FGS and one the FPMC Scheme.

During the Programme period to the end of 2019, 11 Operational Groups and 14 co-operation operations have been supported under Measure 16. This is 39.06% of the target. It is anticipated that more progress will be made towards reaching the target during 2020, especially as more of the approved Operational Groups are supported.

Focus Area 1C

Under Focus Area 1C there is a target indicator to train 10,617 participants under Measure 1. It should be noted that individuals can be counted more than once if they participate in more than one training event. The target was exceeded in the first three years of the 2014-2020 Programme and at the end of 2019 17,374

participants have been trained, this is 163.64% of the target.

Around two thirds of the training delivered has been as a result of commitments made under the previous Programme. The vast majority of which has been delivered by the KTIF through commitments made under the Skills Development Scheme (SDS), which is the predecessor to the KTIF. From 2017 onwards, all the training delivered by KTIF has been as a result of projects approved during the 2014-2020 Programme period. As a result of the different delivery mechanisms of the KTIF (through both Measures 1 and 16) compared to the SDS there has been a reduction in the number of participants trained between in the first two years of the Programme compared to later years.

Due to the higher than anticipated level of training due to the on-going commitments from the 2007-2013 Programme and that the same individual can be counted multiple times the initial target was set too low. The planned output indicator for the number of participants to be trained was adjusted to 18,299 as part of the sixth modification of the Programme. By the end of 2019, 94.95% of the new planned output for the number of participants to be trained had been met.

Focus Area 2A

There is one target indicator and one Programme specific target under Focus Area 2A. The target indicator is the percentage of agriculture holdings that have been given support for investment in restructuring or modernisation. This will be delivered under Measure 4 by three schemes: the CAGS, the New Entrants Capital Grant Scheme and Small Farms Grant Scheme. There are also commitments that were made under the Rural Priorities (RP) and Land Managers Options (LMO) Schemes from the 2007-2013 Programme that will support investment in restructuring or modernisation to agriculture holdings in the 2014-2020 Programme period.

In total, 3,823 agriculture holdings have been given support for investment in restructuring or modernisation so far, this includes 918 holdings supported in 2019. This is 7.31% of the total number of agricultural holdings, with the target being to support 16.35% during the Programme. Just under two third thirds of supported holdings have been supported though the CAGS (2,510 holdings supported).

As part of the third modification of the Programme the assumptions behind the planned output indicator for the number of agriculture holdings that will be supported for investment in restructuring or modernisation were re-examined based on what had happened during the first three years of the Programme. It was found that the estimated spend per holding, based on data from the 2007-2013 Programme, was lower than it actually was. These assumptions were also revisited as part of the sixth modification of the Programme. As a result of the revised assumptions and the reduced budget available to support investment in restructuring or modernisation, the planned output indicator was reduced to supporting 3,942 holdings. This would be equivalent to supporting 7.54% of the total number of agriculture holdings. As a consequence it is unlikely that this target will come close to being achieved. Although the revised planned output should be achieved.

The Programme specific target is the number of participants trained under Measure 1. Under Focus Area 2A, Measure 1 will be primarily delivered by the KTIF but there will also be some on-going commitments from the 2007-2013 Programme relating to RP and LMO. This Programme specific target was introduced as part of the third modification of the 2014-2020 Programme. Progress towards the target was first reported against in the 2017 Annual Implementation Report. As this Programme specific target was introduced as part of the third modification of the Programme, it takes into consideration in the increase in the planned output indicator for the number of participants that will trained under Focus Area 2A unlike the target for Focus Area 1C.

During the Programme period to date, 16,209 participants have been trained under Focus Area 2A. This compares to the target value, which was adjusted as part of the sixth modification of the Programme, of 16,799 participants being trained. This means that 96.49% of the target has been achieved by the end of 2019. Of the 16,209 participants trained just over 98% have been trained as a result of the KTIF. The remaining 299 participants that have been trained as a result of on-going commitments from the 2007-2013 Programme. Again it should be noted that individuals can be counted more than once if they participate in more than one training event.

All of the six measures programmed under Focus Area 2A have had expenditure recorded against them. In total, there has been a committed expenditure of €252.6 million and a realised expenditure of €245.5 million. Just over three quarters of both the committed and realised expenditure has been on Measure 13. The majority of the remaining committed and realised expenditure has been on Measures 4 (19% of the committed expenditure and 18% of the realised expenditure).

Looking at the expenditure for Measures 4 and 6 both have committed more than the overall planned Programme expenditure for these measures under Focus Area 2A. The realised expenditure for Measure 4 is also almost 97% of the planned expenditure. While commitments do not necessarily equate to realised expenditure any over commitments will be looked at and where necessary planned expenditure will be adjusted in a future modification of the Programme.

Focus Area 2B

There is one target indicator under Focus Area 2B. This target is for the percentage of agriculture holdings that have been supported with business development plans/investment for young farmers. This support is delivered through the Young Farmers Start-up Grant Scheme (YFSUGS) as well as on-going commitments from the 2007-2013 Programme made under the RP Scheme.

By the end of 2019, support had been given to 265 young farmers. This is the 0.51% of the total number of agriculture holdings, compared to the target of 0.27%. The fact that the target has already been exceeded is a result of a much higher than anticipated uptake of the YFSUGS. This is illustrated by the fact that the uptake in the first three years of the Programme was greater than the anticipated uptake for the whole Programme period. A higher than expected number of on-going commitments from the 2007-2013 Programme has also contributed to meeting the target early in the Programme period. As a result of the higher than anticipated uptake, the third modification of the Programme increased the planned output indicator for the number of young farmers receiving start up aid from 143 to 283. The planned output indicator was further adjusted to 266 holdings as part of the sixth modification of the Programme. This more accurately reflects the available budget for business development plans/investment for young farmers. The adjusted indicator would be the equivalent of supporting 0.51% of the total number of agriculture holdings. As the YFSUGS is now closed it is to be expected that the percentage of holdings to be supported has been met and that the actual number of holdings supported is very close to the planned output.

There are two measures, Measures 2 and 6, programmed under Focus Area 2B and both have had recorded expenditure during the 2014-2020 Programme period. Around 90% of both the committed and realised expenditure under Focus Area 2B has been on Measure 6. For Measure 6, there has been a committed expenditure of €14.0 million and a realised expenditure of €13.9 million. While, there has been a committed expenditure of €1.6 million and a realised expenditure of approaching €1.3 million for Measure 2.

Focus Area 3A

There are two targets that relate to Focus Area 3A, one of which is a Programme specific target. The first

target is based on the percentage of agricultural holdings that receive support for participating in quality schemes, local markets and short supply chains, and producer groups/organisations.

The vast majority of agricultural holdings that will receive support for participating in quality schemes, local markets and short supply chains, and producer groups/organisations will be funded through commitments that were made under the 2007-2013 Programme by the LMO Scheme. These commitments are decreasing and are starting to come to an end as the 2014-2020 Programme period progresses. The LMO Scheme has supported 7,683 holdings during the 2014-2020 Programme period. The remaining few holdings will be supported by the FPMC Scheme, which has only supported two holdings so far.

The percentage of agricultural holdings that have received support for participating in quality schemes, local markets and short supply chains, and producer groups/organisations during the 2014-2020 Programme period is 14.69%. This compares to the target value of 15.54%. The percentage has not changed since 2016, as only one additional holding was supported during 2017 and no new holdings were supported during either 2018 or 2019.

Almost all of the agricultural holdings that will receive support for participating in quality schemes, local markets and short supply chains, and producer groups/organisations will receive support via Measure 3. Given that Measure 3 is not being supported by any of the new or continuing schemes that make up the SRDP 2014-2020, it is to be expected that the target value would be close to being achieved in the first few years of the 2014-2020 Programme.

The Programme specific target is based on the percentage of total agri-food businesses supported under Measure 4. By the end of 2019, 127 operations have been given support for investments in processing/marketing and/or development of agricultural products. With 17 new operations being supported in 2019. All but two of the operations supported have been supported by the FPMC Scheme. The remaining two are on-going commitments from the 2007-2013 Programme made under the RP Scheme. This equates to 14.51% of the total number of agri-food business being supported, with the target being to support 13.00% during the lifetime of the Programme. The planned output indicator for the number of agri-food business being supported has been amended as part of modifications of the Programme, with it currently being to support 122 operations or 13.94%. Meaning that in addition to the original target being meant the current planned output has also been more than achieved. Whether the planned output indicator needs to be further amended will be considered in a future modification of the Programme.

All four of the measures programmed under Focus Area 3A have had recorded expenditure during the 2014-2020 Programme period. In total there has been a committed expenditure of €80.5 million and a realised expenditure of €50.7 million. Over 85% of both the committed and realised expenditure has been under Measure 4.

Measures 3 and 14 are both not being supported by any of the new or continuing schemes that make up the SRDP 2014-2020. The on-going commitments from the 2007-2013 Programme relating to these two measures are coming to an end as will the associated expenditure. As a result, it is to be expected that both the committed and realised expenditures for both these measures will be around 100% at this stage of the Programme. The realised expenditure for these two measures is just over 100% of the planned Programme expenditure. This will be addressed in a future modification of the Programme.

Focus Area 3B

There are no target indicators or Programme specific target indicator for Focus Area 3B. There is one Programme specific output indicator relating to the number of beneficiaries advised by the FAS under

Measure 2. The FAS was launched in 2016 but advice was first delivered to beneficiaries in 2017. Between 2017 and 2019, a total of 7,202 beneficiaries have been advised under Measure 2. This compares to the planned output of advising 9,835 beneficiaries during the lifetime of the Programme. As part of the sixth modification of the Programme the planned output was increased from 8,455 beneficiaries to 9,835 beneficiaries. Please note that the same beneficiary can be advised multiple times, with each contributing towards achieving the overall planned output.

There is only one measure programmed under Focus Area 3B, the measure being Measure 2. Measure 2 has had both committed and realised expenditure. The level of this expenditure has been relatively low compared to other measures under different Focus Areas, with €0.8 million being committed and €0.6 being realised.

Priority 4

There are six target indicators for Priority 4. Three of which relate to agricultural land under management contracts and three that relate to forest/other wooded area under management contracts.

Agriculture:

- Percentage of agricultural land under managements contacts supporting biodiversity and/or landscapes;
- Percentage of agricultural land under managements contacts to improve water management; and
- Percentage of agricultural land under managements contacts to improve soil management and/or prevent soil erosion.

The Agri-Environment Climate Scheme (AECS) will fund all the agricultural land under management contracts that will contribute to these three targets. All of agricultural land that was under management during the first three years of the Programme was due to on-going commitments made under the 2007-2013 Programme. In 2017, agricultural land started to be under management as the result of the AECS. In addition to the agricultural land under management via Measure 10, the agricultural land under management via Measure 11 will also contribute to the targets supporting biodiversity and soil management.

By the end of 2019, 1,617,209 ha of agricultural land had been under management contracts that support biodiversity. This means that 29.11% of agricultural land is under management compared to the target of 22.73%. The target of the area under management contracts that support biodiversity has been met, with 128.05% of the original target now under management.

The target for the agricultural land under management contracts to improve water management has been more than achieved, with 124.49% of the target having been achieved. With 23.86% (1,325,393 ha) of agricultural land under managements compared to the target of 19.80%.

The area of agricultural land under management contacts to improve soil management and/or prevent soil erosion is 1,467,514 ha. This is 26.41% of the total agricultural land, compared to a target of 19.13%. Of the three agricultural land target indicators, the target to improve soil management and/or prevent soil erosion has been the most over achieved (138.05%) at the end of 2019.

All three of the targets for agricultural land indicators were met for the first time in 2019. This was a result of a large increase in area of agricultural land being under management as a result of AECS in 2019 compared to 2018. This is to be expected as more funding rounds of annual recurrent AECS contracts have

been approved as the Programme progressed.

Forest:

- Percentage of forest/other wooded area under managements contracts supporting biodiversity and/or landscapes;
- Percentage of forestry land under managements contracts to improve water management; and
- Percentage of forestry land under managements contracts to improve soil management and/or prevent soil erosion.

The same forest/other wooded area under management contracts contribute to the three forestry related target indicators under Priority 4. In relation to these three indicators the forest/other wooded area under management contracts is the:

- Area of forest to be established under Sub-Measure 8.1;
- Area of forest to be established in agro-forestry systems under Sub-Measure 8.2;
- Area concerned by investments improving resilience and environmental value of forest ecosystems under Measure 8.5; and
- Area under forest environment contract under Sub-Measure 15.1.

It does not include the area of forest that is maintained under Sub-Measures 8.1 and 8.2 on an annual basis.

The majority of the forestry land under management will be funded by the FGS, along with on-going forestry commitments from the 2007-2013 Programme. Forestry land was under management as a result of the FGS for the first time in 2016. In the first two years of the Programme, the land under forestry management was all as a result of the on-going commitments from the 2007-2013 Programme.

In total, 74,899 ha of forestry land has been under management contracts during the 2014-2020 Programme period. This is 5.31% of the total forest and other wooded land. The target percentage for all three of the forestry target indicators is 37.99%. Only limited progress has been made towards achieving these targets. As the FGS approves and funds more projects and these new projects, as well as existing projects, start to be fully implemented, it is anticipated that more progress will be made toward achieving these three targets.

There are nine measures programmed under Priority 4, of which eight have had expenditure so far. By the end of 2019, there had been no committed or realised expenditure for Measure 16 under Priority 4.

At the start of the 2014-2020 Programme, the KTIF Project Assessment Committee (PAC) was established. The remit of the KTIF PAC was to consider and determine applications for assistance under the KITF, including the level of grant and any conditions to be imposed. As well as to monitor the operation of the scheme and consider any adjustments needed to achieve its objectives more effectively. The KTIF is programmed under Measures 1 and 16.

In late 2017, the KTIF PAC undertook a review of the KTIF, with particular focus on the use of the remaining scheme budget. The PAC agreed on a number of guidelines for future projects:

- Restricted to a maximum grant award of €120,000;
- Up to one year duration; and
- Innovation projects (Measure 16) only should be considered. There will be no further skills and knowledge transfer projects (Measure 1) approved.

During 2019, the KTIF PAC further agreed that all future applications for innovation projects should focus on the following theme:

- Restoring, preserving and enhancing biodiversity, habitats and ecosystems dependent on agriculture.

As a result there should be both committed and realised for Measure 16 under Priority 4 in 2020.

For Priority 4, there has been an overall committed expenditure of €538.7 million and a realised expenditure of €482.0 million. Of the total committed expenditure for the Programme, including Technical Assistance under Measure 20 which is not programmed under a Focus Area, 44% has been for Priority 4. While for the realised expenditure it has been slightly higher at 48%. For Priority 4 there have been high levels of committed and realised expenditure for Measures 8, 10 and 13.

It should be noted that the committed expenditures for Measures 4 and 8 are higher than the current planned expenditure for the whole Programme period. In addition, the realised expenditure for Measure 4 is also higher than the planned expenditure. Committed expenditure does not necessarily become realised expenditure. The levels of commitment and realised expenditure for these two measures will continue to be monitored going forward. Any changes to the planned expenditure for these two measures will be considered when the Programme undergoes a future modification.

The realised expenditure for Measure 11 is also high at 93% of the current planned expenditure for the Programme period and the realised expenditure is also 99% of the planned expenditure. Measure 11 is the conversions to and maintenance of organic farming practices and methods. The popularity of this measure and organic farming continues to be high and much higher than anticipated at the start of the Programme. The continued popularity of Measure 11 be taken into consideration when the Programme undergoes a future modification.

There is a similar situation for Measure 15 where both the committed and realised expenditures are over 90% of the planned Programme expenditure. This will also be taken into consideration when the Programme undergoes a future modification.

Focus Area 5A

No measures and therefore expenditure are programmed under Focus Area 5A in the SRDP 2014-2020.

Focus Area 5B

There is one Programme specific target indicator for Focus Area 5B, which is the number of participants trained under Measure 1. Measure 1 will be delivered by the KTIF.

In the initial years of the 2014-2020 Programme period, the KTIF expenditure was predominately on on-going commitments made by the SDS under the 2007-2013 Programme, and this expenditure was solely under Focus Area 2A. Before 2018, the KTIF expenditure under Measure 1 was almost exclusively under Focus Area 2A. During 2019 there was expenditure on one KTIF project under Measure 1. As a result, 502 participants were trained under Measure 1 for Focus Area 5B during 2019.

As previously discussed, in 2017 the KTIF PAC agreed on a number of guidelines for future project applications. One of the guidelines was that only innovation projects (Measure 16) should be considered and no further skills and knowledge transfer projects (Measure 1) would be considered for approval.

As a result, achieving the original Programme specific target of training of 1,000 participants under Focus

Area 5B was unlikely to be met. As part of the sixth modification of the Programme the target was reduced to training 700 participants. This means that 71.71% of the amended target has now been met.

There are three measures programmed under Focus Area 5B, all of which have had committed and realised expenditure to date. There was both committed and realised expenditure for Measure 1 during 2019 for the first time during the 2014-2020 Programme period.

The overall planned expenditure under Focus Area 5B is small compared to some other Focus Areas. As a result, the level of this expenditure has been relatively low, with €2.7 million being committed and €2.0 being realised. Over 90% of both the committed and realised expenditure has been for Measure 2.

Focus Area 5C

Following the third modification of the Programme, no measures and therefore expenditure are programmed under Focus Area 5C in the SRDP 2014-2020.

Focus Area 5D

For Focus Area 5D there are two target indicators one relating to livestock units (LU) and the other to agricultural land under management contracts.

The LU target indicator is the percentage of LU concerned by investments in livestock management in view of reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) and/or ammonia emissions. This is being delivered by the AECS under Measure 4. While over 130 operations have been approved for support, only 42 of these operations had been financially supported by the end of 2019. By the end of 2019, 6,381 LU were under management with a view of reducing GHG and/or ammonia emissions. This is 0.29% of the total LU and this compares to the target value of 1.32%.

As part of the sixth modification of the Programme, the planned number of operations that will support investment in livestock management with the aim of reducing GHG and/or ammonia emissions was reduced. As a consequence, the expected number of LU that will be concerned by investments in livestock management with a view to reducing emissions was been reduced from 6,912 to 4,032. If this amended planned output would equate to 0.19% of LU being concerned by investments in livestock management in view of reducing GHG and/or ammonia emissions. Given that the planned number of operations to be supported has already been exceeded, with more operations having been approved, and the planned number of LU under management with a view of reducing GHG and/or ammonia emissions has already exceeded the planned number, these planned outputs will undergo further amendments as a part of a future modification of the Programme.

As all the approved operations start to be implemented and actually receive funding more progress to achieving the target of there being 1.32% of LU under management with a view of reducing GHG and/or ammonia emissions will be made.

The other target indicator is for the percentage of agricultural land under management contracts, which targets the reduction of GHG and/or ammonia emissions. The agricultural land under management contracts that contributes to this target is the land under management contracts as a result of the Beef Efficiency Scheme (BES) as well as relevant agricultural land under management funded under Priority 4. The BES was launched in 2016 and the first payments were made to beneficiaries in 2017. As a result of the BES, 108,322 ha of agricultural land have been under management contracts, which targets the reduction of GHG

and/or ammonia emissions.

The vast majority of agricultural land under management contracts that contributes towards achieving this target is funded under Priority 4. This will be via AECS as well as on-going commitments from the 2007-2013 Programme. By the end of 2019, 1,326,917 ha of agricultural land had been under management contracts, which targets the reduction of GHG and/or ammonia emissions as a result of commitments made under Priority 4.

During the Programme period to date, 1,435,239 ha of agricultural land has been under management contracts, which targets the reduction of GHG and/or ammonia emissions, 25.83% of the total agricultural land. This compares to the target value of 23.18% of total agricultural land, meaning that the target has been met. Currently the area of agricultural land has been under management contracts, which targets the reduction of GHG and/or ammonia emissions is 111.43% of the target value.

There are three measures programmed under Focus Area 5D, all of which have had expenditure recorded against them. For Measure 10 there has been a committed expenditure of €17.0 million and a realised expenditure of €15.8 million. This is around 85% of both of the committed and realised expenditure for Focus Area 5D. The levels of committed and realised expenditure for Measures 2 and 4 have been lower in line with the lower planned expenditure for these two measures under Focus Area 5D.

Focus Area 5E

For Focus Area 5E there is one target indicator, which is the percentage of agricultural, and forest land that is under management contracts to contribute to carbon sequestration and conservation. In addition to the area afforested under Sub-Measure 8.1 and the area to support agro-forestry systems under Sub-Measure 8.2 that are programmed under Focus Area 5E the relevant agricultural land under management funded under Priority 4 contributes to this target.

In the first three years of the 2014-2020 Programme, all the agricultural land that was under management contacts that contributed to carbon sequestration and conservation was due to on-going commitments made under the 2007-2013 Programme. There was agricultural land under management contacts contributing to carbon sequestration as a result of the AECS for the first time during 2017. By the end of 2019, there were 1,324,823 ha of agricultural land under management contacts contributing to carbon sequestration.

There were 26,968 ha of forestry land under management contacts that contribute to carbon sequestration and conservation by the end of 2019. Of this 26,968 ha, 72% were under management as a result of the FGS with the remaining 28% were due to on-going forestry commitments made under the 2007-2013 Programme. The proportion of forestry land under management contributing to this target due to the FGS has increased as the Programme period has progressed. This is in line with expectations given forestry related projects can take a while to come to fruition and that the FGS did not start funding projects until 2016.

In total, 1,351,791 ha of agricultural and forest land have been under management contacts and are contributing to carbon sequestration and conservation. This is 19.41% of the total agricultural and forest land. This compares to the target value of 16.14%. Therefore, the target has been reached and this means that 120.27% of the target has been achieved.

The two measures programmed under Focus Area 5E are Measures 8 and 16. Under this Focus Area, both measures relate to the FGS, or on-going forestry related commitments from the 2007-2013 Programme. For Measure 8 there has been a committed expenditure of €180.7 million and a realised expenditure of €116.9

million. This is over 99% of the committed and realised expenditure associated with this Focus Area. While for Measure 16 the level of expenditure have been much lower, there has been a committed expenditure of €0.7 million and a realised expenditure of just over €0.1 million.

Focus Area 6A

The target indicator for Focus Area 6A is the number of jobs created in supported projects. The target was to create 17 jobs during the 2014-2020 Programme and 17 jobs were created in supported projects by the end of 2015. This target solely relates to commitments made under the previous Programme, which will lessen and then stop as the 2014-2020 Programme period progresses. That is why the target was reached within the first two years of the 2014-2020 Programme period.

There are three measures programmed under Focus Area 6A, but only two of which have had expenditure to date. For Measure 6, there has been a committed expenditure of €1.3 million and a realised expenditure of €1.5 million.

There has been a committed expenditure of €1.4 million and a realised expenditure of €1.5 million for Measure 8. The committed and realised expenditure for Measure 8 are both greater than the planned expenditure for the whole Programme period. The planned budget for Measure 8 under Focus Area 6A was increased as part of the sixth modification of the Programme. The level of interest in investments in forestry technology and primary processing/marketing (Sub-Measure 8.6) has been greater than originally anticipated and interest continues to be high. This will be taken into consideration again when the Programme undergoes a future modification.

Measure 4 was programmed under Focus Area 6A as part of the third modification of the SRDP 2014-2020. There has yet to be any committed or realised expenditure associated with Measure 4 under Focus Area 6A.

Focus Area 6B

There are three target indicators under Focus Area 6B, two of which relate to LEADER. The LEADER focused target indicators are the percentage of the rural population covered by local development strategies and the number of jobs created in projects supported by LEADER.

The 21 Local Actions Groups (LAGs) supported by the SRDP 2014-2020 cover a rural population of 2,100,000. This is equivalent to 86.76% of the total rural population and meets the target set for the percentage of the rural population to be covered by local development strategies.

LEADER supported projects created jobs for the first time during 2018. In total 352 jobs have been created by supported projects. The target is to create 551 jobs during the 2014-2020 Programme. At the end of 2019, 63.88% of the target had been achieved. Of the 352 people newly employed by LEADER supported projects 12 were female and 18 were male. For the other 322 jobs created the gender of the employee was not available. Please note that it is only possible to enter in the tables the number of jobs created where the gender of the employee is known. This is why in the Focus Area 6B table in 'Section 1.b1) Overview table' the realised figure for jobs created is 30 and the uptake percentage is given as 5.44%.

The third target indicator relates to the Improving Public Access (IPA) Scheme and is the percentage of the rural population benefiting from improved services/infrastructure. In this case the support for new and upgraded paths for public use. By the end of 2019, the projects that have been supported by the IPA Scheme had benefited 165,745 people. This is equivalent to 6.85% of the rural population benefiting from improved

services/infrastructure, compared to the target 10.14% of the rural population.

As part of the third modification of the Programme, the planned number of operations that will be supported by the IPA Scheme was reduced from 164 to 144. The planned number of operations to be supported was further amended to 137 as part of the sixth modification of the Programme. While the planned number of operations to be supported was reduced the planned rural population benefiting from improved services/infrastructure was actually increased from 215,452 to 345,571. The planned population to benefit is now greater than the original planned population of 245,376, that was used to calculate the target. If the amended planned 345,571 of the rural population do benefit from improved services/infrastructure as a result of the IPA Scheme this would be equivalent to 14.28% of the rural population.

There are two measures programmed under Focus Area 6B, both of which have expenditure recorded against them. For Measure 19 there has been a committed expenditure of €100.3 million and a realised expenditure of €50.9 million. This is over 80% of both the committed and realised expenditure for Focus Area 6B. For Measure 7 there has been a committed expenditure of €13.1 million and a realised expenditure of €10.3 million.

The level of committed expenditure for LEADER projects under Measure 19 has been high and is currently more than the planned expenditure for the whole Programme period. For LEADER projects there can be a delay between expenditure being committed and the projects being fully implemented, when the expenditure is actually realised. Commitments do not necessarily equate to future realised expenditure but both the level of committed and realised expenditure for Measure 19 will be reviewed when the Programme undergoes a future modification.

Focus Area 6C

The target indicator under Focus Area 6C relates to the Broadband Scheme and the percentage of the rural population benefiting from new or improved services/infrastructures on Information and Communications Technology (ICT).

Originally it was envisioned that 21,240 of the rural population would benefit from new or improved services/infrastructures on Information and Communications Technology (ICT). This would have been the equivalent of 0.88% of the rural population. As previously stated the Broadband Scheme was closed as part of the sixth modification of the Programme without ever supporting projects to Stage 2. As a result no one in the rural population will benefit from new or improved services/infrastructures on ICT as a result of the Broadband Scheme. The target indicator was therefore set to zero and removed. However, rural Scotland will benefit from new or improved services/infrastructures on ICT via the Scottish Government's R100 Programme.

The Broadband Scheme is the only scheme programmed Focus Area 6C via Measure 7. Therefore, Measure 7 is the only measure programmed under Focus Area 6C. As stated previously the Broadband Scheme worked with five projects, only at Stage 1, which resulted in a committed and realised expenditure of around €50,000.

1.d) Key information on achievements towards the milestones set in the performance Framework based on Table F

This section applies to AIR(s) 2016, 2017, 2018 only

1.e) Other RDP specific element [optional]

Not applicable.

1.f) Where appropriate, the contribution to macro-regional and sea basin strategies

As stipulated by the Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, article 27(3) on the "content of programmes", article 96(3)(e) on the "content, adoption and amendment of operational programmes under the Investment for growth and jobs goal", article 111(3), article 111(4)(d) on "implementation reports for the Investment for growth and jobs goal", and Annex 1, section 7.3 on "contribution of mainstream programmes to macro-regional and sea-basin strategies, this programme contributes to MRS(s) and/or SBS:

Scotland has taken an active role in the development of the Atlantic Sea basin strategy and shares the Commissions objectives of ensuring the water around Scotland contributes to sustainable economic growth. While the Scottish RDP and Atlantic Strategy can contribute to the same measures, Scottish National Performance Framework outcomes and wider United Nations Sustainable Development Goals there is a degree of separation as these are delivered by a separate UK Managing Authority and Intermediate Body.

The SRDP is contributing through LEADER and Agri-Environment Climate Scheme (AECS) by providing support for investment in coastal embankment breaching, lowering or removal and support for the conservation of coastal heaths and coastal floodplains. These are complementary to the Atlantic Sea basin strategy.

- EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR)
- EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)
- EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR)
- EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP)
- Atlantic Sea Basin Strategy (ATLSBS)

1.f1) ATLSBS

Priority(s) and objective(s) that the programme is relevant to:

	Priority	Objective
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 - Promote entrepreneurship and innovation	1.1 - Sharing knowledge between higher education organisations, companies and research centers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 - Promote entrepreneurship and innovation	1.2 - Enhancement of competitiveness and innovation capacities in the maritime economy of the Atlantic area
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 - Promote entrepreneurship and innovation	1.3 - Fostering adaptation and diversification of economic activities by promoting the potential of the Atlantic area
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2 - Protect, secure and develop the potential of the Atlantic marine and coastal environment	2.1 - Improving maritime safety and security
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 - Protect, secure and develop the potential of the Atlantic marine and coastal environment	2.2 - Exploring and protecting marine waters and coastal zones
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2 - Protect, secure and develop the potential of the Atlantic marine and coastal environment	2.3 - Sustainable management of marine resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2 - Protect, secure and develop the potential of the Atlantic marine and coastal environment	2.4 - Exploitation of the renewable energy potential of the Atlantic area's marine and coastal environment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3 - Improve accessibility and connectivity	3.1 - Promoting cooperation between ports
<input type="checkbox"/>	4 - Create a socially inclusive and sustainable model of regional development	4.1 - Fostering better knowledge of social challenges in the Atlantic area
<input type="checkbox"/>	4 - Create a socially inclusive and sustainable model of regional development	4.2 - Preserving and promoting the Atlantic's cultural heritage

Actions or mechanisms used to better link the programme with the Atlantic SBS

A. Are the Sea Basin Strategic coordinators (mainly National Coordinators, Priority Area Coordinators or members, and/or Objective coordinators or members) participating in the Monitoring Committee of the programme?

Yes No

B. In selection criteria, have extra points been attributed to specific measures supporting the ATLSBS?

Yes No

C. Has the programme invested EU funds in the ATLSBS?

Yes No

Does your programme plan to invest in the ATLSBS in the future? Please elaborate (1 specific sentence)

There is no current plan to invest in the ATLSBS in the future.

D. Obtained results in relation to the ATLSBS (n.a. for 2016)

Not Applicable.

1.g) Currency rate used for conversion AIR (non EUR countries)

The exchange rate used in relation to the SRDP 2014-2020 is £1 to €1.2.

2. THE PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE EVALUATION PLAN.

2.a) Description of any modifications made to the evaluation plan in the RDP during the year, with their justification

There were no modifications to the evaluation plan during 2019.

2.b) A description of the evaluation activities undertaken during the year (in relation to section 3 of the evaluation plan)

During the sixth year of the Programme, activity continued to be undertaken to ensure the right data are collected so as to inform monitoring of the Programme and to ensure appropriate oversight in order to inform the range of monitoring and evaluation activities to be undertaken throughout the Programme.

Following the meetings held with policy and delivery leads for all the SRDP 2014-2020 schemes during 2018 a number of scheme evaluations were undertaken and completed during 2019, please see Section 2d for further information, while others were started and due for completion during 2020. To work on these and future evaluations a new member of staff started work in the Monitoring and Evaluation Team.

In June Scottish Rural Network (SRN) hosted a monitoring and evaluation workshop for Scottish LEADER Staff Group (SLSG) in Stornoway (<https://www.ruralnetwork.scot/news-and-events/news/leader-staff-group-meeting-stornoway-june-2019>) – input was sought from SLSG members to inform the development of the workshop. The workshop presented LEADER staff with an opportunity to share and discuss their experiences with a view to agreeing a set of questions for evaluating LEADER and collectively deciding next steps.

This was followed by a SRN hosted session at a SLSG meeting in Falkland where six evaluation questions were agreed and publicised via the SLSG Yammer page. These were further developed and forwarded to the chair of the SLSG for distribution to the staff group. The intention is also to update the SRN M&E toolkit with these questions and additional material however reduced staff capacity and now Covid-19 impacted these developments.

In November the Network Support Unit (NSU) also highlighted the ENRD evaluation guidance, Back to Basics (https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/evaluation/back-basics_en?pk_campaign=TWT%20BB).

Four evaluations were started during 2019 and are due to completed and published during 2020:

Agri-Environment Climate Scheme

There was good progress with the monitoring of the Agri-Environment Climate Scheme (AECS) during 2019. Work progressed on the two projects the monitoring comprises.

- Project 1 – Heat Maps

As a data housekeeping exercise, Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) set up an internal project and is producing a series of heat maps on AECS uptake. The objective of this part of the project was to organise internal data to evaluate and provide an assessment of uptake and potential impact of the scheme. A series

of heat maps have been produced looking at uptake and funding for a series of key options. The project started in May 2019 and is due to finish during 2020.

- Project 2 – Evaluation of the AECS through a selection of Case Studies

The project aims to evaluate the AECS through a selection of case studies, focused primarily on the biodiversity objectives and other objectives in so far as possible. The approach involves a qualitative assessment of a selection of AECS case studies through three case study areas comparing farms in and outside the scheme. The methodology involved substantial survey work in the summer, a desk study and a farmer survey. This work started in June 2019.

The final report will be published in 2020.

Improving Public Access

SNH started to review the Improving Public Access (IPA) scheme in March 2019. Two key parts of the review took place during 2019.

- Data gathering: what has IPA delivered?

This involved in depth analysis of all available data, mainly from the Scottish Government's Rural Payments and Inspections Division, the application portal and SNH records, on IPA applications and contracts. The type of information gathered included breakdowns of application values, applicant type (owners, NGOs, local authorities, etc.), capital item uptake, contract locations and geographic spread, local authority spread, final claim values, variances, path status and contribution to Scotland's path network e.g. core path, Scotland's Great Trail's etc.

- Engagement and stakeholder review: what do people think of IPA?

Consultations were undertaken with individuals and organisation representatives which included talking to a sample of applicants/agents, access authority officers, NGOs including Forestry and Land Scotland and National Farmers' Union of Scotland, National Access Forum (plus sub group), SNH case officers and co-ordinators. A snap shot survey of landowners/land managers was also carried out to try and gauge views of those not involved in the scheme.

The final report will be published in 2020.

LEADER

The evaluation 'The role of LEADER approach post-Brexit' was conducted by SRUC team during 2019. The evaluation includes:

- An in-depth international evidence review;
- Analysis of available LEADER project data since 1991 to describe key characteristics of LEADER programmes and projects in Scotland;
- Interviews with 24 national and regional stakeholders (in the UK and Europe) and a workshop discussion with 15 Scottish LEADER staff; and
- LAG and project case studies that illustrate a range of experiences and outcomes.

The final report will be published in 2020.

Scottish Rural Network

An evaluation of the SRN began in late 2019. Interviews were undertaken with key SRN personnel and stakeholders, along with an analysis of internal data that the SRN had collected. For example, this included data on events attended as well as held, and internet traffic.

The final report will be published in 2020.

2.c) A description of activities undertaken in relation to the provision and management of data (in relation to section 4 of the evaluation plan)

The Scottish Government's ICE (Information of Customer and Employees) Reporting Hub facilitates access to key Business Intelligence (BI) data, alongside other BI tools. The Analytics and Insights team manages the ICE Reporting Hub through direct engagement and in collaboration with colleagues in Information Services Division who manage the IT side through provisioning of data and documentation. Both teams work closely with a wide range of stakeholders to ensure that reports are specifically tailored to business needs and that the learning support provided for the tool is relevant and useful.

The primary focus is on "Employees", engaging with staff in both Saughton House in Edinburgh and across Area Offices throughout Scotland, along with delivery partners such as Scottish Natural Heritage. Ensuring user education is placed at the centre of the BI reporting work is crucial to help others develop an understanding of the performance data that they need to monitor and manage. It remains the Scheme Managers and implementation colleagues responsibility to ensure data are actually captured.

We operated within a continuous improvement ethos for reporting to support delivery of the overall Programme. This has included making enhancements to bespoke management information reports to inform planning and performance monitoring, enabling these to be produced more timeously and with more detailed analysis. This has meant that reports have become more focused to enable strategic performance monitoring at the same time as operational querying to aide casework. Documentation has been enhanced to better define the BI process and in developing a data catalogue/dictionary. Scoping and initial development work has been undertaken to develop "data galaxies" which will repurpose data to offer more strategic data structures and remove duplication and overlap of data transactions within different reports. Work has also been started to review the range and scope of reports available within the ICE Reporting Hub, to assess the commonality between reports and subsequent uses by users, which will inform wider reporting enhancements in 2020/21.

2.d) A list of completed evaluations, including references to where they have been published on-line

Publisher/Editor	Scottish Government
Author(s)	Scottish Government
Title	Evaluation of the Food Processing, Marketing and Co-Operation Fund 2014-2020
Abstract	The report look at applicants’ and experts’ experiences of application and assessment procedures, and how the applicants' projects adhered to the objectives of the scheme and those of the Scottish Government.
URL	https://www.gov.scot/publications/evaluation-food-processing-marketing-co-operation-fund-2014-2020/

Publisher/Editor	Scottish Government
Author(s)	Winning Moves
Title	Farm Advisory Service Enhanced Monitoring and Evaluation
Abstract	This report was commissioned by the Scottish Government for Winning Moves to conduct a piece of research to explore the quality, focus and effectiveness of the Farm Advisory Service (FAS).
URL	https://www.gov.scot/publications/farm-advisory-service-enhanced-monitoring-evaluation/

2.e) A summary of completed evaluations, focussing on evaluation findings

There were two evaluations completed in 2019, one on the Farm Advisory Service and the second on the Food Processing, Marketing and Co-operation. Summaries of the findings of these evaluations are shown below.

In addition to the two completed evaluations, contractors did carry out an assessment of the performance of the SRDP 2014-2020 on behalf of the Scottish Government for inclusion in the 2018 Annual Implementation Report (AIR), as required by the European Commission.

Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 on rural development sets out a number of Measures under which EU funding can be used and which can be programmed by Member States. The Scottish Government developed a suite of schemes under these Measures to make up the SRDP 2014-2020. A scheme can draw on one or several Measures and schemes/Measures can contribute to one or more Focus Areas. This complexity is not visible to participants and stakeholders, and is only relevant in financial arrangements and formal reporting to the European Commission.

In addition to schemes, the evaluation also covered the performance of the Scottish Rural Network and the use of Technical Assistance funds, both of which support the SRDP in different ways.

The assessment was based on documentary evidence provided by the Scottish Government, published reports and evaluations of specific 2014-2020 SRDP schemes, comments submitted by key stakeholders and a programme of in-depth interviews with Scottish Government officials responsible for implementing the SRDP and with staff from other organisations involved in the delivery of the SRDP.

Some €782.2 million has been spent to the end of 2018; this is 51.1% of the planned (revised) total for the seven-year programming period 2014-2020. At scheme level, expenditure reflects not only the amount allocated, but also the nature of the scheme, whether it is new or a continuation of previous arrangements and commitments, and the spending profile (such as regular and annual or front-loaded, the timing of payments in relation to activity undertaken, and when claims can be made).

A general conclusion is that the design of schemes and their operation is such that contributions in the directions required to address SRDP aims can be expected. Though progress has been made since the evaluation carried out in 2017 for inclusion in the 2016 AIR, for most schemes it remains the case that it is still too early to assess the impact of schemes against their objectives. A main reason is that the activities supported will not deliver impacts in the short-term; this applies particularly to capital investments and support for agri-environmental measures. Evidence is available from a few evaluations but these currently cover only a small proportion of SRDP expenditure; others have been initiated and more are planned.

Farm Advisory Service

The Farm Advisory Service (FAS) is performing a range of functions in giving farmers ideas for action, a better understanding of which actions to take, their potential benefits and how to do so (with greater confidence).

About a third of the recommended actions would not have been taken without the input of the FAS.

In terms of the benefits achieved, the FAS is mainly acting to improve the benefits farmers and crofters achieve through taking recommended actions. These benefits are quite wide ranging including business performance benefits such as increased profitability, the creation and restructuring of businesses, creation

and safeguarding of employment and various environmental benefits.

Whilst the mentoring sample was small (reflecting the small proportion of farmers who have been supported in this way), high proportions enjoyed a range of benefits from the support they received.

Satisfaction with the service is relatively high. It is perceived to offer high quality, practical advice.

The majority of respondents struggled to identify other support they would like or improvements to the FAS. Areas that were highlighted by some respondents that FAS could consider for improvement were:

- Improved marketing of the service
- Less paperwork in the provision of the service
- More specific, detailed, relevant advice
- Greater accessibility of the service in terms of locations and formats of support
- Speed of service
- More follow up
- More specialist advisors

Following the evaluation the Scottish Government has taken the following steps:

- **Improved marketing of the service**

The FAS is currently marketed through a number of different channels, including the FAS website; stakeholder newsletter/information pack; adviser training events and email communications; stakeholder newsletters; Rural Matters; presence at agricultural shows etc. The Scottish Government are however aware that an additional dedicated specific marketing budget might help further promote uptake of products such as Integrated Land Management Plans, Carbon Audits and Mentoring. This will be taken into consideration when the next iteration of the FAS is being designed.

- **Less paperwork in the provision of the service**

Considerable efforts have been made to introduce standardised processes; streamline and improve administration; and remove bureaucracy. For example, a recent change involving use of electronic signatures has improved efficiency for advisers. This and other improvements have had the desired results and will be kept under constant review. It is however recognised that farmers, crofters and advisers will always claim that there is too much paperwork. The Scottish Government do however require to maintain robust governance systems to ensure compliance with audit and other requirements and do require to continue to deliver appropriate quality control and assurance checks conducive with the need to maintain an appropriate level of service delivery.

- **More specific, detailed, relevant advice**

The Scottish Government note that a minority of respondents suggested that some of the advice they received was not suitable or relevant, or was impracticable. In other cases a minority of respondents suggested that recommendations would not be implemented for other reasons such as failing to get access to grant funding. Such responses were varied and there was no specific definitive pattern to the negative responses made. In such circumstances it is considered sufficient for the service provider to continue to take note and ensure that appropriate feedback is provided to advisers and that any general lessons learned are incorporated into the programme of training for advisers.

- **Greater accessibility of the service in terms of locations and formats of support**

Online applications have been introduced and advice is made available to applicants through the national advice line and website. Above and beyond that different forms of support are made available through the one-to-many FAS, including technical notes, webinars, guidance, events, benchmarking data, toolkits etc. In terms of accessibility at different locations throughout Scotland we are aware that there are a limited number of advisers available in the more remote locations such as Na h-Eileanan Siar. Further consideration will need to be given to this as we move forward.

- **Speed of service**

Procedures have been introduced and implemented by the one-to-one FAS service provider to chase up adviser commissions for work and submission of reports for quality assurance purposes. This is kept under review and discussed at bimonthly management meetings with the Scottish Government.

- **More follow up**

This point is recognised by the Scottish Government and will be considered further in the next iteration of the FAS.

- **More specialist advisors**

This matter will be reviewed going forward.

Food Processing, Marketing and Co-operation

The Food Processing, Marketing and Co-Operation (FPMC) Scheme aims to support the development of food and drink processing businesses throughout Scotland by partially funding capital and non-capital projects. It has to date awarded almost €72 million to 119 projects.

FPMC aims to be a last resort fund, accessible to those whose projects could not proceed without it. It also aims to support small and large businesses across dairy, meat, fruit and vegetable, cereal, alcohol, and eggs sectors in all regions of Scotland.

In light of the planned EU-exit on it is important to assess EU-funded schemes such as FPMC to help inform decisions as to whether funding should be continued or modified.

Key Findings: Meeting the FPMC Objectives

There is evidence to show that FPMC is having a positive impact on the Scottish economy, population health, and environmental sustainability. However, these contributions were not evenly spread between different sectors, indicating possible areas for improvement.

The meat sector contributed the most to the job market and cost efficiencies (grant cost per job, turnover, pre-tax profits). The alcohol sector meanwhile contributed least to jobs, cost efficiencies, population health, and the environment.

Evidence shows that high proportion of businesses benefitted from multiple FPMC awards over several funding rounds. Successful applicants were also more likely to have used an agent to help them in their application, and were less likely to approach FPMC as a last resort fund. This could be counter to the

aims of the fund as a ‘last resort’ programme.

Key Findings: application and assessment procedures

Most applicants were satisfied with the application process overall. The main desires for achievable change were:

- better and more transparent guidance;
- more flexibility;
- targeted support for smaller businesses; and
- revision of the current rules preventing projects’ to begin before the application outcome is confirmed.

There was also consistent concern around the use of agents which was perceived as inequitable especially for smaller businesses that were less able to afford agents’ fees.

Experts were generally content with the assessment panel’s function. However they echoed concerns about use of agents, and that smaller businesses may be disadvantaged.

Following the evaluation the Scottish Government has taken the following steps:

- **Better and more transparent guidance**

Guidance has been updated where necessary on the Rural Payments and Services website. There has been only one further application round since the evaluation was finished so it is currently difficult to see if the changes made have made a difference.

- **More flexibility**

The Scottish Government did look into having applications for smaller under (€60,000 grant requests) open all the time, but unfortunately the full budget for 2020/2021 was allocated in the last funding round, so this has not been possible to put it in place. This is something the Scottish Government will be considering for a future scheme.

- **Targeted support for smaller businesses**

The Scottish Government has to abide by EU Regulation, and although not targeted, most of the grant awards have been to SMEs. The final round resulted in 54 applications, of which 30 were approved for funding (29 capital projects (Measure 4) and once co-operation project (Measure 16)). Two large companies were awarded funding of €1.5 million in total , and 28 SMEs were awarded funding of €5.3 million in total.

- **Revision of the current rules preventing projects’ to begin before the application outcome is confirmed.**

EU Regulation that costs cannot be incurred until funding award notification has been given – except for Statutory Requirements (any costs incurred for Statutory requirements(Planning Permission/Building Warrants/Architects fees) before the grant award notification date are not eligible for funding). This remains in place and is being included in the revised regulations for 2021-2024. This regulation does not just cover the FPMC.

- **There was also consistent concern around the use of agents which was perceived as inequitable**

especially for smaller businesses that were less able to afford agents' fees.

This is taken into account in the assessment process – especially the Food Industry Adviser's (FIA's) Report and the National Project Assessment Committee (NPAC). If the FIA flags up a need for more information, this is requested from the applicant so that it can be included in the FIA's Report for the NPAC to consider.

- **Experts were generally content with the assessment panel's function. However they echoed concerns about use of agents, and that smaller businesses may be disadvantaged.**

Please refer to previous response.

2.f) A description of communication activities undertaken in relation to publicising evaluation findings (in relation to section 6 of the evaluation plan)

Reference shall be made to the evaluation plan, any difficulties encountered in implementation shall be described, together with solutions adopted or proposed.

Date / Period	07/11/2019
Title of communication activity/event & topic of evaluation findings discussed/ disseminated	Publication and promotion of the SRDP Annual Implementation Report (Summary for Citizens) for 2018. Illustrated two-page infographic of the findings of the annual AIR 2018 report with a breakdown of schemes and spend in infographic and bullet point headlines, with link and QR code to full report.
Overall organiser of activity/ event	The summary was produced by the Scottish Rural Network along with the Scottish Government SRDP Team and shared/promoted by the Scottish Rural Network.
Information channels/format used	Published on the Scottish Rural Network website and promoted in the Rural Network news newsletter. A link was also shared through the SRN Facebook and Twitter channels.
Type of target audience	Key stakeholders, beneficiaries and members of the public.
Approximate number of stakeholders reached	10000
URL	https://www.ruralnetwork.scot/news-and-events/news/new-infographic-shows-srdp-information-and-spend-2018

Date / Period	06/02/2019
Title of communication activity/event & topic of evaluation findings	Publication and promotion of 'Implementation Report (AIR)' for 2017. Illustrated two-page summary of the findings of the annual AIR 2017 report with a breakdown of schemes and spend in infographic and bullet point

discussed/ disseminated	headlines, with link to full report.
Overall organiser of activity/ event	The summary was produced by the Scottish Rural Network along with the Scottish Government and shared/promoted by the Scottish Rural Network.
Information channels/ format used	Published on the Scottish Rural Network website and promoted in the Rural Network news newsletter.
Type of target audience	Key stakeholders, beneficiaries and members of the public.
Approximate number of stakeholders reached	1450
URL	https://www.ruralnetwork.scot/news-and-events/news/srdp-annual-implementation-report-2017

2.g) Description of the follow-up given to evaluation results (in relation to section 6 of the evaluation plan)

Reference shall be made to the evaluation plan, any difficulties encountered in implementation shall be described, together with solutions adopted or proposed.

<p>Evaluation result relevant for follow-up (Describe finding & mention source in brackets)</p>	<p>Main findings from the 2018 Annual Implementation Report (2018 Annual Implementation Report).</p>
<p>Follow-up carried out</p>	<p>The main findings of the 2018 AIR were made into graphics and then were included in a banner that was displayed at various locations, including in Scottish Government buildings and in the Scottish Government Pavilion during the 2019 Royal Highland Show.</p>
<p>Responsible authority for follow-up</p>	<p>Managing authority</p>

3. ISSUES WHICH AFFECT THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND THE MEASURES TAKEN

3.a) Description of steps taken to ensure quality and effectiveness of programme implementation

The SRDP 2014-2020 will remain under continual review throughout the programme period. As part of the governance procedures, key aspects of the Programme are reported to and considered by the Rural Development Operational Committee (RDOC) which meet twice a year. Standing items on the agenda for the RDOC include the provision of scheme information, communications, finance and monitoring and evaluation. RDOC papers are made publically available on the Scottish Government SRDP web pages: <https://www.gov.scot/groups/srdp-2014---2020-rural-development-operational-committee/>

The sixth modification to the programme was adopted by the European Commission (EC) in December 2019. The sixth modification included a number of amendments including changes to the co-financing rate, the removal of Joint Programme Monitoring Committee (JPMC) from all documents, minor changes to AECS for contract extensions and adjusting the payment rates for LFASS to keep the scheme compliant with EU regulations. Target indicators for Targets 2 and 24 were adjusted by more than 50% of the original value to meet revised scheme budgets and to reflect scheme performance.

The Information and Publicity Strategy was agreed in 2015. It is reviewed annually, with the last update being required in 2017. An annual Strategic Communications Strategy is prepared and shared with the RDOC. Scheme information is available on the Rural Payment and Inspections website (<https://www.ruralpayments.org/publicsite/futures/>) where guidance is presented in a consistent and customer friendly way. More information on the Information and Publicity Strategy can be found in Section 4.

A particular issue for programme implementation is the Error Rate Action Plan, which was originally agreed with the Commission in September 2014 and reflected the root causes of the high error rates during the 2007-2013 programme period and the actions planned to address these. Progress with the Error Rate Action Plan continues to be made and this is reported to the RDOC at the two annual meetings. The Plan has been updated iteratively to include new risks identified and further audit findings of the EC and European Commission Auditor missions.

Whilst many aspects of the original Action Plan are complete, the impact of some actions will take time to feed through to allow improvements to the error rate to be seen, so this will continue to be an ongoing task.

The Plan will continue to be updated and dialogue is on-going with the EC to endeavour to address the actions and move Scotland out of reservation status.

3.b) Quality and efficient delivery mechanisms

Simplified Cost Options (SCOs) ¹, proxy automatically calculated

	Total RDP financial allocation [EAFRD]	[%] planned SCO coverage out of the total RDP	[%] realised expenditure through SCO out of total RDP allocation

		allocation ²	(cumulative ³)
Fund specific methods CPR Article 67(5)(e)	844,685,131.00	62.59	43.13

¹ Simplified Cost Options shall be intended as unit cost/flat rates/lumps sums CPR Article 67(5) including the EAFRD specific methods under point (e) of that article such as business start-up lump sums, flat rate payments to producers organisations and area and animal related unit costs.

² Automatically calculated from programme version's measures 06, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18

³ Automatically calculated from declarations of expenditure's measures 06, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18

E-management for beneficiaries [optional]

	[%] EAFRD funding	[%] Operations concerned
Application for support		
Payment claims		
Controls and compliance		
Monitoring and reporting to the MA/PA		

Average time limits for beneficiaries to receive payments [optional]

[Days] Where applicable, MS deadline for payments to beneficiaries	[Days] Average time for payments to beneficiaries	Comments

4. STEPS TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND PROGRAMME PUBLICITY REQUIREMENTS

4.a) Action taken and state of play as regards the establishment of the NRN and the implementation of its action plan

4.a1) Actions taken and state of play as regards establishment of the NRN (governance structure and network support unit)

The Head of the Scottish Rural Network has strategic oversight of the NRN and the Network Support Unit. The EU Rural Development Policy Team in Scottish Government operates as the Managing Authority (MA), with responsibility for signing off the plans, monitoring delivery and performance and participating in NRN activities, where appropriate.

The Action Plan for 2014-2020 was approved by the Rural Development Operational Committee (RDOC) in April 2015.

There is an established annual planning cycle, involving stakeholder engagement to help identify priorities for the annual work programme. Each annual work programme is approved by the MA, with the RDOC and JPMC having an opportunity to offer comments and feedback on it and the development 2020-21 programme is on track.

Network Support Unit

The Network Support Unit (NSU), based within Scottish Government, was set up to provide a dedicated staff resource for the successful delivery of the NRN's Action Plan and individual activities. The NSU was established in April 2015. Currently there are six members of staff in the NSU funded under Technical Assistance:

- Network Manager
- Event Coordinator
- Website and Social Media Officer
- Communications Officer
- Cooperation and LEADER Development Officer
- Finance and Business Manager

The Head of Unit is also involved in supporting and delivering some of the NRN's activities, but their salary is not funded under Technical Assistance.

4.a2) Actions taken and state of play as regards the implementation of the action plan

The Scottish Rural Network (SRN) continued to operate at full capacity through 2019 with a reduced number of staff, expanding its website membership, newsletter subscribers and social media followers, producing new SRDP case studies and promotional content and linking in with SRDP stakeholders on events and policy work. Over 2019 the SRN:

- Increased their audience across all channels (newsletter subscribers, website views, social media

followers, video views and event attendees), continuing to distribute the latest news on SRDP funding opportunities, application windows, updates on Brexit, local events and opinions pieces.

- Issued a stakeholder survey and commissioned external website usability testing towards the beginning of the financial year, the results of which were used to inform the SRN annual communications plan for 2019/2020.
- Produced and promoted 27 new SRDP case studies. This includes 12 case study videos and purpose made flyers from SRN and 15 case studies promoted by the Rural Innovation Support Service (RISS) that was commissioned and paid for by SRN.
- Produced a SRDP brochure (<https://www.ruralnetwork.scot/sites/default/files/documents/SRDP%20Brochure.pdf>) with a summary of schemes and case studies to be handed out at the Royal Highland Show and other events
- Produced and publicised an ‘AIR Citizen Summary’ (https://www.ruralnetwork.scot/sites/default/files/documents/AIR%20infographic%20final_0.pdf) Infographic based on the Annual Implementation Report for 2018.
- Produced SRN Quarterly Communications Reviews summarising main communications activity for 2019. The first quarterly review was for April to June 2019. The three quarterly reviews produced for 2019 are available below:
 - Quarterly Communications Review: April – June 2019 - https://www.ruralnetwork.scot/sites/default/files/documents/SRNquarterlycommsreview_link_s.pdf
 - Quarterly Communications Review: July – September 2019 - https://www.ruralnetwork.scot/sites/default/files/documents/SRNquarterlycommsreview_link_sjulsept_1.pdf
 - Quarterly Communications Review: October – December 2019 - https://www.canva.com/design/DADx0vaNWS4/sKUN8z7cQuooxYx8UP-1AA/view?utm_content=DADx0vaNWS4&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=sharebutton
- Linked in with European colleagues at events such as the NetworX conference and Rural Inspiration Awards held in Brussels, where they supported ENRD colleagues in the delivery of the event and supported the two Scottish LEADER funded projects who were among the 25 finalists for the Rural Inspiration Awards.
- Worked with Rural Economy and other policy colleagues and stakeholders to deliver the Rural Enterprise Futures Event in September 2019, which brought a wide-ranging invited audience from public, private and third sectors together to discuss the contribution rural enterprise makes to the Scottish economy. The SRN produced an event highlights video in-house to publicise the outcomes of the event: <https://vimeo.com/362053234>.
- Hosted a delegation visit of FLAG staff from Sweden, arranging visits to FLAG funded projects across Scotland and exploring opportunities for partnership working. Produced a video summary of the trip in-house: <https://vimeo.com/380466712>.
- Delivered and co-hosted the Smart Digital Villages’ event held for the EU Smart Villages Network and the LEADER Smart Digital Villages project. SRN produced an event highlights video available here: <https://vimeo.com/379006900>.
- Continued to build on our youth engagement in 2019 in partnership with the Rural Youth Project, as well as through the promotion of various campaigns and consultations aimed at young people.
- Shared core government messaging and official lines surrounding EU exit, as well as signposting to various resources and events/workshops hosted by external rural stakeholders.

4.b) Steps taken to ensure that the programme is publicised (Article 13 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 808/2014)

The Information and Publicity Strategy was established in early 2015, prior to the approval of the SRDP 2014-2020 and alongside the launch of the first schemes, to ensure that communications plans were in place to inform stakeholders, customers, potential beneficiaries and all delivery partners of progress with the SRDP. The Strategy was presented to the Joint Programme Monitoring Committee (JPMC) at their meeting in May 2015, and then again for formal approval in November 2015 after Commission approval of the SRDP, as required by Article 13 of EU Regulation No 808/2014.

Communications in 2019 has supported and informed colleagues and stakeholders about SRDP schemes through communications advice and the delivery of high quality communications products. The Agriculture and Rural Economy Directorate Communications Team have been using the Rural Matters social media channels to inform staff and stakeholder on a variety of issues including extension of AECS application window, notification of delaine for collaborative projects, publication of payment timetables and notification of BES requirements. Updates on SRDP schemes was provided directly to stakeholders at the Agriculture and Rural Development Stakeholder group throughout 2019. The Scottish Rural Network (SRN) continued to operate at full capacity increasing their audience across all channels (newsletter subscribers, website views, social media followers, video views and event attendees), continuing to distribute the latest news on SRDP funding opportunities, application windows, updates on Brexit, local events and opinions pieces. EU and UK level engagement has continued through regular informal meetings, bilateral and formal meetings such as Rural Development Operational Committee and the Annual Review Meeting.

Over 48 press releases or news articles relevant to the SRDP have been produced by the Scottish Government to ensure stakeholders, applicants and potential beneficiaries are aware of information relating to Brexit, the Single Application Form (SAF). The Royal Highland Show also allowed wider engagement with the agricultural community in June 2019. The Royal Highland Show has over 150,000 visitors each year and is an excellent platform to inform customers of the SRDP support and benefits. Unfortunately due to Covid-19 the Royal Highland Show for 2020 has been cancelled.

This has been complemented by specific scheme actions including:

- The Rural Innovation Support Service (RISS) has attracted more than 2,370 visits to the website helping as a bottom-up approach to rural innovation and addressing the needs of land managers;
- The Knowledge Transfer and Innovation Fund (KTIF) delivered 250 training events, helping 5,255 participants, as well as awarding funding to 25 operation groups made up of 435 farmers/small holders, advisors and researchers;
- The Beef Efficiency Scheme (BES) delivered 36 events across Scotland, covering Improved Herd Fertility and Financial and Management Benefits;
- On-going awareness raising of the Farm Advisory Service (FAS) by continued promotion of activity - since the launch of the FAS, 251 events have been held. Further to this 111 Integrated Land Management Plans are underway, with 218 instances of specialist advice, 861 carbon audits awarded and 19 mentoring;
- Continued operation of the LEADER Communications Working Group to drive and coordinate communications and link up Local Action Groups (LAGs) across the Programme;
- Gathering information on LEADER Programme outputs and progress through the Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) Working Group to demonstrate the value of the CLLD approach; and
- Promoting woodland creation element of the Forestry Grant Scheme (FGS).

In addition to the specific communications around the SRDP, the Rural Payments and Services website (<https://www.ruralpayments.org/publicsite/futures/>) has been available from January 2015; providing a single point of information for all CAP support, including scheme guidance and information on inspections, breaches and penalties and appeals and complaints. Additionally there is the Farm Advisory Service website (<https://www.fas.scot/>) which provides current news, upcoming events, recent publications and advice.

5. ACTIONS TAKEN TO FULFIL EX ANTE CONDITIONALITIES

This section applies to AIR(s) 2015, 2016 only

6. DESCRIPTION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF SUB-PROGRAMMES

This section applies to AIR(s) 2016, 2018 only

7. ASSESSMENT OF THE INFORMATION AND PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME

This section applies to AIR(s) 2016, 2018 only

8. IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIONS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PRINCIPLES SET OUT IN ARTICLES 5, 7 AND 8 OF REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013

This section applies to AIR(s) 2016, 2018 only

9. PROGRESS MADE IN ENSURING INTEGRATED APPROACH TO USE EAFRD AND OTHER UNION FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

This section applies to AIR(s) 2018 only

10. REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (ARTICLE 46 OF REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013)

30A. Has the ex-ante assessment been started ?	No
30B. Has the ex-ante assessment been completed ?	No
30. Date of completion of ex-ante assessment	-
31.1. Has selection or designation process already been launched ?	No
13A. Has the funding agreement been signed ?	No
13. Date of signature of the funding agreement with the body implementing the financial instrument	-

11. ENCODING TABLES FOR COMMON AND PROGRAMME-SPECIFIC INDICATORS AND QUANTIFIED TARGET VALUES

See Monitoring Annex

Annex II

Detailed table showing implementation level by Focus areas including output indicators

Focus Area 1A							
FA/M	Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
1A	T1: percentage of expenditure under Articles 14, 15 and 35 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 in relation to the total expenditure for the RDP (focus area 1A)	2014-2019			1.37	63.67	2.15
		2014-2018			0.93	43.22	
		2014-2017			0.53	24.63	
		2014-2016			0.19	8.83	
		2014-2015			0.13	6.04	

Focus Area 1B							
FA/M	Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
1B	T2: Total number of cooperation operations supported under the cooperation measure (Article 35 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013) (groups, networks/clusters, pilot projects...) (focus area 1B)	2014-2019			25.00	39.06	64.00
		2014-2018			20.00	31.25	
		2014-2017			13.00	20.31	
		2014-2016			4.00	6.25	
		2014-2015			1.00	1.56	

Focus Area 1C							
FA/M	Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
1C	T3: Total number of participants trained under Article 14 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (focus area 1C)	2014-2019			17,374.00	163.64	10,617.00
		2014-2018			14,683.00	138.30	
		2014-2017			13,065.00	123.06	
		2014-2016			12,118.00	114.14	
		2014-2015			9,227.00	86.91	

Focus Area 2A								
FA/M	Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023	
2A	T4: percentage of agricultural holdings with RDP support for investments in restructuring or modernisation (focus area 2A)	2014-2019	7.31	44.71	7.31	44.71	16.35	
		2014-2018	5.55	33.95	5.55	33.95		
		2014-2017	4.21	25.75	4.21	25.75		
		2014-2016	3.09	18.90	3.09	18.90		
		2014-2015	2.39	14.62	2.39	14.62		
	Number of participants trained under Article 14 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (Number of participants trained)	2014-2019				16,209.00	96.49	16,799.00
		2014-2018				14,431.00	85.90	
		2014-2017				13,065.00	77.77	
		2014-2016						
		2014-2015						
FA/M	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023	
2A	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	252,647,780.76	83.06	245,464,181.12	80.70	304,184,476.00	
M01	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	3,065,990.70	86.48	2,768,650.30	78.09	3,545,279.00	
M01.1	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			2,768,650.30	78.09	3,545,279.00	
M01.1	O12 - Number of participants in trainings	2014-2019			16,209.00	96.49	16,799.00	
M02	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	6,514,840.22	79.33	5,042,655.16	61.40	8,212,800.00	
M02.1	O13 - Number of beneficiaries advised	2014-2019			7,128.00	76.07	9,370.00	
M04	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	48,413,142.12	105.67	44,266,425.09	96.62	45,815,297.00	
M04	O2 - Total investment	2014-2019			64,619,153.53	109.72	58,894,775.00	
M04.1	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			42,044,432.18	100.38	41,887,314.00	
M04.1	O4 - Number of holdings/beneficiaries supported	2014-2019			3,823.00	96.98	3,942.00	
M04.3	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			2,221,992.91	56.57	3,927,984.00	
M06	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	1,032,074.00	110.26	602,933.64	64.42	936,000.00	
M06	O2 - Total investment	2014-2019					936,000.00	
M06.3	O4 - Number of holdings/beneficiaries supported	2014-2019			49.00	100.00	49.00	
M13	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	190,886,581.34	78.87	190,162,098.28	78.57	242,029,200.00	
M13.2	O5 - Total area (ha)	2014-2019			1,182,670.48	98.56	1,200,000.00	
M16	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	2,735,152.38	75.02	2,621,418.65	71.90	3,645,900.00	

Focus Area 2B							
FA/M	Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
2B	T5: percentage of agricultural holdings with RDP supported business development plan/investments for young farmers (focus area 2B)	2014-2019	0.51	186.57	0.51	186.57	0.27
		2014-2018	0.50	182.92	0.50	182.92	
		2014-2017	0.39	142.67	0.39	142.67	
		2014-2016	0.31	113.41	0.31	113.41	
		2014-2015	0.11	40.24	0.11	40.24	
FA/M	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
2B	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	15,644,449.40	97.17	15,167,343.01	94.21	16,100,185.00
M02	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	1,628,711.05	79.33	1,259,881.36	61.36	2,053,200.00
M02.1	O13 - Number of beneficiaries advised	2014-2019			3,443.00	78.07	4,410.00
M06	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	14,015,738.35	99.78	13,907,461.65	99.01	14,046,985.00
M06	O2 - Total investment	2014-2019					14,046,985.00
M06.1	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			13,907,461.65	99.01	14,046,985.00
M06.1	O4 - Number of holdings/beneficiaries supported	2014-2019			265.00	99.62	266.00

Focus Area 3A								
FA/M	Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023	
3A	T6: percentage of agricultural holdings receiving support for participating in quality schemes, local markets and short supply circuits, and producer groups/organisations (focus area 3A)	2014-2019	14.69	94.56			15.54	
		2014-2018	14.69	94.56				
		2014-2017	14.69	94.56				
		2014-2016	14.69	94.56				
		2014-2015	14.69	94.56				
	Percentage of total agri-food businesses supported under Article 17 of the Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (Percentage of total number of agri-food businesses)	2014-2019				14.51	111.62	13.00
		2014-2018				12.57	96.69	
		2014-2017				9.83	75.62	
		2014-2016				6.29	48.38	
		2014-2015						
FA/M	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023	
3A	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	80,506,532.18	93.93	50,676,624.82	59.13	85,709,880.00	
M03	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	960,652.73	100.13	960,366.64	100.10	959,365.00	
M04	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	71,148,932.95	91.02	43,130,514.06	55.17	78,170,739.00	
M04	O2 - Total investment	2014-2019			157,234,604.98	40.25	390,650,739.00	
M04.1 M04.2	O3 - Number of actions/operations supported	2014-2019			127.00	104.10	122.00	
M14	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	5,514,031.74	100.26	5,506,511.32	100.12	5,499,776.00	
M14	O4 - Number of holdings/beneficiaries supported	2014-2019			4.00	0.30	1,342.00	
M16	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	2,882,914.76	266.94	1,079,232.80	99.93	1,080,000.00	
M16.4	O9 - Number of holdings participating in supported schemes	2014-2019			2.00	100.00	2.00	

Focus Area 3B							
FA/M	Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
3B	Number of participants trained under Article 14 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (Number of participants trained)	2014-2019					530.00
		2014-2018					
		2014-2017					
		2014-2016					
		2014-2015					
FA/M	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
3B	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	814,355.53	79.33	631,505.70	61.51	1,026,600.00
M02	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	814,355.53	79.33	631,505.70	61.51	1,026,600.00
M02.1	O13 - Number of beneficiaries advised	2014-2019			7,721.00	78.51	9,835.00

Priority P4								
FA/M	Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023	
P4	T13: percentage of forestry land under management contracts to improve soil management and/or prevent soil erosion (focus area 4C)	2014-2019			5.31	13.98	37.99	
		2014-2018			4.68	12.32		
		2014-2017			2.72	7.16		
		2014-2016			1.74	4.58		
		2014-2015			1.03	2.71		
	T11: percentage of forestry land under management contracts to improve water management (focus area 4B)	2014-2019				5.31	13.98	37.99
		2014-2018				4.68	12.32	
		2014-2017				2.72	7.16	
		2014-2016				1.74	4.58	
		2014-2015				1.03	2.71	
	T8: percentage of forest/other wooded area under management contracts supporting biodiversity (focus area 4A)	2014-2019				5.31	13.98	37.99
		2014-2018				4.68	12.32	
		2014-2017				2.72	7.16	
		2014-2016				1.74	4.58	
		2014-2015				1.03	2.71	
	T12: percentage of agricultural land under management contracts to improve soil management and/or prevent soil erosion (focus area 4C)	2014-2019				26.41	138.04	19.13
		2014-2018				17.91	93.61	
		2014-2017				13.70	71.60	
		2014-2016				11.78	61.57	
		2014-2015				11.78	61.57	
T10: percentage of agricultural land under management contracts to improve water management (focus area 4B)	2014-2019				23.86	120.51	19.80	
	2014-2018				16.30	82.33		
	2014-2017				12.58	63.54		
	2014-2016				10.88	54.95		
	2014-2015				10.88	54.95		
T9: percentage of agricultural land under management contracts supporting biodiversity and/or landscapes (focus area 4A)	2014-2019				29.11	128.05	22.73	
	2014-2018				19.66	86.48		
	2014-2017				14.76	64.93		
	2014-2016				12.63	55.56		
	2014-2015				12.63	55.56		
FA/M	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023	
P4	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	538,698,332.33	79.82	482,024,573.11	71.42	674,928,945.00	
M01	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	183,557.00	71.15	196,069.83	76.00	258,000.00	
M01.1	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			196,069.83	76.00	258,000.00	
M01.1	O12 - Number of participants in trainings	2014-2019			663.00	82.88	800.00	
M02	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	4,886,131.16	79.33	3,795,294.15	61.62	6,159,600.00	

M02.1	O13 - Number of beneficiaries advised	2014-2019			6,943.00	76.68	9,055.00
M04	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	42,022,864.26	168.90	31,712,929.56	127.46	24,880,869.00
M04	O2 - Total investment	2014-2019			36,123,148.63	145.18	24,880,869.00
M04.4	O3 - Number of actions/operations supported	2014-2019			1,695.00	56.13	3,020.00
M08	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	112,888,076.04	104.07	85,710,937.93	79.02	108,469,661.00
M08.1	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			74,557,907.57	84.64	88,083,423.00
M08.2	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			0.00	0.00	120,000.00
M08.3	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			0.00	0.00	4,846,624.00
M08.3	O4 - Number of holdings/beneficiaries supported	2014-2019			0.00	0.00	603.00
M08.4	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			832,395.67	17.17	4,846,624.00
M08.5	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			10,320,634.69	97.61	10,572,990.00
M08.5	O3 - Number of actions/operations supported	2014-2019			397.00	134.12	296.00
M08.5	O5 - Total area (ha)	2014-2019			23,305.71	15.72	148,300.00
M10	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	154,301,374.46	60.02	140,282,769.79	54.57	257,064,130.00
M10.1	O5 - Total area (ha)	2014-2019			1,032,357.84	89.00	1,160,000.00
M11	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	17,620,882.49	90.69	15,239,035.01	78.43	19,429,471.00
M11.1	O5 - Total area (ha)	2014-2019			17,963.57	77.76	23,100.00
M11.2	O5 - Total area (ha)	2014-2019			51,264.22	60.74	84,400.00
M13	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	190,886,581.34	78.87	190,162,098.27	78.57	242,029,200.00
M13.2	O5 - Total area (ha)	2014-2019			1,182,670.48	98.56	1,200,000.00
M15	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	15,908,865.58	99.19	14,925,438.57	93.06	16,038,014.00
M15.1	O5 - Total area (ha)	2014-2019			8,897.32	7.12	124,900.00
M16	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600,000.00

Focus Area 5B							
FA/M	Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
5B	Number of participants trained under Article 14 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (Number of participants trained)	2014-2019			502.00	71.71	700.00
		2014-2018					
		2014-2017					
		2014-2016					
		2014-2015					
FA/M	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
5B	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	2,683,036.58	62.52	2,038,607.37	47.50	4,291,800.00
M01	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	99,081.00	31.76	91,753.11	29.41	312,000.00
M01.1	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			91,753.11	29.41	312,000.00
M01.1	O12 - Number of participants in trainings	2014-2019			502.00	71.71	700.00
M02	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	2,443,065.58	77.81	1,900,777.35	60.54	3,139,800.00
M02.1	O13 - Number of beneficiaries advised	2014-2019			2,638.00	63.26	4,170.00
M16	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	140,890.00	16.77	46,076.91	5.49	840,000.00

Focus Area 5C							
FA/M	Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
5C	Number of participants trained under Article 14 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (Number of participants trained)	2014-2019					525.00
		2014-2018					
		2014-2017					
		2014-2016					
		2014-2015					

Focus Area 5D							
FA/M	Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
5D	T18: percentage of agricultural land under management contracts targeting reduction of GHG and/or ammonia emissions (focus area 5D)	2014-2019			25.83	111.42	23.18
		2014-2018			18.27	78.81	
		2014-2017			13.76	59.35	
		2014-2016			10.88	46.93	
		2014-2015			10.88	46.93	
	T17: percentage of LU concerned by investments in live-stock management in view of reducing GHG and/or ammonia emissions (focus area 5D)	2014-2019			0.29	21.90	1.32
		2014-2018			0.01	0.76	
		2014-2017					
		2014-2016					
		2014-2015					
FA/M	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
5D	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	19,908,043.00	73.09	18,511,222.75	67.96	27,238,530.00
M02	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	1,002,049.00	92.25	974,021.17	89.67	1,086,276.00
M02.1	O13 - Number of beneficiaries advised	2014-2019			2,868.00	50.49	5,680.00
M04	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	1,861,717.00	55.24	1,735,276.57	51.48	3,370,530.00
M04	O2 - Total investment	2014-2019			1,735,276.57	51.48	3,370,530.00
M04.1 M04.3 M04.4	O3 - Number of actions/operations supported	2014-2019			42.00	91.30	46.00
M04.1 M04.3 M04.4	O8 - Number of Livestock Units supported (LU)	2014-2019			6,381.00	158.26	4,032.00
M10	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	17,044,277.00	74.82	15,801,925.01	69.36	22,781,724.00
M10.1	O5 - Total area (ha)	2014-2019			91,218.67	101.35	90,000.00

Focus Area 5E							
FA/M	Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
5E	T19: percentage of agricultural and forest land under management contracts contributing to carbon sequestration and conservation (focus area 5E)	2014-2019			19.41	120.29	16.14
		2014-2018			13.23	81.99	
		2014-2017			10.12	62.72	
		2014-2016			8.71	53.98	
		2014-2015			8.70	53.92	
FA/M	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
5E	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	181,394,481.36	71.81	116,979,957.87	46.31	252,589,590.00
M08	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	180,666,471.36	71.63	116,870,521.76	46.33	252,229,590.00
M08.1	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			101,581,215.13	42.82	237,216,446.00
M08.1	O5 - Total area (ha)	2014-2019			22,231.29	53.31	41,700.00
M08.2	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			0.00	0.00	180,000.00
M08.2	O5 - Total area (ha)	2014-2019			0.00	0.00	42.00
M08.5	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			15,289,306.63	103.08	14,833,144.00
M08.5	O3 - Number of actions/operations supported	2014-2019			1,439.00	582.59	247.00
M16	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	728,010.00	202.23	109,436.11	30.40	360,000.00

Focus Area 6A							
FA/M	Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
6A	T20: Jobs created in supported projects (focus area 6A)	2014-2019			17.00	100.00	17.00
		2014-2018			17.00	100.00	
		2014-2017			17.00	100.00	
		2014-2016			17.00	100.00	
		2014-2015			17.00	100.00	
FA/M	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
6A	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	2,638,351.70	80.61	3,025,604.13	92.44	3,273,037.00
M04	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	720,000.00
M04	O2 - Total investment	2014-2019			0.00	0.00	1,200,000.00
M04	O4 - Number of holdings/beneficiaries supported	2014-2019					24.00
M06	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	1,277,950.78	80.22	1,546,768.36	97.10	1,593,037.00
M06	O2 - Total investment	2014-2019			3,616,103.93	226.99	1,593,037.00
M06.2 M06.4	O4 - Number of holdings/beneficiaries supported	2014-2019			17.00	100.00	17.00
M08	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	1,360,400.92	141.71	1,478,835.77	154.05	960,000.00
M08	O3 - Number of actions/operations supported	2014-2019					80.00
M08.6	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			1,478,835.77	154.05	960,000.00
M08.6	O2 - Total investment	2014-2019			3,697,089.42	154.05	2,400,000.00

Focus Area 6B								
FA/M	Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023	
6B	T23: Jobs created in supported projects (Leader) (focus area 6B)	2014-2019			30.00	5.44	551.00	
		2014-2018			18.00	3.27		
		2014-2017						
		2014-2016						
		2014-2015						
	T22: percentage of rural population benefiting from improved services/infrastructures (focus area 6B)	2014-2019				6.85	67.57	10.14
		2014-2018				2.61	25.75	
		2014-2017				1.33	13.12	
		2014-2016						
		2014-2015						
	T21: percentage of rural population covered by local development strategies (focus area 6B)	2014-2019				86.76	100.01	86.76
		2014-2018				86.76	100.01	
		2014-2017				86.76	100.01	
		2014-2016				86.76	100.01	
		2014-2015				86.76	100.01	
FA/M	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023	
6B	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	113,347,089.43	98.85	61,182,101.11	53.36	114,668,156.00	
M07	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	13,093,623.00	80.49	10,263,316.86	63.09	16,268,156.00	
M07.1 M07.2 M07.4 M07.5 M07.6 M07.7 M07.8	O15 - Population benefiting of improved services/infrastructures (IT or others)	2014-2019			165,745.00	47.96	345,571.00	
M07.4	O3 - Number of actions/operations supported	2014-2019			4.00	100.00	4.00	
M07.5	O3 - Number of actions/operations supported	2014-2019			192.00	74.71	257.00	
M07.6	O3 - Number of actions/operations supported	2014-2019			982.00	100.10	981.00	
M19	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	100,253,466.43	101.88	50,918,784.25	51.75	98,400,000.00	
M19	O18 - Population covered by LAG	2014-2019			2,100,000.00	100.00	2,100,000.00	
M19	O19 - Number of LAGs selected	2014-2019			21.00	100.00	21.00	
M19.2	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			33,968,076.14	48.16	70,536,000.00	
M19.3	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			1,746,842.09	37.62	4,644,000.00	
M19.4	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019			15,203,866.02	65.48	23,220,000.00	

Focus Area 6C

FA/M	Target indicator name	Period	Based on approved (when relevant)	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Target 2023
6C	T24: percentage of rural population benefiting from new or improved services/infrastructures (ICT) (focus area 6C)	2014-2019					0.00
		2014-2018					
		2014-2017					
		2014-2016					
		2014-2015					
FA/M	Output Indicator	Period	Committed	Uptake (%)	Realised	Uptake (%)	Planned 2023
6C	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	48,946.00	99.00	47,068.57	95.20	49,440.00
M07	O1 - Total public expenditure	2014-2019	48,946.00	99.00	47,068.57	95.20	49,440.00

Documents

Document title	Document type	Document date	Local reference	Commission reference	Checksum	Files	Sent date	Sent By
SRDP 2014-2020 - AIR 2019 - Summary for Citizens	Citizens' summary	29-07-2020	2014-2020 - AIR 5 - SforC	Ares(2020)3994274	1035398567	SRDP 2014-2020 - AIR 2019 - Summary for Citizens	29-07-2020	n0035g4d
AIR Financial Annex 2014UK06RDRP003	Financial annex (System)	23-03-2020		Ares(2020)3994274	3027321786	AIRfinancialAnnex2014UK06RDRP003_en.pdf	29-07-2020	n0035g4d

