

DESCRIPTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Risk management and resilience of agriculture are among the most important issues in the ongoing discussion on the shape of the CAP after 2020, and reform of this policy requires in-depth reflection on its impact on the resilience of farming systems. The currently prepared reforms of the CAP include the decisions, whether and how much to invest in the resilience of farming systems, and what mix of the three resilience strategies (robustness, adaptability, transformability) to choose. These issues require addressing and answering the question, whether the current and planned designs of the CAP and other policies support or constrain the resilience of farm systems. While some farming systems, such as dairy, receive relatively more support than others from the CAP funds, little is known, how beneficial is the CAP for the less supported systems. In Poland one of the farming systems benefitting least from the CAP policy is a horticulture system.

European farming systems face broad scope of risks: economic, environmental, social and institutional. To cope with those risks, the in-depth insight into the mechanisms of the resilience is necessary. Resilience theory originates in ecology and system theory, but recently have been used in economics, political science and management theories. The resilience theory provides an interdisciplinary framework to investigate the ability of complex socio-ecological systems to cope with changing environments. Several resilience frameworks have been developed and applied to farming systems. However, they do not distinguish between different types of resilience, e.g. robustness, adaptability and transformability. Due to incomprehensive metrics, existing resilience frameworks do not sufficiently capture the interplay of multiple processes and actors apparent in farming systems. The proposed study focuses on capturing policy solutions and processes affecting resilience, using the metrics developed in a new Resilience Assessment Tool (ResAT).

Taking abovementioned into account, the main scientific goal of the research is to assess the impact of the Common Agricultural Policy on the resilience of Polish farming systems in terms of robustness, adaptability and transformability, based on the horticulture farming system as an example.

To achieve the goals of the project, the problem-based case study research method was chosen. The phenomenon will be examined by using both top-down and bottom-up approach. In the bottom-up approach the aim is to explore policy influences as experienced by actors (farmers, policy makers and other stakeholders), in the web of multi-level and multi-sectoral policies. This will allow observation of the outcomes of the implemented policy, which might differ from the intentions stated in the policy outputs. It will also allow assessing how the sectoral needs are met by the current policy implementation and to what extent the proposed changes in the policy address those needs.

a) Analysis of strategic documents using the Resilience Assessment Tool (ResAT). The method includes following steps: identification of the main challenges of the horticulture system in Poland based on the literature review, selection of documents and preparation of the database, analysis, interpretation of the results, and graphic presentation of the results.

b) Statistical analysis: funds related to various measures of CAP will be analyzed in order to verify to what extent the goals declared by the policy are supported by the budget devoted to their financing.

c) Hybrid Forum: The results achieved in the project will be discussed with representatives of various stakeholders of agricultural system in the participatory approach, i.e. in a form of Hybrid Forum. The concept of "hybrid forum" is a democratic and dynamic way to think and act together. Therefore, the participants will have a chance to discuss the results and add their point of view.

d) Interviews. The experienced influence of policy configurations on the resilience of farming systems will be studied through in-depth interviews with relevant stakeholders. The data collection and analysis includes following steps: desk research, identifying and contacting respondents, conducting interviews, analysis of the results and synthesis of the findings.