Results-based approaches – what today is about

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Isn’t all agri-environment aiming at results??

- Many ‘targets’ of measures still not benefitting (or getting worse)
- Many individual participants concerned about lack of success on their farm/common
- Strong tendency to think about the rationale ONLY during measure design (programming bureaucracy encourages this maybe?)
- Monitoring and evaluation happens but seems at best to feedback into the measure every 7 years
- ‘Simplicity’ driver encourages a very prescriptive approach – may not demand ‘box ticking’, but that’s much easier than innovating
- The comeback on auditing is harsher than that on programming!
7 years
Local adaptation, results-based/Results-Based

- Locally-refined implementation is anyway a Good Thing
- It’s possible to be much more results-orientated and continuously-adaptive and still be broadly prescriptive
- But:
  - Could mean more and more differentiation, more and more admin headaches
  - Power, responsibility, ‘agency’ still lies with Government – farmer is the implementer of rules
- Results-Based means turning the farmer into a skilled and trusted deliverer of results
- (Local adaptation can maybe give results without total atomisation)
Today’s speakers

- Contrast of time
- Contrast of scale
- Contrasting complexity of target
- Contrasting type of participant
- Contrasting prime movers
- Contrasting role of Government

- ‘Not just unrepresentative happy stories’
Things to think about today

- All too good to be true? Be cynical - ask about the difficulties; ask what it was like before!
- Not just one model – what are the pros/cons of various approaches?
- What are the risks for the farmer? How to minimise/avoid them?
- What are the risks for Government? How to minimise/avoid them?
- Motivated individuals locally seem essential – what does that imply?
- Time seems key – are there ways to catalyse the reaction?
Producing fully-formed measures is impossible and undesirable

– what are the stepping stones and how can they be put in place?