New common agricultural policy (CAP): An opportunity for water policies

Experience feedback from the French Biodiversity Agency (OFB)
Setting the scene

- France → **9.1 b€/year** from CAP
- Cost of **agriculture-related water pollution**: 1 b€/year for French citizens
- Pollution concerns
  - **37.1%** of surface water bodies
  - **30.9%** of underground WB
- 10% of France’s water withdrawal is used for **irrigation**
- Growing issue of **water scarcity**

Water withdrawal for agriculture per department (2015)

Source: OFB, Banque nationale des prélèvements quantitatifs en eau (BNPE). Traitements: SDES, 2018
The French Biodiversity Agency

- **New public body**: created on the 1st of January 2020
- Merging the expertise of former agencies:

→ **Encompassing approach**: water, biodiversity, nature and water uses, etc.
The French Biodiversity Agency

- Preventing damages to water and environment (police)

- Developing knowledge and data

- Managing protected areas

- Implementing, together with the State, national and European public policies

- Supporting stakeholders
OFB’s participation to the NSP elaboration

- Pre-consultation led by the Ministry for Agriculture:
  → elaboration of national « diagnosis »

- Broad citizen consultation
OFB’s key recommendations for the next CAP (1/2)

• Restore and valorize landscape features (hedges, wetlands, grasslands)

• Support pesticide and fertilizer reduction

• Foster climate adaptation (water use)

• Increase territorial adaptation of measures
OFB’s key recommendations for the next CAP (1/2)

• Develop **systemic support and collective approaches** rather than surface-based, individual payments

• **Train and support** farmers

• Upscale **experimental measures and innovations**

• **Monitor and evaluate** water/biodiversity impacts of measures
Merci de votre attention