Regulation on the Sustainable Use of Plant Protection Products (SUR)

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Farm to Fork: 2 key pesticide reduction targets by 2030



Reduce by 50% the overall use and risk of chemical pesticides by 2030



Reduce use by 50% of more hazardous pesticides by 2030



SUR – Directive to Regulation



Direct obligations on individuals



More detailed and prescriptive obligations



Definition of Biocontrol (Art 3)

- Article 3 (23)
- 'biological control' means the control of organisms harmful to plants or plant products using natural means of biological origin or substances identical to them, such as micro-organisms, semiochemicals, extracts from plant products as defined in Article 3(6) of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009, or invertebrate macro-organisms.



SUR – Legally Binding Targets

EU binding targets: 50% reduction in use and risk of chemical/ use of more hazardous pesticides by 2030 (Art 4)



Formula taking account of historical progress and intensity of pesticide use with 35% minimum (Art 5)

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Transparency: Member States (MS) must respond to Commission recommendations to increase their targets and publish responses (Art 6)

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Annual reporting on target trends with Commission analysis of progress every 2 years (Arts 7, 10 and 11)



SUR – National Action Plans



SUR NAPs have more streamlined contents – detailed list of what is to be included and links to F2F targets



Indicative targets based on analysis of key factors affecting trends in F2F targets

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Annual Progress and Implementation Reports – trends in all targets, streamlined quantitative data on SUR compliance



Analysis by Commission of Annual Progress and Implementation Reports every 2 years



NAP- Relevant Indicative Targets

- MS are asked to establish specific non binding targets for
- National indicative target for the sale of biological PPPs
- list of non-chemical methods
- national measures for encouraging the use of non-chemical methods by professional users through financial incentives

SUR – Integrated Pest Management – crop-specific rules



Art 13 obligations where no crop-specific rules in place drawn from general IPM principles Annex III SUD



Art 15: MS to adopt binding crop-specific rules 2 years after entry into force for 90% of UAA – soil, crops, climate



Very detailed list of what those rules should cover – translates IPM to local circumstances (at MS or regional level) and annual review

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Commission can object to crop-specific rules before they become binding/ before updated and can carry out audits to ensure rules scientifically robust and comply with SUR



SUR – Funding support from CAP for 5 years



New CAP (due to be implemented from 1 January 2023) to extend funding for voluntary practices to SUR compliance



Funding (e.g. eco-schemes and rural development initiatives) normally only for going beyond legal requirements.



Exemption to allow MS to fund compliance with **all** SUR obligations on farmers for 5 years



Under the CAP legislation (Arts 119 and 120 of Reg 2021/2115), CAP Strategic Plans can be amended for SUR



SUR – IPM – electronic record-keeping, advisory system



Under SUR, professional users must record reasons for any intervention (chemical, biological, physical or cultural)



MS competent authorities to establish electronic IPM and plant protection product (PPP) use register and ensure professional users enter records



SUR: professional users must get strategic advice on IPM, precision farming, risk mitigation etc. at least once a year



Professional users used must keep records of advice received for 3 years in electronic IPM and PPP use register



SUR – Application equipment



New central electronic register: notification requirements for transfer of ownership or withdrawal from use (Art 29)



Competent authority managing the central electronic register and overseeing inspections (Art 30)

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More detailed list of information to be recorded at the time of inspection (Art 33)



COM to carry out controls and audits to verify application of rules in each Member State (Art 30)



SUR – Commitment to revise HRIs in light of SAIO data



Commitment in SUR to evaluate HRIs established under SUD 1 year after SUR entry into force (Art 35)



Evaluation of HRIs 1, 2 and 2a to be based on scientific research and extensive consultation



SUR to use SAIO data to publish new or amended HRIs 18 months after first data available under SAIO Regulation



SUR – Training



Central electronic register for certifying training, detailed information it should contain (Art 25)



Period of validity of training certs (5 years for advisor, 10 years for distributor or professional user) (Art 25)



Proof of training before prof user can buy or use PPP authorised for professional use or use application equipment and before an advisor can advise (Arts 17, 23 and 24)



Distributors have to have a sufficient number of trained staff (Art 24)



SUR – Sensitive Areas



SUR prohibits the use of all pesticides in sensitive areas or within 3 metres of such areas (with derogations) – MS may establish larger mandatory buffer zones (Art 18)



More areas covered: human settlements, urban areas covered by watercourse/ water feature, non-productive areas, special protection areas, areas that sustain pollinator species threatened with extinction



Stringent factors for derogations - proven serious and exceptional risk of the spread of quarantine pests/ invasive alien species and no technically feasible lower risk alternative control technique + 60 day max



SUR – Aquatic environment and drinking water



Ban on use of PPPs on surface water or within 3 metres of such water (Art 19)

MS may establish larger mandatory buffer zones



MS shall have in place appropriate measures to avoid deterioration of surface and groundwater status as well as coastal and marine waters to allow achievement of good surface and groundwater status and to protect aquatic environment and drinking water supplies.



SUR – Aerial spraying

More stringent conditions for derogations + 60 day max



no technically feasible alternative due to inaccessible terrain or a **less negative impact** on human health and the environment than any alternative application method



Conditions for aerial spraying all set out in the SUR, including requirement to display notices on perimeter of area to be sprayed at least 2 days before aerial spraying



Delegated act 3 years after entry into force: criteria that would allow the use of certain drones (Arts 21 and 45)



Thank you



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