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Agriculture and Enlargement

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Structure



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- SWG
- Framework (Copenhagen)
- CAP *acquis* (Pillar 1 and 2)
- Responsibilities and priorities
- Gradual approach pCC and CC
- Regional dimension



SWG RRD



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- Network is important
- Members of SWG have a key role as multipliers
- SWG should have a role not only for TAIEX activities
- Key interlocutor also for DG AGRI



Copenhagen criteria



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Economic aspects - The situation in the countries on the basis of the economic criteria for membership, consisting of:

- The existence of a functioning **market economy**, based on clear property rights, functioning markets, price liberalisation and macroeconomic stability;
- The **capacity to cope** with competitive pressure and market forces within the Union and from imported agricultural and food products.



Copenhagen criteria



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Community standards - Capacity to implement the Community legal and administrative provisions for agriculture and rural development:

- Adequate administrative capacity of the agricultural administration, incl. legislation alignment, agricultural policy formulation, analysis, implementation, support payment and control.
- Adequate administrative capacity for the formulation and implementation, in the 1st instance, of pre-accession rural development measures (IPARD) and later Community Rural Development programmes.
- At agricultural market level, setting up of market mechanisms (including marketing standards, price reporting, quota management, producers' organisations, public intervention etc).



Key areas related to rural development



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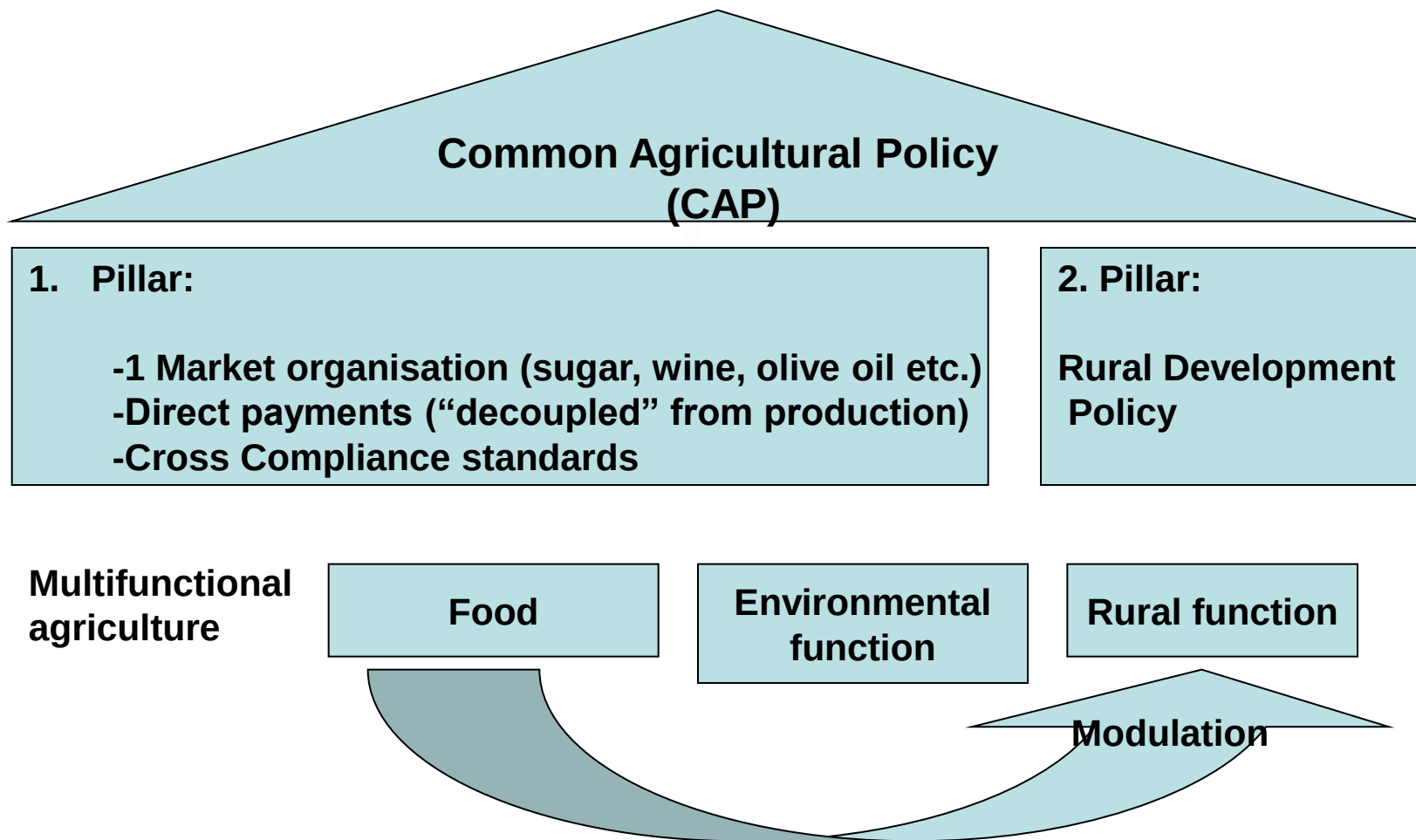
- *Community Policies*
 - Agriculture Pillar I
 - Fisheries
 - Food safety, veterinary and phyto-sanitary policy
 - Environment
 - Financial control
 - Regional policy



CAP policy areas



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Pillar 2 – Rural Development



- **Rural development (subsidiarity – cofinanced)**
 - **Axis 1** (minimum funding required = 10%): **Improving the competitiveness**
 - **Axis 2** (minimum funding required = 25%): **Enhancing the environment and landscapes**
 - **Axis 3** (minimum funding required = 10%): **Improving the quality of life in rural areas**
 - **Leader approach** (local initiatives) in **all axes**



Elements of the agricultural *acquis*



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1. Direct support
2. European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF)
3. Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS)
4. Paying Agencies
5. Trade Mechanisms
6. Stocks
7. Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN)
8. State Aid
9. Common Market Organisation (CMO)
10. Rural Development
11. Quality Policy
12. Organic farming



IACS and Paying Agency



- Most important areas of the EU *acquis* and for which a longer time of preparation is required. Main IACS components are:
 - **LPIS** (Land Parcel Identification System) based on cadastre or block system.
 - **Farmer's integrated register**, based on good development of statistical system
 - Animal **Identification** and Registration system
- At the phase of **potential candidate countries** these are probably **not areas where too much focus** should be put on.
- Nevertheless it can be recommended that: **preliminary studies** are offered on how the potential candidate countries think these two systems would look like in the future.



Responsibilities



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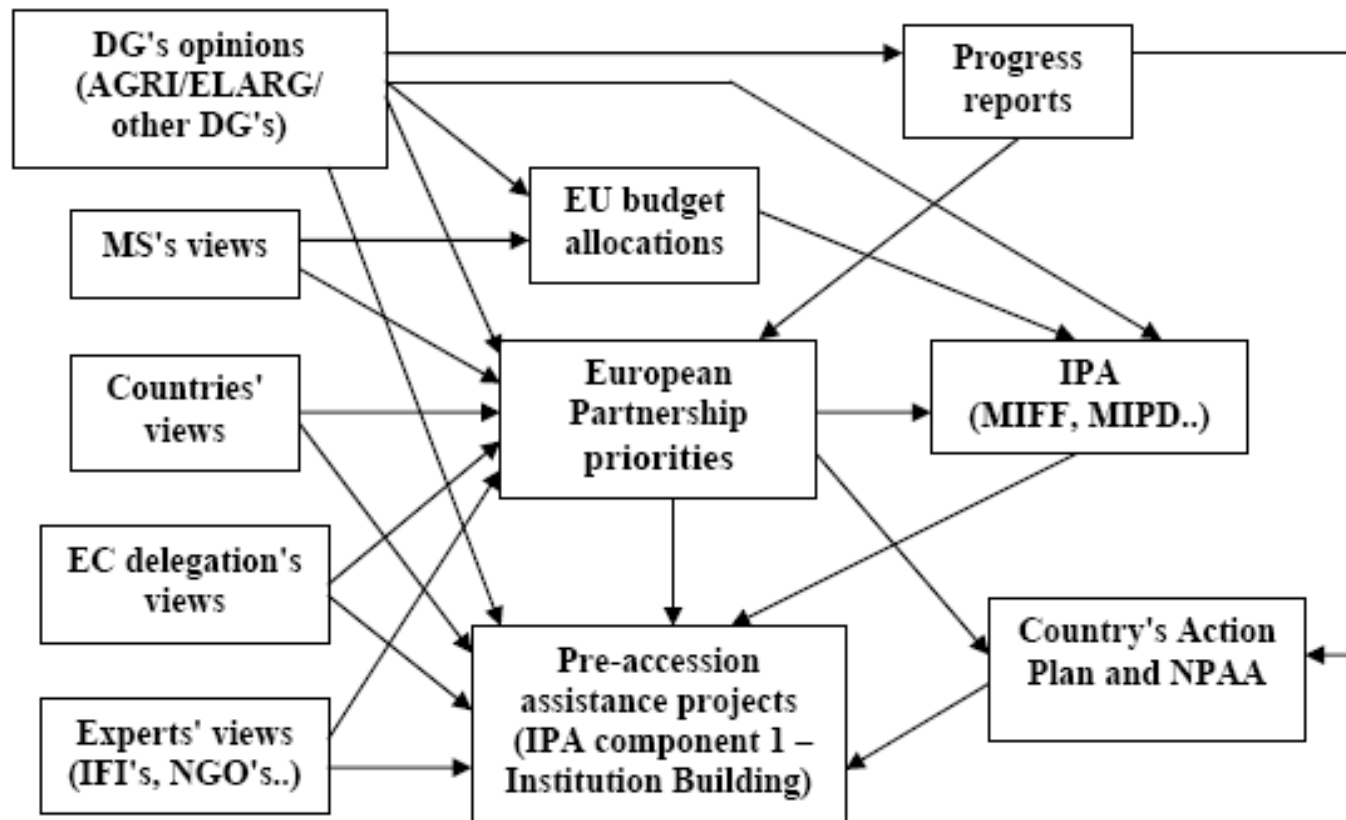
- Candidate and potential candidate countries have **ultimately** the **responsibility** of defining their way towards the EU;
- Should do so by establishing a **balance** between "quality" and "speed";
- EU can guide and setting up national **priorities** (through European Partnerships and Technical Assistance (IPA, TAIEX, Twinning etc);
- DG AGRI's role is important in **advising** and providing technical **expertise** (together with MS experts).
- ... you have to do the job.



Process for priorities



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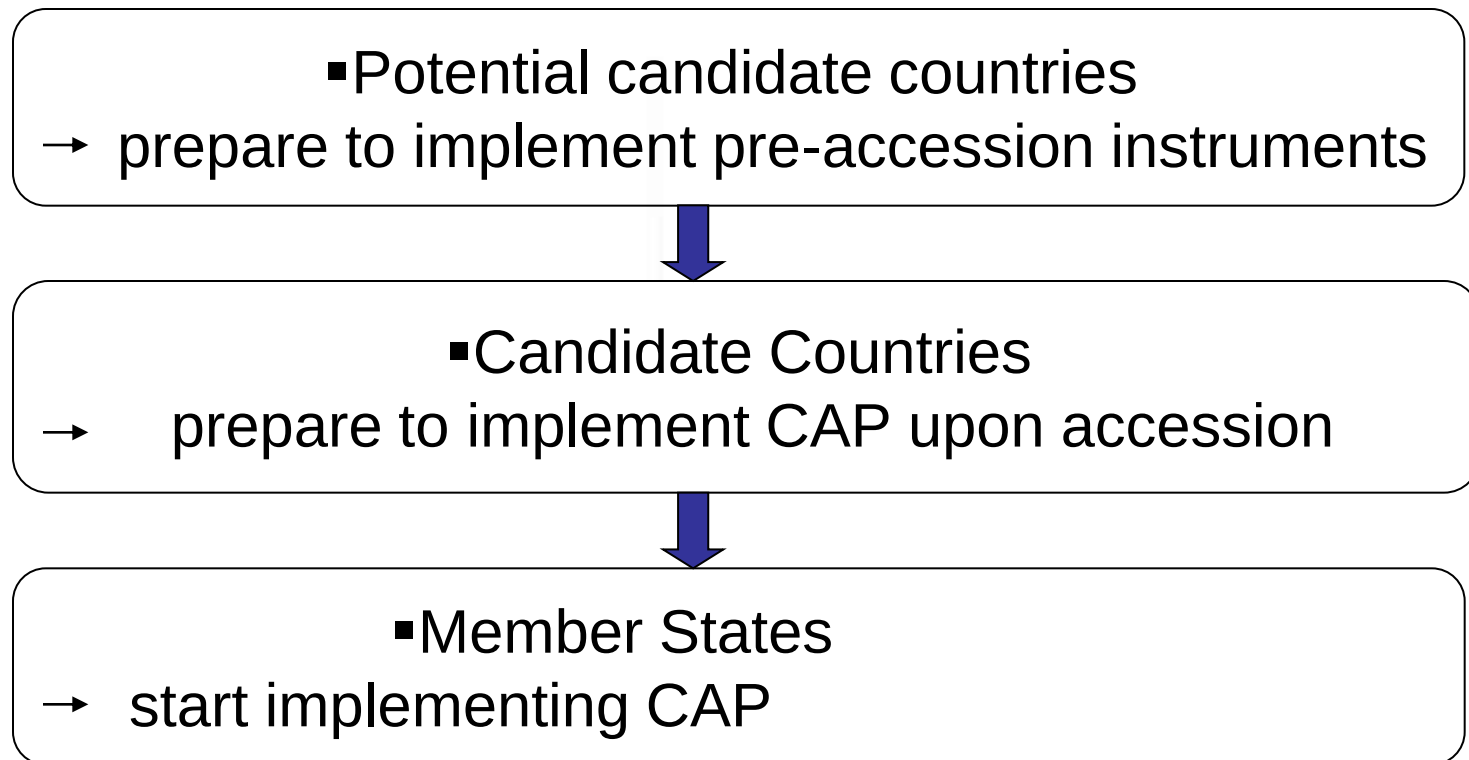




Gradual approach



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Potential Candidate Countries



- Build up administrative capacity at central and decentralised level;
- Upgrade agricultural statistics;
- Create capacities for policy formulation and seek dialogue with stakeholder on European integration;
- Establish farm register, land cadastre (clear property rights), rural census, and advisory services;
- Get an understanding of the acquis by training;
- Prepare IPARD programme, preparation of IPARD agency



Candidate countries



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- Gradually align your agricultural policy with the CAP;
- Build administrative capacity for future Paying Agencies and Managing Authority;
- Establish farmers, animals and land parcel registers and set up IACS (including LPIS);
- Gradually prepare for future application of the Common Market Organisation.
- Set up FADN



Regional cooperation



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- Regional co-operation in the Western Balkans is an essential factor for **political stability and economic prosperity**.
- Agriculture production also needs a regional coordination for reasons of **environment, animal & plant health**.
- National **markets** being small, integration in regional and international markets is necessary if the agricultural sector is to be profitable. **Free trade agreements** facilitate exchange of agricultural goods and cross border investments (e.g. CEFTA).
- Exchanges of **lessons learned and advice** is essential in the accession process



Conclusion



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- Start early enough
- Do things gradually to avoid « big bang »
- Communicate, communicate, communicate...
- Commission is your partner in the process
- Use all tools offered by the EU and bilaterally by MS.
- CAP is a moving target!
- Train yourself and your colleagues...



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Thank you for your attention!