



European Commission
Agriculture and Rural Development



Pilot Project: Sustainable Agriculture and Soil Conservation (“SoCo Project”)

Martin Scheele

**European Commission
Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development**



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Context and Focus

- **Initiative of the EP**
- **Builds on existing knowledge and experience**
- **Overall context:**
 - Increasing concerns about soil conservation problems
 - Climate change
 - Need to assess economic and social consequences
 - Need for effective conservation techniques
 - Revision and development of the political framework



Objectives



- Improving the understanding of the interaction between agricultural practices and soil conservation
- Assessing the relevant regulatory and incentive-based policy framework
- Identifying needs and possible gaps in the policy framework
- Make information available to stakeholders and policy makers

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Implementation




- Budget: EUR 2 million
- Tight timeframe (core work: 2007/08)
- Administrative Arrangement with the JRC (IPTS, IES)
- JRC established sub-contracts for studies
- Steering Group and Advisory Board

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Work Packages




WP 1: Stocktaking

WP 2: Case studies


WP 3: Synthesis and conclusions

WP 4: Dissemination

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Work Packages



**WP 1:
Stocktaking**

- **Soil problems**
- **Conservation practices**
- **Needs**

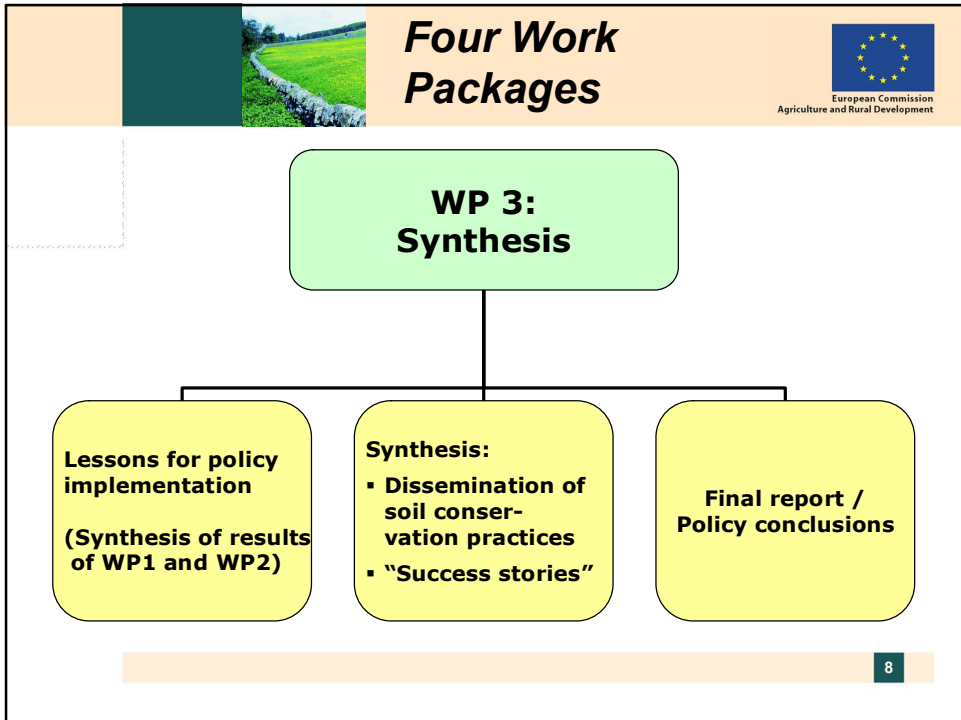
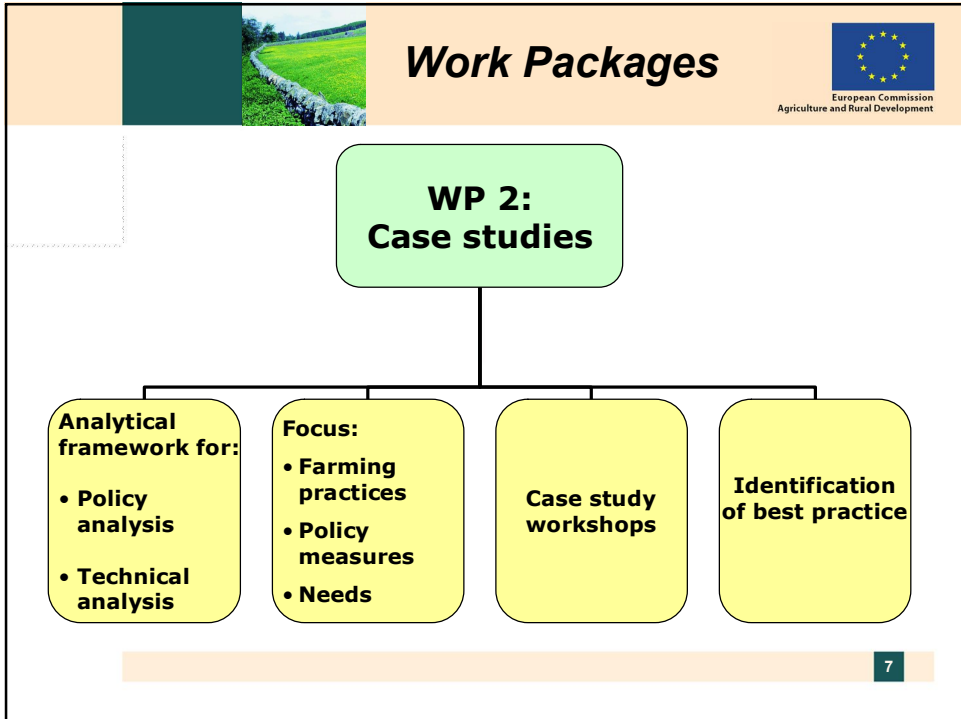
Policy instruments

- **Mandatory**
- **Financial incentives**

Conservation practices and policy measures

Stakeholder workshop

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Work Packages



WP 4: Dissemination

Fact sheets on
best practices

Project Website
presenting
final results

Stakeholder
seminar

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Milestones



<http://soco.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/envir/index_en.htm

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