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PROPOSAL

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To:	Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
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Subject:	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 as regards the Union contribution for the integrated farm statistics under the 2021-2027 financial framework

Delegations will find attached document COM(2021) 477 final.

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2021/0270 (COD)

Proposal for a

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 as regards the Union contribution for the integrated farm statistics under the 2021-2027 financial framework

(Text with EEA relevance)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. CONTEXT OF THE PROPOSAL

• Reasons for and objectives of the proposal

Regulation (EU) 2018/1091[1] on integrated farm statistics requires that Member States carry out integrated farm surveys in 2020, 2023 and 2026.

Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 establishes the financial envelope (i.e. the budget allocation) for the entire duration of the relevant multiannual financial framework (MFF). It includes a provision for establishing the data collection budget for the surveys to be conducted in 2023 and 2026. Its Article 14 states that following the date of entry into force of the 2021-2027 MFF, the amount for the post-2020 period should be fixed by the European Parliament and the Council based on a proposal by the Commission.

The financial reference of this proposal is Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093[2] which lays down the MFF for 2021-2027.

Member States are to receive a maximum financial contribution of 75% of the eligible costs from the EU (subject to defined maximum amounts indicated in Article 13 (4) and (5) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1091) towards the cost of carrying out the surveys. The amount for the post-2020 period should be fixed under the provisions of the MFF.

This legislative proposal establishes a budget of EUR 40 000 000.00 for 2021-2027 (of which EUR 36 400 000.00 is for grants for national statistical institutes and other national authorities).

According to Article 13(7) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1091, the EU financial contribution for the grants referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 13 should be provided by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund under point (d) of Article 4(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 or the Regulation on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013.

• Consistency with existing policy provisions in the policy area

Statistics must be reliable and of high quality to enable policymakers, businesses and the general public to take appropriate evidence-based decisions.

The 2020 agricultural statistics strategy includes the following key objectives:

- produce high-quality statistics that meet users' needs efficiently and effectively;
- improve the harmonisation and coherence of European agricultural statistics.

This proposal directly addresses these objectives.

• Consistency with other Union policies

Providing quality statistics to support European policies is a main objective for European statistics under the single market programme[3]. Environmental and agricultural statistics are

[1] Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on integrated farm statistics and repealing Regulations (EC) No 1166/2008 and (EU) No 1337/2011 (*OJ L 200, 7.8.2018, p. 1).*

[2] Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093 of 17 December 2020 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021 to 2027 (*OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 11).*

[3] Regulation (EU) 2021/690 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing a programme for the internal market, competitiveness of enterprises, including small and medium-sized

one of three statistics-gathering areas under the programme. There is also a need for timely and relevant data for the common agricultural policy (CAP).

This initiative implements that objective for the period 2021-2026.

The European Agricultural Statistics System will also contribute to at least two of the six priorities of the von der Leyen Commission, namely

- a European Green Deal with the underlying farm to fork and biodiversity strategies, and
- an economy that works for people

by providing better data for assessing the sustainability of the sector covering the environment, people, regions and the economy. Agricultural statistics are also useful for other EU or Member State priorities affecting or affected by agriculture and rural development.

EU policies need to be backed by high-quality, comparable and reliable statistical information on the economic, social, territorial and environmental situation across the EU. European statistics can also help the broader public understand and participate in the democratic process and debate the current state and the future of the EU. For agricultural statistics, the focus is on providing timely and relevant data for the needs of the CAP, the common fisheries policy and other environmental, food security and animal welfare policies.

Agricultural statistics provide the high-quality evidence needed to implement and monitor the CAP. The CAP is an important driver for jobs and smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in the EU. The rural development policy - an integral part of the CAP - aims to improve the competitiveness and sustainability of agricultural production in addition to its social objectives. The CAP accounted for over 37% of the total EU budget under the 2014-2020 MFF.

Agricultural statistics are also increasingly needed for other key EU policies such as the European Green Deal, environmental and climate change policies, and trade, social and regional policies.

2. LEGAL BASIS, SUBSIDIARITY AND PROPORTIONALITY

• Legal basis

Article 338 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) provides the legal basis for European statistics. Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure, the European Parliament and the Council adopt measures on the production of statistics where they are necessary for the EU to carry out its role. Article 338 sets out the requirements for European statistics, stating that they must conform to standards of impartiality, reliability, objectivity, scientific independence, cost-effectiveness and statistical confidentiality. Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council[4]

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enterprises, the area of plants, animals, food and feed, and European statistics (Single Market Programme) and repealing Regulations (EU) No 99/2013, (EU) No 1287/2013, (EU) No 254/2014 and (EU) No 652/2014. (*OJ L 153, 3.5.2021, p. 1*).

[4] Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics and repealing Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1101/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the transmission of data subject to statistical confidentiality to the Statistical Office of the European Communities, Council Regulation (EC) No 322/97 on Community Statistics, and Council Decision 89/382/EEC, Euratom establishing a Committee on the Statistical Programmes of the European Communities (*OJ L 87, 31.3.2009, p. 164–173*).

establishes a legal framework for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics.

- **Subsidiarity (for non-exclusive competence)**

The subsidiarity principle applies as the proposal does not fall within the exclusive competence of the EU. The European Statistical System (ESS) provides an infrastructure for statistical information. The system is designed to meet the needs of multiple users and support the decision-making process in democratic societies. The proposal for this Regulation has been drafted to protect core activities of ESS partners while better ensuring and assuring the quality and comparability of agricultural statistics.

Key criteria for the statistical data include consistency and comparability. Member States cannot achieve the necessary consistency and comparability without a clear European framework, i.e. EU legislation laying down the common statistical concepts, reporting formats and quality requirements. The comparability requirement is particularly important for agricultural statistics because of the CAP.

The objectives cannot be fully achieved by Member States acting alone. Action would be more effective if taken at EU level, based on an EU legal act ensuring the comparability of statistical information in the statistical areas covered by the proposed act. The data collection itself, meanwhile, is best carried out by the Member States.

- **Proportionality**

The proposal complies with the proportionality principle, in view of the following:

It will ensure the quality and comparability of European agricultural statistics collected and compiled by applying the same principles across Member States. Similarly, it will ensure that European agricultural statistics remain relevant and are adapted to respond to user needs. The Regulation will make the production of statistics more cost-effective while respecting the specific characteristics of Member States' systems.

In line with the proportionality principle, the proposed Regulation confines itself to the minimum required to achieve its objective and does not go beyond what is necessary for that purpose.

- **Choice of the instrument**

Proposed instrument: Regulation.

Given the objectives and content of the proposal, an amendment to the existing Regulation is the most appropriate instrument.

Key EU policies such as the CAP depend on comparable, harmonised and high-quality agricultural statistics at European level. These can best be ensured by regulations, which are directly applicable in Member States and do not need to be turned into national law first. Article 14 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 already provides for an amendment.

3. RESULTS OF EX-POST EVALUATIONS, STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS AND IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

- **Ex-post evaluations / fitness checks of existing legislation**

The evaluation of the European Agricultural Statistics System for the strategy for agricultural statistics for 2020 and beyond (SWD (2017) 96 final) indicated the need of a more systematic approach in this area.

The evaluation of the agricultural statistics system showed that:

- Current legislation on agricultural statistics does not adequately meet new and emerging data needs because such statistics are not included as a requirement in the legal acts. The acts are also not flexible and integrated enough to respond promptly to emerging needs.
- The European Agricultural Statistics System is not sufficiently flexible and does not react quickly enough to emerging needs. This is partly due to the nature of statistics-gathering, but also to the way the regulations have been set up, and the lack of budgetary and human resources.
- The data collection is not harmonised or coherent enough. This is because new data needs are emerging, legislation has been developed separately over many years, and definitions and concepts differ somewhat between agricultural areas.
- The statistics could be produced more efficiently if the legislation is adapted to encompass various sources of information and if Member States adapt to modern technology.

A public consultation was conducted as part of the preparation of Regulation (EU) 2018/1091, and the results are detailed in a specific report[5].

The related strategy on agricultural statistics concluded that agricultural statistics need to be designed and function as a system, where the parts fit together and make the output more significant than their sum. Agricultural statistics also need to fit seamlessly into the entire ESS, and data sources need to be diversified with other data sources being used where possible. Information and communications technology and other new technologies (e.g. big data and researched-based innovations) have to be integrated into data collection, and the effectiveness and efficiency of data collection methods must be assessed against the data needs and the quality criteria, and the existing silos should be broken.

- **Stakeholder consultations**

Eurostat develops, produces and disseminates European agricultural statistics thanks to close, coordinated and regular cooperation within the European Statistical System and its long partnership with the national statistical institutes (NSIs) and all other relevant authorities.

Overall, and in line with the strategy for agricultural statistics for 2020 and beyond, the main groups and individuals concerned by or involved in European agricultural statistics are: data producers (NSIs, other national authorities and Eurostat); respondents (farmers, farmers' organisations and businesses); and users (public and private decision makers, in particular other Commission departments, researchers and journalists). These stakeholders have been consulted extensively about the problems they face, the changes they would like to see, their data needs and priorities, possible policy solutions, impacts of suggested actions, and on the strategy itself.

Stakeholders' views have been gathered at meetings and seminars of the Standing Committee for Agricultural Statistics (CPSA) and its successor, the Directors' Group for Agricultural Statistics (DGAS) (for directors of agricultural statistics) where Commission departments,

[5] Eurostat public consultation webpage:
http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/about/opportunities/consultations/eass
Open public consultation report:
http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/10186/6937766/Agricultural-Statistics-Strategy-2020-Report.docx.

international organisations and farmers' organisations are often heard, European Statistical System Committee meetings (for NSI directors-general), and regularly scheduled consultations and hearings (for Commission departments).

The results of these consultations were taken into account in the evaluation mentioned above.

In addition, a consultation on the roadmap for the proposal ran for 4 weeks on the European Commission's 'Have your say' webpage.

- **Collection and use of expertise**

To prepare Regulation (EU) 2018/1091, Eurostat held extensive discussions on the content of the proposal with NSIs within the relevant expert groups, including at directors' level.

- **Impact assessment**

An impact assessment of the strategy for agricultural statistics for 2020 and beyond (SWD (2016)430) of which integrated farm statistics are an integral part, received a positive opinion from the Regulatory Scrutiny Board[6].

Statistical legislation primarily concerns administrative-level data users (e.g. the Commission's policy departments), data producers (NSIs), and data respondents (farmers), so its direct economic, social and environmental effects are limited. The main direct costs for stakeholders relate to adapting to new statistical and technical systems. In the mid- to long- term, the modernisation measures were expected to slightly reduce the administrative burden as well as costs. Most of the cost savings would be due to the lowered coverage requirements of Regulation (EU) 2018/1091. The cost of gathering statistics must be weighed against their societal benefits but also against the cost of having low-quality statistics or none at all.

- **Regulatory fitness and simplification**

The proposal is part of the strategy for agricultural statistics for 2020 and beyond, a major programme to modernise EU agricultural statistics produced by the European Commission in close cooperation with Member States. The strategy is supported by the European Statistical System Committee and is part of the REFIT programme, aiming to streamline and improve the European Agricultural Statistics System (EASS).

This proposal covers the funding of integrated farm statistics for 2021-2027, in line with Regulation (EU) 2018/1091.

- **Fundamental rights**

The proposal has no consequences for the protection of fundamental rights.

4. BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS

The financial impact of the proposal is of limited duration, and refers to the co-funding of data collection on integrated farm statistics for the period 2021-2027 (the 2023 and 2026 data collection exercises).

Article 13 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 establishes the EU financial contribution for the implementation of that Regulation. This proposal establishes a budget of EUR 40 000 000.00 for 2021-2027 (of which 36 400 000.00 is for NSI grants).

[6] Impact assessment, Impact assessment summary, Regulatory Scrutiny Board Opinion

The EU financial contribution for the grants referred to in Article 13 (2) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 will be provided by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund under point (d) of Article 4(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 or Regulation on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013.

5. OTHER ELEMENTS

• Implementation plans and monitoring, evaluation and reporting arrangements

The proposed Regulation is expected to be adopted by the European Parliament and the Council as soon as possible, and the Commission is expected to adopt the implementing measures shortly afterwards. The Regulation will be directly applicable in all Member States without the need for an implementation plan.

Member States will need to provide data to the Commission in 2024 and 2027.

In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1091, the Commission should, after consulting the ESSC, submit a report on the implementation and achievement of its objectives to the European Parliament and to the Council by 31 December 2024.

• Explanatory documents (for directives)

Not applicable.

• Detailed explanation of the specific provisions of the proposal

The proposed amendment applies to Articles 13(4) (5) and (7) and 14(1) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1091, establishing the maximum amounts to be assigned to each Member State and the amount and source of the financial envelope for 2021-2027.

2021/0270 (COD)

Proposal for a

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 as regards the Union contribution for the integrated farm statistics under the 2021-2027 financial framework

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 338(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,

Whereas:

(1) Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 of the European Parliament and of the Council[1] provides that Member States are to collect and provide core structural data ('core data') and module data related to agricultural holdings in 2023 and 2026.

(2) To carry out the farm structure surveys and to satisfy the information requirements of the Union, a considerable amount of funding is required from Member States and from the Union.

(3) Member States are to receive a maximum financial contribution of 75% from the Union towards the costs of the 2023 and 2026 core data and module data collections, subject to the maximum amounts specified in Regulation (EU) 2018/1091.

(4) Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 lays down the financial envelope for the entire duration of the relevant multiannual financial framework (MFF) and includes a provision for establishing the amount to be granted for further data collections under the subsequent MFF covering the surveys in 2023 and 2026.

(5) That subsequent MFF for the years 2021-2027 has been laid down by Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093[2].

(6) In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1091, the amount of the Union contribution for the integrated farm statistics under the MFF for 2021-2027 should be fixed by the European Parliament and the Council, based on a proposal from the Commission following the date of entry into force of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093.

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[1] Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on integrated farm statistics and repealing Regulations (EC) No 1166/2008 and (EU) No 1337/2011 (*OJ L 200, 7.8.2018, p. 1).*

[2] Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093 of 17 December 2020 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021 to 2027 (*OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 11).*

(7) The amount proposed for 2021-2027 should finance the farm structure surveys conducted in 2023 and 2026 only, including the costs related to the management, maintenance and development of the databases used by the Commission to process the data supplied by Member States.

(8) In addition, following the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union, it is appropriate to delete the reference to that former Member State.

(9) The European Statistical System Committee established by Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council[3] has been consulted.

(10) Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 is amended as follows:

(1) Article 13 is amended as follows:

(a) paragraph 4 is amended as follows:

(i) the introductory phrase is replaced by the following:

'For the combined costs of the 2023 and 2026 core data and module data collections, the Union financial contribution shall be limited to the maximum amounts specified below:';

(ii) point (c) is replaced by the following:

'(c) EUR 2 000 000 each for Bulgaria, Germany, Hungary and Portugal;';

(b) paragraph 5 is deleted;

(c) paragraph 7 is replaced by the following:

'7. The Union financial contribution for the grants referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article shall be provided by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund under point (d) of Article 4(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 or a subsequent Regulation on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013.';

(2) in Article 14, paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:

'1. The Union financial envelope for the implementation of the programme of data collections for the reference years 2023 and 2026, including the appropriations necessary for the management, maintenance and development of the database systems used within the Commission to process the data supplied by the Member States under this Regulation, shall be EUR 40 000 000 for the period 2021-2027, covered by the MFF for 2021-2027.'.

[3] Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics and repealing Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1101/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the transmission of data subject to statistical confidentiality to the Statistical Office of the European Communities, Council Regulation (EC) No 322/97 on Community Statistics, and Council Decision 89/382/EEC, Euratom establishing a Committee on the Statistical Programmes of the European Communities (OJ L 87, 31.3.2009, p. 164).

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the European Parliament	*For the Council*
The President	*The President*

LEGISLATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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1. FRAMEWORK OF THE PROPOSAL/INITIATIVE

1.1. Title of the proposal/initiative

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 as regards the Union contribution for the integrated farm statistics under the 2021-2027 financial framework

1.2. Policy area(s) concerned

Production of European statistics.

Agriculture and rural development.

1.3. The proposal/initiative relates to:

☐ **a new action**

☐ **a new action following a pilot project/preparatory action**[10]

☒ **the extension of an existing action**

☐ **a merger or redirection of one or more actions towards another/a new action**

1.4. Objective(s)

1.4.1. General objective(s)

This legislative proposal establishes a budget of EUR 40 000 000.00 for 2021-2027 (of which EUR 36 400 000.00 is for grants for national statistical institutes and other national authorities).

Statistics must be reliable and of high quality to enable policymakers, businesses and the general public to take appropriate evidence-based decisions. The current proposal addresses two objectives of the 2020 agricultural statistics strategy:

produce high-quality statistics that meet users' needs efficiently and effectively

improve the harmonisation and coherence of European agricultural statistics

1.4.2. Specific objective(s)

Specific objective No 1

finance the farm structure surveys conducted in 2023, including the costs related to the management, maintenance and development of the databases used by the Commission to process the data supplied by Member States for the reference period 2023 and improve the interoperability between IFS and FADN/FSDN

Specific objective No 2

finance the farm structure surveys conducted in 2026, including the costs related to the management, maintenance and development of the databases used by the Commission to process the data supplied by Member States for the reference period 2026 and improve the interoperability between IFS and FADN/FSDN

1.4.3. Expected result(s) and impact

Specify the effects which the proposal/initiative should have on the beneficiaries/groups targeted.

[10] As referred to in Article 58(2)(a) or (b) of the Financial Regulation.

Impact on national statistical institutes and other: Statistical legislation primarily concerns administrative-level data users (e.g. the Commission's policy departments), data producers (NSIs), and data respondents (farmers), so its direct economic, social and environmental effects are limited. The main direct costs for stakeholders relate to adapting to new statistical and technical systems. In the mid- to long term, the modernisation measures are expected to reduce the administrative burden and costs.

1.4.4. Indicators of performance

Specify the indicators for monitoring progress and achievements.

Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 foresees that for the reference years 2023 and 2026, Member States shall transmit validated core and module data and a quality report to the Commission (Eurostat) within 12 months after the end of the reference year.

Moreover by 31 December 2024, the Commission shall, after consulting the ESSC, submit a report on the implementation and achievement of the objectives of this Regulation to the European Parliament and to the Council (Art. 18).

1.5. Grounds for the proposal/initiative

1.5.1. Requirement(s) to be met in the short or long term including a detailed timeline for roll-out of the implementation of the initiative

The proposal aims to ensure that further financial support is provided to Member States to collect data on the structure of agricultural holdings, by fixing the financial envelope for the period 2021-2027.

An EU financial contribution to support national agricultural statistics data collection is expected to continue at a level and proportion comparable to the status quo in the new system, and national expenditure should also be at a similar level as today. When fully implemented, burden and cost reduction actions as well as the expected decline in the number of agricultural holdings (based on observed trends) can lead to a reduced need for data collection and therefore a reduced budget.

Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 aims to improve the quality, comparability and coherence of European agricultural statistics so that policymakers, businesses and the general public can take appropriate evidence-based decisions.

It covers agricultural structural statistics and takes the form of a main framework regulation and implementing acts. As a regulation, it is directly applicable in EU Member States, whereas the implementing acts specify variable lists and descriptions and methodological requirements. Each Member State will integrate the variables and other requirements into its national databases, questionnaires, etc. as soon as the acts are adopted.

The agricultural census 2020 is already under way. The data collection for 2023 is under preparation and will be followed by the 2026 data collection.

1.5.2. Added value of Union involvement (it may result from different factors, e.g. coordination gains, legal certainty, greater effectiveness or complementarities). For the purposes of this point 'added value of Union involvement' is the value resulting from Union intervention which is additional to the value that would have been otherwise created by Member States alone.

With integrated farm statistics (IFS), the EU and its Member States will have high-quality, comparable and coherent European structural agricultural statistics which

impose an acceptable burden on data respondents and data producers as compared to their benefits. Evidence-based policymaking is crucial to the success of policies such as the CAP, and is an important driver for jobs and smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in the EU.

Statistical legislation primarily concerns administrative-level data users (e.g. the Commission's policy departments), data producers (national statistical institutes), and data respondents (farmers), so its direct economic, social and environmental effects are limited. The main direct costs for stakeholders relate to adapting to new statistical, organisational and technical systems, but those costs and burdens are expected to pay for themselves in the mid to long term by lowering the burden of data collection and achieving several efficiencies and savings.

1.5.3. Lessons learned from similar experiences in the past

European agricultural statistics have been a cornerstone of the CAP and many other key EU policies for many decades. Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 was designed to respond to changes in agriculture and to remedy the main issues identified in the evaluation of the European Agricultural Statistics System (EASS). The identified issues were that:

1. the previous agricultural statistics legislation did not adequately serve new and emerging data needs;

2. the EASS was not sufficiently flexible and did not react quickly enough to emerging needs;

3. data collection exercises were not harmonised or coherent enough;

4. statistics production was lacking in efficiency;

5. the burden of providing data was perceived as high.

1.5.4. Compatibility with the Multiannual Financial Framework and possible synergies with other appropriate instruments

Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 is part of Eurostat’s strategy for agricultural statistics for 2020 and beyond, to be complemented by statistics on agricultural input and output (SAIO) and an updated Economic Accounts for Agriculture (EAA) Regulation. All three regulations will have a common scope and share technical and methodological documentation. Taken together, they will cover all aspects of agricultural statistics.

Important common EU policies such as the CAP, the European Green Deal and the farm to fork and biodiversity strategies depend on comparable, harmonised and high-quality agricultural statistics at European level and their compatibility/complementarity with various related data sources such as the Farm Accountancy Data Network. These can best be ensured by regulations, which are directly applicable in Member States and do not need to first be turned into national law.

The current amendment is provided for in Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 and only concerns the financing of the data collection for 2023 and 2026.

1.5.5. Assessment of the different available financing options, including scope for redeployment

Not applicable

1.6. Duration and financial impact of the proposal/initiative

☒ **limited duration**

– ☒ in effect from 01/01/2022 (tentative) to 31/12/2027

– ☒ Financial impact from 2022 to 2025 for commitment appropriations and from 2024 to 2028 for payment appropriations.

☐ **unlimited duration**

– Implementation with a start-up period from YYYY to YYYY,

– followed by full-scale operation.

1.7. Management mode(s) planned[11]

☒ **Direct management** by the Commission

– ☒ by its departments, including by its staff in the Union delegations;

– ☐ by the executive agencies

☐ **Shared management** with the Member States

☐ **Indirect management** by entrusting budget implementation tasks to:

– ☐ third countries or the bodies they have designated;

– ☐ international organisations and their agencies (to be specified);

– ☐ the EIB and the European Investment Fund;

– ☐ bodies referred to in Articles 70 and 71 of the Financial Regulation;

– ☐ public law bodies;

– ☐ bodies governed by private law with a public service mission to the extent that they provide adequate financial guarantees;

– ☐ bodies governed by the private law of a Member State that are entrusted with the implementation of a public-private partnership and that provide adequate financial guarantees;

– ☐ persons entrusted with the implementation of specific actions in the CFSP pursuant to Title V of the TEU, and identified in the relevant basic act.

– *If more than one management mode is indicated, please provide details in the 'Comments' section.*

Comments

Not applicable

[11] Details of management modes and references to the Financial Regulation may be found on the BudgWeb site: https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/budgweb/EN/man/budgmanag/Pages/budgmanag.aspx

2. MANAGEMENT MEASURES

2.1. Monitoring and reporting rules

Specify frequency and conditions.

Grant recipients must deliver the data collected and the corresponding quality reports as specified in Article 12 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1091.

In line with Article 18 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1091, the Commission, after consulting the ESSC, should by 31 December 2024 submit a report on the implementation and achievement of the Regulation's objectives to the European Parliament and the Council.

2.2. Management and control system(s)

2.2.1. Justification of the management mode(s), the funding implementation mechanism(s), the payment modalities and the control strategy proposed

The subsidiarity principle applies as the proposal does not fall within the exclusive competence of the EU. The European Statistical System (ESS) provides an infrastructure for statistical information. The system is designed to meet the needs of multiple users and support the decision-making process in democratic societies. The proposal for this Regulation has been drafted to protect core activities of ESS partners while better ensuring and assuring the quality and comparability of agricultural statistics.

Key criteria for the statistical data include consistency and comparability. Member States cannot achieve the necessary consistency and comparability without a clear European framework, that is to say, EU legislation laying down the common statistical concepts, reporting formats and quality requirements.

The objectives cannot be fully achieved by Member States acting alone. Action would be more effective if taken at EU level, based on an EU legal act ensuring the comparability of statistical information in the statistical areas covered by the proposed act. The data collection itself, meanwhile, is best carried out by the Member States.

2.2.2. Information concerning the risks identified and the internal control system(s) set up to mitigate them

Identified risks include sub-standard data quality and late submission of data.

These would be mitigated by sending technical and methodological documentation and guidelines to Member States in advance, automated data checks, monitoring compliance with deadlines, and scrutinising quality reports for each survey.

2.2.3. Estimation and justification of the cost-effectiveness of the controls (ratio of "control costs ÷ value of the related funds managed"), and assessment of the expected levels of risk of error (at payment & at closure)

Controls will be carried out by Commission officials as part of their regular duties in order to assess data quality and comparability. The expected risk-of-error level is low, as data collection in agricultural statistics has been carried out in good cooperation with Member States since the 1950s and the systems in place have been modernised in line with the latest technical standards.

2.3. Measures to prevent fraud and irregularities

Specify existing or envisaged prevention and protection measures, e.g. from the Anti-Fraud Strategy.

In addition to the regulatory controls, Eurostat will apply an anti-fraud strategy in line with the Commission's general anti-fraud policy. This will ensure that the fraud risk management approach is geared towards identifying fraud risk areas and adequate responses. Networking groups and specific IT tools dedicated to analysing potential cases of fraud will be set up where necessary.

Eurostat has developed a control strategy to accompany Member States' spending on data collection, with measures and tools that are appropriate for the proposed regulation. Reducing complexity, applying cost-effective monitoring procedures as well as conducting risk-based preliminary and final controls should help reduce and prevent fraud. The strategy includes awareness-raising measures and training on fraud prevention.

3. ESTIMATED FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSAL/INITIATIVE

3.1. Heading(s) of the multiannual financial framework and expenditure budget line(s) affected

- Existing budget lines

In order of multiannual financial framework headings and budget lines.

Heading of multiannual financial framework	Budget line	Type of expenditure	Contribution			
	Number	Diff./Non-diff.[12]	from EFTA countries [13]	from candidate countries[14]	from third countries	within the meaning of Article 21(2)(b) of the Financial Regulation
3	08.02 06 03 - European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) - Operational technical assistance	Diff.	NO	NO	NO	NO

- New budget lines requested

In order of multiannual financial framework headings and budget lines.

Heading of multiannual financial framework	Budget line	Type of expenditure	Contribution			
	Number	Diff./Non-diff.	from EFTA countries	from candidate countries	from third countries	within the meaning of Article 21(2)(b) of the Financial Regulation
	[XX.YY.YY.YY]		YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO

12 Diff. = Differentiated appropriations / Non-diff. = Non-differentiated appropriations.

13 EFTA: European Free Trade Association.

14 Candidate countries and, where applicable, potential candidates from the Western Balkans.

3.2. Estimated financial impact of the proposal on appropriations

3.2.1. Summary of estimated impact on operational appropriations

– ☐ The proposal/initiative does not require the use of operational appropriations

– ☒ The proposal/initiative requires the use of operational appropriations, as explained below:

EUR million (to three decimal places)

Heading of multiannual financial framework	3	08.02 06 03 - European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) - Operational technical assistance

DG: AGRI			Year **2021**[15]	Year **2022**	Year **2023**	Year **2024**	Year **2025**	Year **2026**	Year **2027**	***Post 2027***	**TOTAL**
• Operational appropriations											
08.02 06 03[16]	Commitments	(1a)		20.000			20.000				**40.000**
	Payments	(2a)		9.100	1.800		18.200	1.800		**9.100**	**40.000**
Budget line	Commitments	(1b)									
	Payments	(2b)									
Appropriations of an administrative nature financed from the envelope of specific programmes[17]											
Budget line		(3)									
TOTAL appropriations for DG AGRI	Commitments	=1a+1b +3		20.000			20.000				**40.000**
	Payments	=2a+2b +3		9.100	1.800		18.200	1.800		**9.100**	**40.000**

15 Year N is the year in which implementation of the proposal/initiative starts. Please replace "N" by the expected first year of implementation (for instance: 2021). The same for the following years.

16 According to the official budget nomenclature.

17 Technical and/or administrative assistance and expenditure in support of the implementation of EU programmes and/or actions (former 'BA' lines), indirect research, direct research.

• TOTAL operational appropriations	Commitments	(4)		20.000			20.000				**40.000**
	Payments	(5)		9.100	1.800		18.200	1.800		**9.100**	**40.000**
• TOTAL appropriations of an administrative nature financed from the envelope for specific programmes		(6)									
TOTAL appropriations under HEADING 3 of the multiannual financial framework	Commitments	=4+ 6		20.000			20.000				**40.000**
	Payments	=5+ 6		9.100	1.800		18.200	1.800		**9.100**	**40.000**

If more than one operational heading is affected by the proposal / initiative, repeat the section above:

• TOTAL operational appropriations (all operational headings)	Commitments	(4)								
	Payments	(5)								
TOTAL appropriations of an administrative nature financed from the envelope for specific programmes (all operational headings)		(6)								
TOTAL appropriations under HEADINGS 1 to 6 of the multiannual financial framework (Reference amount)	Commitments	=4+ 6								
	Payments	=5+ 6								

Heading of multiannual financial framework	7	'Administrative expenditure'

This section should be filled in using the 'budget data of an administrative nature' to be firstly introduced in the Annex to the Legislative Financial Statement (Annex V to the internal rules), which is uploaded to DECIDE for interservice consultation purposes.

EUR million (to three decimal places)

		Year **2021**	Year **2022**	Year **2023**	Year **2024**	Year **2025**	Year **2026**	Year **2027**	**TOTAL**
DG: ESTAT									
• Human resources		0.775	0.775	0.775	0.775	0.775	0.775	0.775	**5.426**
• Other administrative expenditure		0.030	0.530	0.280	0.280	0.280	0.280	0.030	**0.210**
TOTAL DG ESTAT	Appropriations	**0.805**	**1.305**	**1.055**	**1.055**	**1.055**	**1.055**	**0.805**	**5.636**

TOTAL appropriations under HEADING 7 of the multiannual financial framework	(Total commitments = Total payments)	**0.805**	**1.305**	**1.055**	**1.055**	**1.055**	**1.055**	**0.805**	**5.636**

EUR million (to three decimal places)

		Year **2021**[18]	Year **2022**	Year **2023**	Year **2024**	Year **2025**	Year **2026**	Year **2027**	**TOTAL**
TOTAL appropriations under HEADINGS 1 to 7 of the multiannual financial framework	Commitments	0.775	0.775	0.775	0.775	0.775	0.775	0.775	**5.426**
	Payments	0.030	0.530	0.280	0.280	0.280	0.280	0.030	**0.210**

[18] Year N is the year in which implementation of the proposal/initiative starts. Please replace "N" by the expected first year of implementation (for instance: 2021). The same for the following years.

3.2.2. Estimated output funded with operational appropriations

Commitment appropriations in EUR million (to three decimal places)

Indicate objectives and outputs ⇩			Year **2021**		Year **2022**		Year **2023**		Year **2024**		Year **2025**		Year **2026**		*Post* ***2027***		**TOTAL**	
			OUTPUTS															
	Type[19]	Average cost	No	Cost	No	Cost	No	Cost	No	Cost	No	Cost	No	Cost	No	Cost	Total No	Total cost
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE No 1[20]: IFS2023																		
- Output	data					9.100						9.100						18.200
- Output	other							1.800										1.800
- Output																		
Subtotal for specific objective No 1						9.100		1.800				9.100						20.000
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE No 2: IFS2026																		
- Output	data											9.100				9.100		18.200
- Output	other													1.800				1.800
Subtotal for specific objective No 2												9.100		1.800		9.100		20.000
TOTALS						9.100		1.800				18.200		1.800		9.100		40.000

[19] Outputs are products and services to be supplied (e.g.: number of student exchanges financed, number of km of roads built, etc.).

[20] As described in point 1.4.2. 'Specific objective(s)…'

3.2.3. *Summary of estimated impact on administrative appropriations*

– ☐ The proposal/initiative does not require the use of appropriations of an administrative nature

– ☒ The proposal/initiative requires the use of appropriations of an administrative nature, as explained below:

EUR million (to three decimal places)

	Year **2021** [21]	Year **2022**	Year **2023**	Year **2024**	Year **2025**	Year **2026**	Year **2027**	**TOTAL**
HEADING 7 of the multiannual financial framework	**7**	**7**	**7**	**7**	**7**	**7**	**7**	**7**
Human resources	0,775	0,775	0,775	0,775	0,775	0,775	0,775	**5,426**
Other administrative expenditure	0,030	0,530	0,280	0,280	0,280	0,280	0,030	**1,710**
Subtotal HEADING 7 of the multiannual financial framework	**0,805**	**1,305**	**1,055**	**1,055**	**1,055**	**1,055**	**0,805**	**7,136**

Outside HEADING 7[22] **of the multiannual financial framework**								
Human resources								
Other expenditure of an administrative nature								
Subtotal outside HEADING 7 of the multiannual financial framework								

TOTAL	**0,805**	**1,305**	**1,055**	**1,055**	**1,055**	**1,055**	**0,805**	**7,136**

The appropriations required for human resources and other expenditure of an administrative nature will be met by appropriations from the DG that are already assigned to management of the action and/or have been redeployed within the DG, together if necessary with any additional allocation which may be granted to the managing DG under the annual allocation procedure and in the light of budgetary constraints.

21 Year N is the year in which implementation of the proposal/initiative starts. Please replace "N" by the expected first year of implementation (for instance: 2021). The same for the following years.

22 Technical and/or administrative assistance and expenditure in support of the implementation of EU programmes and/or actions (former 'BA' lines), indirect research, direct research.

3.2.3.1. Estimated requirements of human resources

– ☐ The proposal/initiative does not require the use of human resources.

– ☒ The proposal/initiative requires the use of human resources, as explained below:

Estimate to be expressed in full time equivalent units

		Year **2021**	Year **2022**	Year **2023**	Year **2024**	Year **2025**	Year **2026**	Year **2027**
• Establishment plan posts (officials and temporary staff)								
20 01 02 01 (Headquarters and Commission's Representation Offices)		5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1
20 01 02 03 (Delegations)								
01 01 01 01 (Indirect research)								
01 01 01 11 (Direct research)								
Other budget lines (specify)								
• External staff (in Full Time Equivalent unit: FTE)[23]								
20 02 01 (AC, END, INT from the 'global envelope')								
20 02 03 (AC, AL, END, INT and JPD in the delegations)								
XX 01 xx **yy zz** [24]	- at Headquarters							
	- in Delegations							
01 01 01 02 (AC, END, INT - Indirect research)								
01 01 01 12 (AC, END, INT - Direct research)								
Other budget lines (specify)								
TOTAL		5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1

XX is the policy area or budget title concerned.

The human resources required will be met by staff from the DG who are already assigned to management of the action and/or have been redeployed within the DG, together if necessary with any additional allocation which may be granted to the managing DG under the annual allocation procedure and in the light of budgetary constraints.

Description of tasks to be carried out:

Officials and temporary staff	The human resources required will be met by staff from the DG that are already assigned to the management of the action and/or have been redeployed within the DG, together if necessary with any additional allocation that may be granted to the managing DG under the annual allocation procedure and in the light of budgetary constraints. The tasks to be performed include: - management of grants related to the initiative - validation of data - support and methodological work

[23] AC= Contract Staff; AL = Local Staff; END= Seconded National Expert; INT = agency staff; JPD= Junior Professionals in Delegations.

[24] Sub-ceiling for external staff covered by operational appropriations (former 'BA' lines).

	- analysis of reports - dissemination of data
External staff	

3.2.4. Compatibility with the current multiannual financial framework

The proposal/initiative:

– ☐ can be fully financed through redeployment within the relevant heading of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

Explain what reprogramming is required, specifying the budget lines concerned and the corresponding amounts. Please provide an excel table in the case of major reprogramming.

– ☐ requires use of the unallocated margin under the relevant heading of the MFF and/or use of the special instruments as defined in the MFF Regulation.

Explain what is required, specifying the headings and budget lines concerned, the corresponding amounts, and the instruments proposed to be used.

– ☐ requires a revision of the MFF.

Explain what is required, specifying the headings and budget lines concerned and the corresponding amounts.

3.2.5. Third-party contributions

The proposal/initiative:

– ☒ does not provide for co-financing by third parties

– ☐ provides for the co-financing by third parties estimated below:

Appropriations in EUR million (to three decimal places)

	Year **N**[25]	Year **N+1**	Year **N+2**	Year **N+3**	Enter as many years as necessary to show the duration of the impact (see point 1.6)			Total
Specify the co-financing body								
TOTAL appropriations co-financed								

[25] Year N is the year in which implementation of the proposal/initiative starts. Please replace "N" by the expected first year of implementation (for instance: 2021). The same for the following years.

3.3. Estimated impact on revenue

– ☒ The proposal/initiative has no financial impact on revenue.

– ☐ The proposal/initiative has the following financial impact:

  – ☐ on own resources

  – ☐ on other revenue

  – please indicate, if the revenue is assigned to expenditure lines ☐

EUR million (to three decimal places)

Budget revenue line:	Appropriations available for the current financial year	Impact of the proposal/initiative[26]						
		Year **N**	Year **N+1**	Year **N+2**	Year **N+3**	Enter as many years as necessary to show the duration of the impact (see point 1.6)		
Article …….								

For assigned revenue, specify the budget expenditure line(s) affected.

Not applicable

Other remarks (e.g. method/formula used for calculating the impact on revenue or any other information).

Not applicable

[26] As regards traditional own resources (customs duties, sugar levies), the amounts indicated must be net amounts, i.e. gross amounts after deduction of 20 % for collection costs.