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Agric. Econ. — Czech

Štolbová M.: Comparative analysis of less-favoured areas payments in the EU states

Agric. Econ. – Czech, 53 (2007): 455-465

The core objectives for rural developmen support for the period 2007—2013 are: (1) improving the competitiveness of agriculture and forestry, (2) improving the environment and the countryside, and (3 improving the quality of life in rural areas and encouraging the diversification of economic activity. The Council

Regulation (EC) No. 1698/2005 includes an unambiguous targeting of smaller and micro-enterprises to sustain job opportunity in rural areas. For this scheduled period, a minimum funding of 10% of the total EU contribution has bee withheld by the Council Regulation for th measures connected with the quality of life and diversification of the rural economy outside agriculture and forestry In spite of this, the EU Court of Auditors has concluded that rural development policy in Europe is ineffective because it continues to allow member states to ador a predominantly sectoral approach with the primary focus on the agricultural sector (Special Report No. 17/2006). Thi paper deals with the possible impact of one RDP measure — the reduction of LFA payments according to farm size. Taking into account the variety of regions

in Europe and the different situations at