

**23 November 2017**

**EP Hearing on the  
"Implementation of young farmers' policies after  
the 2013 CAP reform"**

**EU support to young farmers should be better  
targeted to foster effective generational  
renewal  
ECA Special Report No 10/2017**

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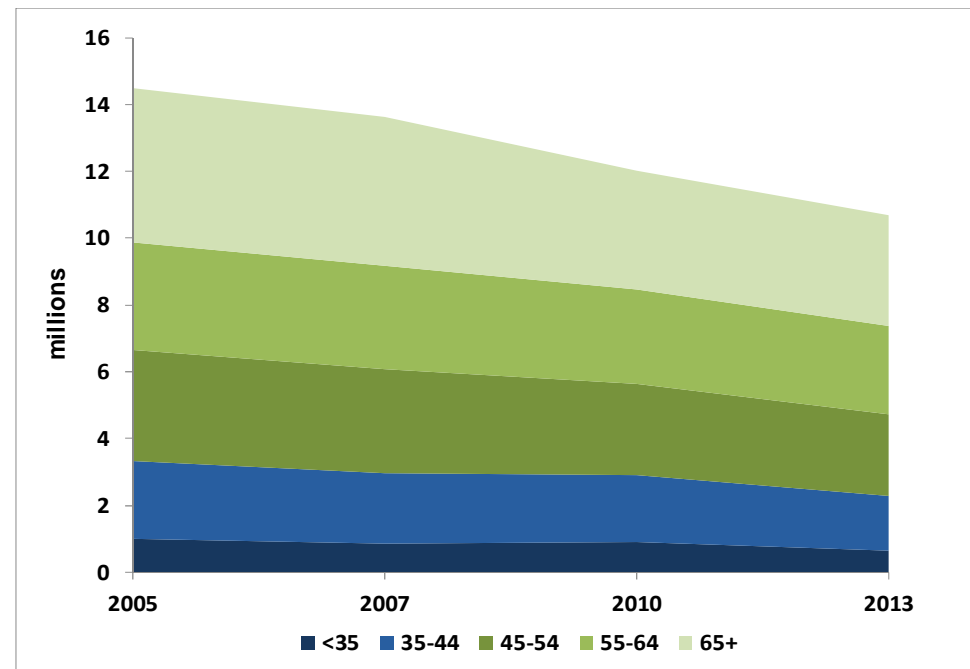
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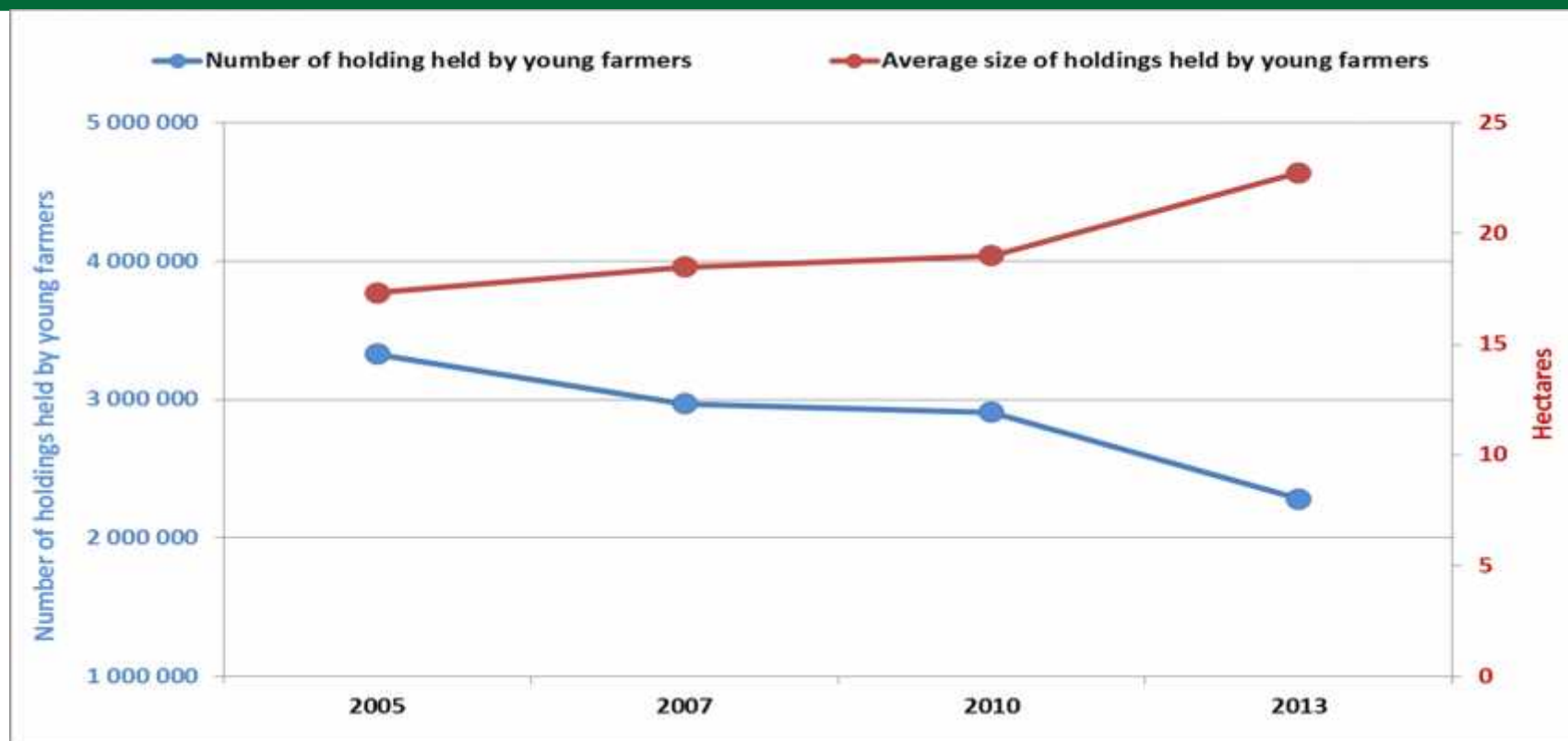
# Introduction of the audit field – farming population

- Decreasing farming population: falling from 14.5 million in 2005 to 10.7 million in 2013
- The number of young farmers (up to 44 years old) decreased from 3.3 million in 2005 to 2.3 million in 2013

## Evolution of the number of farmers by age group in the 27 EU Member States

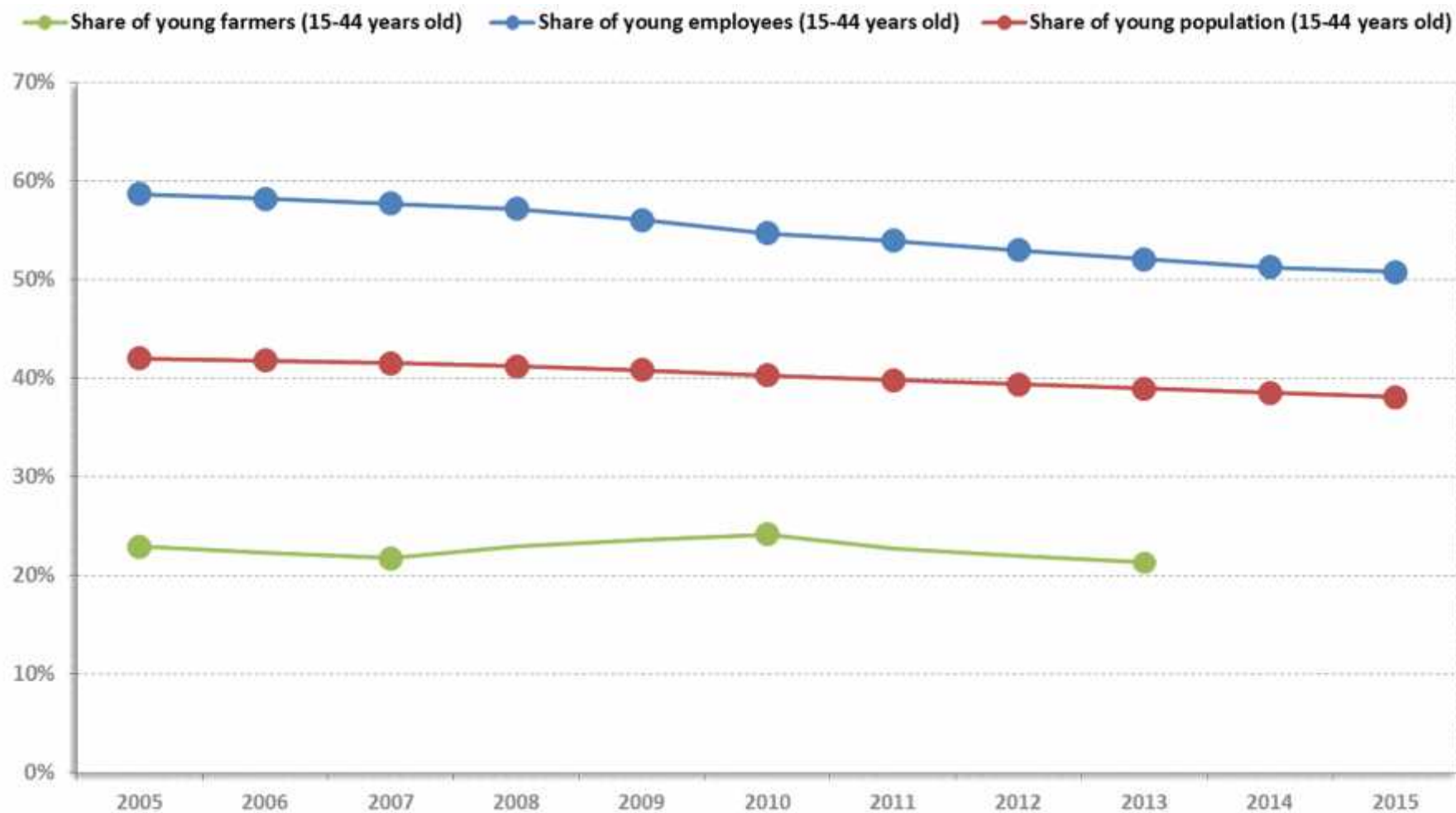


## Evolution of the number of holdings held by young farmers, the average size of their holdings and the total number of hectares held by young farmers in the 27 EU Member States



million hectares	2005	2007	2010	2013
Total number of hectares held by young farmers	57,7	54,8	55,2	51,9
Total number of hectares held by farmers of all ages	172,1	172,8	174,5	173,0

## EU-27 Evolution of the share of young people in the total population, in the labour force and in the farmer population in the 27 EU Member States



Source: Eurostat Labour Force Survey 2005-2015  
Population census 2005-2015  
Farm structure survey 2005-2013

## Distribution of farmers per age group in Member States in 2007 and 2013

Member State	<35		35–44		45–54		55–64		65+	
	2007	2013	2007	2013	2007	2013	2007	2013	2007	2013
Belgium	6,1%	4,0%	22,2%	15,2%	28,6%	32,9%	22,7%	26,8%	20,5%	21,2%
Bulgaria	3,1%	6,4%	9,4%	13,2%	17,5%	18,5%	25,1%	25,2%	45,0%	36,7%
Czech Republic	9,7%	4,6%	17,4%	14,8%	27,2%	23,8%	28,5%	33,9%	17,2%	23,0%
Denmark	5,9%	2,5%	21,4%	14,7%	29,1%	31,2%	23,9%	27,6%	19,6%	24,0%
Germany	7,7%	6,8%	28,2%	19,7%	33,9%	37,2%	22,6%	29,8%	7,5%	6,5%
Estonia	6,2%	7,5%	15,8%	16,8%	23,1%	23,4%	23,8%	21,8%	31,1%	30,4%
Ireland	8,1%	6,3%	18,3%	16,7%	24,6%	25,1%	25,5%	25,5%	23,5%	26,5%
Greece	6,9%	5,2%	15,1%	14,7%	21,6%	23,9%	20,2%	24,9%	36,3%	31,3%
Spain	5,2%	3,7%	15,6%	12,7%	23,3%	25,0%	24,5%	25,2%	31,4%	33,3%
France	8,1%	8,8%	23,6%	19,1%	31,5%	32,7%	23,9%	27,0%	12,9%	12,4%
Croatia	Data not available									
Italy	3,1%	4,5%	10,7%	10,8%	19,4%	21,6%	23,9%	23,3%	42,9%	39,7%
Cyprus	2,4%	1,7%	12,0%	6,9%	26,7%	21,4%	29,1%	30,1%	29,8%	40,0%
Latvia	7,1%	5,0%	18,1%	14,5%	25,0%	26,3%	20,7%	24,1%	29,2%	30,1%
Lithuania	4,4%	5,6%	16,9%	13,9%	21,4%	25,6%	18,2%	20,9%	39,1%	34,0%
Luxembourg	7,4%	8,7%	22,5%	17,3%	33,8%	32,2%	22,5%	27,4%	13,9%	14,4%
Hungary	7,6%	6,1%	14,6%	14,9%	23,2%	19,4%	27,1%	29,2%	27,5%	30,3%
Malta	4,9%	3,8%	10,3%	12,9%	29,3%	24,8%	32,4%	33,4%	23,0%	25,1%
Netherlands	4,0%	3,1%	23,5%	16,3%	28,7%	32,7%	26,1%	26,9%	17,7%	21,0%
Austria	11,0%	10,9%	29,7%	24,4%	33,3%	36,5%	16,5%	19,6%	9,4%	8,6%
Poland	12,2%	12,1%	21,6%	23,7%	31,1%	30,2%	19,3%	24,3%	15,8%	9,6%
Portugal	2,2%	2,5%	8,2%	7,2%	17,6%	16,6%	25,4%	23,6%	46,7%	50,1%
Romania	4,4%	4,7%	11,9%	13,9%	17,0%	16,9%	22,6%	23,5%	44,2%	41,0%
Slovenia	4,0%	4,8%	13,0%	14,4%	24,6%	26,4%	23,5%	29,1%	34,9%	25,3%
Slovakia	3,8%	8,1%	12,0%	15,4%	25,2%	24,9%	27,3%	30,0%	31,7%	21,6%
Finland	9,2%	8,5%	22,8%	22,0%	32,0%	30,1%	29,8%	29,1%	6,2%	10,2%
Sweden	6,0%	4,4%	17,4%	12,8%	26,7%	24,8%	29,3%	28,0%	20,6%	30,0%
UK	3,9%	3,9%	15,0%	11,0%	25,0%	26,6%	28,6%	27,9%	27,6%	30,6%
UE-27:	6,3%	6,0%	15,5%	15,3%	22,8%	22,9%	22,7%	24,7%	32,7%	31,1%

Source: Eurostat, Farm Structure Survey 2007 and 2013.



## Audit questions and Member States visited

Is the EU support to young farmers well designed to contribute effectively towards improved generational renewal?

**France** (Pays de la Loire and Midi-Pyrénées)

**Spain** (Andalucia)

**Poland** (Warmińsko-Mazurskie and Dolnośląskie)

**Italy** (Emilia-Romagna and Puglia)



# Main audit conclusions

The **objectives** of the EU support are **not well defined**

The **expected results** and impacts are **not clear**

## Recommendation

**Define better **who** should be supported and **what** should be the expected result of the European's assistance**



# Main audit conclusions

The genuine needs of young farmers were not sufficiently analysed and consequently the **form**, the **amount** and the **timing** of the aid only partially address young farmer's needs.

## Recommendation

**Improve the intervention logic by reinforcing needs assessment and defining SMART objectives**



# Main audit conclusions

The EU support is **not sufficiently well targeted**

## Recommendation

**Improve the **targeting** of the measure in order to encourage young farmers to stay on land**



## Main audit conclusions

There is **little evidence** that the EU support has facilitated the setting up of young farmers and improved the generational renewal

### Recommendation

**Improve the **monitoring and evaluation** system in order to collect the data relevant for the assessment of the policy results**

# Thank you for your attention!

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