



PAN Europe position on the European Commission's attempt to propose harmonised pesticides risk indicators

In today's Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed, the European Commission will officially be presenting a set of harmonised risk indicators as foreseen in the EU Directive on the Sustainable Use of Pesticides. PAN Europe welcomes this as a first step but believes it is far from being the indicators that we really need to obtain the necessary information about pesticide use reductions.

PAN Europe welcomes the European Commission's attempt to propose a set of harmonised risk indicators as foreseen in the EU Directive on Sustainable use of pesticides to be discussed in today's Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (PAFF Committee).

PAN Europe believes that a serious set of harmonized risk indicators able to measure trends in pesticide use should at a minimum look as follow:

Indicator	SUD reference	Measuring
<p>Indicator 1</p> <p>Monitoring quantitative targets, time table and measures proposed for specific topics (biodiversity, water, human health/victims of pesticides..)</p>	<p>Compliance articles 5-13</p> <p>Baseline indicator the Commission report; with improvements/dis improvements charted by ongoing implantation</p>	<p>Point 1-100</p> <p>Each article max points 10 (compliance and quality)</p> <p>Extra 10 points for overall completion taking account of the national situation</p>
<p>Indicator 2</p> <p>Pesticide use reduction</p>	<p>Compliance with second paragraph of article 4 and in article 15</p>	<p>Dynamic indicator, starting by looking into sale but accompanied by measuring specific toxic pesticides</p>
<p>Indicator 3</p> <p>Progress on IPM</p>	<p>Compliance with article 14 and 8 principles of IPM (IPM triangle!) – giving due weight to the parameters therein</p>	<p>MS could say:</p> <p>we are xx% of the way to achieving IPM in our vineyards, or</p> <p>in arable farming, we have now rotations y% of our farms.</p>

Henriette Christensen senior policy adviser in PAN Europe says: *Eurostat has since 2011 been publishing statistics on sales of active substances, annual sales have remained at around 400,000 tonnes (1), giving absolutely no certainty that the EU pesticides policies are delivering, so now it is time to develop serious indicators at EU levels on use, to be able to follow this trend more closely, with three indicators (pesticide use, biomonitoring and Integrated Pest Management) being an absolutely minimum to put in place.*

Henriette continues *'The future Common Agricultural Policy provides a new opportunity for Member States to include these indicators in their needs' assessment and have serious dependency target reductions in their CAP strategic plans'*

Notes to auditor:

(1) <https://www.pan-europe.info/issues/pesticide-use-europe>

Contact: PAN Europe, Henriette Christensen, +32 473 37 56 71, henriette@pan-europe.info

Pesticide Action Network (PAN) Europe is a network of NGOs working to reduce the use of hazardous pesticides and have them replaced with ecologically sound alternatives. We work to eliminate dependency on chemical pesticides and to support safe sustainable pest control methods. Our network brings together 40 consumer, public health, and environmental organisations, and women's groups from across Europe.