

Newsletter on the Common Agricultural Policy

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THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION IN THE EEC

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THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION IN THE EEC

Introduction

On 10 February 1971, the Commission of the European Communities submitted for the Council's approval its proposals on agricultural prices and structures. At the same time, they were officially published. Together with the price proposals, the Commission has to issue a report on the "agricultural situation" containing guidelines for the economic assessment of the Community's agricultural sector.

The price proposals for 1971/72 appeared relatively late owing to difficulties in agricultural policy. As a result, this report on the agricultural situation was not published until a year and a half after the previous one (Document COM (69) 550 of 11 June 1969), although the compilation was already complete by November 1970.

Despite the fact that the lack of adequately comparable statistics and uniform basic data for all Member States has still not been remedied, the presentation of the report has been improved.

The report constitutes a more harmonious whole and can be divided into three sections:

- (i) Economy
- (ii) Structure
- (iii) Markets.

The Commission thought it useful to include data on agricultural structure and structural policy in each of the Member States. It therefore considers that it has fulfilled its task of presenting the report mentioned in Article 2 of the Council's Resolution of 4 December 1962 on the coordination of structural policies for agriculture.

Furthermore the Commission holds the view that the economic data set out in the present review corresponds to the annual financial report mentioned in Article 3(3) of Regulation No. 25/62/EEC dealing with the financing of the common agricultural policy.

The purpose of the following summary should be to present the essential facts and figures in a condensed form.

I. THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW 1969 SHOWING ALL THE SYMPTOMS OF A TENSE ECONOMIC CLIMATE
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The Commission of the European Communities has just published its report on the agricultural situation in the EEC in 1969. It noted an increased rate of economic growth for the period in question. The gross national product of the Community as a whole rose by 7.5%, compared with 5.8% in 1968. It is the first time since the Community was established that this figure has been reached.

An analysis of these figures shows Germany and France at the top with over 8% while the Netherlands had the lowest growth rate (+5%). Intermediate positions were occupied by Luxembourg (+7%), Belgium (6%), and Italy (5.5%).

The year 1969 was also characterized by an abnormal economic and monetary situation caused by the devaluation of the French franc by 11.11% on 10 August 1969, and the revaluation of the German mark by 9.29% on 27 October 1969.

The unusually positive balance of economic growth, therefore, was disturbed by a deterioration of the price climate and a disequilibrium in the economic situation. These factors made it very difficult for the Commission to assess the agricultural situation because they had considerable repercussions on common agricultural policy.

In 1969, total demand showed a strong upward trend so that consumer expenditure also rose much more than in the preceding year. Net wage increases were also considerable, especially towards the end of the year.

Wage increases were highest in France (+15%), Germany (13%), and the Netherlands (12%); next came Belgium (10%) and the other Member States.

There were bottlenecks in the labour market and a shortage in particular of skilled workers. This shortage was felt most in the highly industrialized regions of the Community.

The tense cyclical climate and economic situation in the Community benefited non-member countries who managed to increase their exports to the EEC considerably. In terms of value they exceeded the 1968 figures by 17% which is also higher than at any time since the Rome Treaty came into force.

The main consequence of this state of affairs were price increases, substantially exceeding those of the preceding year. In terms of the official exchange rates of 1963, average Community consumer prices went up by 4.5% as compared to the year before. This increase was most keenly felt in France and the Netherlands (approx. 7%), and to a lesser extent in Germany and Luxembourg (2.5%); Italy (3%) and Belgium (3.5%) lie between these extremes.

The effects of these inflationary tendencies were felt on the Community's money market where an unusually high interest level was available. The rapid growth of demand in the Community continued in 1970 although a moderate weakening was recorded. It is expected that the increase in GNP for 1970 will not exceed 5.5%.

II. THE POSITION OF AGRICULTURE IN THE ECONOMY

Declining proportion of agriculture in the gross national product

An examination of the position of agriculture in the overall economy lends weight to the assumption that its share in the GNP will continue to diminish, in terms of the people employed, of accumulation of capital, and of the value of total exports.

For the Community as a whole, the share of agriculture in the GNP fell from 6.6% in 1967 to 6.1% in 1968 and finally to only 5.8% in 1969. The percentages for the individual member countries were 9.7% for Italy, 7% for the Netherlands, 5.8% for France, 4.6% for Belgium, but only 3.6% in Germany.

The ratio between the number of persons permanently employed in agriculture and the total number of the working population still shows considerable divergence from one Member State to the other, ranging from 21.5% in Italy to 5.2% in Belgium. In 1969, the average percentage of people employed in agriculture in the Community as a whole was 13.8% of the total working population, compared to 14.6% in 1968.

The fact that the percentage of agricultural workers in no Member State produce a corresponding percentage of the GNP can be considered as a clear indication of the disparity between average incomes in agriculture and those in other economic sectors.

Despite these figures, agricultural products still represent a significant proportion of total exports. Although in France and Germany a slight rise was recorded in export figures for agricultural products, there was a relative decline in the Community as a whole. Exports of agricultural goods play an important role in the Netherlands and France, with 27.7% and 20% of total exports respectively.

Migration from the agricultural sector

Migration from the land continued but coincided with a relatively stable labour market in other sectors of the economy. In 1969, the number of people employed in agriculture decreased by 3% in Luxembourg, 3.1% in the Netherlands, 3.6% in France, 3.7% in Germany, 5% in Belgium, and 5.5% in Italy. The percentages are somewhat lower than those for 1968, with the exception of France and Belgium. For the Community as a whole the rate at which the number of agricultural workers decreased was 4.4%, compared to 4.9% in 1968.

In 1969, approximately 10 million people were still employed in agriculture in the Community, a fall of 12.1% since 1966 (1966=100). Every seventh worker is still employed in agriculture, as there are altogether 73 238 000 persons employed in the Community. This overall figure has remained more or less constant since 1966.

III. THE ECONOMIC SITUATION WITHIN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

In the Commission's report, the economic situation within the agricultural sector has been expressed in terms of:

- (a) total final output,¹
- (b) intermediate consumption,²
- (c) gross product.

The development of final agricultural output, at constant prices, shows that compared to 1968 the rates of increase slowed down, not only in Germany but also in Italy and Belgium. The rates were +1.2% for Germany, -1.6% for Italy, +3.5% for Belgium. In contrast, France (+6%) and the Netherlands (+4.2%) showed relatively high increase rates. This development coincided with a slowdown in the rate of increase of intermediate consumption in 1968 as compared to 1967. In all Member States, except Germany, the annual growth rates of gross products showed a distinct decline in 1968.

In all Member States, except Germany, the 1968 rates dropped considerably (1967 figures in parentheses): Netherlands +3.9% (+11.4%), Belgium +4.3% (+15.8%), France +6.4% (8.4%), and Italy a decrease of as much as -2.9%. In contrast, the rate of increase of the gross product in Germany remained constant at 9.1% (+9.1%).

As regards the available 1969 data, the figures for the gross product, at constant prices, show an increase in Belgium, Italy and the Netherlands, as compared to 1968, but a decrease in France.

(a) Prices and other factors of production

As in preceding reports, the data for the compilation of producer price indices and those of the means of production are based on national statistics which are not necessarily comparable.

.../...

¹ In agriculture, total final output consists of sales to other economic sectors, home consumption in agricultural households, and changes in stocks.

² Intermediate consumption corresponds to capital and supply of services in other economic sectors. Amortizations, wages, payments of interest, rents and investments have not been included here.

In 1969 (1968/69) producer prices for agricultural products in the member countries showed a favourable development. Compared to the previous year, the tendency of producer price indices to exceed those of the means of production became stronger.

Producer price rises were highest in the Netherlands (+8.0 points) and France (+7.5 points), followed by Germany (5.7) and Belgium (5.5). Germany, however, remains the only country where the producer price index for 1968/69 remained below that of the base year 1966/67 (100:98.4) and rose substantially in 1969/70, i.e. up to July 1970. In the case of Belgium and the Netherlands it is remarkable that the rise in average prices of vegetable products was much more pronounced than for animal products.

Indices of agricultural producer prices
 1966-1969

1966 = 100

| Product | Year | Germany | France | Italy | Nether-lands | Belgium | Luxembourg |
|--------------------|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Vegetable products | 1966 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| | 1967 | 87.6 | 106.5 | 106.6 | 94.1 | 86.9 | " |
| | 1968 | 94.2 | 108.6 | 99.6 | 85.6 | 79.0 | " |
| | 1969 | 107.4 (provi-sional) | 116.3 (provi-sional) | - | 100.8 (provi-sional) | 90.4 (provi-sional) | " |
| Livestock products | 1966 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| | 1967 | 94.9 | 98.6 | 97.5 | 100 | 98.9 | " |
| | 1968 | 100.4 | 99.2 | 96.1 | 101.7 | 101.4 | " |
| | 1969 | 102.2 (provi-sional) | 106.7 | - | 107.8 | 104.7 | " |
| Overall index | 1966 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| | 1967 | 93.2 | 100.5 | 103.5 | 98.8 | 96.4 | " |
| | 1968 | 98.4 | 101.8 | 98.4 | 98.3 | 96.7 | " |
| | 1969 | 103.4 (provi-sional) | 109.3 | 108.6 | 106.3 | 102.2 | " |

The proceeds from the sale of agricultural products have, on the whole, increased during the period under review, though in Germany a slight decline was recorded.

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(b) Prices of producer goods

On the basis of the price index for 1966 (1966=100), the prices of producer goods showed only a moderate rise in Germany (1968/69 101.5). In France and Italy, however, they rose significantly (100:109.0 and 100:109.4 respectively). The other Member States occupied intermediate positions between these extremes, viz. 100:105.7 (Belgium) and 100:102.7 (Netherlands).

Over the last two years also, this tendency continued, i.e. an index rise in France of 5 points between 1968 and 1969, and a decline in the upward trend with only +2.5 points in Italy. In the other member countries the index increases ranged from 1.1 to 1.8 points.

The tendency towards index increases seems to be due mainly to rises in the price of machinery (in the Netherlands, Belgium, France and Germany).

In spite of the general tendency for prices to increase, prices for certain goods have remained remarkably stable during the period under review: fertilizer, fodder, and heating and motor fuel. Among the few exceptions are fodder in France, Italy and Belgium, and fuel in the Netherlands.

(c) Wages

Significant salary and wage increases in the economy at large triggered off an equally important rise in agricultural wages. In 1968, the wages of farmworkers continued to rise steeply, a tendency which had already been observed in the preceding years. Wage increases were especially marked in the Netherlands (+13.2 points as compared to 1968, and +31.3 points as compared to 1966), Italy (1968/69 +9.1 points, and 1966/69 +22), and Belgium (+7.4 points).

In contrast, agricultural wage increases in Germany remained more moderate, although over the last two years a definite acceleration of the upward trend in wages has been recorded.

(d) Land prices and farm rents

In view of the economic output of agricultural enterprises and of the structural transformation programme for agriculture, land prices and farm rents play a highly significant role in the Community.

Unfortunately, the statistics available were incomplete; the compilers of the present report, therefore, had to refer back to scanty information from various sources.

It is evident that there are considerable differences in land prices and farm rents between the Member States.

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Survey of selling prices and rents
for agricultural land

(Data for 1968 or 1969)

in u.a./ha.

| <u>Member State</u> | <u>Selling price</u> | | <u>Rent</u> | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|--|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | National average | Maximum and minimum values in individual regions | National average | Maxima and minima on regional basis |
| <u>Germany</u> | | | | |
| for all agricultural land | 2 694 | - | - | - |
| <u>France</u> | | | | |
| Arable land | 1 368 | 810 - 2 628 | 27 | 12 - 38 |
| Permanent pasture | 1 350 | 720 - 2 286 | 38 | 15 - 56 |
| <u>Italy</u> | | | | |
| for all agricultural land | 1 186 | 610 - 2 205 | - | 48 - 64 for good land |
| <u>Netherlands</u> | | | | |
| Arable land | 2 249 | 2 044 - 2 655 | 52 | 37 - 85 |
| Permanent pasture | 1 983 | 1 945 - 2 196 | 44 | 43 - 96 |
| <u>Belgium</u> | | | | |
| Arable land) | 5 406) | 2 030 - 8 455 | 64 | 37 - 85 |
| Permanent pasture) | | | 66 | 43 - 96 |
| <u>Luxembourg</u> | | | | |
| Arable land | 2 106 | - | 50 | - |
| Permanent pasture | 2 092 | - | 50 | - |

The above table shows that land prices and rents are by far the highest in Belgium, and lowest, if prices can be said to be "low" at all, in France and Italy.

The considerable divergence is not only due to economic factors but also to dissimilarities in national land and rent legislation.

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(e) Terms of trade

Among the factors determining the development of agricultural incomes, the terms of trade play a very important role. In this context, the phrase "terms of trade" means the ratio of prices received to prices paid by farmers.

Since no adequate statistics are available, not all prices paid by farmers can be taken into account in the calculations (e.g. prices paid for farm equipment, wages, real estate prices and farm rents). The problem of finding an adequate weighting scale for these elements has not yet been solved. Moreover, certain data are lacking or incomplete, e.g. information about farm rents. In the calculation of the terms of trade, therefore, only the prices of farm equipment are included as "prices paid".

Ratio of farmers' selling prices to prices paid by them
for farm equipment (1966-1969)¹

1966=100

| Year | Germany ^{2,3} | France | Italy | Netherlands | Belgium |
|------|------------------------|--------|-------|-------------|---------|
| 1966 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1967 | 93.0 | 99.8 | 100.7 | 98.8 | 94.6 |
| 1968 | 97.4 | 97.9 | 92.0 | 97.4 | 92.4 |
| 1969 | - | 100.3 | 99.3 | 103.5 | 96.7 |

It is clear from this table that the terms of trade in most Member States have deteriorated since 1966. The situation would presumably have been even worse if account could also have been taken of the development of wages, land prices and farm rents. For 1969, however, a certain upward tendency can again be noted.

.../...

¹ For the compilation of the indices, the selling prices have been divided by those paid for farm equipment and the result multiplied by 100.

² Base year for Germany 1966/67 = 100.

³ Period of the financial year 1966 = 1966/67 etc.

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(f) Consumer prices

The overall upward trend in prices in the member countries was also reflected in the development of consumer prices for food, drinks and tobacco.

Index of consumer prices for food, drinks and tobacco

(1966-1969)

| Year | Germany | France | Italy | Netherlands | Belgium | Luxembourg * |
|------|---------|--------|-------|-------------|---------|--------------|
| 1966 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1967 | 100 | 102 | 102 | 102 | 102 | 102 |
| 1968 | 99 | 105 | 102 | 104 | 105 | 105 |
| 1969 | 102 | 111 | 105 | 112 | 110 | 110 |

*For Luxembourg only food.

Price rises for food in 1969, compared to the year before, were most substantial in the Netherlands (+8 points) and France (+6), and weakest in Germany and Italy (+3). Belgium and Luxembourg (+5 points each) were in the middle.

In all Member States the increase in consumer prices exceeded the upward trend in agricultural producer prices.

(g) Breakdown of production figures

Before dealing with total agricultural output in each of the Member States, it is useful to see into which categories agricultural production can be divided.

The most recent figures available are those for 1967. It should be borne in mind, however, that production figures are only subject to slight fluctuation, so that the following table gives a more or less faithful picture of the situation in the Community.

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Breakdown of total agricultural output in the Community
by vegetable and animal products

(1967)

| Member State | Vegetable production | Animal production | Final total output |
|--------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Germany | 6.0 | 18.0 | 24.4 |
| France | 13.9 | 21.5 | 36.1 |
| Italy | 17.7 | 8.8 | 26.5 |
| Netherlands | 2.9 | 5.3 | 8.2 |
| Belgium | 1.5 | 3.1 | 4.6 |
| Luxembourg | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| EEC | 42.0 | 56.9 | 100.0* |

*Rest: other products, not dealt with here.

It should be added that in Italy the share of vegetable production (66.4%) exceeds the Community's average (42.0%) by over 20% while, on the other hand, animal production (32.8%) remains below the Community's average (56.9%) by about the same percentage.

Special attention should also be paid to the significance of animal production in Luxembourg (88.2%) and Germany (74.1%).

IV. PRODUCTION DEVELOPMENT

Degree of self-sufficiency in agricultural produce

The degree of self-sufficiency has, in the case of most products mentioned, practically reached or exceeded 100%. Exceptions to this rule are durum wheat (60%), maize (55%), fats and oils (43%), beef (89%), fresh fruit (88%), and citrus fruit (58%).

On the whole, the upward trend in the degree of self-sufficiency recorded in the preceding year continued in 1968/69. This was true especially for soft wheat (121% + 3 points), maize (55% + 9 points), sugar (103% + 8), fats and oils (43% in 1967/68 + 6 points), butter (117% in 1967/68 + 8 points), milk powder (157% in 1967/68 + 23 points), and citrus fruit (58% + 6 points).

It is clear from these figures that in all member countries, except Italy, total agricultural output has expanded. The size of the increase, however, varied considerably from one country to the next; it was strongest in France (+6%) while Italy even showed a small decline (-1.6%).

In contrast with the development observed in France, which showed an overall production increase, the developments in the other Member States point in two different directions: a drop in total vegetable output on the one hand, and an expansion of animal output, especially in Italy (+15.3%), on the other. France is the only member country with a net expansion of animal output (+10% on average).

In order to eliminate imponderables, such as weather conditions, annual rates of increase have to be related to the average for certain periods.

In the Commission's review this has been done for the periods of 1963-1965 and 1966-1968.

On this basis, the rates of increase of total output are found to be fluctuating between 3.8% and 4.8% annually. These percentages reflect output increases which greatly exceed the rates of increase of demand for agricultural produce (estimated at 2.5% per annum).

Except in France and the Netherlands, the rates of increase in animal production exceed those in vegetable production, especially in Italy and Belgium.

In terms of the separate products, excluding potatoes, Community production expanded between "1964" and "1967".¹

In the Community as a whole, oilseeds and poultrymeat were subject to the most rapid increase in production. This tendency also continued in 1969.

During this period, production of surplus products, i.e. wheat, sugar beet, and milk, grew on average by 2.3%, 3.4% and 2.7% annually.

On the basis of provisional information for 1969, a slight decline in the production of wheat and sugar beet can be observed as compared to 1968.

An above-average production increase in "1964"/"1967" was recorded for fruit, in France (+7.3%), Germany (+5.6%), and Belgium (+6.3%).

V. PRODUCTIVITY OF LABOUR IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

As in the previous reports, the index figures for the productivity of labour were calculated by dividing first the value of total output and next the value of the gross agricultural product by the number of persons employed in the agricultural sector. The calculations were based on three-year periods in order to make adjustments for annual fluctuations.

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¹ N.B. "1964" = 1963/64/65.
"1967" = 1966/67/68.

Average annual rates of increase of productivity of labour
in the agricultural sector in "1964" (1963/64/65) - "1967" (1966/67/68)

(in %)

| Member State | Total output at 1963 prices | Gross product at 1963 prices | Number of persons employed in agriculture - average over three-year period | Calculated increase in productivity of labour | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|------------------------|
| | | | | of output | of gross product |
| Germany | +4.8 | +4.5 | -3.8 | +8.9 | +8.6 |
| France | +3.9 | +3.0 | -3.8 | +8.0 | +7.0 |
| Italy | +4.3 | +3.6 | -4.0 | +8.6 | +7.8 |
| Netherlands | +4.3 | +3.9 | -3.5 | +8.1 | +7.7 |
| Belgium | +3.8 | +1.4 | -5.5 | +9.8 | +7.3 |

Source: SOEC.

The table shows that the steady decline in the number of persons employed in agriculture combined with an increase in total output and of the gross product at 1963 prices, has brought about a considerable rise in the productivity of labour in "1967", as compared to "1964".

The productivity of labour, calculated on the basis of data on the gross product (i.e. total output minus intermediate consumption), rose by an annual average of 8.6% in Germany, 7.8% in Italy, 7.7% in the Netherlands, 7.3% in Belgium and 7.0% in France.

A comparison of the "1964"- "1967" period with that of "1962"- "1966" for all Member States clearly shows productivity to have increased.

In 1968/69, the increase in productivity made a favourable development of agricultural incomes possible. As a result of the deterioration in the terms of trade, however, the increase in productivity could not have its full effect.

VI. TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR AGRICULTURE IN THE COMMUNITY

Between 1967 and 1969 there was a 32% rise in total Community expenditure in the agricultural sector for market support and structural reform. The figure quoted includes expenditure that cannot be placed under any particular category.

Community expenditure¹ for agriculture in 1967 and 1969

(in u.a. millions)

| Category of expenditure | 1967 | 1969 | Index 1969/67 |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Market support ² | 1 518.9 | 2 440.8 | 160.7 |
| Structural measures ³ | 1 832.0 | 2 093.6 | 114.3 |
| Various measures ⁴ | 420.1 | 448.8 | 106.8 |
| Total | 3 771.0 | 4 983.2 | 132.1 |
| Social benefits ⁵ | 1 323.1 | - | - |
| | (1 192.0) | (1 395.0) ⁶ | (117.0) ⁶ |
| Sum total EEC | 5 094.1 | | |
| | (4 171.6) ⁶ | (5 192.6) ⁶ | (124.5) ⁶ |

Source: Directorate-General for Agriculture and Directorate-General for Social Affairs.

.../...

¹ The figures indicate expenditure from the Member States' budgets for agriculture, including fiscal levies and transfers.

² The 1967 data are based on national estimates which include measures of market support taken over by the EAGGF, as well as measures for the support of products not yet subject to marketing regulations such as wine, tobacco, potatoes, hemp and flax.

³ Including grants from the Guidance Section of the EAGGF (24.1 million u.a. in 1967, and 94.9 million u.a. in 1969).

⁴ The following categories fall under this heading: price reductions of certain farm requisites (motor fuel, fertilizer) and similar measures.

⁵ Examples of social benefits are old age pensions, family allowances, sickness benefits, and accident benefits to farmers, paid from various budgetary sources.

⁶ EEC without Italy.

Breakdown of total Community expenditure

In order to obtain a clear picture of the proportion of various categories of measures in total government expenditure on agriculture, the amounts of money concerned were calculated as percentages of the contribution of agriculture to the gross domestic product (per hectare of the agricultural area and per agricultural worker). In 1969 total government expenditure (without social benefits) amounted to 22.3% of the gross domestic product of agriculture, i.e. 71 u.a. per hectare or approx. 490 u.a. for each person employed in agriculture. Half of this came under market support.

BREAKDOWN OF GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON AGRICULTURE IN THE EEC

| Category of measures | 1967 | | | 1969 | | |
|----------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| | In % of the gross domestic product at market prices | Per ha of the agricultural area (in u.a.) | Per agricultural worker (in u.a.) | In % of the gross domestic product at market prices | Per ha of the agricultural area (in u.a.) | Per agricultural worker (in u.a.) |
| Market support | 7.1 | 21.5 | 136.5 | 10.9 | 34.8 | 241.4 |
| Structural measures | 8.5 | 25.9 | 164.6 | 9.4 | 29.9 | 207.0 |
| Various measures | 2.0 | 5.9 | 37.8 | 2.0 | 6.4 | 44.4 |
| Total | 17.6 | 53.3 | 338.9 | 22.3 | 71.1 | 492.8 |
| Social expenditure | 6.2 (8.1) | 18.7 (23.3) ¹ | 118.9 (181.4) ¹ | - (9.0) ¹ | - (27.5) ¹ | - (229.1) ¹ |
| Sum total | 23.8 (28.2) ¹ | 72.0 (81.4) ¹ | 457.8 (634.9) ¹ | - (33.6) ¹ | - (102.4) ¹ | - (852.6) ¹ |

¹ Excluding Italy.

Source: Commission of the European Communities, Directorate-General for Agriculture.

Apart from national differences in the nature of these measures, there are also wide divergences in certain sectors still falling largely under the competence of Member States: structural reform, subsidies and social policy. For example, expenditure on structural reform, based on the figures for the gross domestic product, ranges from 3.8% (Belgium) to 17.7% (Luxembourg), with Germany (13%), France (8.7%), Italy (8.6%), and the Netherlands (7.1%) coming in between.

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