



DYNAMIX

Decoupling growth from resource use
and its environmental impacts

Dynamix Webinar, 28/10/2015: Results from the
resource efficiency policy mix assessment: grand
challenges for implementation

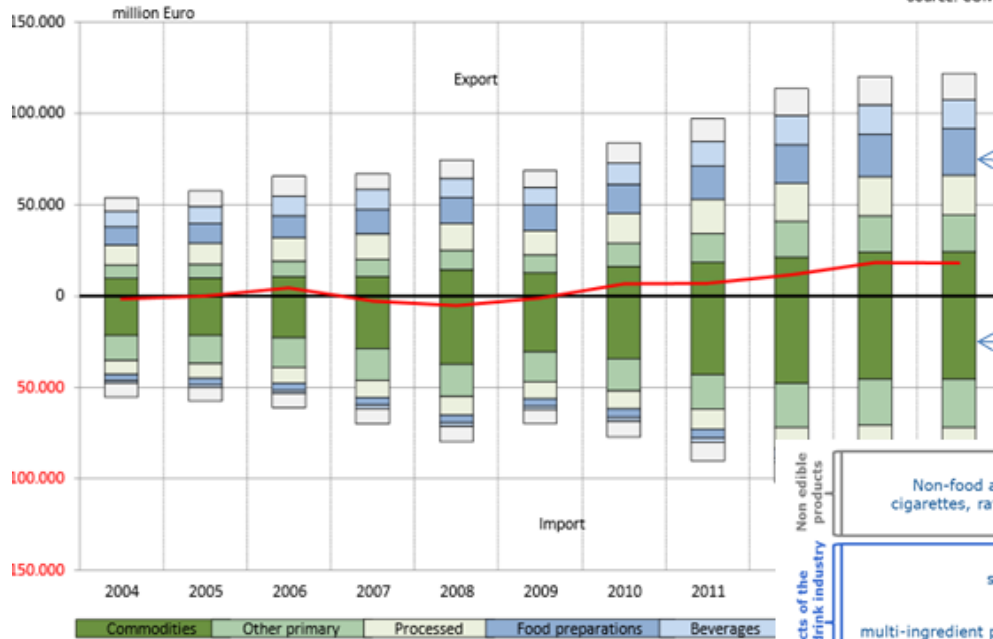
Results and implications of the Land Use policy
mix – Martin Nesbit, IEEP

CONCEPTUAL BASIS FOR THE LAND USE MIX

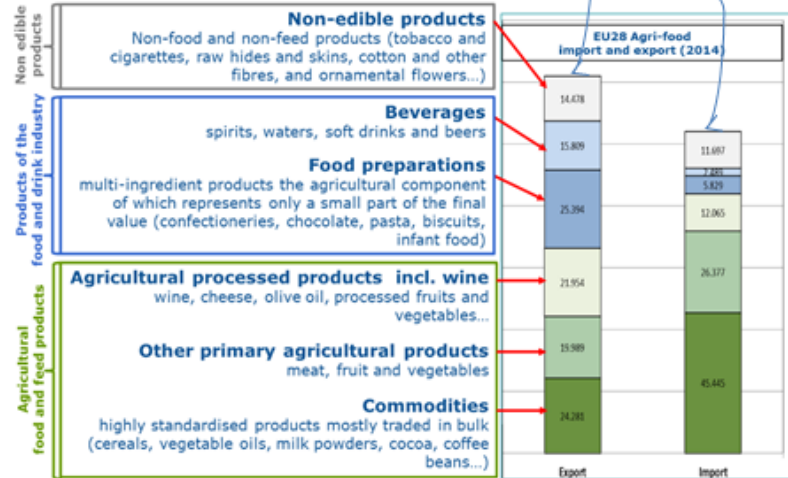
- Agricultural products are inter-traded. European consumption and production of food both have **impacts beyond Europe's borders**;
- **Increased efficiency of production** in the EU leads to a **reduced land requirement** to meet a given level of (global) consumption;
- **Production efficiency** should include environmental impacts;
- Greater **efficiency of consumption** (in meeting nutritional needs) also reduces the land requirement;
- Efficient consumption includes **reducing food waste**, and **reducing the environmental footprint** of the food we consume
- Europe needs policies which (i) improve environmental efficiency of production; (ii) improve environmental efficiency of food consumption.
- The use of land for **non-food purposes** also matters!

BACKGROUND: TRADE BALANCES

Source: COMEXT



Source: European Commission



THE POLICY MIX: CONSUMPTION

- A targeted information campaign on changing diets, and on reducing food waste;
- The development of food redistribution programmes; and
- VAT on meat products.

And supporting measures, including:

- Using public canteens to present messages
- Better labelling on dietary recommendations, and on “best before” dates
- Improved retail food storage expertise

THE POLICY MIX: PRODUCTION

- A stronger/more effective environmental dimension to the Common Agricultural Policy
- Regulation to address nitrogen emissions (tighter national targets for air emissions, and rules for better management of the nitrogen cycle on farms)
- Promote “payments for ecosystem services”
- Targets for net carbon emissions from land and forests
- Stronger pesticide reduction targets, better advice to farmers

A number of supporting measures on water use, soil, biodiversity protection, and research

SOME IMPLICATIONS OF THE POLICY MIX

- We need a clearer picture of the overall impact of Europe's consumption and production in relation to agricultural land;
- In particular, it would be valuable to develop an indicator of Europe's net land use impact (land use impact of EU consumption, less land use impact of EU production);
- Agricultural trade data needs to reflect environmental impacts, not just the monetary value of traded goods;
- This is not an area for technical solutions (although they can help); it needs broader societal, cultural change, which governments may find it difficult to lead.

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

- For further information, see the Policy Mix report on the Dynamix website:
- <http://dynamix-project.eu/development-dynamix-policy-mixes>