

A €60M FARMER AND ADVISORY LED PROJECT TO PROTECT AND RESTORE WATER QUALITY

FIVE YEAR PROGRAMME FROM 2023-2027



THE FARMING FOR WATER EIP IS AN AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME DESIGNED TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY

The EIP is open to farmers with land in priority catchments where targeted water quality improvements are needed. Farmers located in these priority catchments are **potentially** eligible for EIP funding and the catchments are identified in the map below.

You can view national water quality maps at www.gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/agriculture















HOW DOES IT WORK?

Funding is provided for measures that are over and above regulatory requirements, i.e. supplementary measures like sediment traps, riparian areas, catch crops, etc.

FARM VISIT

Farmer receives a free advisory visit from a Teagasc or Dairy ASSAP advisor



FARM ACTION PLAN

ASSAP advisor completes a rainwater management plan to identify and target areas where actions are required to reduce sediment, nutrient and/or pesticide loss to water.



APPLICATION

ASSAP advisor submits application for funding of actions.



ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED & PAYMENT MADE

Once the application for funding is approved, farmer implements the actions identified in plan.

WHAT IS FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR?

Funding is provided for measures that are over and above regulatory requirements, i.e. supplementary measures like sediment traps, riparian areas, catch crops, etc.

WHAT DO FARMERS NEED TO DO?

Each applicant receives a farm visit and rainwater management plan on application. The rainwater management plan is a simple map drawn by the ASSAP advisor with the famer, showing where rainwater moves across the farm during wet weather. This helps identify direction of waterflow across the farm to highlight areas at risk of nutrient, sediment or pesticide loss. This informs where measures like riparian buffers or hedgerows, to intercept phosphorus, are placed. These measures, on agreement are then added to the plan.

CAN FARMERS PARTICIPATE IN OTHER SCHEMES AND EU FUNDED PROJECTS?

Yes. Participation in ACRES and other EU funded schemes where they apply, is encouraged to maximise

environmental benefits. Note, double funding is not allowed – i.e., measures such as riparian buffers, can only be paid for once, irrespective of schemes. Talk to your advisor for more information.

AVAILABLE MEASURES FUNDED

The measures available will depend on what is impacting water quality. Where **nitrate** is the nutrient of concern the key actions include:

- rainwater management plan
- farmer training course
- nitrogen surplus calculations
- multi species swards
- nutrient management planning
- cover/catch crops
- slurry testing

Where **phosphorus and sediment** is the nutrient/issue of concern the key actions include:

- rainwater management plan
- farmer training course
- nutrient management planning
- wetland ponds
- riparian areas and strips
- earthen bunds
- hedgerow and tree planting
- sediment traps
- culverts/bridges
- settlement tanks
- · willow filter beds
- vegetated bunded drains
- livestock exclusion from streams
- · alternative water supplies
- swales

Measures to help reduce **pesticide and sheep dip losses** to water are also available. In some cases, the EIP will accept applications for 'bespoke measures', agreed between the farmer and advisor, which have a water quality benefit.

EXAMPLE OF PAYMENT TO FARMERS

Rainwater management plan (€250) + nitrogen surplus (€250) + training course (€156) = €656 Additional measures to protect water quality from agricultural impacts, identified in the rainwater management plan, are each funded separately.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Email the EIP office: info@watereip.ie Contact your local Teagasc / Co-Op Adviser Scan the QR code or visit www.farmingforwater.ie

