Summary information on State aid granted in conformity with Commission Regulation (EC) No 1/2004 of 23 December 2003 on the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty to State aid to small and medium-sized enterprises active in the production, processing and marketing of agricultural products

(2005/C 110/03)

Aid No: XA No 17/04

Member State: Italy

Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving an individual aid: Water and Energy Economy Fund (Fondo per il risparmio idrico ed energetico)

Legal basis: Law No 268 of 24 September 2003 (Article 1a) — conversion into a law, with modifications, of Decree Law No 192 of 24 July 2003 on urgent action to help agricultural enterprises affected by fortuitous adverse weather conditions and help deal with the emergency in Campania.

Annual expenditure planned under scheme or total annual aid granted to company: The amount available is EUR 54 041 792.54 assigned to the Regions and Autonomous Provinces 50% on the basis of irrigated agricultural area parameters and 50% on the basis of the co-financing that these will provide from their own budgets up to a total maximum limit of EUR 27 202 896.97.

Maximum aid intensity:
— This is 50% for farms defined as less favoured under Regulation (EC) No 1247/1999 as amended, and
— 40% for farms in other areas.

Date of implementation: 15 May 2004

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: Until exhaustion of funds.


Eligible expenditure: purchase of machinery and equipment.

Sector(s) concerned: Production of agricultural products listed in Annex I to the Treaty.

Name and address of granting authority:
Ministry for Agricultural and Forestry Policies (Agri-Food Quality and Services Department, Directorate-General for Structural Policy and Rural Development) in agreement with the Regions and Autonomous Provinces
Via XX settembre, 20 — 00187 Roma
Website: www.politicheagricole.it

Number of aid measure: XA-18/04

Member State: Netherlands
Region: Flevoland Province

Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving individual aid: Verenigde Nederlandse Kruidendrogerijen B.V. (VNK B.V.) in Elburg, legally represented by Mr B.J. van der Veen

Legal basis:
Decentralisation agreement between the State and Flevoland regarding the 2000-06 SPD (PME000320/08).

SPD agreement between Flevoland Province and VNK b.v.

Forecast overall amount of individual aid granted to the company: Total amount of individual aid granted EUR 702 000 (EAGGF-Guidance Section: EUR 400 000, Flevoland Province: EUR 252 000, Dronten municipality: EUR 50 000)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>EUR 464 460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>EUR 181 900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>EUR 55 640</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maximum aid intensity: 11.5% (total investment EUR 6 089 000)
Date of implementation: Date of agreement: June 2004

Duration of individual aid award: End date of aid award: 31 August 2006

Objective of aid:

Investment in processing and marketing of agricultural products (Article 7)

The eligible costs relate to:

- the construction and acquisition of real estate,
- the purchase of new machinery and equipment,
- general costs.

Business relocation and expansion of production capacity. During the first phase, a production area will be built in which a preservation unit (air dryer) and a production line will be set up to process fresh herbs grown in Flevoland. During the second phase, the office area, a laboratory and storage areas will be built.

Sector(s) concerned: The aid relates to the agriculture sector and more particularly the processing and marketing of agricultural products (herbs).

Name and address of the granting authority:

Provincie Flevoland
Postbus 55
8200 AB Lelystad

contact: G.H.M. Gielen
Tel. 0320-265481
e-mail: gielen@flevoland.nl

Website:

www.flevoland.nl/europa

Link to list of public decrees:

http://www.flevoland.nl/smartsite.dws?id=2411

Aid No: XA 19/04.

Member State: Spain.

Region: All national territory.

Title of aid scheme: Grants for setting up or consolidating certification bodies for agricultural products and foodstuffs for 2004.

Legal basis: Orden APA/ /2004, de de , por la que se establecen las bases reguladoras y la convocatoria para la concesión de subvenciones destinadas a la constitución o a la consolidación de entidades certificadoras de productos agrarios y alimenticios para el año 2004.

Planned annual expenditure under the scheme: The maximum grant will be EUR 590 000.

Maximum aid intensity: Grants may not cover more than 65 % of eligible expenditure and may not exceed EUR 60 000 per recipient body. The total grants to bodies that received a grant in 2003 under the same aid scheme (Order APA/2271/2003) will be reduced by 20 percentage points.

Date of application: From the date of entry into force of the Order.

Duration of the scheme: The scheme will run throughout 2004.

Purpose of the aid:


The aid is intended to promote the setting-up of certification bodies and their accreditation under Standard EN 45011.

Grants may cover the following expenditure:

- the remuneration of administrative staff,
- the remuneration of advisers and experts,
- the hire of premises, the purchase of office equipment, supplies and furniture, legal costs and administrative expenditure,
- the operating cost of certification or advisory committees in accordance with Standard EN 45011,
- the cost of checks and inspections carried out by other bodies,
- payment of the fees charged by the accreditation bodies covered by Section 2 of Chapter II of the Reglamento de la Infraestructura para la Calidad y Seguridad Industrial approved by Royal Decree 2200/1995 of 28 December 1995,
- the cost of the bank guarantee referred to in the Order.
Sector or sectors concerned:
The following subsectors of the food production and processing sector:

(e) Products granted one of the levels of protection referred to in Title II of Law 24/2003 of 10 July 2003 concerning vineyards and wine.
(g) Products referred to in Royal Decree 1083/2001 of 5 October 2001.

Name and address of the authority granting the aid: Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación. Pº de Infanta Isabel, 1. 28071 Madrid

Website: www.mapya.es/es/alimentacion/alimentación.htm

Other information: Previous legislation: Orden APA/2271/2003 de 28 de julio, por la que se establecen las bases reguladoras para la concesión de ayudas destinadas a la constitución de entidades certificadoras de productos agrarios y alimenticios.

Aid No: XA 20/04

Member State: Austria

Region: Lower Austria

Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving an individual aid: Local supply priority (processing and marketing)

Legal basis:

Richtlinien für den Schwerpunkt Nahversorgung

(B) Sonderaktion für Lebensmittelnahversorger

Allgemeine Förderungsbestimmungen des NÖ Wirtschaftsförderungs- und Strukturverbesserungsfonds

Gesetz über den NÖ Wirtschaftsförderungs- und Strukturverbesserungsfonds

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Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company: Planned expenditure up to 2006 (EUR)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Grant (EUR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>150 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>200 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>250 000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maximum aid intensity:

Re (A) Interest rate subsidy: 4 % per annum for five years

Subsidy basis maximum of: EUR 55 000

Maximum present value: 11,89 % of subsidised amount.

basis: applicable reference interest rate 4,43 %

Loans: interest rate maximum of 5 % below applicable maximum interest rate (currently 4 %)

Maximum present value: 11,66 % of subsidised amount

Re (B) Interest rate subsidy: up to highest permitted interest rate (currently 4 %), duration: five years;

Subsidy basis for investments: maximum of EUR 250 000, for consumables maximum of EUR 75 000

Maximum present value: 17,83 % of subsidised amount.

basis: reference interest rate 4,43 %

Loan: interest-free, maximum duration five years

Maximum present value: 11,66 % of subsidised amount

Tax treatment: the tax treatment of aid is regulated in the Austrian income tax act
**Date of implementation:** After notification of the aid under the Block Exemption Regulation

**Duration of scheme or individual aid award:** Up to 31 December 2006 (date of submission of application). If Regulation (EC) No 1/2004 is extended, the guidelines will also be extended accordingly.

**Objective of aid:**

Securing the local supply of the local population

Aid is granted in particular for investments in processing and marketing under Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2004

**Sector(s) concerned:**

All sectors except for the tourism and leisure industry and primary agriculture and forestry

Production, processing and marketing of agricultural products

**Name and address of the granting authority:**

NÖ Wirtschaftsförderungs- und Strukturverbesserungsfonds
Abteilung WST2
Landhausplatz 1/14
A-3109 St. Pölten

Contact person: Mag. Helga Kräftner
Tel. (43) 2742 9005 16101
Fax (43) 2742 9005 16240

**Web address:** www.wirtschaftsfoerderung.at

**Legal basis:**

Richtlinien für die Förderung der Markterschließung

Allgemeine Förderungsbestimmungen des NÖ Wirtschaftsförderungs- und Strukturverbesserungsfonds

Gesetz über den NÖ Wirtschaftsförderungs- und Strukturverbesserungsfonds

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**Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company:** Planned expenditure up to 2006 (EUR)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Grant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>100 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>150 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>200 000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Maximum aid intensity:**

50 % of total eligible costs up to a maximum of EUR 20 000

Tax treatment: the tax treatment of aid is regulated in the Austrian income tax act

**Date of implementation:** After notification of the aid under the Block Exemption Regulation

**Duration of scheme or individual aid award:** Up to 31 December 2006 (date of submission of application). If Regulation (EC) No 1/2004 is extended, the guidelines will also be extended accordingly.

**Objective of aid:**

Support for outlay on the introduction of existing or new products into a new foreign market

Aid is granted in particular for investments in processing and marketing under Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2004

**Sector(s) concerned:**

All sectors except for the tourism and leisure industry and primary agriculture and forestry

Production, processing and marketing of agricultural products

**Aid No:** XA 21/04

**Member State:** Austria

**Region:** Lower Austria

**Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving an individual aid:** Aid for opening up new markets (processing and marketing)
Name and address of the granting authority:
NO Wirtschaftsförderungs- und Strukturverbesserungsfonds
Abteilung WST2
Landhausplatz 1/14
A-3109 St. Pölten

Contact person: Mag. Helga Kräftner
Tel. (43) 2742 9005 16101
Fax (43) 2742 9005 16240

Web address: www.wirtschaftsfoerderung.at

Aid No: XA 22/04

Member State: Austria

Region: Lower Austria

Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving an individual aid: Structural improvement/start-ups priority (processing and marketing)

Legal basis:
Richtlinien für Landesinvestitionsförderung
Allgemeine Förderungsvorschriften des NÖ Wirtschaftsförderungs- und Strukturverbesserungsfonds
Gesetz über den NÖ Wirtschaftsförderungs- und Strukturverbesserungsfonds
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Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company: Planned expenditure up to 2006 (EUR)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Interest rate subsidy (EUR)</th>
<th>Loans (EUR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>150 000</td>
<td>2 000 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>200 000</td>
<td>3 000 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>250 000</td>
<td>4 000 000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maximum aid intensity:
Interest rate subsidy: maximum of 4% per annum for five years
Subsidy basis: maximum of EUR 1 500 000
Maximum present value: 11.89% of subsidised amount,

basis: applicable reference interest rate, currently 4.43%

Loans: interest rate maximum of 5% (in the regional aid area) or 3% (outside the regional aid area) below the applicable maximum interest rate (currently 4%)

Maximum present value: 21.02% of subsidised amount

Tax treatment: the tax treatment of aid is regulated in the Austrian income tax act

Date of implementation: After notification of the aid under the Block Exemption Regulation

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: Up to 31 December 2006 (date of submission of application). If Regulation (EC) No 1/2004 is extended, the guidelines will also be extended accordingly.

Objective of aid:
Improvement of the regional economic structure

Aid is granted in particular for investments in processing and marketing under Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2004

Sector(s) concerned:
All sectors except for the tourism and leisure industry and primary agriculture and forestry

Production, processing and marketing of agricultural products

Name and address of the granting authority:
NO Wirtschaftsförderungs- und Strukturverbesserungsfonds
Abteilung WST2
Landhausplatz 1/14
A-3109 St. Pölten

Contact person: Mag. Helga Kräftner
Tel. (43) 2742 9005 16101
Fax (43) 2742 9005 16240

Web address: www.wirtschaftsfoerderung.at

Aid No: XA 23/04

Member State: Austria

Region: Lower Austria

Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving an individual aid: Promotion of cooperation (processing and marketing)
**Legal basis:**

Richtlinien für die Förderung von Kooperationen

Allgemeine Förderungsbestimmungen des NÖ Wirtschaftsförderungs- und Strukturverbesserungsfonds

Gesetz über den NÖ Wirtschaftsförderungs- und Strukturverbesserungsfonds

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**Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company:** Planned expenditure up to 2006 (EUR)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Grant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>100 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>150 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>200 000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Maximum aid intensity:**

50 % of eligible costs up to a maximum of EUR 10 000 in the first phase and a maximum of EUR 35 000 in the second phase

Tax treatment: the tax treatment of aid is regulated in the Austrian income tax act

**Date of implementation:** After notification of the aid under the Block Exemption Regulation

**Duration of scheme or individual aid award:** Up to 31 December 2006 (date of submission of application). If Regulation (EC) No 1/2004 is extended, the guidelines will also be extended accordingly.

**Objective of aid:**

Development of cooperation to prepare projects between SMEs and between SMEs and a research and technology institute.

Aid is granted in particular for investments in processing and marketing under Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2004

**Sector(s) concerned:**

All sectors except for the tourism and leisure industry and primary agriculture and forestry

Production, processing and marketing of agricultural products

**Name and address of the granting authority:**

NÖ Wirtschaftsförderungs- und Strukturverbesserungsfonds

Abteilung WST2

Landhausplatz 1/14

A-3109 St. Pölten

Contact person: Mag. Helga Kräftner

Tel. (43) 2742 9005 16101

Fax (43) 2742 9005 16240

**Web address:** www.wirtschaftsfoerderung.at

**Aid No:** XA 24/04

**Member State:** Austria

**Region:** Lower Austria, regional aid area Wald- und Weinviertel (State aid No N 525/99 — Austria — regional aid map)

**Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving an individual aid:** Investment premium in the Wald- und Weinviertel (processing and marketing)

**Legal basis:**

Richtlinien für die Investitionsprämie im Wald- und Weinviertel

Allgemeine Förderungsbestimmungen des NÖ Wirtschaftsförderungs- und Strukturverbesserungsfonds

Gesetz über den NÖ Wirtschaftsförderungs- und Strukturverbesserungsfonds

LGBl. Nr. 7300-1

**Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company:** Planned expenditure up to 2006 (EUR)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Grant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>100 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>100 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>100 000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Maximum aid intensity:**

30 % of eligible costs in the case of SMEs, maximum of EUR 2 200 per new job created

Tax treatment: the tax treatment of aid is regulated in the Austrian income tax act.
Date of implementation: After notification of the aid under the Block Exemption Regulation

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: Up to 31 December 2006 (date of submission of application). If Regulation (EC) No 1/2004 is extended, the guidelines will also be extended accordingly.

Objective of aid: Improvement of the regional economic structure and creation of new jobs.

Aid is granted in particular for investments in processing and marketing under Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2004

Sector(s) concerned: All sectors except for the tourism and leisure industry and primary agriculture and forestry

Production, processing and marketing of agricultural products

Name and address of the granting authority:

NÖ Wirtschaftsförderungs- und Strukturverbesserungsfonds
Abteilung WST2
Landhausplatz 1/14
A-3109 St. Pölten

Contact person: Mag. Helga Kräftner
Tel. (43) 2742 9005 16101
Fax (43) 2742 9005 16240

Web address: www.wirtschaftsfoerderung.at

Aid No: XA 29/04.

Member State: Spain.

Region: Catalonia.

Title of aid scheme or name of the company receiving an individual aid: ‘Aid for requesting agreed prior assessments or reasoned reports in relation to the tax deduction for R&D and technical innovation (TI) projects.’

Legal basis: (indicate the precise national legal reference for the aid scheme or for the individual aid). Order TRI/…/2004 of …, adopting the basis on which aid is granted for requesting agreed prior assessments or reasoned reports in relation to the tax deduction for R&D and TI projects, and inviting applications for 2004.

Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company: EUR 300 000.

Maximum aid intensity: 50 %.

Date of implementation: From the date of publication of the aid scheme (approximately July 2004).

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: 2004—2007.

Objective of aid: The objective of the aid is to enhance the use of tax incentives for R&D and TI projects among businesses, as part of an overall policy to improve business competitiveness by encouraging research, development and technical innovation. Article 14 is used. The eligible costs are for external consultants needed to prepare the requests for an agreed prior assessment or a reasoned report on the possibility of determining the tax costs of an R&D and TI project. In the case of reasoned reports, the cost of subcontracting an R&D and TI activity certificate issued by an accredited body is also subsidised.

Sector(s) concerned: Sectors relating to the processing of all the products listed in Annex I to the Treaty, except fishery and aquaculture products, and products falling under CN codes 4502, 4503 and 4504.

Name and address of the granting authority:

Centro de Innovación y Desarrollo Empresarial
Passeig de Gràcia, 129, 6ª planta
08008 Barcelona

Web address: www.cidem.com/cidem/cat/serveis/financament/ajuts/ajutsIF.doc

Aid No: XA 31/04.

Member State: Italy.

Region: Veneto.


Legal basis: L. 845/1978 ‘Legge quadro in materia di formazione professionale’

L.R. n. 10 del 30.01.1990. ‘Ordinamento del sistema della formazione professionale e organizzazione delle politiche regionali del lavoro’
Annual expenditure planned:

Under this aid scheme, EUR 2 000 000 may be granted to training bodies accredited by the Region of Veneto's Training Unit to provide training programmes in the primary sector.

The eligible schemes are employment training programmes targeting employees in the sectors defined in the legal basis.

In accordance with Article 17(1)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 1/2004, the resources available from the relevant regional budget to carry out the scheme total:

Chapter 72040 — financial contribution in the form of grants of EUR 2 000 000.

Maximum aid intensity: Aid is granted on the basis of the hourly cost of training, currently EUR 110 per hour.

Date of implementation: Aid may be granted after the scheme is authorised by a Decreto del Dirigente Regionale and published in the Region of Veneto's Official Journal.

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: The aid scheme ceases when the balance is paid to each training body, only after the report is checked and approved.

Objective of aid:

Each year the Region of Veneto allocates resources for carrying out continuous vocational training schemes to support agricultural entrepreneurs, assistants, technical support staff and other specialists employed in the agricultural sector (Regional Law No 32 of 9 August 2003) with the aim of:

— promoting a culture of entrepreneurship;

— improving the professional qualifications of agricultural workers;

— raising awareness of technological innovations.

Deliberazione di Giunta regionale n. 1162/2004 therefore refers to Article 14 of Regulation (EC) No 01/2004. In particular, the eligible costs covered by the aid scheme are those of organising the training programme.

Sector(s) concerned: The scheme applies to professional training for individuals who qualify for education and professional training under Law 53/2003.

Name and address of the granting authority: Regione Veneto — Segreteria Formazione e Lavoro — Direzione regionale Formazione — Via G. Allegri n. 29 30174 Mestre — Venezia (Italy).

Web address: www.regione.veneto.it/bandi di concorso

Other information:

Direzione Formazione
Tel. (39) 412 79 50 30 — 5029
Fax (39) 412 79 50 85

Aid number: XA 32-04

Member State: United Kingdom

Region: Cumbria

Title of Aid scheme or name of company receiving an individual aid: Farming Connect Cumbria (FCC).

Legal basis: Sections 4 and 5 of the Regional Development Agencies Act 1998

Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial year</th>
<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004/2005</td>
<td>GBP 943 260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005/2006</td>
<td>GBP 2 475 520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006/2007</td>
<td>GBP 3 677 280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007/2008</td>
<td>GBP 9 765 090</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maximum aid intensity:

(A) Business advice and grant facilitation service

The aid intensity will be 100 %. The total amount of aid per beneficiary granted under this item will be limited so that the limit of EUR 100 000 for technical support over 3 years is respected. However, it is expected that the maximum aid per beneficiary will be considerably less than EUR 100 000 in all cases.
(B) **FCC Development Grants**

The maximum aid intensity will be 40% or, for young farmers (as defined in Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No 1257/1999 as amended) within 5 years of setting up, 50%. The level of grant per project will be capped at GBP 16,000 for all applicants. Applicants may apply for grants for more than one project, but no applicant may receive more than GBP 30,000 in total under this item.

(C) **FCC Technical Consultancy Grants**

The maximum aid intensity will be 50%. The level of grant per project will be capped at GBP 1,300.

**Date of implementation:** 29 July 2004

**Duration of scheme or individual aid award:** Initial applications to join the FCC programme need to be received by 31 January 2007.

(A) **Business advice and grant facilitation service**

All advice will be given by 30 April 2007.

(B) **FCC Development Grants**

The last date for FCC Development Grant Applications is 30 November 2006 and all claims must have been submitted by 31 March 2007.

(C) **FCC Technical Consultancy Grants**

The last date for FCC Technical Consultancy Grant Applications will be 31 January 2007 and all claims must have been submitted by 31 March 2007.

**Objective of aid:**

The objective is to support the long term sustainable development of Cumbria’s rural economy by promoting:

— within-agriculture diversification of agricultural businesses;
— improved business efficiency;
— enhancements to animal welfare conditions;
— protection of the rural environment.

(A) **Business advice and grant aid facilitation service**

The eligible costs will be consultancy fees in line with Article 14 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2004.

(B) **FCC Development**

The eligible costs will be the construction, acquisition or improvement of immovable property, the purchase or lease-purchase of new machinery and equipment, including computer software and general costs, such as architects, engineers and consultation fees, feasibility studies, the acquisition of patents and licences, up to 12% of eligible expenditure. This is in line with Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2004.

(C) **Technical Consultancy Grants**

The eligible costs will be consultancy fees in line with Article 14 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2004.

**Sector(s) concerned:** The scheme applies to agricultural production activities and also to processing and marketing activities which take place on a farm holding. All subsectors are eligible for all types of aid, with the exception of the manufacture and marketing of products which imitate or substitute for milk and milk products and the processing and marketing in the sugar sector which are not eligible for investment grants.

**Name and address of the granting authority:**

Rural Regeneration Cumbria
Hackthorpe Business Centre
Hackthorpe
Cumbria
CA10 2HX

**Web address:**


Click on the link ‘Farming Connect Cumbria’. Alternatively, you can go direct to:


**Other information:**

The scheme consists of 3 separate measures:

(A) **Business advice and grant aid facilitation service**

A flexible business advice and support service to farmers and other agricultural producers and processors, tailored to the specific needs of the business to enable the preparation of a formal business plan with the aim of improving business efficiency.

(B) **FCC Development Grants**

The business will then be able to apply for grants to help them implement that business plan by investing in their holding in order to develop their business for the future.

(C) **FCC Technical Support Grants**

Alternatively, farmers may be given a grant towards the cost of more in depth consultancy to help them implement their business plan.
A considerable proportion of the aid consists of grants which will be paid in arrears on presentation of receipted invoices and only once stage 1 (preparation of the business plan) is completed. Therefore, more of the expenditure will occur towards the end of the scheme's period of operation.

**Aid No:** XA 33/04.

**Member State:** Federal Republic of Germany.

**Region:** Baden-Württemberg Ministerium für Ernährung und Ländlichen Raum Baden-Württemberg

**Title of aid scheme and legal basis:**

Section D: Aid for farm management systems in 2004.

Management assistance pilot scheme, in particular to implement cross-compliance, meet other rules on sound agricultural practice and the standards for quality assurance systems.

**Annual expenditure planned/draft budget:** EUR 100 000 (2004 only).

**Beneficiaries:** Of the approximately 66 000 farmers in Baden-Württemberg to whom this scheme applies, no more than 400 farms can participate in the scheme in 2004 and have their expenses reimbursed.

**Objective of aid scheme (technical assistance):**

To provide farmers with specially created documents they can use to check whether they comply with the cross-compliance rules laid down in the Luxembourg Decisions. This will enhance quality assurance and procedural certainty for farmers, particularly given the small-scale nature of agriculture in Baden-Württemberg, which leaves individual farmers ill-equipped to fully understand the complex legal requirements. A further objective is to ensure that Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 is implemented more effectively.

To this end, a management and documentation system was developed covering all aspects of a farm's operations. It is being tested on the ground in 2004 as part of a pilot scheme involving up to 400 participants. The scheme will help eliminate errors and develop the system further. Individual farmers involved in the pilot scheme will take part in training sessions and seminars and be supplied with course material (three folders). The training and work based on the course materials will take place in various stages.

The following aid is provided to cover eligible costs for the education and training of farmers:

(a) Cost of organising training, including course materials
(b) Farmers' travelling expenses
(c) Cost of providing replacement services during the farmer's absence

It is envisaged that costs incurred under items a) to c) will be reimbursed up to a maximum of EUR 250.

Contributions under Section D will not be exhausted during the 2004 pilot stage.

**Aid intensity:**
The fact that the above aid partly covers costs should provide an adequate incentive to participate in the development and pilot stages.

It will not lead to over-compensation.

**Date of implementation:**
The scheme is due to be implemented in summer 2004 and assessed in autumn 2004.

It will start, and aid will be granted, once the necessary identification number has been received.

**Duration:** The scheme is due to finish by the end of 2004.

**Objective of aid (see 2.4):** To develop and test a self-monitoring and documentation system to comply with sound agricultural practice (cross-compliance). The aid scheme falls under Article 14(2)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 1/2004.

**Sector(s) concerned:** The technical assistance is not product or sector-specific, but rather open to all farmers.

**Name and address of the granting authority:**
Approval is given by the ‘Ämter für Landwirtschaft’. Their individual addresses can be found at the following web address:

http://www.landwirtschaft-mlr.baden-wuerttemberg.de/

**Web address of the aid scheme:**
The aid scheme will only be posted on the web once it has been approved and Baden-Württemberg has received an identification number. It will then be at the following address: