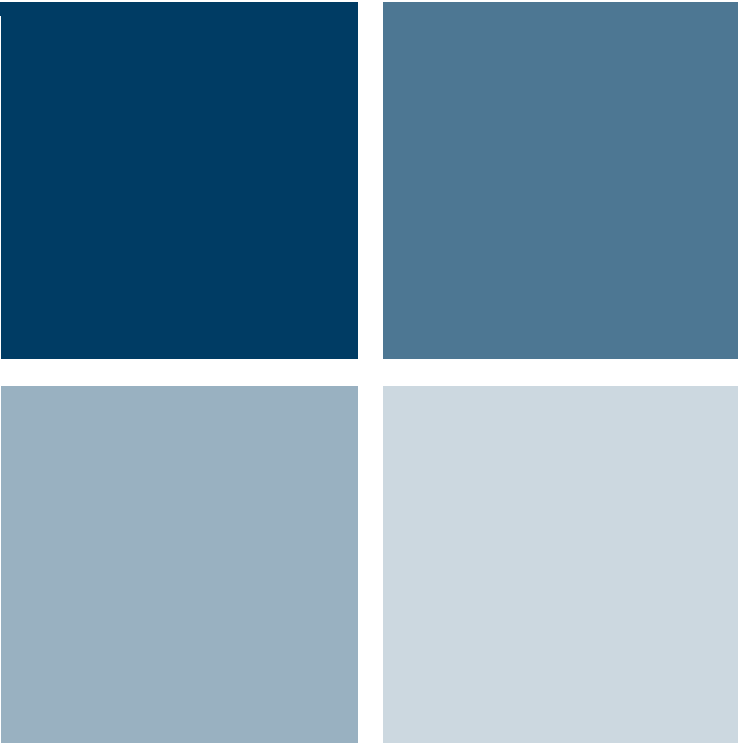


Study supporting the REFIT Evaluation of the EU legislation on plant protection products and pesticides residues

XXII CEUREG Conference, Vienna

Thomas Krüger



Link to our report

<https://publications.europa.eu/s/i9z4>

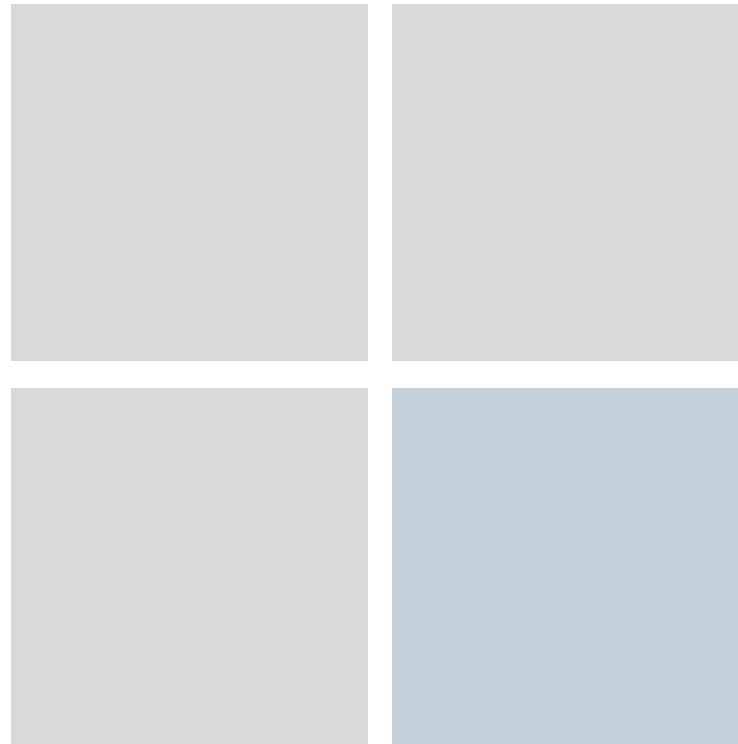
REFIT website:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/pesticides/refit_en

Structure

1. **Context of the study:** REFIT evaluation of the EC
2. **Design and implementation of the study:** Methodological approach, data collection and analysis
3. **Structure of the study:** The report
4. **Results of the study:** Key findings

Context of the study



Roadmap and timeline

- EC launched evaluation process in 2016
- Regulation (EC) 1107/2009 and Regulation (EC) 396/2005
- REFIT: Regulatory Fitness and Performance programme
- Assessment of implementation and performance
- Supported by an external study

External study

- Five evaluation criteria
- July 2017 until July 2018
- Conclusions, no recommendations
- Final report to be published soon

Effectiveness

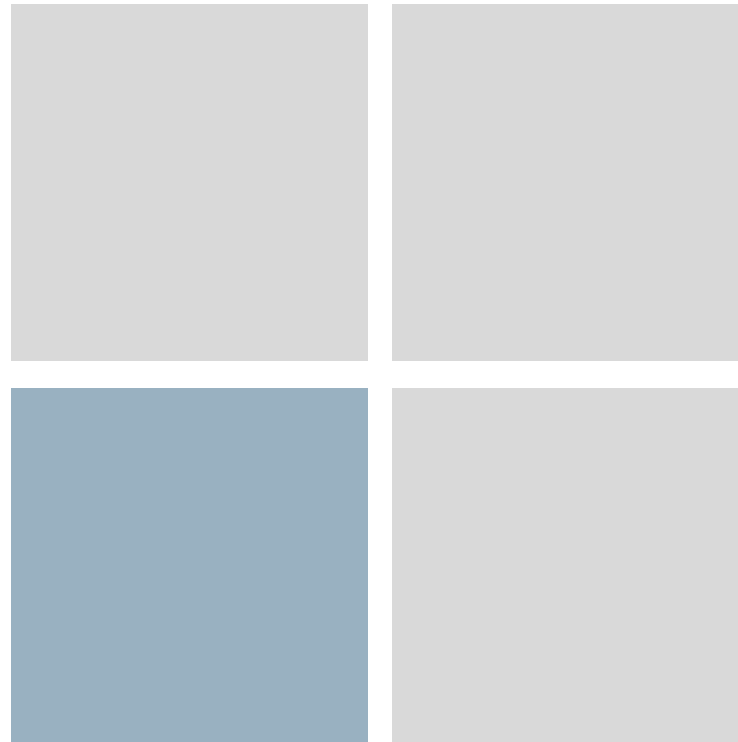
Efficiency

Relevance

Coherence

EU Added Value

Design of the study



Design of the study



- 28 evaluation questions
- Identification of judgement criteria and indicators
- Mixed qualitative and quantitative approach
- Data sources: desk research, consultation activities, case studies

Implementation of the study

Desk research

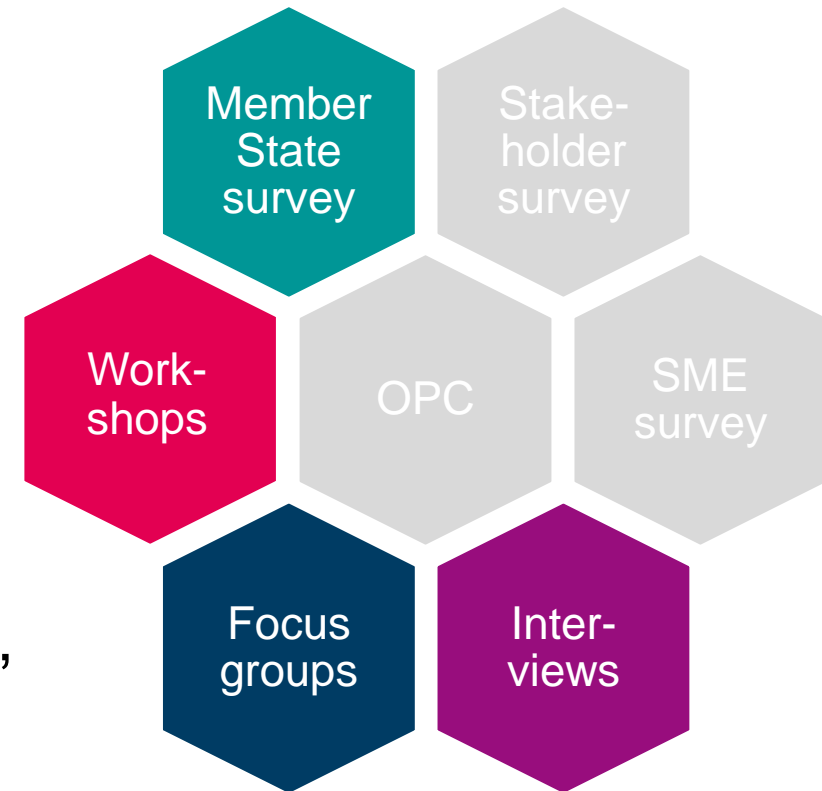
- Studies and reports
- Academic literature
- Databases
- “Grey” literature

Case studies

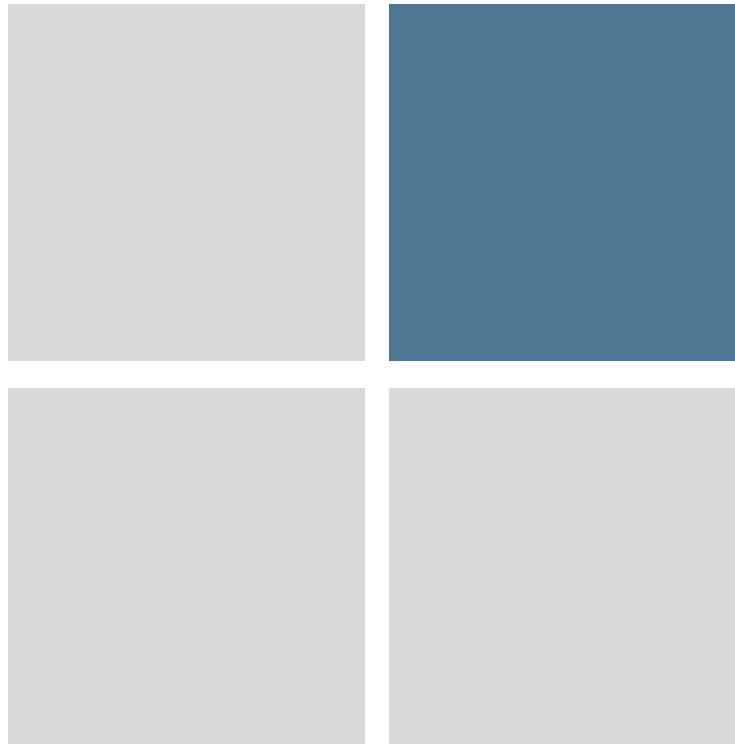
- In-depth assessment of individual cases
- From application to the market
- Impacts on trade
- Candidates for Substitution

Consultation activities

- Extensive consultation strategy
- High participation rate
- Balanced representation of interests
- Several opportunities to contribute for EU-28, Norway and Iceland

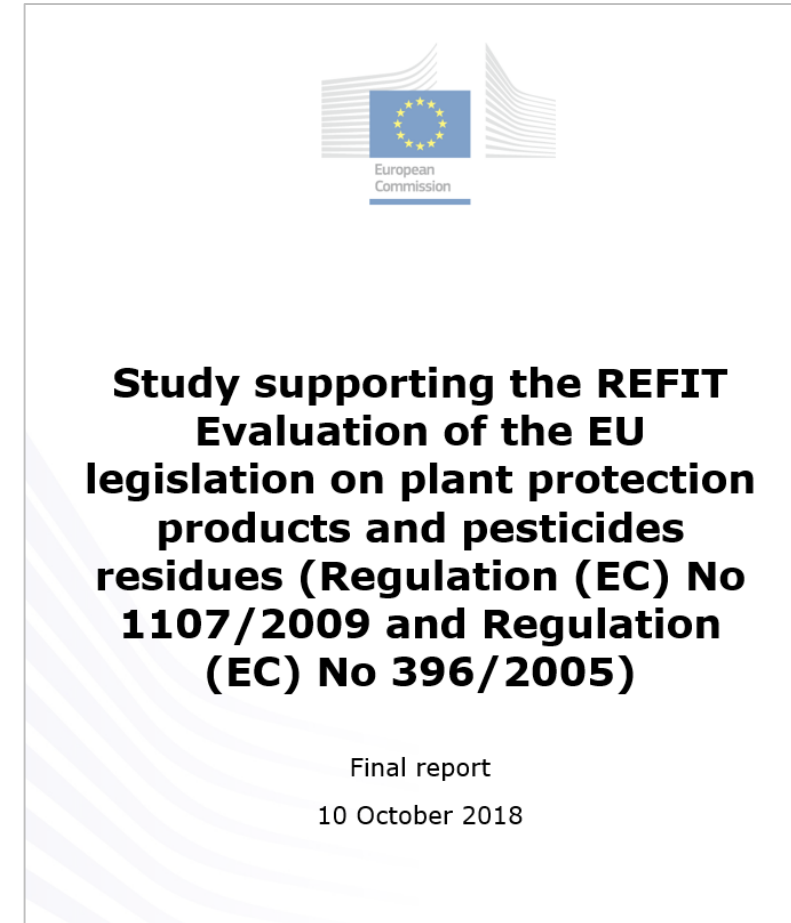


Structure of the study

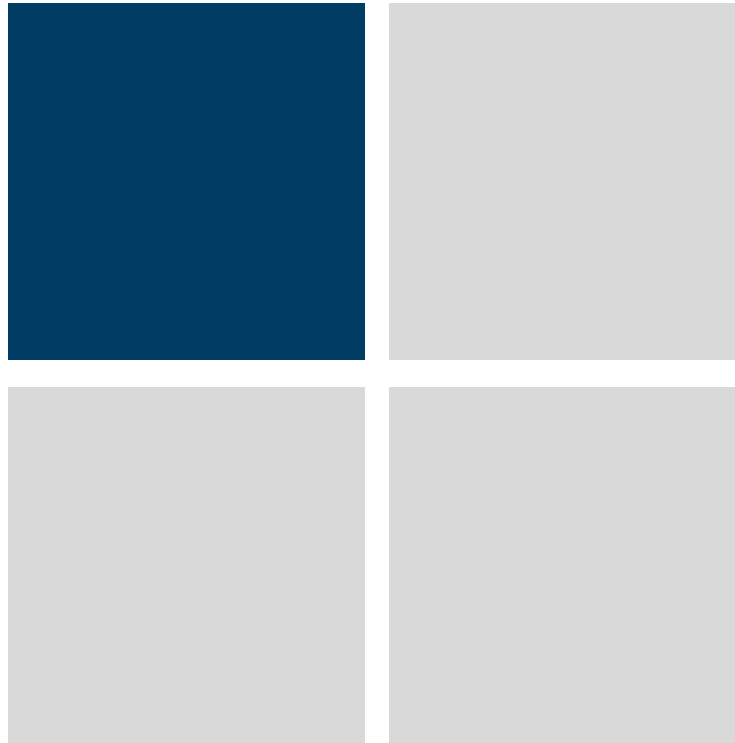


The report

- Main report
 - Executive Summary
 - Analysis per evaluation question
 - Conclusions
- Appendices and Annexes
- Structured response to evaluation questions



Results of the study



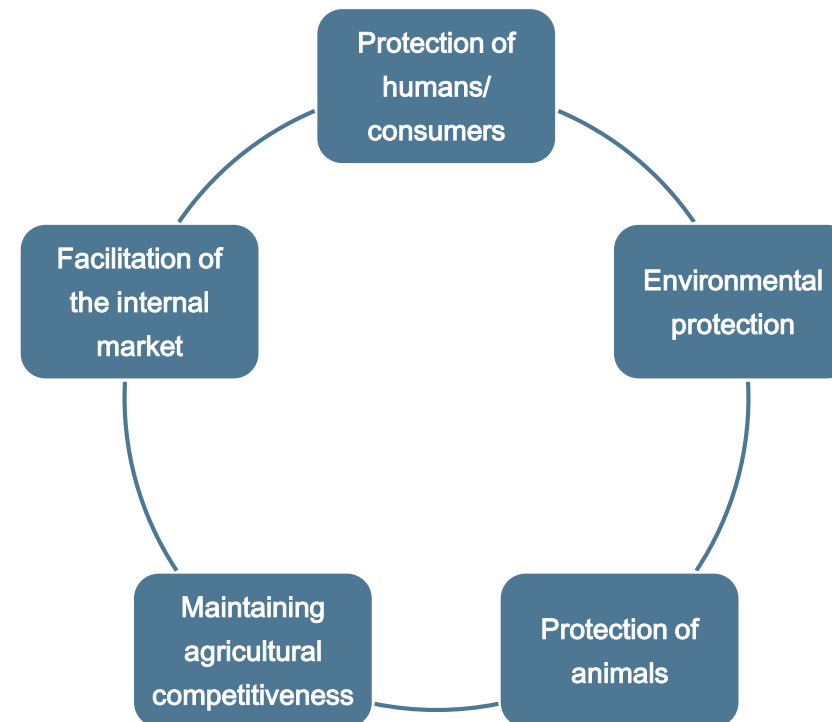
General impression

- Fact finding
- Results generally confirm sentiments and beliefs
- Some surprising results
- Comprehensive compilation of different aspects and views

Added value

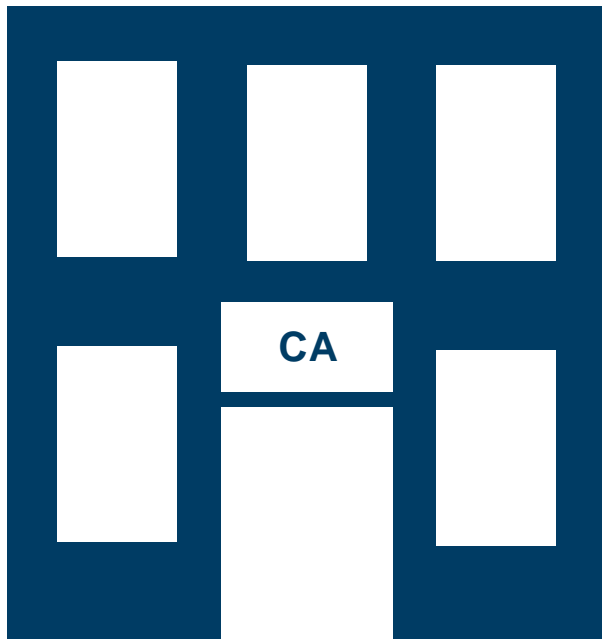
The two Regulations add great value and enhance the regulatory framework on PPPs and their residues

- Harmonisation of rules
- Enhanced cooperation
- Achieve their objectives



Unanimous agreement

Competent Authorities



Stakeholders



Citizens



Room to improve

- Challenges remain for different reasons:
 - Non-implementation
 - Lack of resources
 - Delays
 - Scientific development
 - Provisions do not work as intended
 - ...
- For some aspects still too early to judge

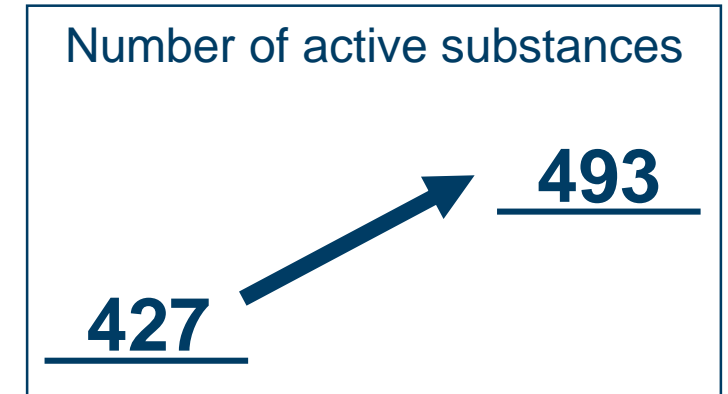
Overall, the
Regulations
are working...
but...

Active substances

All fine?

- Number of active substances increased
- 22 new actives, 8 authorised in MS
- Increase partly due to basic and low-risk substances

- No large reduction of active substances due to “cut-off” criteria



Approval of active substances

Not so fast...

- Confirmatory data
- Signalling effect
- Non-approvals:
 - 15 based on environmental
 - 23 based on health concerns
- Delays in (re-)approval procedures

Effects yet
to fully
materialise?

Approval of active substances

Quick replacements?

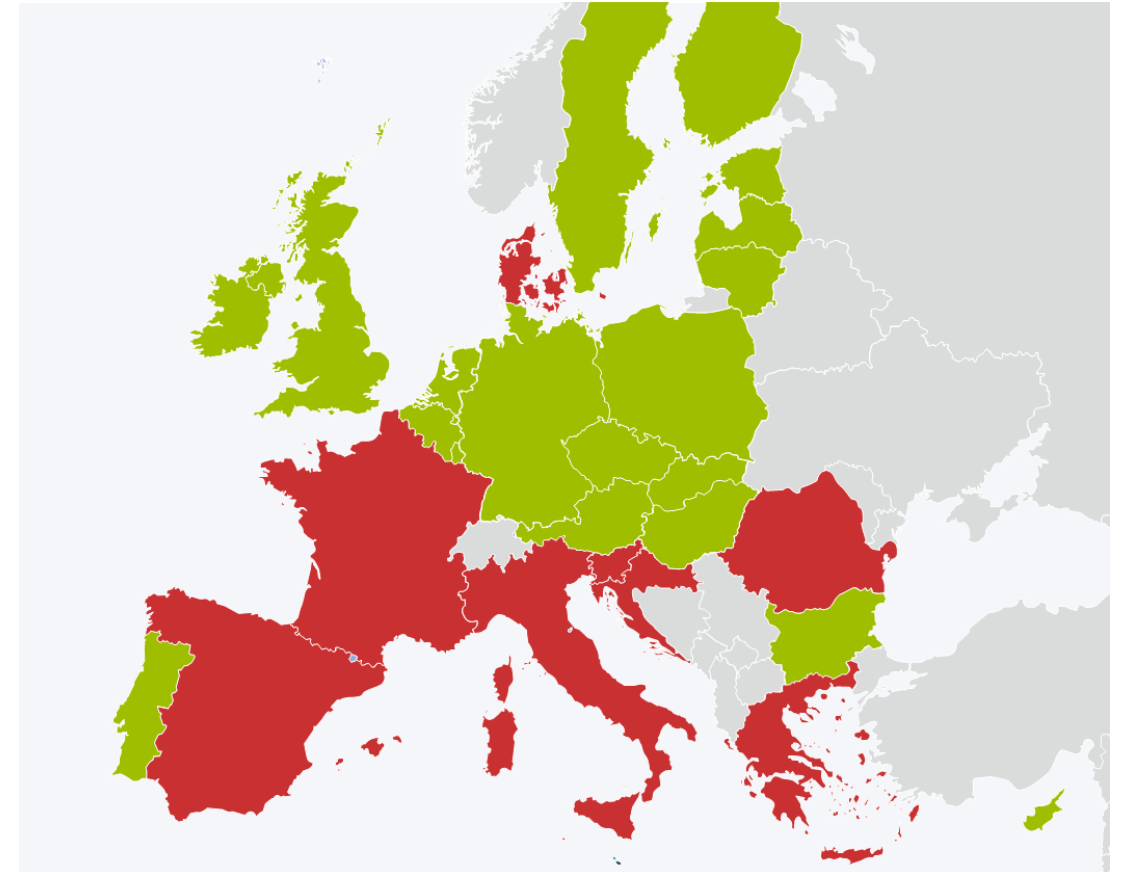
- Rate of new approvals per year remains constant
- **But:** needs to go up (for more targeted solutions)
- Challenging, especially for SMEs, to develop new substances
- Criticism concerns long procedures, delays, etc.

Plant Protection Products

- The number of PPPs **increased** over the last 7 years
- Finding also valid when looking at different types of PPPs
- Decrease mostly in Southern Zone
 - Consolidation?
 - More affected by non-approvals?
 - ...

But: **PPPs ≠ Uses**

- Still, number of actives approved in PPPs also increased

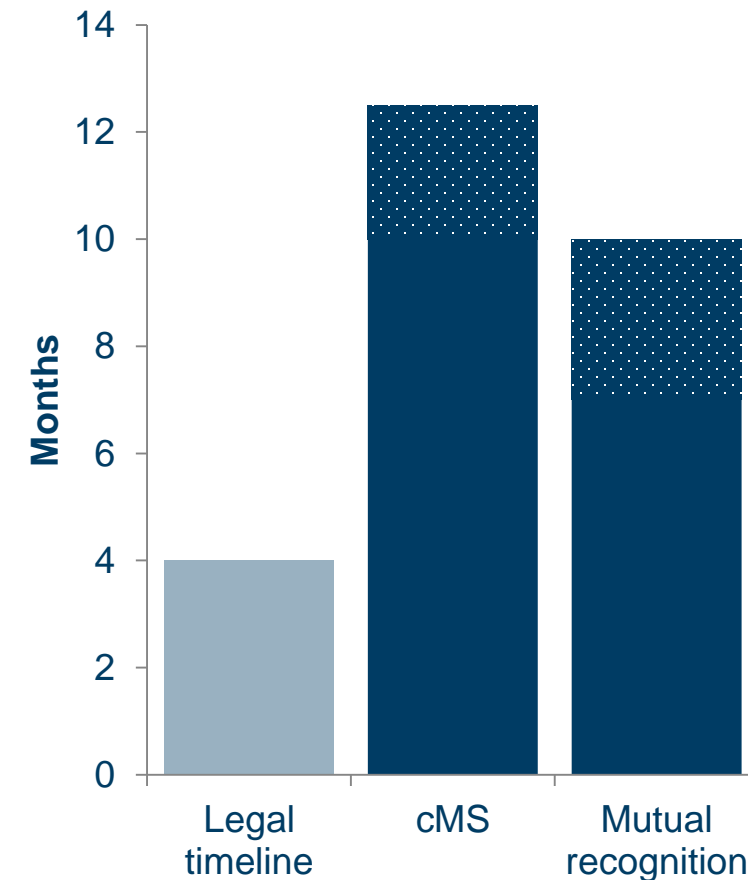


PPP authorisation

Zonal system and mutual recognition

- Not working as well as hoped for
- Challenge: national and zonal requirements
- E.g. delays for authorisations in cMS/ via MR

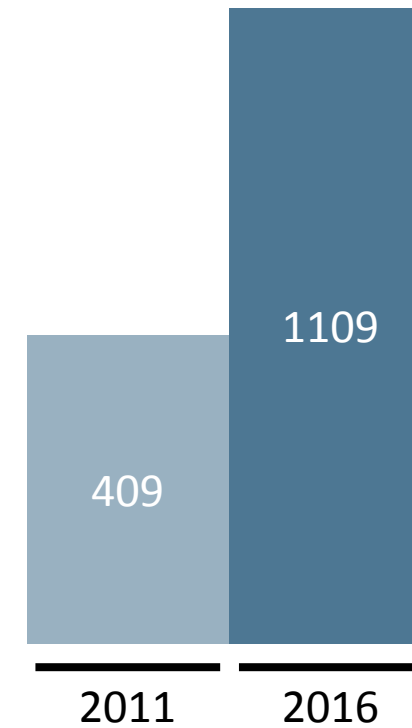
So is there any improvement?



PPP authorisation

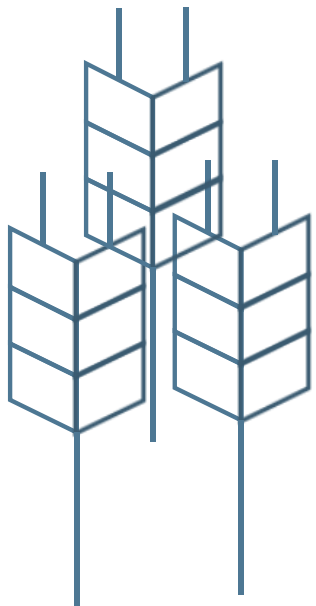
Yes!

- Number of mutual recognitions more than doubled:
- Duration for authorisation decreased
- Harmonisation of requirements (at least within zones)

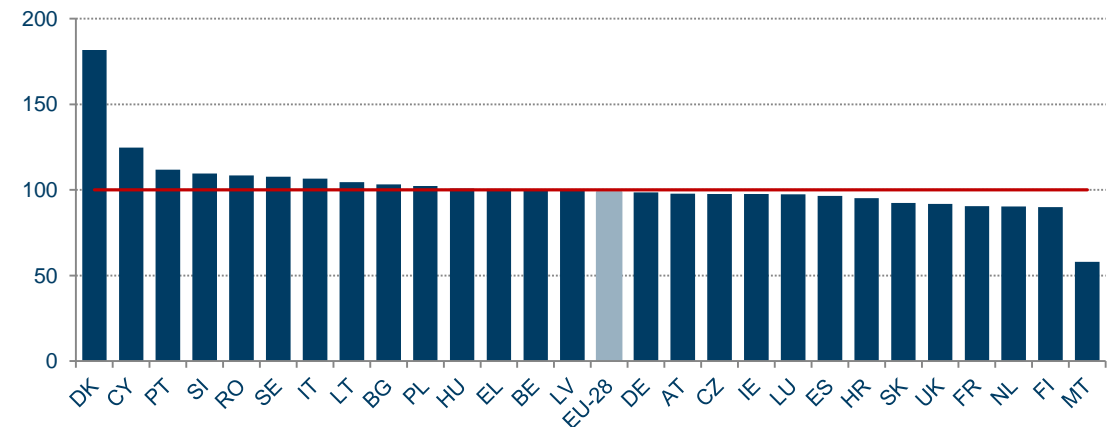


Agriculture

- Great concerns that competitiveness of EU farmers deteriorates
 - Lack of products available
 - Increased costs
- Evidence does not support these concerns
 - No clear evidence on products lost (exception: neonics)
 - Costs remained relatively stable



Future
development?



Comparative assessment

- No substitution of PPP yet
- Several reasons:
 - Minor uses
 - No replacement available
 - Alternatives not as efficient

280 : 0

As of now: only adds burden, no benefit

But: “Signalling effect”

MRLs

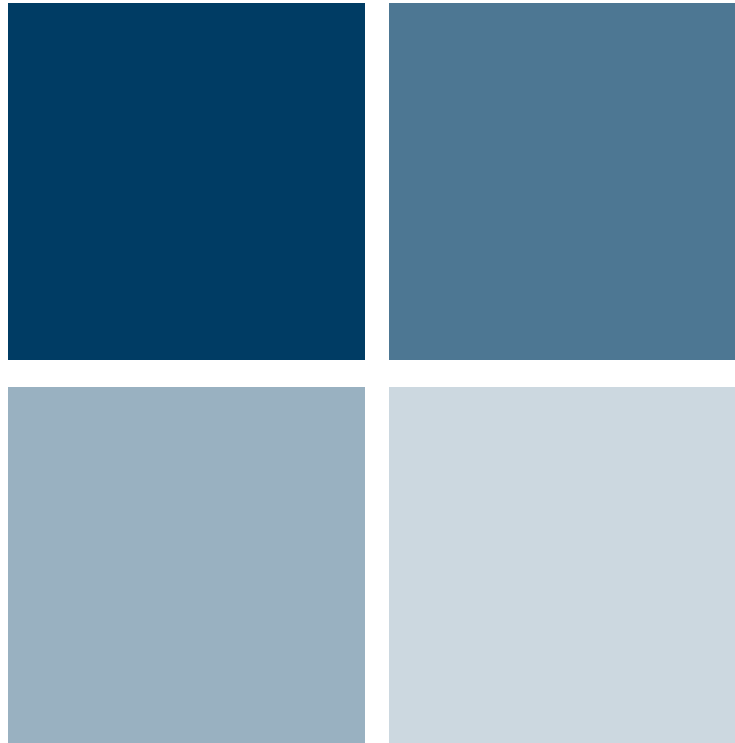
- Generally more positive views on 396/2009
- Procedures more efficient compared to before implementation
- Similar challenges as 1107/2009:
 - Delays
 - Capacity
 - Scientific progress
- Particular challenges
 - Cumulative risk assessment
 - Art. 12

Only **1.6%** of samples not compliant with MRLs in 2015

Summary/ Key points for attention

- Capacity issues
 - Work sharing already in place, but not enough?
 - Too strict deadlines? Or not strict enough?
- Coordination and knowledge management
 - Sharing of information?
 - Approaches across zones?
- Relevance in light of science and society
 - Adaptation to “new” substances?
 - Adaptation to changing societal demands?
 - Adaptation to farmers’ demands?

Thank you



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