



# *International experiences on collecting sustainability data*

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# International experience – Switzerland



- **Swiss FADN** - equivalent to EU FADN
- **Swiss Agri-Environmental Data Network (SAEDN)** overlaps with the Swiss FADN sample:
  - Farm-level data on the environmental and sustainable aspects of agricultural production
  - Due to be phased out - plan to collect sustainability data in other, lower-cost, ways with reduced farmer burden, no indication that social aspects will be included
- The **digital nutrient and plant protection product management (dNPSM)** project will, from 2025/26, provide farm-level data on PPP and fertilisers
- Data are mainly used in research and for publications rather than to inform farmers directly

# International experience

## United States of America



- USDA's **Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS)** – broadly equivalent to FADN, but wider ranging in scope, including social aspects and a conservation practices module
- Other periodic surveys can, in principle, be linked to ARMS:
  - **Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP)**
  - **Conservation Practice Adoption Motivations Survey (CPAMS)**
  - **Irrigation and Water Management Survey (IWMS)**
- Data are used in various publicly-available reports
- The provision of specific benchmarking data has been discussed as a means to increase response rates, but has not been implemented

# International experience – New Zealand



- **Sector-based approach** involving levy-funded bodies
  
- **Farm Monitoring Programme:**
  - Phase 1 2019-2023:
    - Sets a baseline
    - Sample of 2 000 farmers in the main agricultural sectors
    - Covers environmental sustainability issues
  - Phase 2 2023 onwards:
    - Expands sectoral coverage
    - Will focus on identifying trends over a 5-20 year period
  
- Data will be used more for research and to inform future policy than farmers directly

# International experience - Lessons learned

- Examples of combining environmental sustainability data collection with economic/financial data collection and also examples of separate data collection systems
- Data are collected on a range of environmental sustainability issues, demonstrating practical feasibility; fewer examples of data collection covering social sustainability issues
- Variables used in all third-country examples:
  - Use of inputs
  - Soil management
  - Some measures of animal welfare
- Variables not used in third-country examples:
  - High diversity landscape features
  - Sustainable food production and waste management
  - Attractiveness of the farming sector
- There is a need to be aware of the burden on farmers and to seek ways to reduce it

