

# Relationship between CAP and Natura 2000

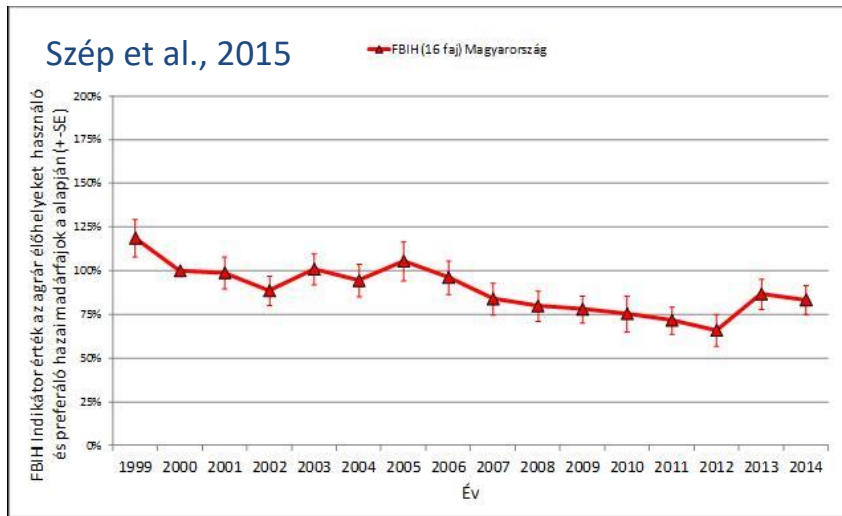
*Tools and their implementation to help biodiversity in farmlands*

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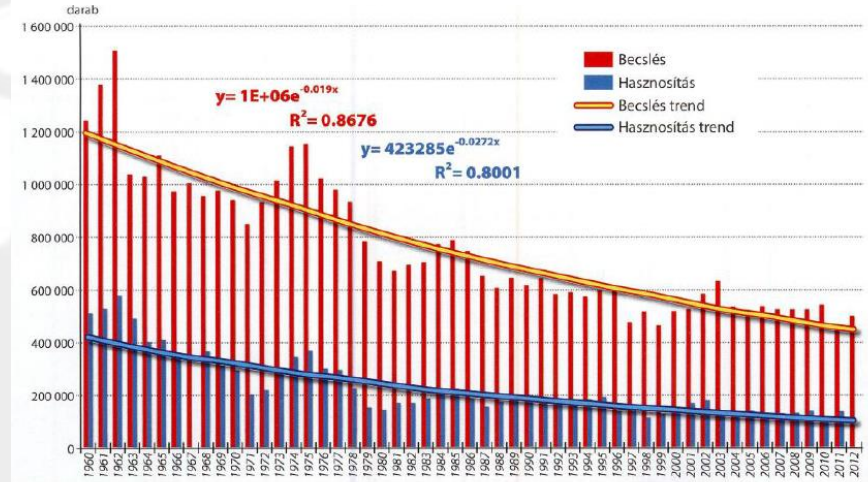
*Management of Natura 2000 sites in Central and Eastern Europe - Europarc CEE workshop, 3-5 May, 2017, Fertőújlak, Hungary*

# Key challenges of protection of biodiversity in agricultural habitats

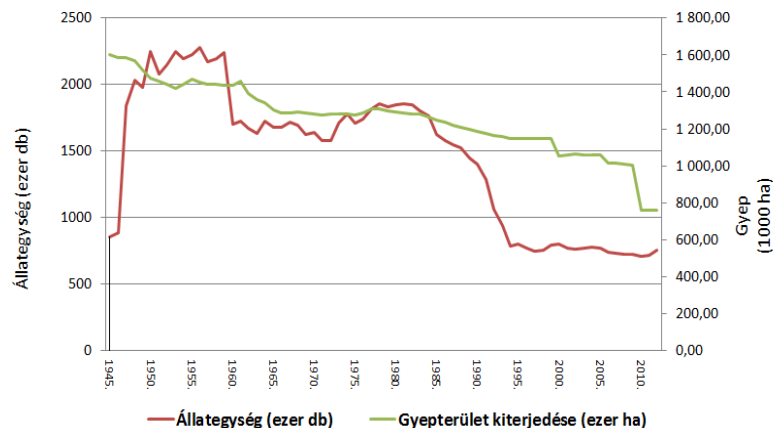
Changes of farmland bird index 1999-2014



Changes of brown hare harvest between 1960-2012

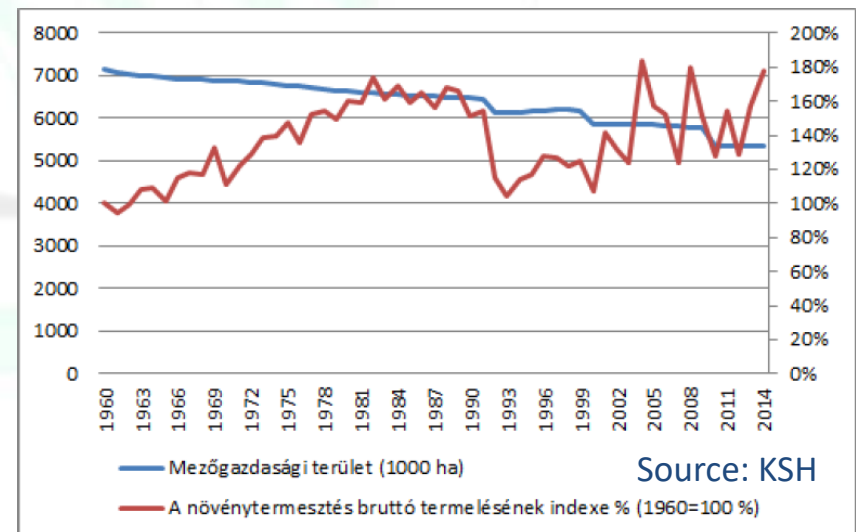


Changes in grasslands (in green) and grazing animal populations (red)



Source: KSH

Changes in agricultural areas (blue) and gross plant production index (red)



Source: KSH

# Implementation of CAP tools in Hungary to support N2000 and biodiversity – Greening

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The CAP is one the most important drivers in agricultural land use in Hungary



Proper design of payments can have positive impacts on N2000 and biodiversity

CAP Pillar 1

+ Cross-compliance widely disseminated the compulsory elements of Bird and Habitat Directives among farmers

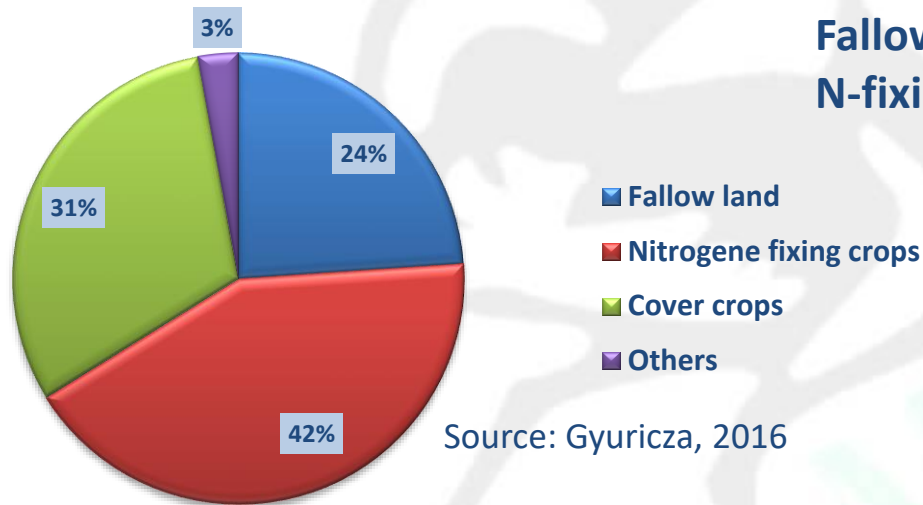
Greening measures:

+ Keeping of permanent grasslands: needed urgent action

# Implementation of CAP tools in Hungary to support biodiversity – Greening

## Ecological Focus Areas

Main crop types in EFAs (%)



Source: Gyuricza, 2016

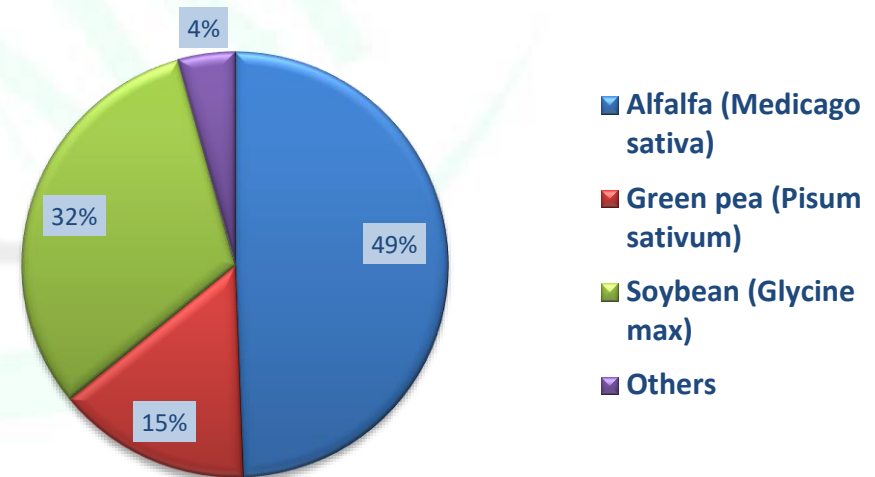
500.000 ha of EFA in HU

Fallow lands hold real + impact on biodiversity

N-fixing crops – Cover crops ?

Cca. 50 % of EFAs are expected to have no direct positive impacts to biodiversity

N-fixing crops in EFAs



# Implementation of CAP tools in Hungary to support biodiversity – RD measures

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**Non-productive investments (Art. 17.):** after 3 programming period (since 2004), there is no real interest among farmers - various reasons (before 2015: lack of income due to losing SAPS eligibility, difficulties in merging AE measures to non-productive investments – time gaps)

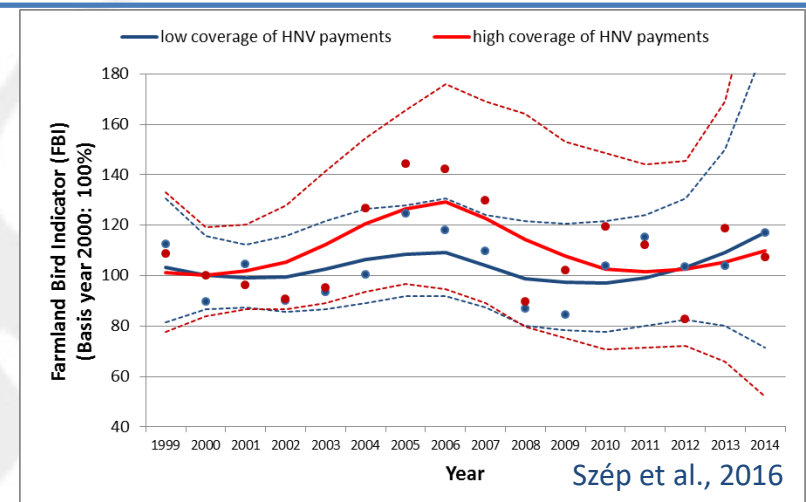
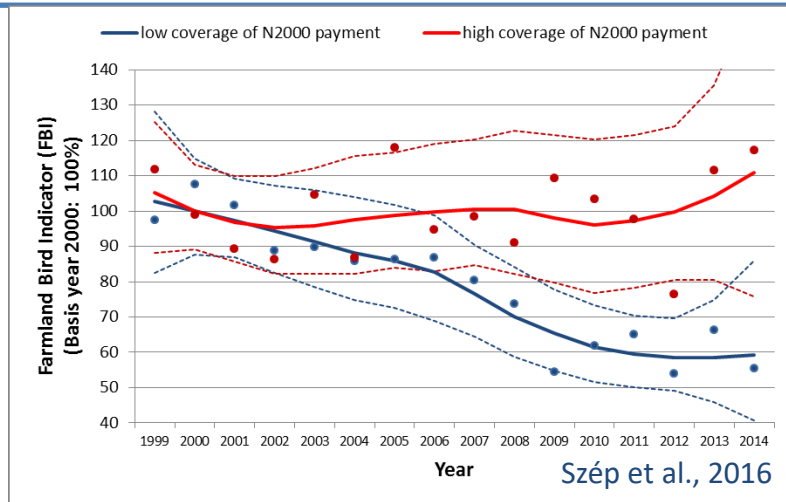
**Natura 2000 management plans (Art. 20.):** Between 2007-2013 this measure provided significant help to elaborate management plans. Not available in 2015-2020 period

**Natura 2000 compensation (Art. 30.):** Provides a basic payment for grassland managers – forest owners. Main aim is to keep the conservation status, minor positive impacts are expected.

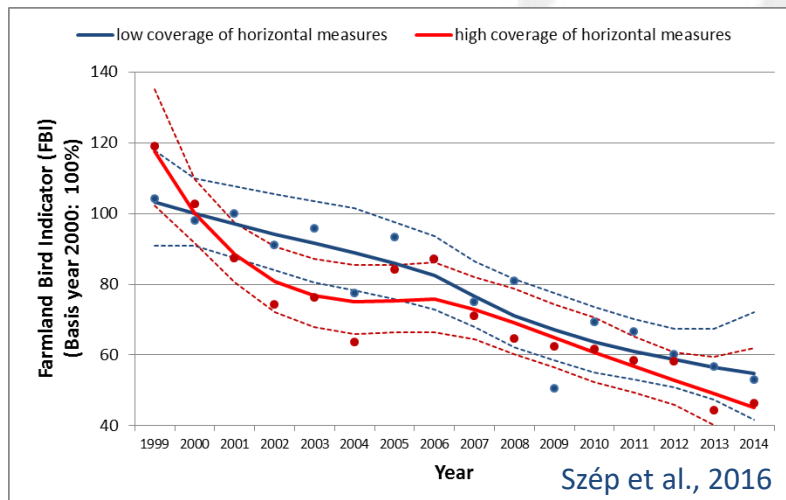
# Implementation of CAP tools in Hungary to support biodiversity – RD measures

- **AE payments (Art. 20)** : the strongest tools for biodiversity among all RD measures, with the most significant budget:
- Horizontal measures (broad and shallow?)
- Zonal measures (species protection: great bustard, red-footed falcon, corncrake):
  - Promising results in targeted species due to:
    - Long term programs (since 2002)
    - Scientifically based schemes
    - Relatively good uptake from farmers
    - Multiplier effects (LIFE programs+AE measures+advisory services)

# Implementation of CAP tools in Hungary to support biodiversity – Impacts

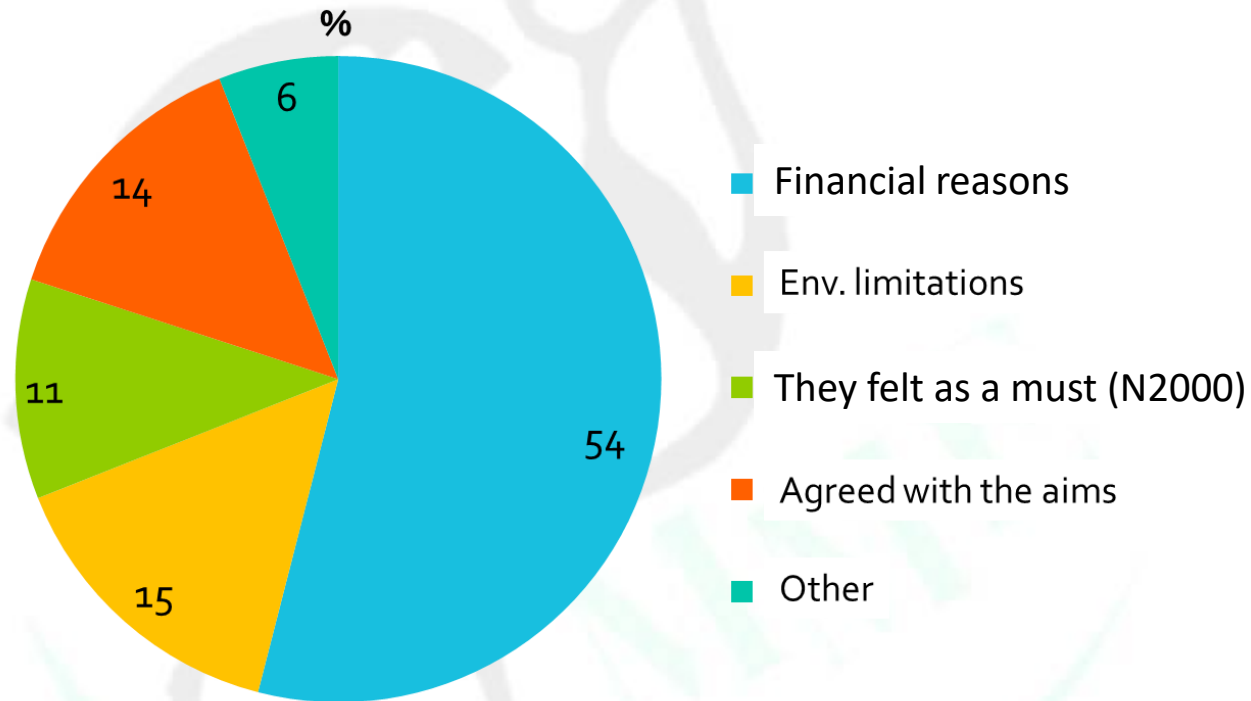


Biodiversity decline may be slowed by well targeted measures  
(Natura 2000, HNVA payments)



Not targeted (broad and shallow)  
measures contribute to fast  
biodiversity loss

# Changes in environmental awareness of farmers – reasons of entering HNV measures



In 2014 (without AE payments, after 12 years of HNV financing)

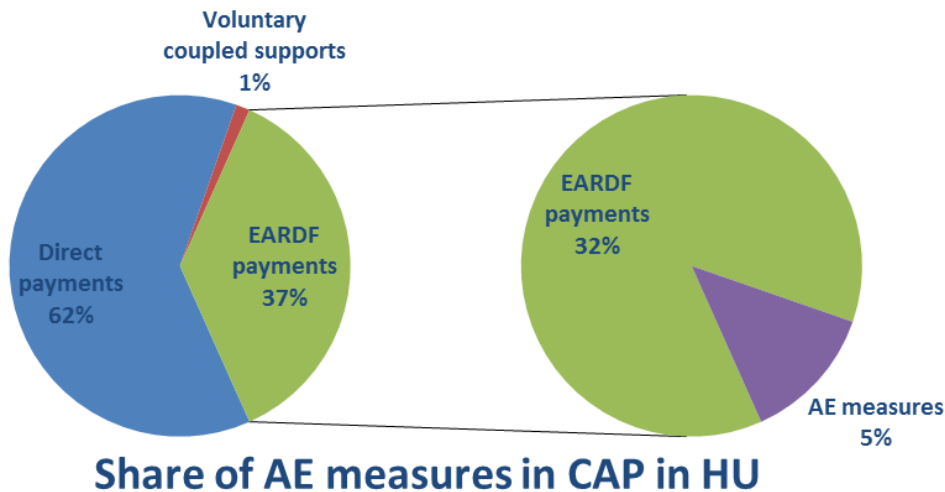
Hevesi-sík HNVA: 60%

Dunavölgyi-sík HNVA: 47%

Békés-Csanádi hát HNVA: 67% of the farmers have not kept the rules of the schemes

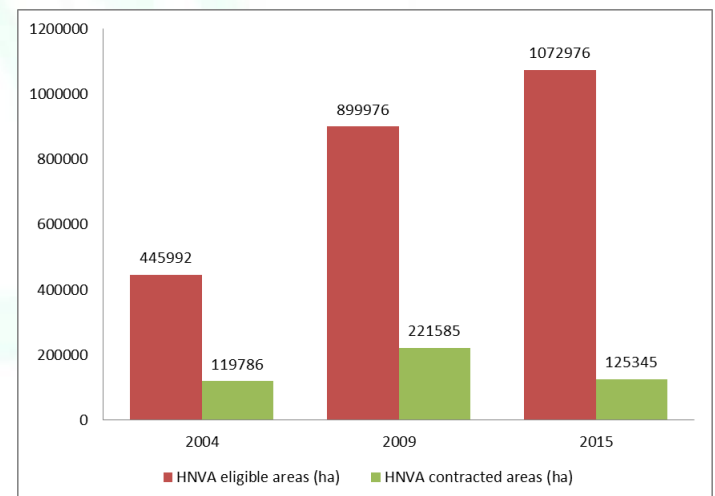


# Implementation of CAP tools in Hungary to support biodiversity – Share of resources within the CAP



**Impacts in correlation to budget allocated for biodiversity positive measures**

**Changes in payment strategy may endanger former results**



# Conclusions

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- The reforms of the CAP **strengthened the potential** of protecting biodiversity
- **Well designed and implemented measures** can have significant positive impacts on biodiversity (at least slow down the decline)
- The **implementation details** determine the expectable results (see EFA, AE implementation)
- The **overall budget** for biodiversity in CAP is a crucial point
- It is important **to analyse the potential negative impacts** of certain CAP measures (eg. SAPS impacts to farmland ecological network)
- Mixing **ecological targets with sectoral economical instruments** is not a good solution (Biodiversity payments act as a supplementary money for farmers)
- Changes in environmental awareness among farmers are not detectable

Is it the time to change?



Need for an separate green budget for influencing agricultural land use

# Thank you for your attention!

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