



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

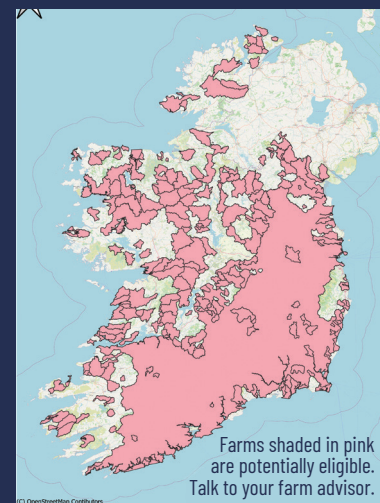
FIVE YEAR PROGRAMME FROM 2023-2027



## 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](http://www.gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/agriculture)



Rialtas na hÉireann  
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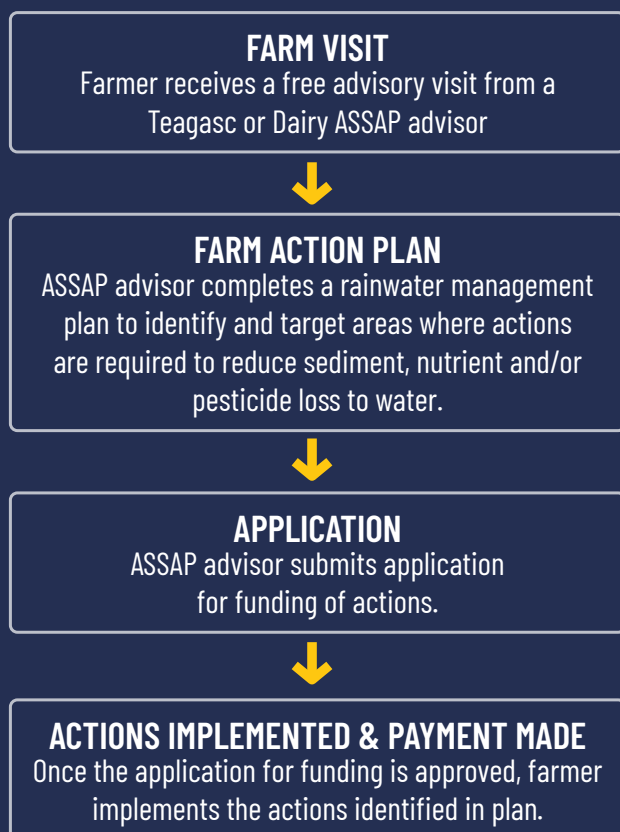
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## HOW DOES IT WORK?

Funding is provided to the farmer to implement measures which go beyond regulatory requirements and which will help maintain and improve water quality.



## 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 farmer, 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 banded 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](mailto:info@watereip.ie)  
Contact your local Teagasc / Co-Op Adviser  
Scan the QR code or visit [www.farmingforwater.ie](http://www.farmingforwater.ie)

