



## Categories of standards that might be regulated in mandatory legislation

Policy fields	Potential categories of mandatory standards
<b>Limitation of N-losses from agriculture to ground- and surface-water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Maximum limits for the yearly application</b> of N or other nutrients from livestock manure/from mineral fertiliser/from all types of fertilisers (area-wide or in target areas)</li> <li>• <b>Maximum nutrient saldo</b> (N or P) (area-wide or in target areas; calculated at farm gate or at plot level)</li> <li>• <b>Time limits for the application</b> of certain or all types of fertiliser in winter (area-wide or in target areas)</li> <li>• <b>Further restrictions for fertiliser application in certain areas</b> (e.g. flooding areas, buffer strips, water protection areas)</li> <li>• <b>Restrictions to convert permanent grassland into arable land in certain areas</b> (e.g. flooding areas, buffer strips, water protection areas)</li> <li>• <b>Further standards unique to the case study area</b></li> </ul>
<b>Protection of biodiversity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mandatory restrictions for agricultural land use</b> (mostly in areas protected under nature conservation law e.g. Natura 2000 areas, nature conservation areas, national parks, landscape protection areas etc.) e.g. regarding:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Fertilisation</li> <li>○ Cutting or grazing intensity of grassland (dates or frequency)</li> <li>○ Ploughing of permanent grassland</li> <li>○ Conversion of permanent grassland into other land use (e.g. arable land)</li> <li>○ Minimum level of maintenance or agricultural land (e.g. yearly cutting)</li> <li>○ Retention of landscape elements</li> <li>○ Etc<sup>1</sup>...</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Securing water quantity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mandatory requirements with regard to irrigation</b> (only in regions where this is a significant issue)</li> </ul>
<b>Soil protection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mandatory requirements for erosion control (area-wide or in certain areas):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Soil cover in winter</li> <li>○ Restriction of tillage operations on arable land (e.g. on slopes, in certain periods or under certain soil conditions)</li> <li>○ Restrictions for the conversion of permanent grassland on land prone to erosion</li> <li>○ Establishment of run-off furrows</li> <li>○ Retaining of terraces</li> <li>○ Etc...</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Mandatory requirements for maintaining soil organic carbon:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Restrictions on ploughing permanent grassland</li> <li>○ Restrictions on converting permanent grassland into arable land (area wide / on organic soils)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Area-wide standards not restricted to protected areas for the wider agricultural landscape, e.g. share of ecological compensation areas / biodiversity promotion areas or requirements for crop rotation will probably be covered under cross compliance or greening. Only include, if independent legislation is existing.