



Catchment Sensitive Farming

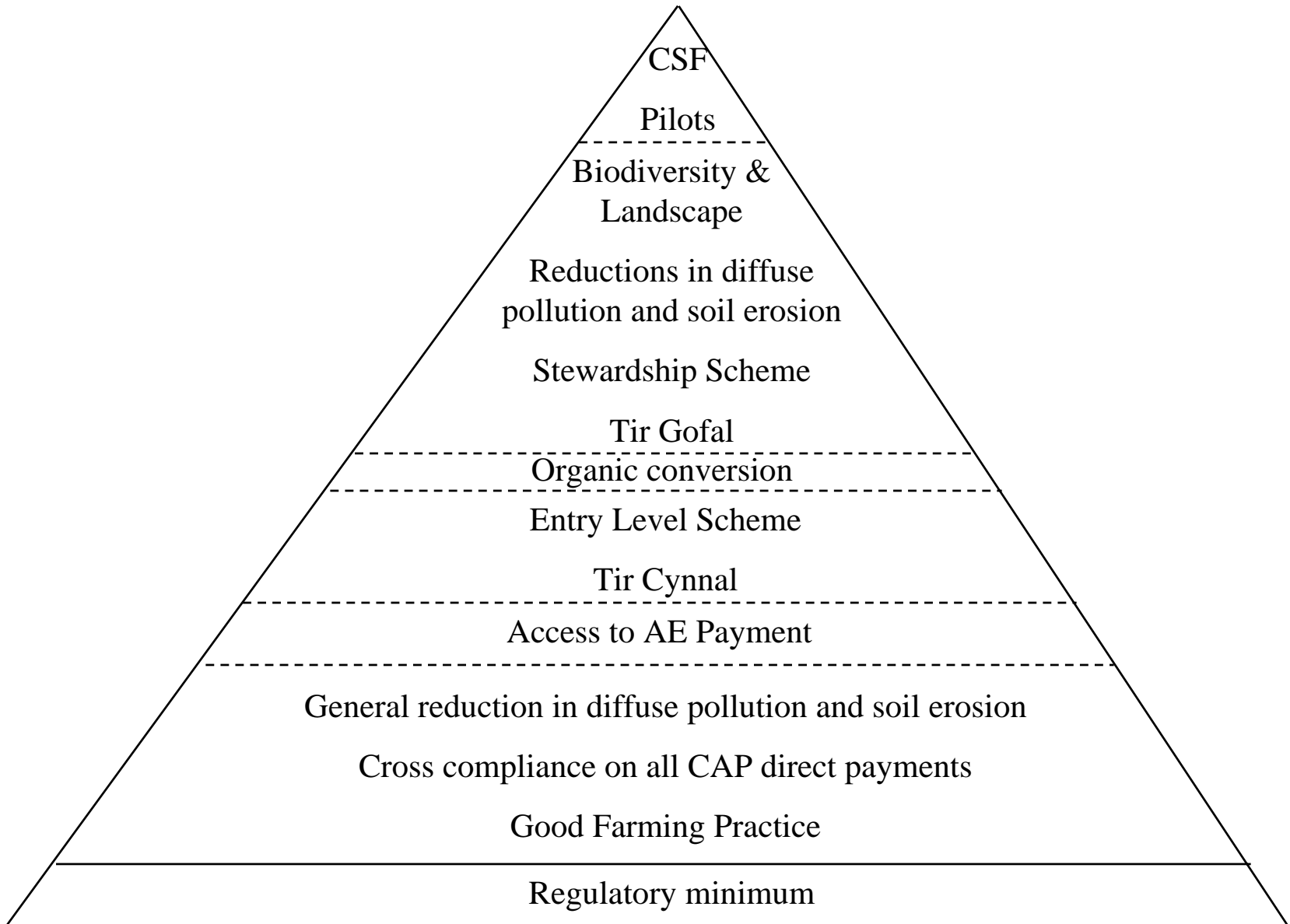
Policy Context and
Approaches in Wales

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Integrated Catchment Farming in Wales



The Current Situation - Positive Aspects

- Water quality in Wales is not at crisis point
- Good uptake of Agri Environment initiatives
- Effects of cross compliance yet to show
- Entry level resource management plans will help
- Pilot catchment schemes launched 2005
- Rural Development for Wales 2007-13
- Integrated multi agency approach has been adapted

The Current Situation - Negative Aspects

- Too many overlapping initiatives
- Problems with dual funding
- Payment rates based upon “Profit Foregone”
- High degree of bureaucracy with multiple farm visits
- Lack of definitive data on water quality problems
- Difficult to distinguish between impacts of schemes and other drivers of change, eg commodity prices

Prospects for the Future

- Review of the Rural Development Plan 2007-13
- Identification of key target catchments
- New awareness campaigns
- Tailored management plans with one-to-one advice
- Integrating CSF, biodiversity, landscape and habitat management
- Introducing a common monitoring framework
- Accepting that positive results may be slow to materialise

The Options Available

- One single integrated scheme for Wales
- Making elements of CSF compulsory within existing schemes
- Introducing new capital projects into Tir Gofal (Stewardship)
- Providing farmers with specialised catchment officers
- Developing new management options into existing schemes
- Co-ordinated sheep dipping initiatives
- Introducing pilot schemes into specific catchments