

Common Agricultural Policy 2023-2027

CAP Strategic Plans for a greener, fairer and innovative transition

Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development

AGRI.B2

Green Architecture new CAP



CAP Objectives & sustainability dimensions



SO4: contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, including by reducing greenhouse emissions and enhancing carbon das sequestration, as well as promoting sustainable

SO5: foster sustainable development and efficient management of natural resources such as water, soil and air, including by reducing chemical dependency

SO6: contribute to halting and reversing **biodiversity** loss, enhance ecosystem services and preserve habitats and landscapes.



Supporting farmers for more sustainable agricultural practices under the EU Common agricultural policy 2023-2027



European Commission

Upscaling climate actions with CAP

« Help creating enabling conditions for operators to implement practices and to certify resulting removals »

Common Agricultural Policy

- Good Agricultural and Environmental Conditions obligations (Basic conditionality for full Direct Payments):
 - preserving carbon stock (GAEC 1 Maintenance of permanent grassland)
 - protection of carbon-rich soils (GAEC 2 Protection of wetland and peatland)
 - maintenance of soil organic matter (GAEC 3 Ban on burning arable stubble)
- Other GAECs, even if not explicitly mentioning climate-relate objectives, will have beneficial effect on soil organic carbon
- GAEC 5 Tillage management reducing the risk of soil degradation;
- GAEC 6 "Minimum soil cover to avoid bare soil in periods that are most sensitive;
- GAEC7 Crop rotation in arable land, except for crops growing under water).
- GAECs on landscape features will also represent an opportunity to increase storage of carbon in biomass (GAEC 4 Establishment of buffer strips along water courses; GAEC 8 Minimum share of agricultural area devoted to non-productive features or areas).



Upscaling climate actions with CAP

Public funding opportunities :

Common Agricultural Policy

- Intervention design above conditionality
- Support to carbon farming practices through eco-schemes or rural development measures
- [Minimum 25% of Direct Payments to be dedicated to eco-schemes]
- [Minimum 35% of the EAFRD should be dedicated to environmental and climate objectives]
- EIP-AGRI and new Agricultural Knowledge Information System, supports cooperation and testing of new approaches
- Advisory services, knowledge exchange, training, collective and cooperation approaches and innovation actions
- Limitations: land eligible to CAP, timeframe, administrative burdens for a robust MRV for carbon removals.



Carbon farming practices - examples



Afforestation and reforestation according to ecological principles



Targeted conversion of cropland to fallow, or of set-aside areas to permanent grassland



Use of conservation tillage, catch crops, cover crops and increasing landscape features



Agroforestry and other forms of mixed farming



Restoration, rewetting and conservation of **peatlands** and wetlands



Blue carbon: coastal wetlands, regenerative aquaculture, marine permaculture

Examples of carbon and adaptation

Carbon farming for increasing soil organic carbon

Cover crops, sowing on residues, reduced tillage > increased resilience of plants to drought, as SOC is able to retain water, protection of soil from wind and water erosion

Carbon farming for increasing carbon storage in biomass

Establishment of trees and edges, sustainable management of forests > protection of plants from strong winds, shadow for animals, stimulate farm animal and insect biodiversity, healthier trees

Carbon farming as new business model

Carbon credits, higher values of products > income diversification, help economic resilience of land managers

Farm tools for carbon farming

Integration of decision supporting systems to adapt operations (such as harvest, pest management, etc.) with modified pattern due to weather and climate change



What will the CAP plans deliver on climate



Climate adaptation and mitigation

- CAP Strategic Plans contribute to the objectives of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing carbon sequestration
- For the first time, CAP basic standards (conditionality) protect EU agricultural wetlands and peatlands in order to reduce carbon release.
- The enhanced requirement to maintain non-productive areas and features on at least 4% of arable farm land will also increase the carbon removal from the atmosphere at farm level.
- The Plans will incentivise land managers to store carbon in soil and biomass and reduce emissions on 35% of the EU's agricultural area through appropriate management practices
- Further actions in the Plans to **reduce methane and ammonia emissions** focus on ruminants mainly through optimised feeding. This is complemented by support for investments in biogas production, manure management and genetic improvement



Result indicators for Climate

Eco-schemes and rural development measures are broadly used by many Member States to support practices such as: agroforestry, vegetation cover in orchards and arable crops, the reinforcement of crop rotation, conservation agriculture, support the inclusion of trees and non-productive vegetation, land conversion and several forestry interventions, such as support for afforestation and forest management.



EU-27

Carbon farming support in the approved CAP Strategic plans



European Commission

Other result indicators related to carbon farming





Other result indicators related to carbon farming



Note: For LU includes a corrected value of RI (approved plan includes a value of 49% due to erroneous attribution of intervention on PG). This correction will be tackled in future amendments of the plan.



Thank you

