



# The legislative initiative on a framework for a Union sustainable food system

*DG AGRI.A1*

*Unit on Policy perspectives*

# The Farm to Fork Strategy: overall goals

## 1. Ensure fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly EU food system

## 2. Build a sustainable and resilient food value chain

- Ensure a sustainable and resilient food production
- Stimulate sustainable food processing, wholesale, retail, hospitality and food services practices
- Promote sustainable consumption & facilitate shift to healthy and sustainable diets
- Reduce food loss and food waste
- Ensure food security, combat food fraud

## 3. Enable a sustainable transition

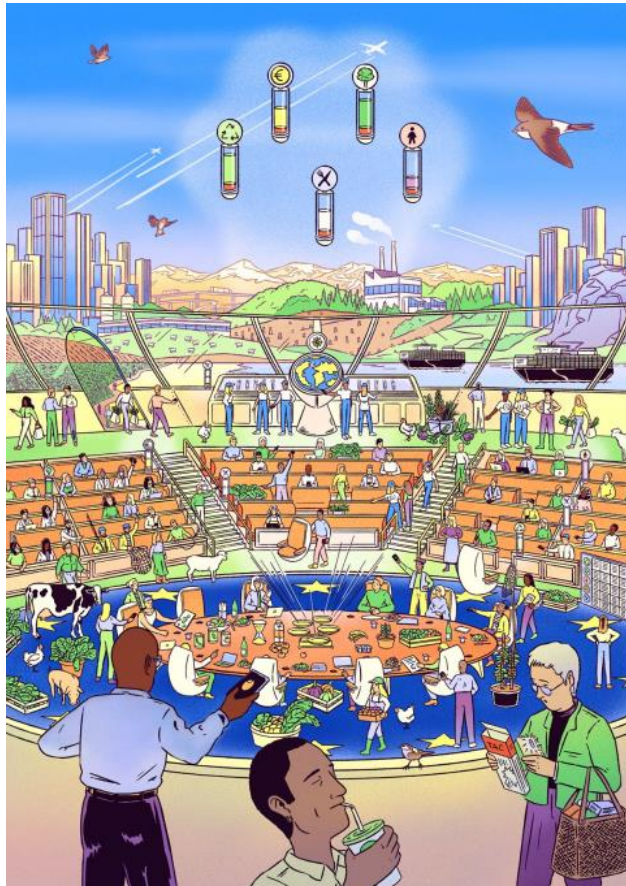
- Research & innovation
- Advisory services, data and skills

## 4. Promote a global transition: coherent global EU food policy

# Framework law for a Union sustainable food system

1. Flagship initiative of the F2F
2. Co-led by SANTE, AGRI, ENV and MARE
3. Proposal to be published by **Q3-2023**

# JRC preparatory work (2021)



<https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC126575>

Download the report!

# JRC-led preparatory work (2021)

## - building blocks -

1. **‘Sustainability assessment’**: sustainability criteria, risk analysis, indicators, data source, possible targets to monitor achievements, as well as red lines that are not negotiable
2. **‘Implementation’**: measurement of performance, voluntary and mandatory tools, transitional measures, including capacity building, responsibility of the actors along the food chain (governance) and monitoring;
3. **‘Transparency’**: information flow, traceability, certification (B2B), labelling (B2C), as well as other aspects to ensure transparency.
4. **‘Policy coherence’**: mainstreaming of sustainability in the food related policies, dealing with trade-offs;
5. **“International trade”**: application of sustainable standards on imported food



# Objectives of the Framework Law

1. Promote **policy coherence** at EU and MS level
2. **Mainstream sustainability** in all food-related policies
3. **Strengthen the resilience** of the food system (food security)
4. Ensure a **food environment** where choosing healthy and sustainable diets is easier for consumers and at an affordable price;
5. **Avoid externalisation** of unsustainable practices;

# Policy options to achieve the objectives

- ✓ Option 1 – Baseline
- ✓ Option 2 – Voluntary approaches
- ✓ Option 3 – Reinforcing existing legislation
- ✓ Option 4 – New comprehensive framework legislation on the sustainability of the Union food system –
  - *Lex generalis*, setting the basis for an integrated approach for *lex specialis*;
  - Push provisions would introduce minimum requirements for food products and related operations.
  - Pull provisions would set incentives for food system actors to go beyond the minimal requirements

# Indicative elements for the policy options (I)

1. Lay down **sustainability principles & objectives** to provide common understanding covering the 3 dimensions of sustainability (economic, environmental and social)
2. **Definitions:** food system, sustainable food system, food environment, food system actors, sustainability analysis, healthy/sustainable diets, traceability for sustainability purposes
3. **Minimum sustainability standards** for foods/food operations
4. **Responsibilities** of food system's actors
5. Horizontal elements for carrying out **sustainability analysis** in the food chain



# Indicative elements for the policy options (II)

1. Legitimate and proportionate requirements on sustainability for imports of food (e.g. WTO conformity)
2. **Processes to ensure synergies/mechanisms** to facilitate the transition towards sustainable food systems
3. **Sustainability labelling**
4. Minimum mandatory sustainability criteria for **public procurement**
5. **Governance** systems (multi-level dialogue) and transparency/consultations
6. Actions to **mitigate negative impacts (trade-offs)** of the transition
7. **Monitoring** scheme

# Ongoing Impact Assessment

1. JRC support
2. New **Better Regulation Guidelines** in place shaping the impact assessment work!
  - ✓ **Economic**
  - ✓ **Social**
  - ✓ **Enviromental**
  - ✓ Fundamental rights
  - ✓ Simplification and/or administrative burdens

# Public consultation (2022)

1. Public consultation carried out between 28 April 2022 and 21 July 2022
2. Targeted interviews with EU stakeholders/NGOs ongoing
3. Targeted questionnaires (deadline: 26 September 2022)
  - *For public authorities:*  
[https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/FSFSSurvey\\_PublicAuthorities](https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/FSFSSurvey_PublicAuthorities)
  - *For NGOs:* [https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/FSFSSurvey\\_NGOs](https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/FSFSSurvey_NGOs)
  - *For business operators:*  
[https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/FSFSSurvey\\_businessoperators](https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/FSFSSurvey_businessoperators)

# Thank you