



The new Farm Sustainability Data Network (FSDN)

FIND OUT MORE

About the FSDN:

https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/data-and-analysis/farm-structures-and-economics/fsdn_en

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Find the FADN / FSDN results in the Farm Economics dashboards:

<https://agridata.ec.europa.eu/extensions/FarmEconomyFocus/FarmEconomyFocus.html>

FADN / FSDN liaison agencies contacts:

<https://europa.eu/ln/1Vvc3>

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HOW CAN I JOIN THE FSDN NETWORK?

The network is managed at the national level by FADN / FSDN liaison agencies, which organise data collection through various methods: gathering data from registries and administrations, utilising data collectors who visit farms, or compiling data directly from farmers themselves.

Participation is voluntary: if you are interested in contributing, you can contact the FADN / FSDN liaison agency in your country to express your interest and learn more about the process.

WHAT INFORMATION DO I NEED TO PROVIDE?

Currently, FADN information is related to structural (areas of crops, heads of animals, assets) and accountancy information (value of farm outputs, costs of farm inputs such as fertilisers and pesticides). When the transition to FSDN is completed, other information will be added, such as quantities for fertilisers, pesticides, feed, and antimicrobials. Data on farm management, such as environmental farming practices, manure, water, energy, market integration and other factors, will also be collected.

The Farm Sustainability Data Network (FSDN) is an EU survey that gathers yearly data on farms. It builds on the long-standing Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN), which for more than 60 years, has collected farm economics data from an annual sample representing 3.7 million farms and 90% of the agricultural production in the EU. From 2025, the FSDN collects additional data covering economic, environmental, and social factors.

The FSDN builds on the wealth of data gathered by the FADN, offering an expanded framework on the three dimensions of sustainability. This innovative approach not only supports policymakers but also directly benefits farmers, advisors, and researchers.

A new tool for farmers, which will be accessible on the Europa website, is under development, designed to provide actionable insights tailored to farm-specific needs. The tool is designed for farmers and advisors to compare individual holdings with aggregated results from similar farms extracted from the FADN / FSDN database.

Income per labour unit (thousand euro) – 2021



Source: FADN data.

DATA-DRIVEN DECISION MAKING



The FADN / FSDN network offers a unique data-driven approach to understanding the complexities of farm sustainability across the EU. By gathering detailed data on farm structures, practices, and economic outcomes, it enables more informed and effective decision-making for policymakers and stakeholders. This innovative network is designed to provide insights, ensuring that policies and practices are based on reliable, farm-level evidence. It supports the EU's ambition for sustainable growth in agriculture and rural development, aligning with long-term strategic goals.

FSDN can help to improve farm performance on the three dimensions of sustainability.

FROM ACCOUNTANCY TO SUSTAINABILITY



FADN
Born in 1965



FSDN
Born in 2025

The FSDN bridges the gap between economic performance and sustainability goals. It provides information on farm practices and can help to study trade-offs across the three dimensions of sustainability. By providing granular insights into how farm-level activities impact these dimensions, the FSDN equips stakeholders with the knowledge needed to address environmental issues (greenhouse gas emissions, nutrients, biodiversity, plant protection products, antimicrobials, energy), social issues (generational renewal in agriculture, labour, working conditions, social inclusion) and further economic issues (market integration, risk management, innovation). This approach will provide evidence to support EU agricultural policy promoting sustainable and resilient farming systems.

SUPPORT FOR FARMERS AND ADVISORS



Several EU countries already offer feedback information and decision-support tools on economic performance, mostly to participating farms. Under the new FSDN framework, these tools will be designed to enable farmers to access benchmark data to enhance their farm management practices and boost the sustainability of their farms.

Participating farmers will receive reports that compare their results with similar holdings (for example, in the same sector and economic size), helping them identify areas for improvement and optimise their management practices. Additionally, non-participating farmers will also be able to benefit from the feedback, although it will be less detailed and tailored.

DATA INTEGRATION AND SHARING



The FSDN will simplify data collection by improving data sharing, applying the principle of "collect data once, re-use multiple times". Connecting data from multiple sources, it will foster a more holistic understanding of the agricultural landscape. Data sharing will be provided at national level with the aim to compile FSDN data and reduce the data

collection efforts of administrations and farmers. It will be also implemented at the EU level, with the objective to enhance the analysis potential for policymakers.

CONFIDENTIALITY ENSURED



The data is published only in aggregated form by national administrations and the European Commission, ensuring individual farm details are not disclosed. Researchers may request more detailed data, but only for research purposes while protecting personal information. Depending on the national data collection system, data may be gathered by surveyors, or sourced from farm accountancy systems, management software, or documents like invoices. In all cases, strict data protection rules are applied to prevent the misuse or disclosure of personal information.