

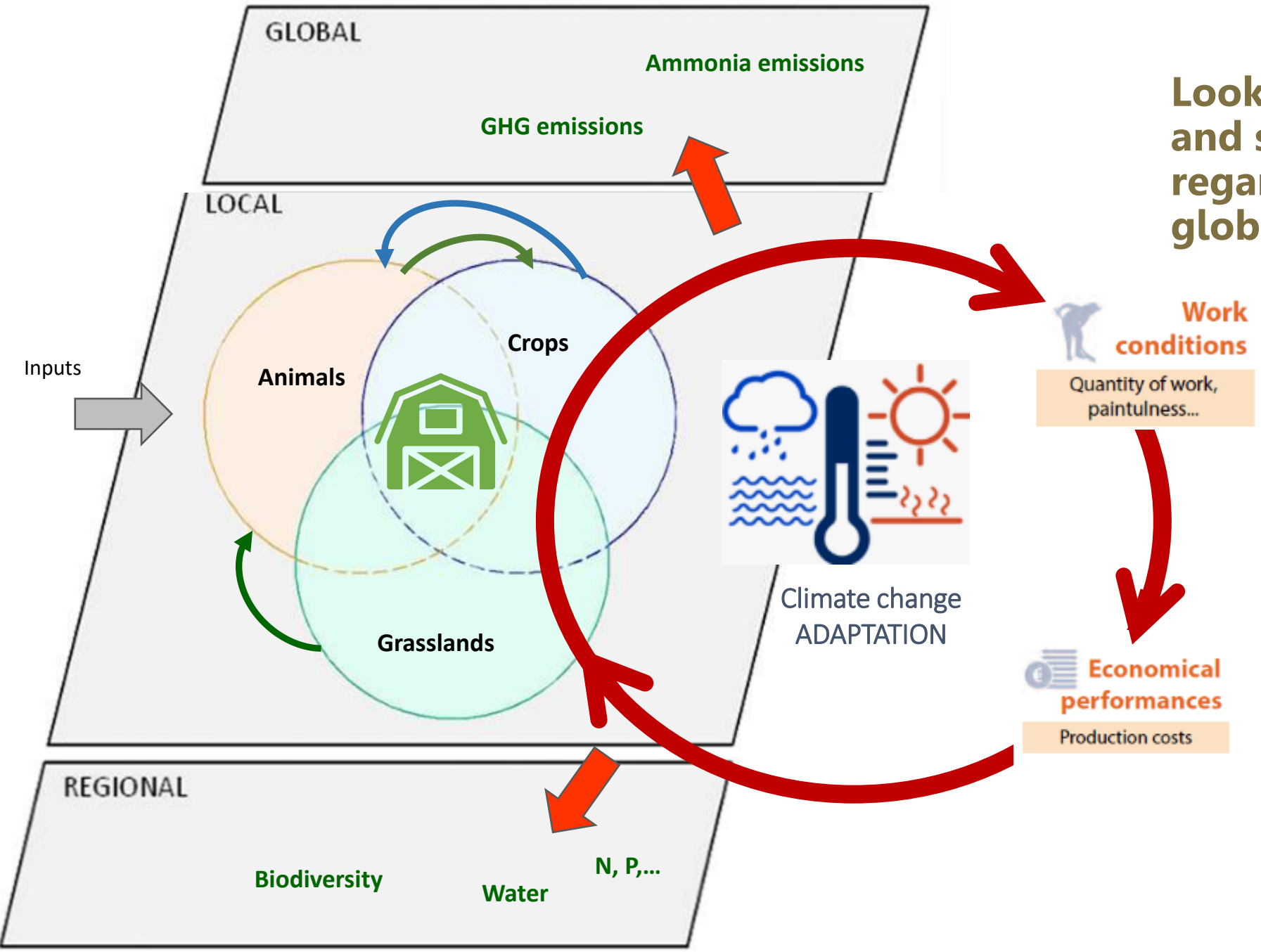
# State of play and prospects on the sustainability of the cattle production

*Institut de l'Élevage – French Livestock Institute*



**CDG ON ANIMAL PRODUCTION – MILK, BEEF, VEAL AND PIGMEAT**

**November 26 2024 - Brussels**

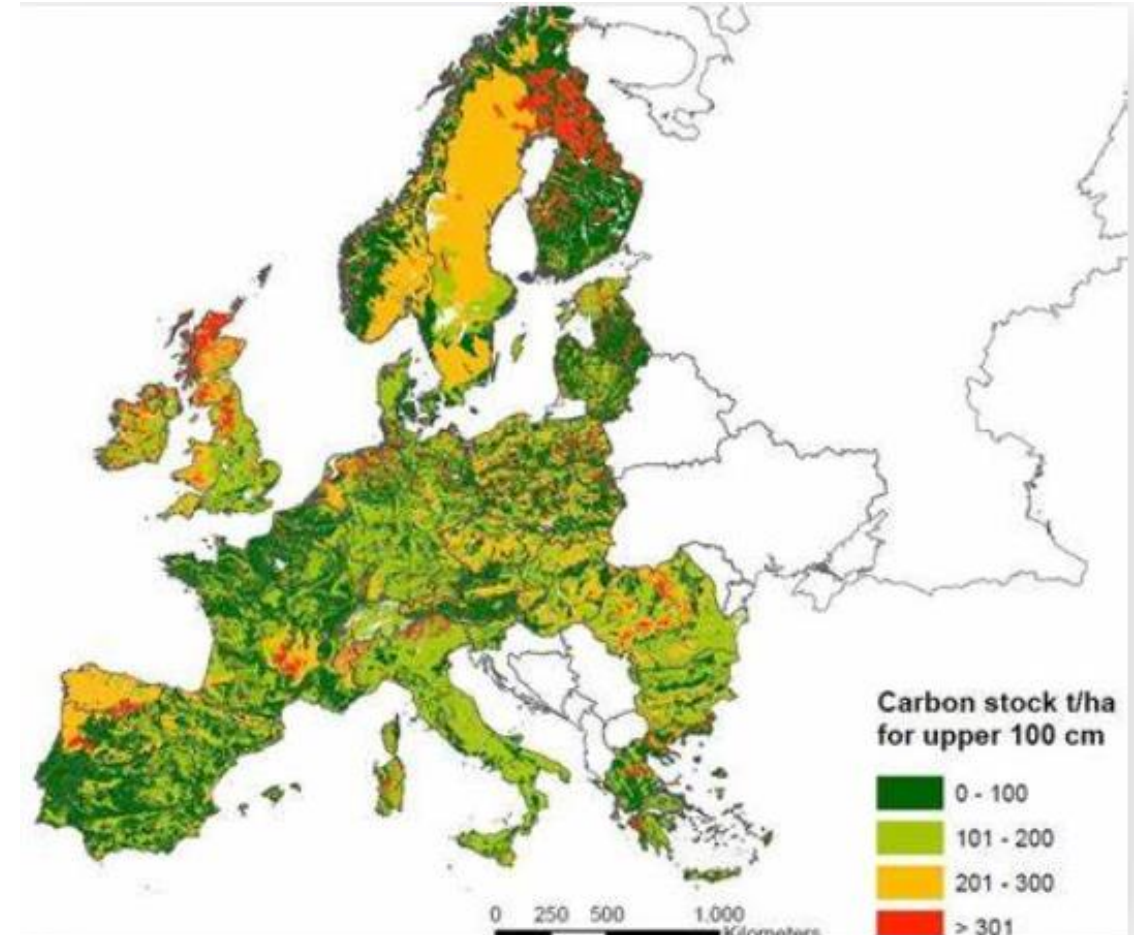
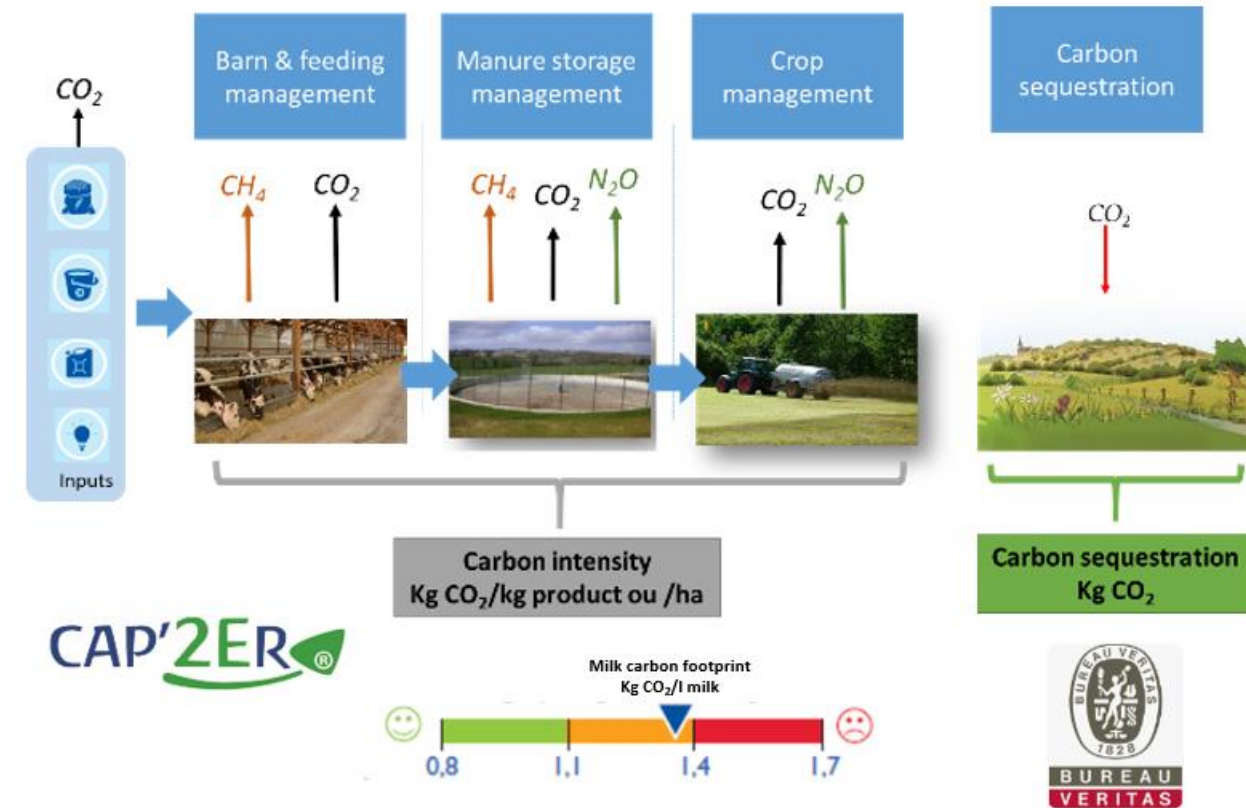


Looking for the most suitable and sustainable equilibrium regarding local, regional and global contexts



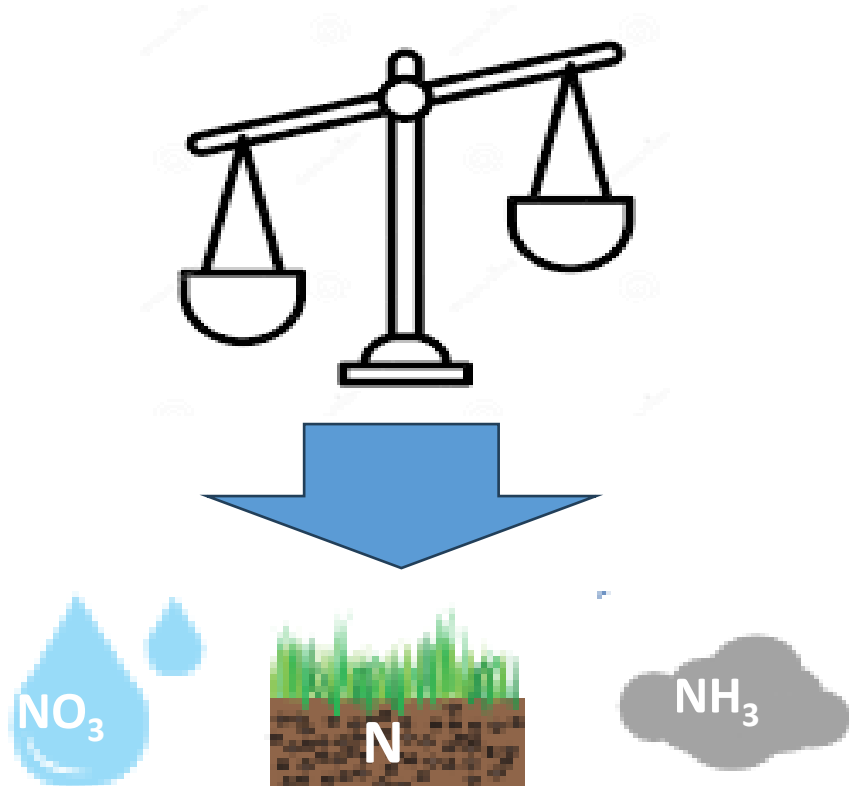
Agroecological transition  
Regenerative Agriculture  
Sustainable transition  
.....

# Tackling climate change by considering $\text{CH}_4$ , $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ , $\text{CO}_2$ and carbon sequestration

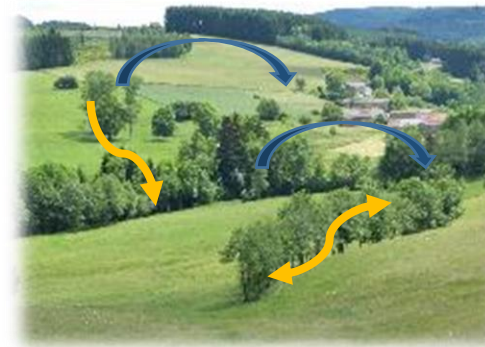


European soil data centre

# Resources preservation, soil fertility and biodiversity



Bocage (hedges, groves, selvedges, ...)



Open fields



**250-300 /m<sup>2</sup>**  
*Manneville (2016)*



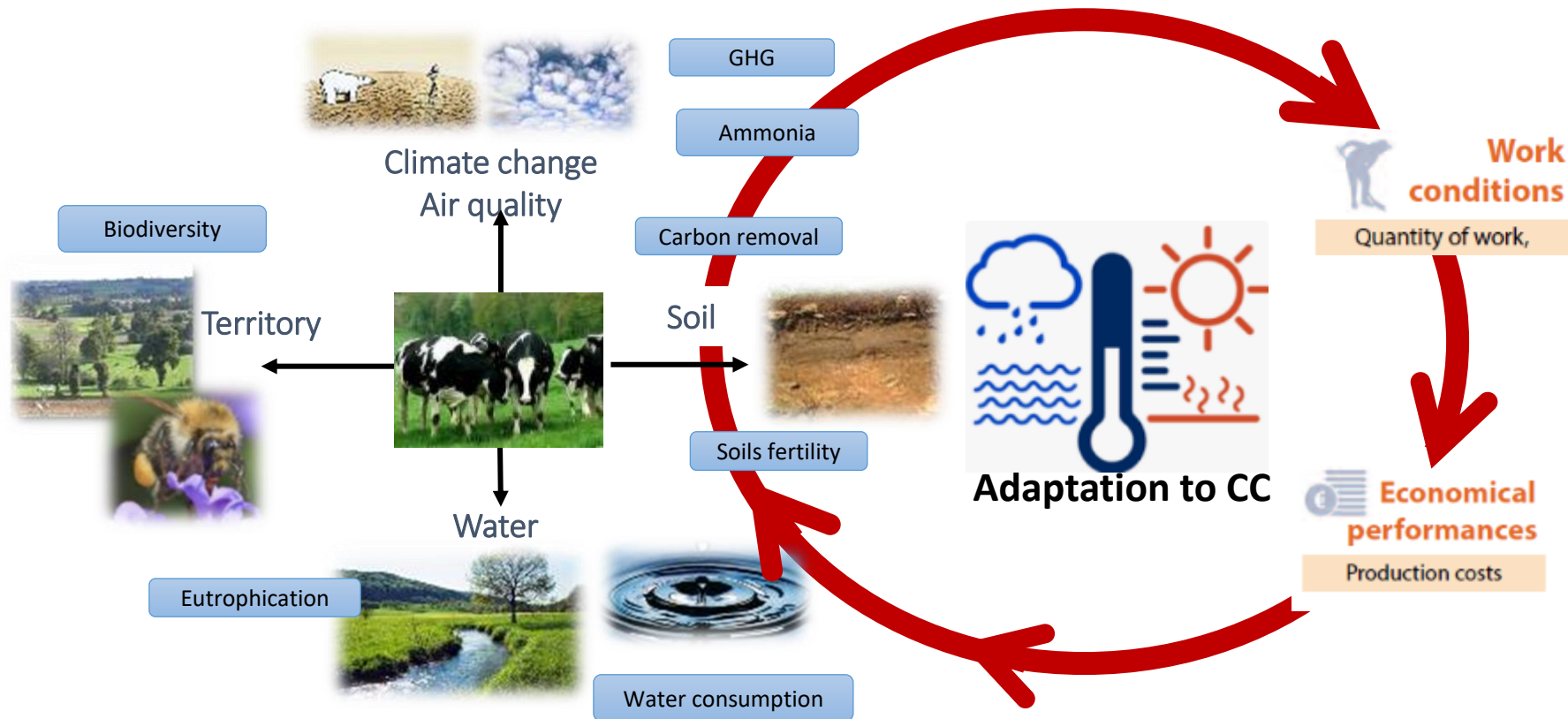
**0.3 t OM/ha/year**  
*Eurostat (2011)*



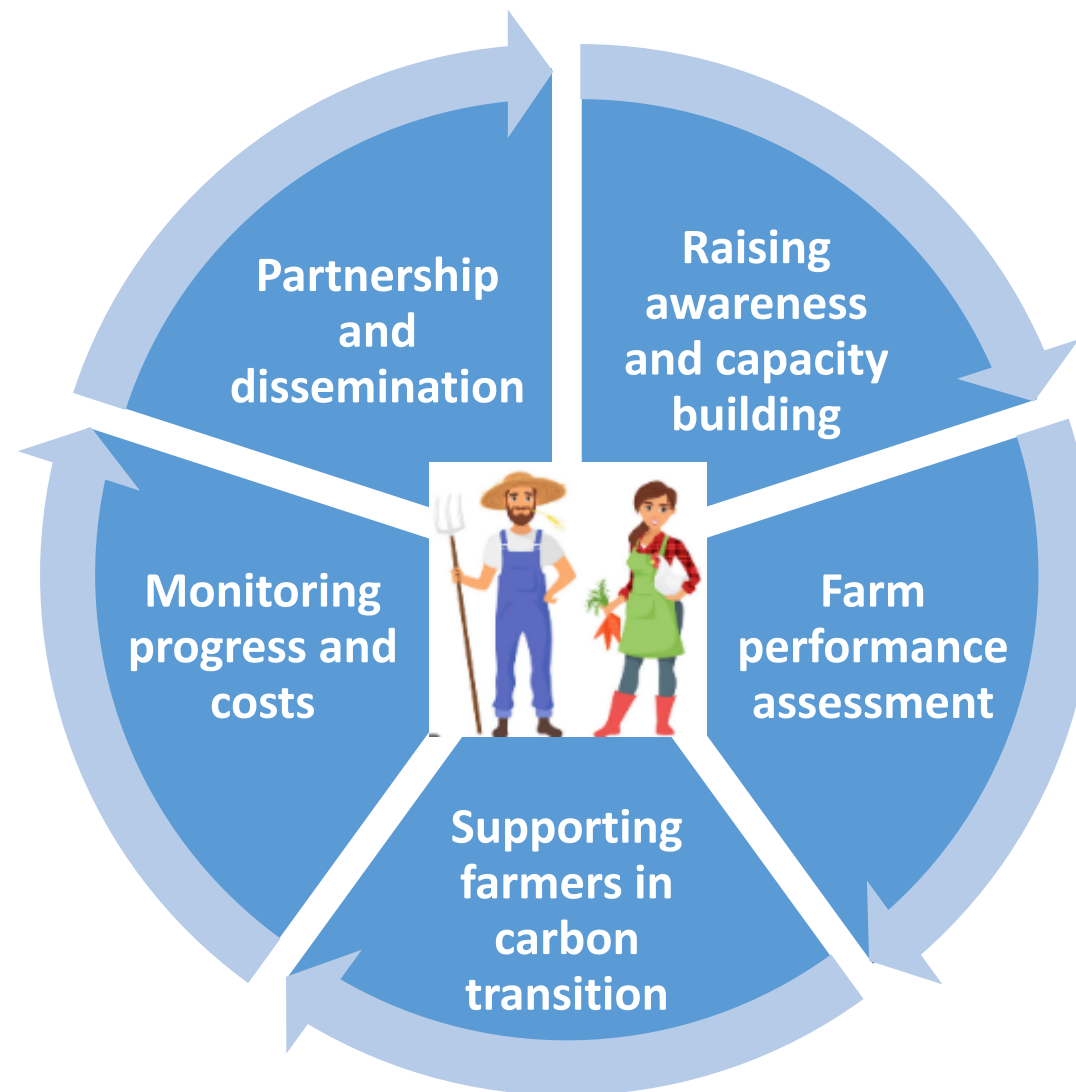
**3.6 t OM/ha/year**



# Developing a holistic approach and considering all sustainability issues



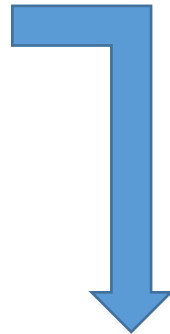
# How upscaling sustainable livestock farming ?



# Developing farmer support & training services

## **BARRIERS**

- 1) *Lack of knowledge on climate change adaptation /GHG emissions/C Sequestration/agricultural practices*
- 2) *Low/medium advisers' skills*



## **SOLUTIONS DEVELOPPED**

- 1) Improving capacity building ...
- 2) Training activities for farmers and advisors, self assessments...
- 3) Demonstration actions and communication tools (farm open days, conferences...)



# Farm performance and practices ready to use for improving farms sustainability



## GHG emissions



### Inputs

Pasture management,  
Concentrates and fertilizers,  
Legumes, Crops rotation



### Fuel and electricity

No-till cultivation,  
Power and equipment,  
Working organization



### Crops management & fertilization

Legume fodder crops,  
Optimization of fertilizers uses



### Herd management

Improving productivity  
Reducing number of unproductive  
animals, lipids



### Feed

Feed efficiency,  
Forage quality and yield



### Manure management

Time spent in shed vs pasture,  
Biogas production



## Carbon sequestration

### Cover crops



Introduce more  
intermediate crops,  
more row intercropping  
and more  
grass strips

### Avoid bare soil



Never leave  
soil bare  
and work it less,  
for example by  
using no-till methods

### Agroforestry



Add to the  
hedges at field  
boundaries  
and develop  
agroforestry

### Grassland management



Optimize  
pasture management  
- with longer  
grazing periods,  
for example

The first step → A reduction of carbon footprint up to 15 to 20%  
And innovative practices under development

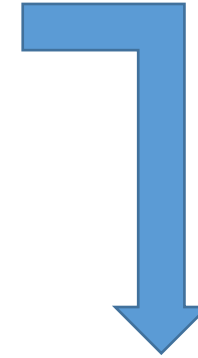


# Supporting farmers, monitoring and reporting progress in a well-organized way



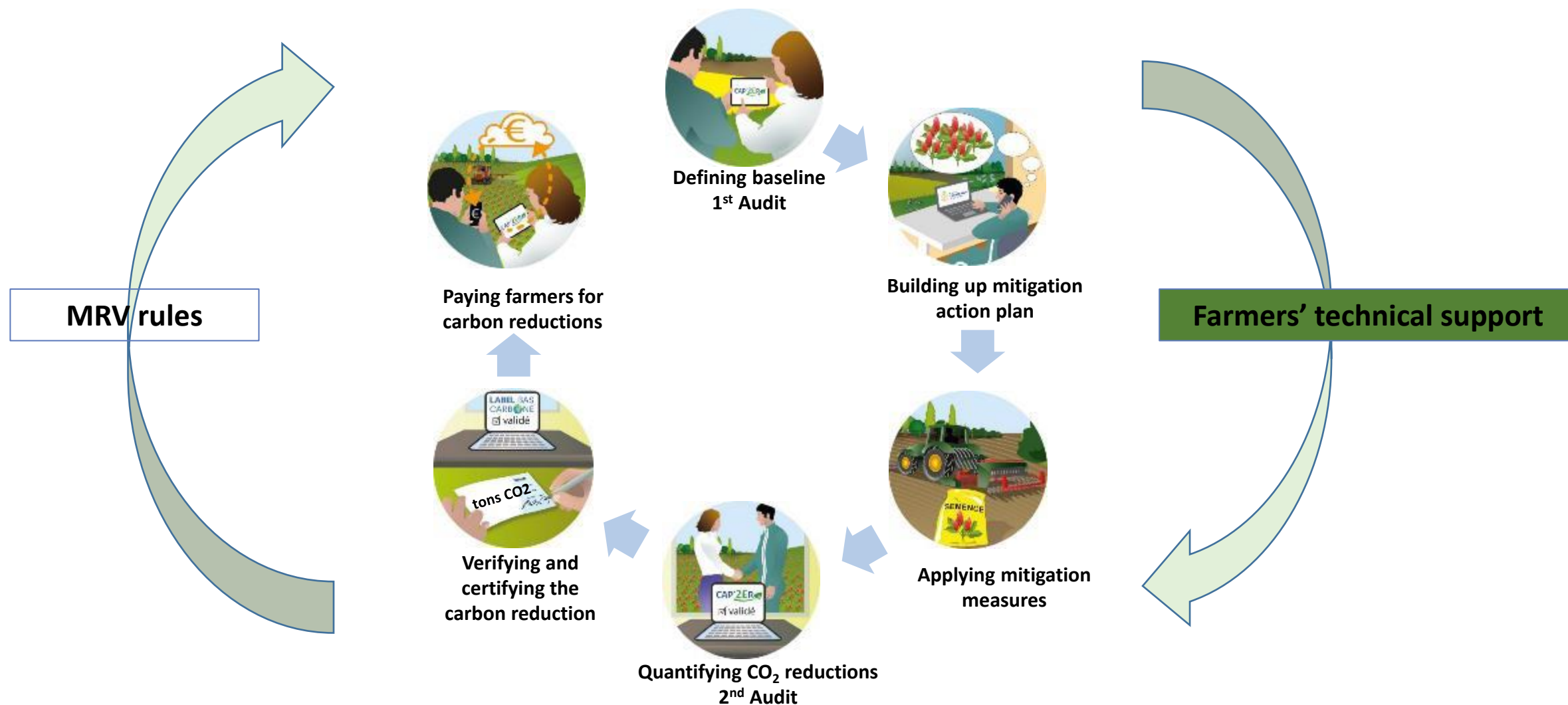
## **BARRIERS**

- 1) *Lack of farmer support*
- 2) *MRV systems are complex*
- 3) *A farmer is a multi producer : A need in common environmental accounting*



## **SOLUTIONS DEVELOPED**

- 1) **Advising and supporting farmers**
- 2) **Developing common standards and similar tools**
- 3) **Building up a cost effective MRV for feeding certification process and Scope 3 reporting**

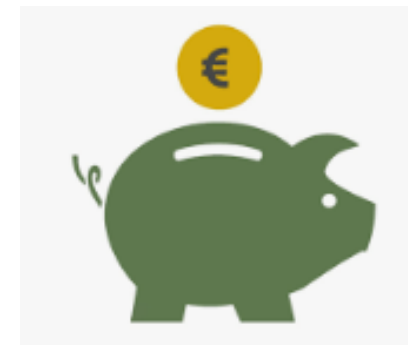
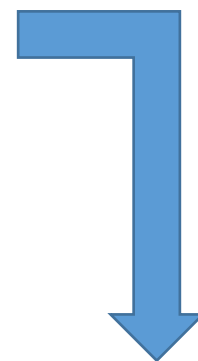


# Transition costs and funding solutions for farmers



## **BARRIERS**

- 1) *Risk in applying practices and uncertainty about revenue*
- 2) *Implementation costs of carbon farming management practices*
- 3) *Supporting advising and certification costs*



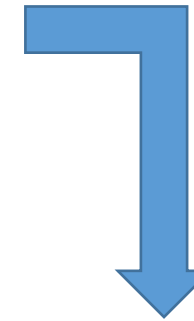
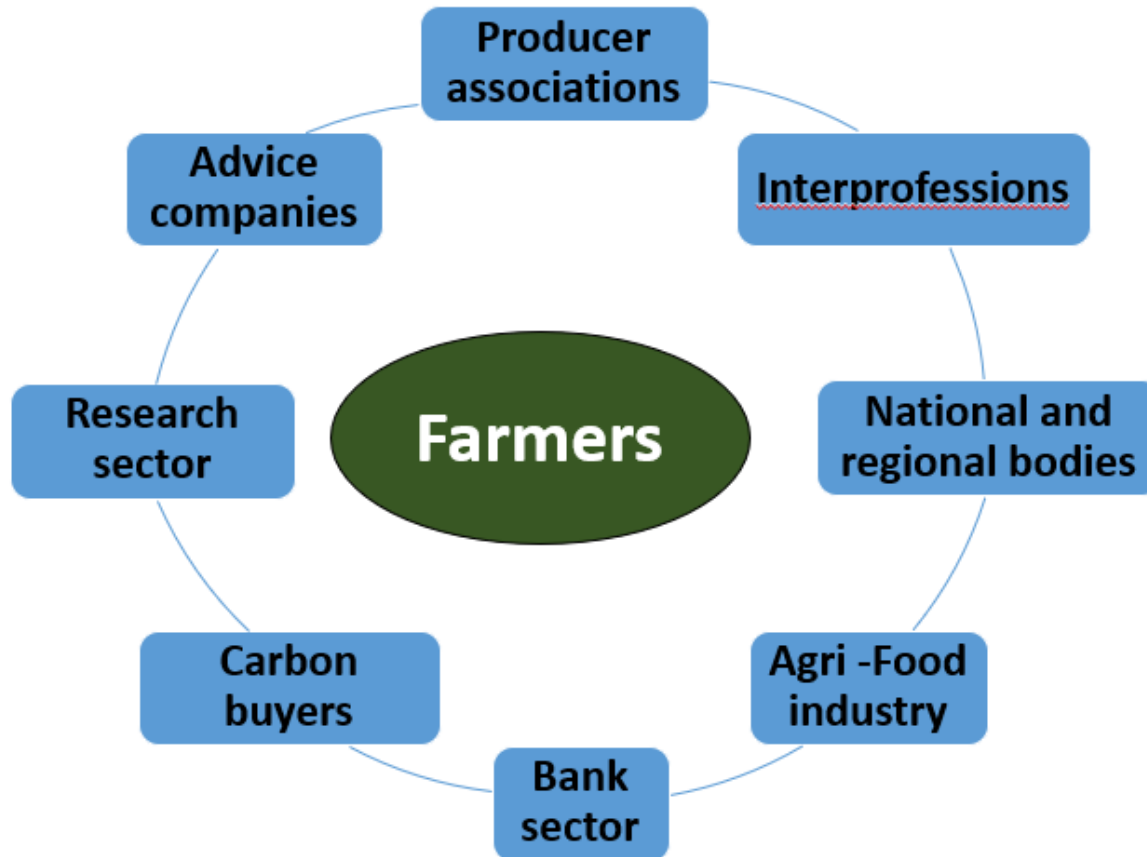
## **SOLUTIONS DEVELOPED**

- 1) Improving farm efficiency
- 2) Funding farmers for maintaining good practices
- 3) Funding farmers for additional practices (carbon finance, premium price, Payment for ecosystem services...)

# Partnership is key for massifying the transition

## **BARRIERS**

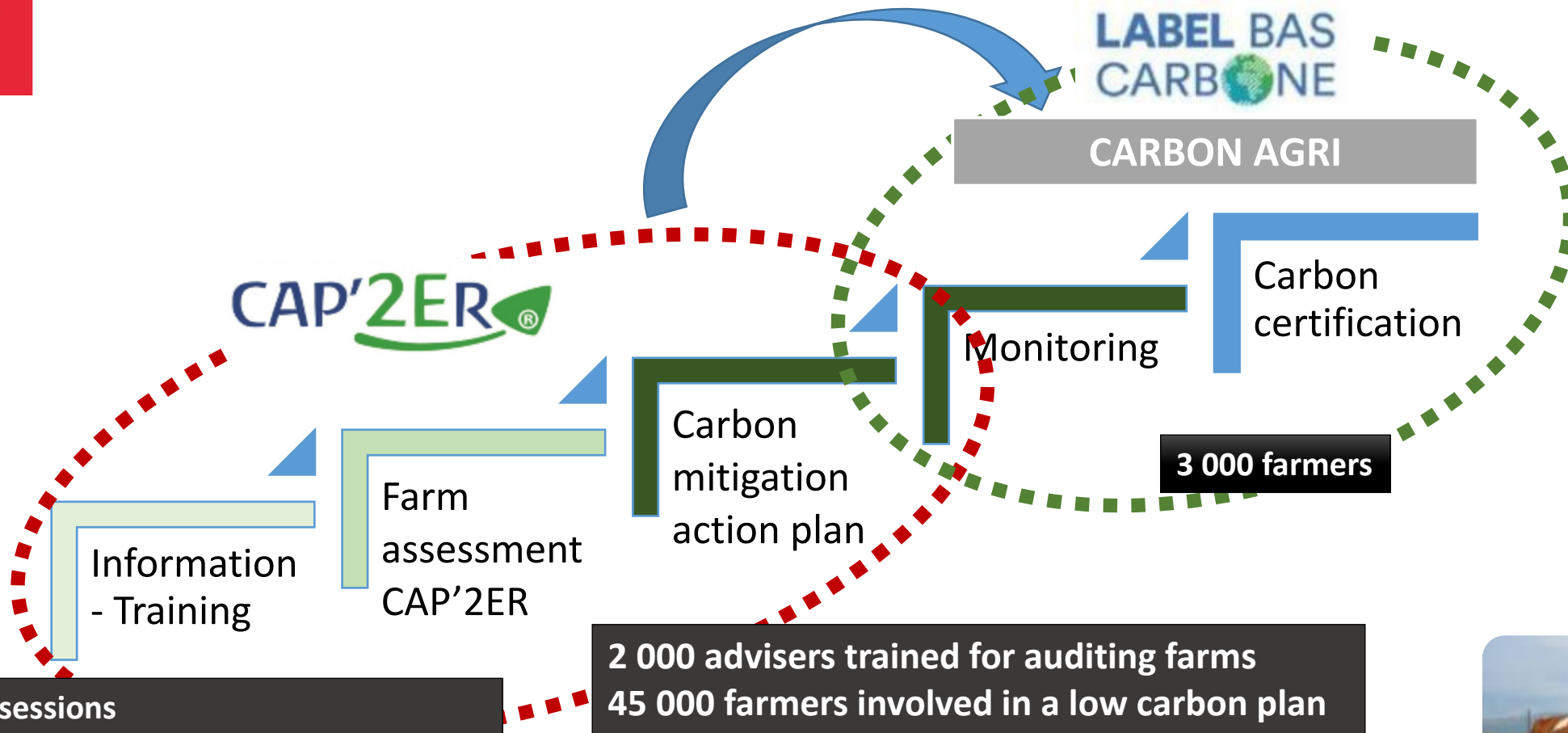
- 1) *Recruiting farmers*
- 2) *Building a transition plan is time consuming*
- 3) *Supporting practices application*



## **SOLUTIONS DEVELOPED**

- 1) **Developing a collaborative partnership**
- 2) **Sharing data and progress done**
- 3) **Developing technical supports**

# Massifying dissemination of practices



## Training sessions

- Farmers
- Advisers
- Cooperatives and Agri food industries

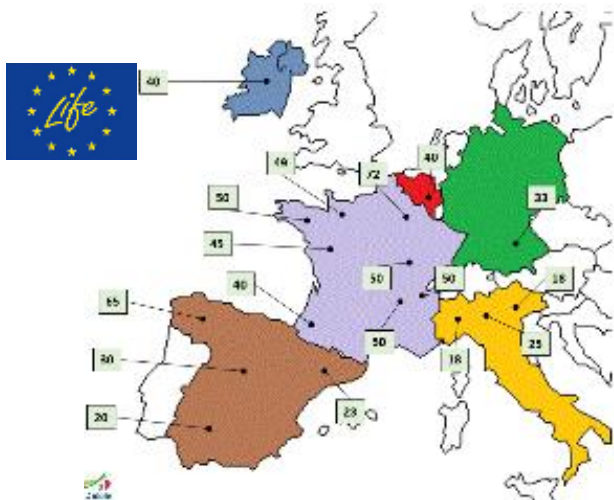




# Dissemination in progress thanks to EU initiatives

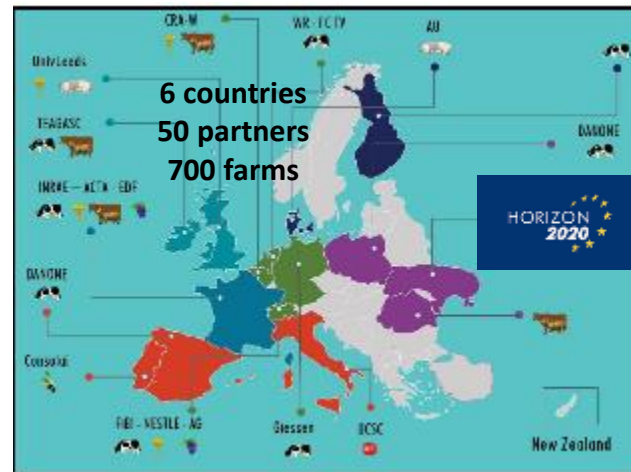
- ❑ Raising awareness on agriculture and climate
- ❑ Involving farmers and advisers in climate transition
- ❑ Harmonized tools and standards at EU scale (GHG Emissions & Carbon removals)
  - ❑ Co-innovation and demonstration actions in farms
  - ❑ Upscaling carbon rewarding mechanism for farmers

LIFE CARBON FARMING – 2021/2027



6 countries  
50 partners  
700 farms

CLIENFARMS– 2022/2025



12 countries  
33 partners  
1 200 farms

Climate Farm Demo – 2022/2029



28 countries  
80 partners  
1 500 farms

Climate Smart Advisors 2023/2030



27 countries  
72 partners  
1500 advisors

# Sustainable livestock farming

- Decreasing GHG emissions and increasing carbon removals & ecosystem services is feasible now, farmers can play a key role
- An opportunity for supporting farmers on technical aspects / innovative practices
- An opportunity for improving sustainability in agriculture (soil fertility, biodiversity, adaptation to climate change, regenerative agriculture...)
- An opportunity for facilitating farmers and stakeholders' involvement behind a common objective
- Merging funding sources (CAP, carbon finance, Ecosystem services, premium product,...) to support farmers transition
- A LONG-TERM STRATEGY.....



# Thanks for your attention

*French Livestock Institute - IDELE*

*Paris*