
Seeking coherence with climate policies

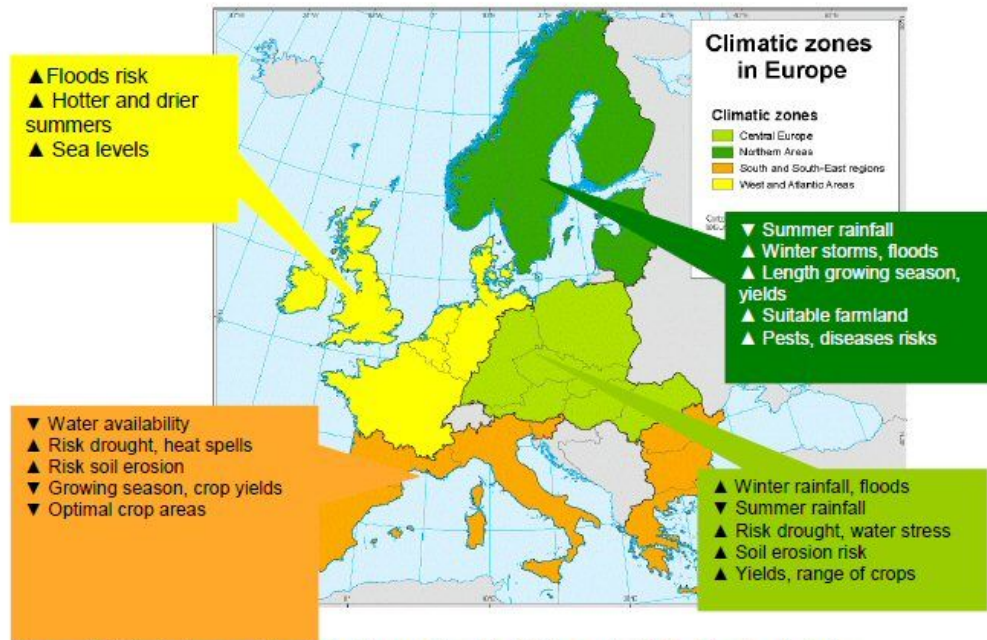
— Proposals for the Spanish
CAP strategic plan —

Jabier Ruiz - 11 October 2019



Climate: a key environmental challenge for farming

Climate change – Possible impacts on EU agriculture

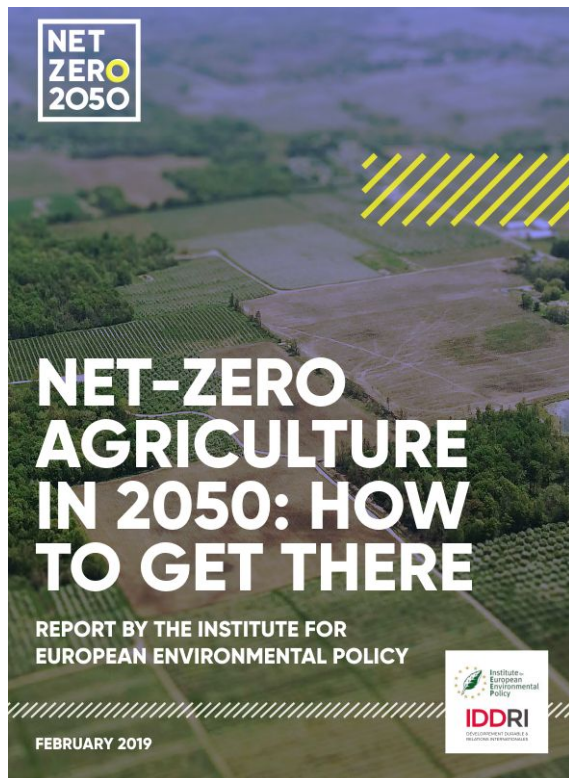


Source: DG Agriculture and Rural Development, based on EEA reports, JRC and academic studies



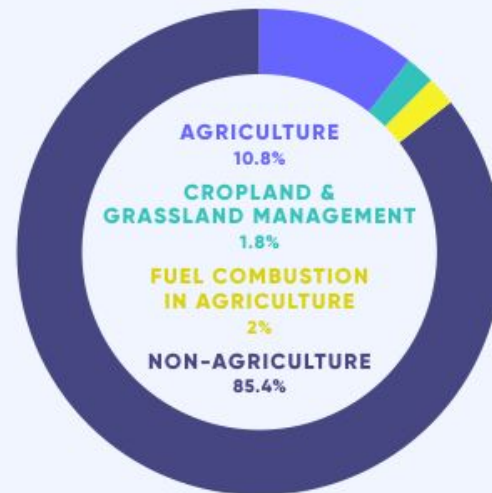
Photo: Gerardo Moreno (UNEX)

All sectors need to contribute towards...



BOX 2: ACCOUNTING OF AGRICULTURAL EMISSIONS

GHG emissions arising from agricultural production appear under multiple categories in national GHG inventory reports, which EU Member States and the EU as a whole are required to submit annually to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The “agriculture” category covers mainly non-CO₂ emissions linked to enteric fermentation (from cattle, sheep and goats), fertiliser application and manure management. CO₂ emissions arising from on-farm energy use for machinery, buildings and other activities are accounted for under the “energy” category. Changes in carbon stored in soils and biomass due to cropland and grazing land management practices are reported under the Land use, land use change, and forestry (LULUCF) category. Emissions arising from on-farm energy use for buildings and machinery are also accounted under other sectors.



Major approaches for climate mitigation in farming

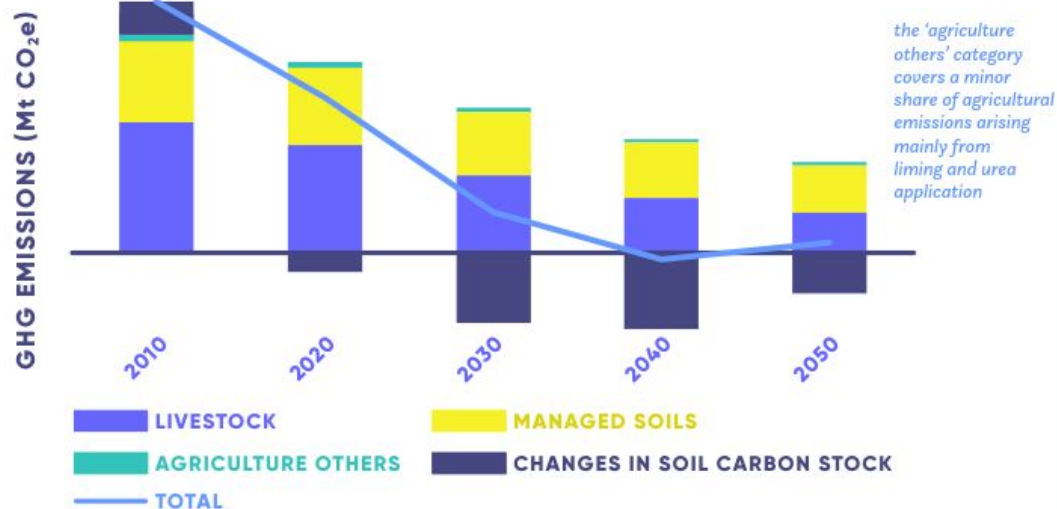


FIGURE 8: Scenario 4 – GHG emissions and removals by source in the EU agriculture between 2010 and 2050

1

CHANGING WHAT THE SECTOR PRODUCES TO MOVE TOWARDS COMMODITIES THAT HAVE A LOWER GHG FOOTPRINT.

Shifting towards less GHG intensive products inevitably implies a reduction in the production of certain commodities with a greater GHG footprint although it does not necessarily entail a reduction in overall production. Whilst this approach can lead to an absolute reduction in agricultural emissions in the EU, in order to avoid simply displacing production to non-EU countries (i.e. emission leakage), it is clear that there is concurrently a need for action beyond agricultural production to change consumption patterns, both in the EU and globally.

2

CHANGING THE WAY AGRICULTURE COMMODITIES ARE PRODUCED TO INCREASE THE PER UNIT GHG EFFICIENCY OF PRODUCTION.

Increased GHG efficiency refers to the reduction of GHG emissions per unit of output, i.e. the same quantity of output can be produced with lower GHG emissions. These positive impacts however, can, in part or in full, be eliminated by increased production levels making the direction of the overall impact more uncertain, which is often referred as rebound effect or Jevons paradox. From an economic perspective, improved GHG efficiency does not necessarily lead to more resource efficient production overall, i.e. it does not imply an increase in yields or overall output. For example, there might be feed additives that help mitigate methane emissions without having an effect, either positive or negative, on production and productivity.

3

INCREASING THE CARBON SEQUESTRATION POTENTIAL ON AGRICULTURAL LAND.

Unlike the other two approaches, increased carbon sequestration does not reduce the actual level of GHG emissions from the sector, but has the potential to lower the net climate impacts of agricultural production by removing and storing carbon in soil and biomass. This could be achieved through, among others, the protection of organic soils, introduction of trees into agricultural production (e.g. agroforestry) and changing tillage practices as well as by converting croplands to grasslands. Converting agricultural land to forest could yield higher mitigation benefits, however it implies a more significant change of land use with implications for agricultural production and for farm business models.

Climate mitigation in CAP Strategic Plans



POLICY COHERENCE

Most relevant policy tools:

- *National Climate and Energy Plans*
- *CAP Strategic Plans*

BEST PRACTICE TO MEET TARGETS

Additional food and farming options with proven mitigation capacity.

Coherence: *National Climate and Energy Plans*

What are National and Energy Plans?

- New framework within which EU Member States have to plan, in an integrated manner, their climate and energy objectives, targets, policies and measures.
- Part of the EU climate legislation that entered into force in 2018.
- NECPs cover actions across all sectors, including food and agriculture.
- NECPs are for the 2021-2030 period, and are currently being revised and finalised.

CAP strategic plan must be made coherent with NECPs

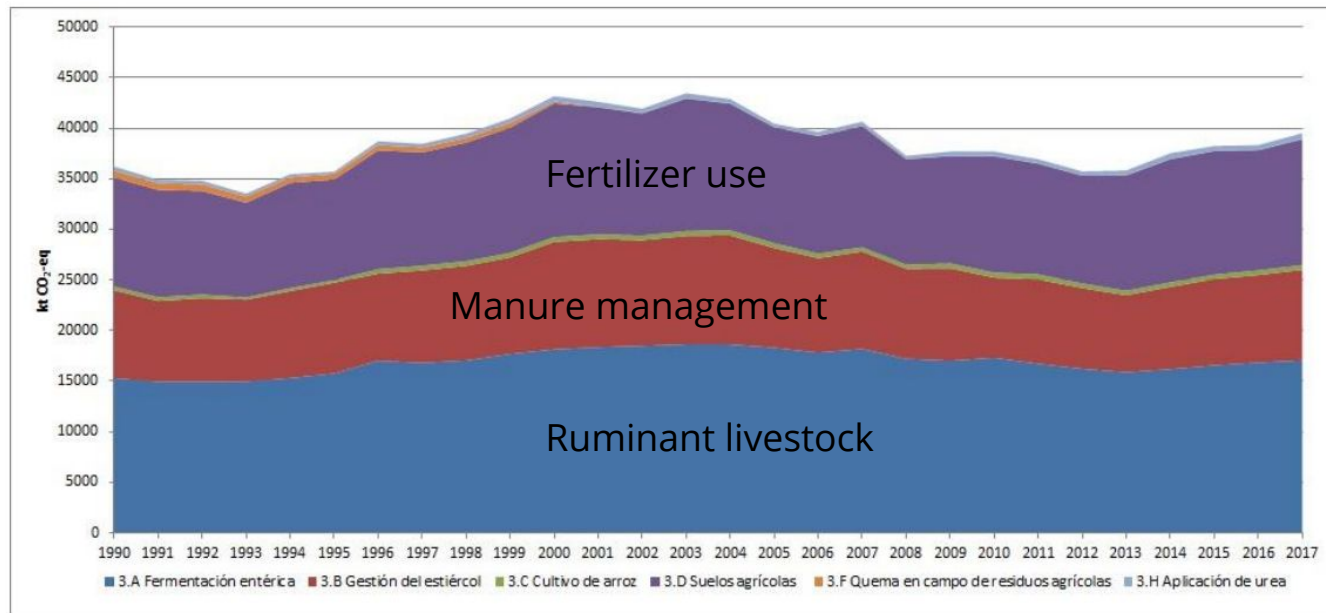
- CAP post-2020 regulations: *inter-alia*, Art. 96.

Case study: SPAIN

Emissions growing again over the last few years:

Gross GHG emissions from agriculture in Spain: 11.6% of all (*and less than one tenth captured back*)

Interannual growth of 3.1% (2016-2017)



Selection of actions on food and agriculture

- Measure 1.14: *Promoting rainfed **crop rotation**, combining cereals with legumes and oilseeds*
- Measure 1.14: *Adjusting nitrogen input to crop needs, **fertilisation plans** reintegrating manure*
- Measure 1.15: *Diminishing **food waste** by developing the Food Waste National Strategy*
- Measure 1.17: *Regeneration of **agroforestry systems, and tree planting** incl. in buffers strips*
- Measure 1.17: ***Grazing in fuelbreak areas** for wildfire prevention*
- Measure 1.18: *Promoting **conservation agriculture and soil cover** in permanent crops*

What is missing?



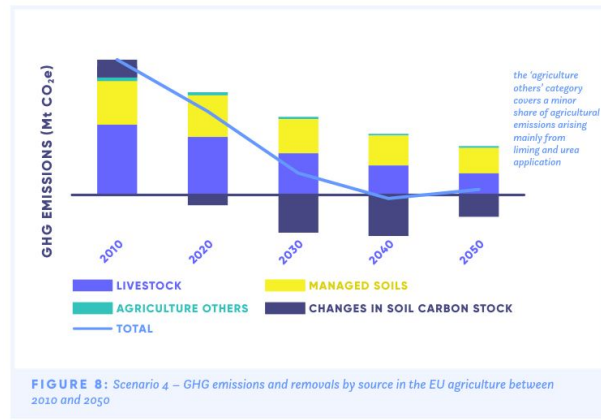
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A food system approach: accelerate the dietary transition to enable faster GHG reductions. This must go way beyond EU school fruit, vegetables and milk scheme.

Rather than maintaining them in unsustainable systems, offer a **just transition** for farmers with heavy GHG production systems and other environmental impacts: (illegal) irrigation, intensive livestock...

Setting up a **maximum ceiling for GHG emissions** from agriculture in the Member State, and design the CAP strategic plans to achieve significant reductions by 2027.

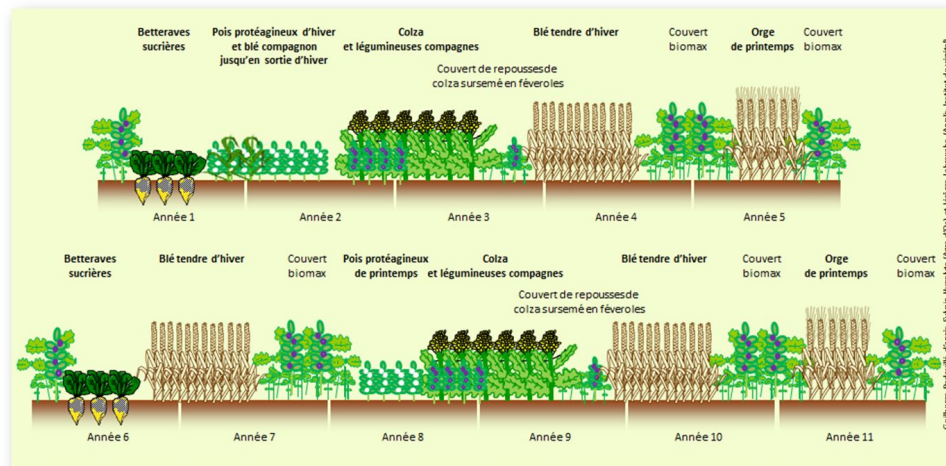


Crop rotation

How to integrate it in the CAP strategic plan

- Basic rotation requirement, for all arable land, as part of conditionality (GAEC 8)
- Enhanced rotation with leguminous crops. Two options:
 - Part of conditionality, if leguminous crops are part of coupled payments.
 - Under eco-schemes or RD management commitments, given its multiannual character.

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Fertilisation planning



How to integrate it in the CAP strategic plan

- Basic agronomic practice, which can be part of conditionality (in line with GAEC 5) or supported by farm advisory services, without additional remuneration.

FSNr	Bezeichnung	Größe in ha	Kultur	Vorfrucht	Boden-klasse	K-Boden-klasse	Ertrags-erwartung t/ha	Vorfrucht-Rückstände eingearbeitet?	N kg/ha	P ₂ O ₅ kg/ha	K ₂ O kg/ha	Σ N kg	Σ P ₂ O ₅ kg	Σ K ₂ O kg	Σ ...
Summe		79,25							14.448,71	6.383,00	12.833,18				
1	Atzingerfeld	2,14	Wintergerste	Wintererbsen	C	C	5,00 hoch 2	☑	170,0	65,0	90,0	363,8	139,1	192,6	
2	Böckfeld	0,62	Wintererbsen	Winterweizen < 14 % R _P	C	C	9,00 hoch 2	☑	195,0	85,0	230,0	120,9	52,7	142,6	
3	Stadelfeld	7,91	Wintererbsen	Winterweizen < 14 % R _P	C	C	9,00 hoch 2	☑	195,0	85,0	230,0	1.543,3	672,7	1.820,3	
3	Stallerfeld	2,59	Wintertriticale	Körnermais	C	C	13,00 hoch 2	☑	155,0	65,0	90,0	401,5	168,4	233,1	
4	Fuchsfeld	4,68	Winterweizen < 14 % R _P	Körnermais	C	C	13,00 hoch 2	☑	180,0	65,0	90,0	842,4	304,2	421,2	
5	Stellerbauernfeld	7,08	Wintergerste	Wintererbsen	C	C	9,00 hoch 2	☑	170,0	65,0	90,0	1.203,6	460,2	637,2	
6	Hüttenfeld	2,18	Körnermais	Körnermais	C	C	13,00 hoch 2	☑	195,0	100,0	230,0	425,7	218,3	502,1	
7	Atzingerfeld	3,46	Winterweizen < 14 % R _P	Körnermais	C	C	13,00 hoch 2	☑	180,0	65,0	90,0	622,1	224,7	311,1	
8	Satterfeld	1,66	Winterweizen < 14 % R _P	Körnermais	C	C	13,00 hoch 2	☑	180,0	65,0	90,0	298,8	107,9	149,4	
8	Buchnerfeld	0,79	Winterweizen < 14 % R _P	Körnermais	C	C	13,00 hoch 2	☑	180,0	65,0	90,0	143,0	51,6	71,5	
9	Abstatterfeld oben	2,98	Körnermais	Wintergerste	C	C	hoch 2	☐	195,0	100,0	230,0	581,3	298,1	685,6	
9	Abstatterfeld unten	4,98	Körnermais	Wintergerste	C	C	hoch 2	☑	195,0	100,0	230,0	971,0	498,0	1.145,3	
9	Moar1	0,85	Körnermais	Körnermais	C	C	13,00 hoch 2	☑	195,0	100,0	230,0	166,2	85,2	196,0	
9	Abstatterfeld mitte	4,37	Wintererbsen	Wintertriticale	C	C	9,00 hoch 2	☑	195,0	85,0	230,0	851,9	371,4	1.004,8	
10	Moar2	0,32	Körnermais	Winterroggen	C	C	hoch 2	☑	195,0	100,0	230,0	62,4	32,0	73,6	

Food waste

How to integrate it in the CAP strategic plan

- Fully in line with CAP specific objective i).
- Multiple interventions are possible:
 - Sectoral interventions for producer organisations, to *improve supply-demand adjustment, transform and valorise subproducts, open alternative markets.*
 - RD interventions supporting *investments and initiatives of other stakeholders, including food waste cooperation, innovation, knowledge exchange.*
 - Critical revision of investment support and direct payments which stimulate (directly or indirectly) intensification, overproduction and market flooding.

Farmers get the cauliwobbles

British growers are in despair as tons of cauliflowers go to waste while supermarkets sell imported varieties

Tony Allen-Mills

March 5 2017, 12:01am,
The Sunday Times



Geoffrey Philpott is forced to export his cauliflowers at a loss while supermarkets stock up with Spanish varieties

Tree planting and regeneration

How to integrate it in the CAP strategic plan

- Diverse actions which could receive RD investment support, with higher rates for their environmental value.
- Eligibility of these parcels for direct payments must be maintained and secured for the future.
- For riparian forests: WFD payments (Art. 67) to facilitate setting that land aside.

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Fuelbreak grazing

How to integrate it in the CAP strategic plan

- An eco-scheme with a basic country-wide payment for fuelbreak grazing.
 - *Fuelbreak cartography integrated in LPIS: eligible parcels are easily identified.*
- RD investment support (for sheds, fences, water troughs, etc.) and multi-annual controlled grazing management commitments.



Conservation agriculture and soil cover

How to integrate it in the CAP strategic plan

- Partly covered in the CAP conditionality (GAEC6 and GAEC7), but could be further promoted.
 - *However, these practices are typically linked to the use of herbicides, with impacts on soil health and biodiversity.*
- Offer incentives (through eco-schemes or management commitments) for *herbicide-free conservation agriculture, and for soil cover in permanent crops.*



Conclusions

- Agriculture has an enormous potential for mitigation and there are win-win options for farming and climate: policies must be supporting the adoption of best practice.
- The CAP contains enough tools to enable and incentivise farmers to adopt climate-mitigation practices.
- The National Energy and Climate Plans may already provide multiple ideas for interventions that can be funded through the CAP.
- The right combination of conditionality (for standard practices or those in legislation) and incentives (for farmers going the extra mile) must be struck.
- If the final CAP has no enhanced conditionality, substantial Pillar 1 resources will need to be devoted to climate interventions under eco-schemes.



¡Gracias!