

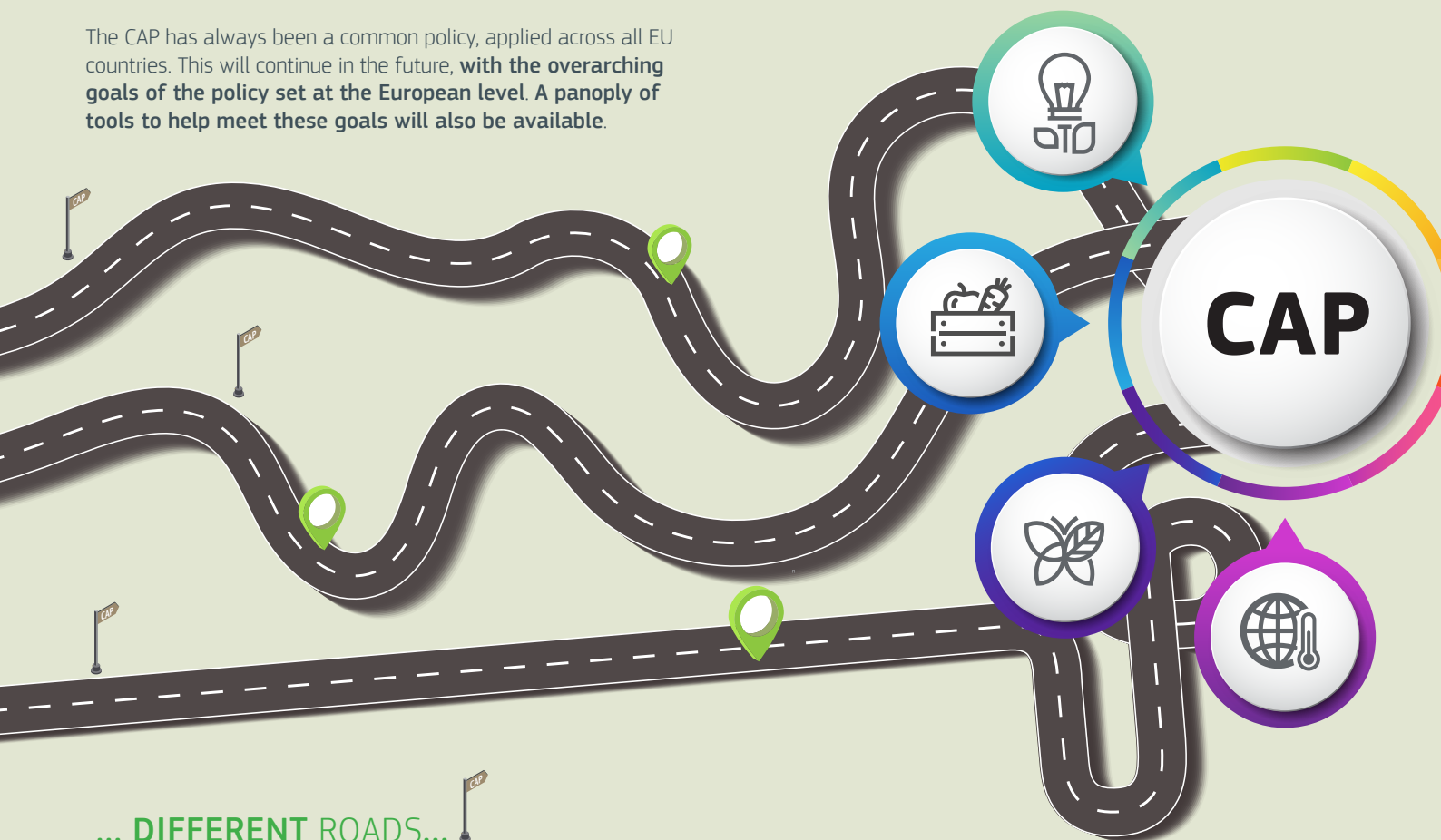
# THE FUTURE OF FOOD & FARMING

## DIFFERENT ROADS TOWARDS THE SAME DESTINATION

The common agricultural policy (CAP) is one of the EU's longest-standing common policies, constantly evolving to meet the changing needs of European agriculture in an increasingly globalised world. Simplifying this policy is a core element of the future of food and farming.

### SAME DESTINATION...

The CAP has always been a common policy, applied across all EU countries. This will continue in the future, **with the overarching goals of the policy set at the European level**. A panoply of tools to help meet these goals will also be available.



### ... DIFFERENT ROADS...

There are many possible routes to reaching these goals, and each EU country needs flexibility to adapt the tools to its local reality. We are moving from a one-size-fits-all to a tailor-made approach: **greater responsibilities** for EU countries to decide what they need and how to achieve it in the form of national CAP strategic plans to be submitted to the Commission.

### ... WITH CHECKPOINTS ALONG THE WAY

This also means ensuring that everyone continues to move in the right direction. The EU will have a clear **responsibility** to monitor the progress, check it is still on the right track and each Member State will have to **prove** that the EU funding is having the desired result and is managed in a sound way, and be **accountable** for ensuring that the common destination is reached. The Commission's scrutiny of the national/regional plans will guarantee the coherence of the internal market and a level playing field for European farmers.