



Role of the CAP in promoting carbon farming

ENRD, Carbon Farming thematic group

Upscaling carbon farming

Barriers to carbon farming initiatives:

Financial burden (cost of management practices, uncertainty about revenues)

Uncertainty or lack of public trust in the **reliability** of voluntary carbon markets

Concerns around **environmental integrity**, **additionality** or **permanence**

Unavailability, complexity or high costs of **monitoring, reporting and verification systems**

Insufficiently tailored **training and advisory services**



Technical Guidance Handbook:
“Setting up and implementing result-based
carbon farming mechanisms in the EU”
<https://europa.eu/VW49yw>

CAP Plans are built on the objectives

Under the CAP Strategic Plans (2023-2027, Regulation 2021/2115), interventions are programmed by 10 Specific Objectives

Coming CAP (2023-2027)

- (a) to foster a smart, competitive, resilient and diversified agricultural sector ensuring long-term food security; 6.12.2021 EN Official Journal of the European Union L 435/27
- (b) to support and strengthen environmental protection, including biodiversity, and climate action and to contribute to achieving the environmental and climate-related objectives of the Union, including its commitments under the Paris Agreement;
- (c) to strengthen the socio-economic fabric of rural areas.



SO4: to contribute to **climate change** mitigation and adaptation, including by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing carbon sequestration, as well as to promote sustainable energy;

- *Minimum 25% of Direct Payments to be dedicated to eco-schemes*
- *Minimum 35% of the EAFRD should be dedicated to environmental and climate objectives*
- *Reinforced links with key pieces of legislation related to climate goals*

Reg. 2115/2021 – art. 5

Carbon farming - examples



Afforestation and reforestation
according to ecological principles



Targeted conversion of **cropland to fallow**, or of set-aside areas to **permanent grassland**



Use of **conservation tillage, catch crops, cover crops** and increasing **landscape features**



Agroforestry
and other forms of mixed farming



Restoration, rewetting and conservation of **peatlands and wetlands**



Blue carbon: coastal wetlands, regenerative aquaculture, marine permaculture

Upscaling carbon farming

Common Agricultural Policy

- Support to carbon farming practices through eco-schemes or rural development measures (e.g. Commission [list of potential agricultural practices](#))
- EIP-AGRI and new AKIS, supports cooperation and testing of new approaches
- Advisory services, knowledge exchange, training
- Limitations: land eligible to CAP, timeframe, administrative burdens for a robust MRV for carbon credits.

LIFE Programme

- Pilot projects (e.g. three new projects on better monitoring tools)

Cohesion Policy

- Investments into e.g. restoration and conservation of peatland (also Just Transition Fund)
- Cooperation across regions (INTERREG)

State Aid

- Aid for agri-environmental-climate commitments, investments, advisory services, R&D, cooperation
- Result-based carbon farming schemes, incentive payments for forest ecosystem services

Links

- Call for Evidence on Carbon Removal Certification [Certification of carbon removals – EU rules \(europa.eu\)](#)
- Watch the recording of the Conference on Sustainable Carbon Cycles, 31 January 2021 [Sustainable Carbon Cycles Conference - About \(b2match.io\)](#)
- Our [webpage](#) and our [press release](#) on the Sustainable Carbon Cycles communication
- Our webpage on [Carbon Farming \(europa.eu\)](#)
- Commission list of potential eco-schemes <https://europa.eu/!yb74nC>
- Study on Carbon Farming: <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2834/594818>
- Study on Wood in construction: <https://dx.doi.org/10.2834/421958>
- Legislative proposal on a new Regulation for Land use, forestry, and agriculture [Delivering the European Green Deal | Climate Action \(europa.eu\)](#)

Thank you



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Slide “Sustainable bioeconomy – examples”: picture BECCS, source: <https://www.stockholmexergi.se>; picture timber in construction, source: <https://www.build-in-wood.eu> ; picture fiber crops, source: <http://news.europeanflax.com/>

