ENRD Thematic Group 'Carbon Farming'

Group 1
1st Meeting | 24 March 2022

Q 1: What is going on in different Member States?

Ireland (IE)

- Government target toeduce emissions by 2030
- -Climate Action Plan
- Land use change (actions & measures) - Drained organic soils: target 25 % to be rewetted
- -Digital map platform to locate drained organic soils
- EIP Operational Groups for carbon farming, holistic approach to the farm

Cool Farm tool can be used everywhere

ECAF: concept of conservation agriculture supports soil organic carbon

IE: Carbon Farming: new concept but no new measures

IE: Challenge is how to change farmer behaviour

IE: Government is a key enabler - CAP can't do everything

> DE different initiatives but no clear government policy for carbon removal

DF:

- -Peatland restoration and rewetting projects
- -Bring together farmers and CO2 emitters
- -Carbon mitigation projects

List of examples from Irene - IE, DE, PT, ES, DK - is gathering list from their members

DT.

- NO clear government policy for Carbon Removal
- -Schemes that promote consrvation in agriculture
- -Focus on soil health

Q 2: What are the opportunities or limitations to upscale carbon farming?

Holistic approch to mitigating climate change alongside agricultural production

Fight against climate change

Erosion control

Use nature-based solutions (e.g. earthworms indicate soil health)

Community building & development (new jobs)

Making rural area more attractive for younger people

> Co benefits of carbon farming: Water retention Biodiversity Soil

The hybrid model mentioned earlier this morning: part action/measure-based, part result-based, could help farmers to start.

Opportunities with existing funding measures

The role that private carbon markets will play in addition to the CAP and that harkens to the capacity building that was emphasised in group 2 in thinking about farmers' negotiations with these voluntary carbon markets.

Timescales - farmers not used to the longer timescales needed to create/maintain C sinks

Mix of technical and economic challenges

Pull back from co-benefits of CF when certification is put in place -- slower or reduced investment Competing objectives in land use

Improve farmers' knowlege of importance (to them) of soil carbon

Availability of land for carbon farming and for agricultural production

Dependency on public funding

Reduced harvesting levels

Farmers are wary of certification as it is not fully developed

Q 3: What should be the priority for implementing CAP interventions to support this upscaling?

