

# Glossary: Good agricultural and environmental conditions (GAEC)

Statistics Explained

**Good agricultural and environmental conditions**, abbreviated as **GAEC**, refers to a set of [European Union \(EU\)](#) standards (described in Annex II of [Council Regulation No 1306/2013](#) defined at national or regional level), aiming to achieve a sustainable agriculture. Keeping land in good agricultural and environmental conditions is directly related to issues such as:

- minimum level of maintenance;
- protection and management of water;
- soil erosion;
- soil organic matter;
- soil structure;

These standards are to be respected by European farmers receiving direct payments or some of the rural development payments.

## Further information

- [Cross Compliance](#)
- [Good Agricultural and Environmental Conditions \(GAEC\)](#)

## Related concepts

- [Agri-environmental indicator \(AEI\)](#)
- [Biodiversity](#)
- [Common agricultural policy \(CAP\)](#)
- [Farm structure survey \(FSS\)](#)
- [Permanent grassland](#)
- [Single payment scheme \(SPS\)](#)

## Source

- [JRC - MARS WikiCAP](#)