



Main obstacles and ways to remove them on the path from farm to fork: the EU perspective



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Sophia Caiati

**EEB Policy Assistant for
Agriculture**

Ukrainian green path from farm to fork

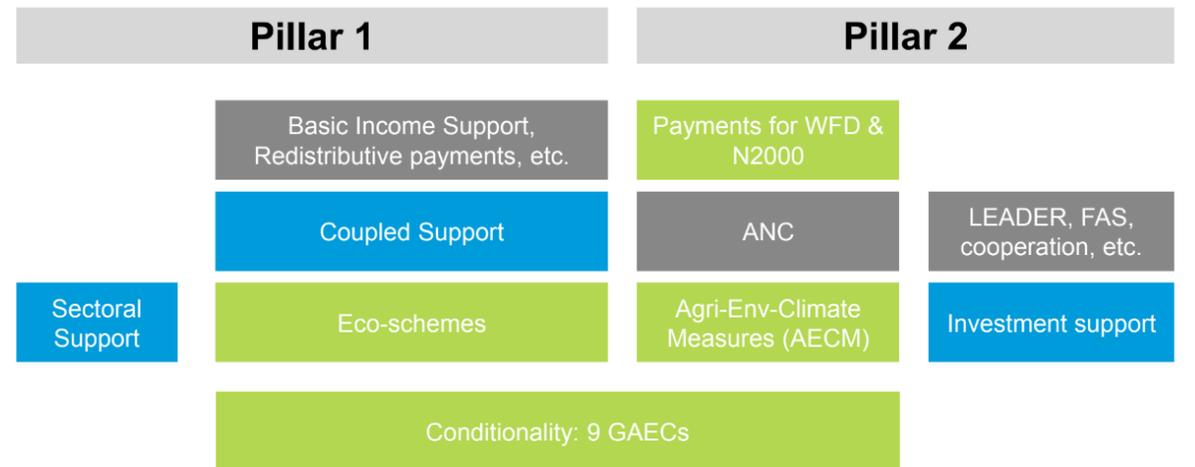
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How to make the CAP compatible with the EU Green Deal?

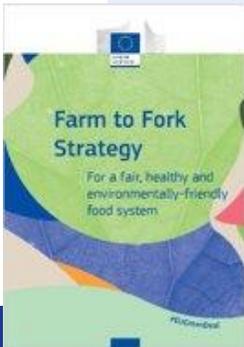
The European Green Deal

- **Climate neutrality** by 2050 and -55% net GHG emissions reduction by 2030
- Put **biodiversity** on the path to recovery by 2030
- **5 headline targets for the farming sector:**
 - 50% reduction of chemical pesticides;
 - 50% reduction of nutrient losses and 20% reduction of fertilisers;
 - 50% reduction of antimicrobials in animal farming and aquaculture;
 - 25% organic farming;
 - 10% high-diversity landscape features.

The new CAP (2023-2027)



- In theory: revised CAP should allow for greener & fairer agricultural policy across EU countries,
- BUT it shows too little ambitions to address the urgent issues of climate change and biodiversity loss - instead “business as usual” approach

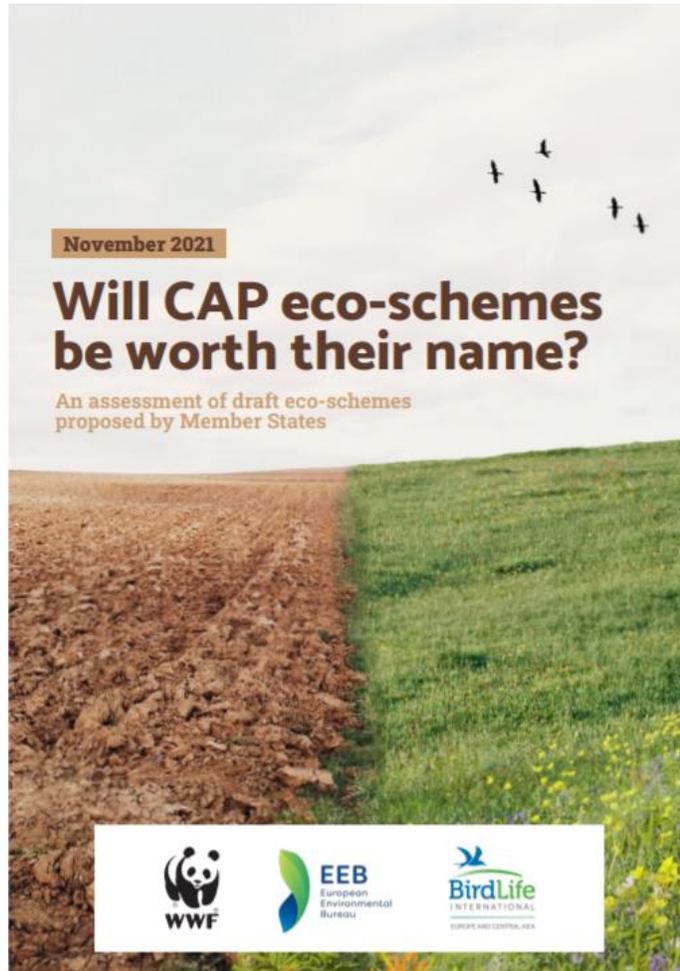




CAP Eco-schemes – will they be worth their name?

- **State of play:** current intensive model of food production is wreaking havoc for the environment & cannot be sustained over the long-term
- Many expectations for a greener CAP have been pinned on **eco-schemes**
 - a new form of direct payments for environmentally-friendly farming
 - fully funded by the EU and take the form of yearly payments to farmers who voluntarily enroll
 - MS in principle plan to spend at least 25% of direct payments budget on eco-schemes
 - aim of eco-schemes is to reward those farmers who choose to go one step further and manage land in a nature- and climate-friendly way

Key insights from eco-schemes assessment

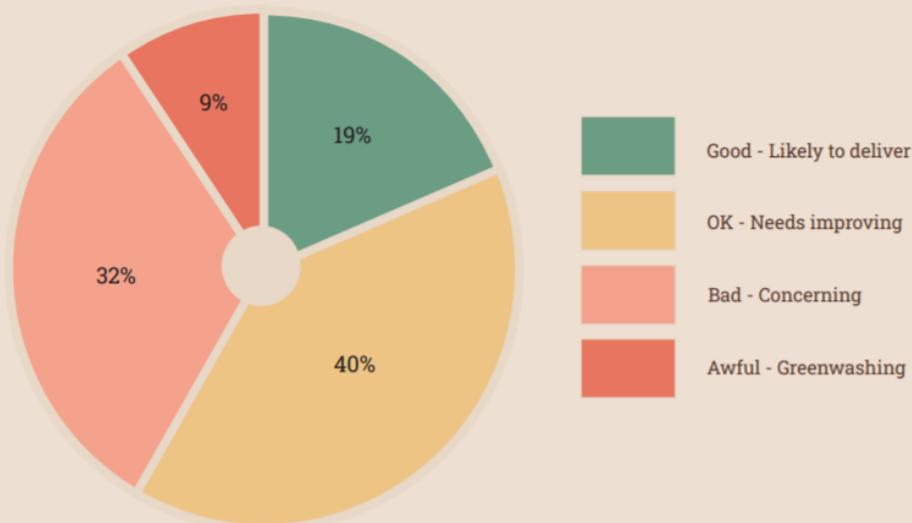


Key Findings:

- **3 most common eco-schemes:** (1) Management and creation of landscape features (2) Extensive grasslands management (3) Use of cover/catch crops
- **Problematic: Member States' proposed eco-schemes will fall very short of expectations**
 - Several well-designed schemes (space4nature), but too often with insufficient budget / payment levels
 - Piece-meal approach, very few multi-dimensional eco-schemes
 - Conditionality (and greening) brought into eco-schemes
 - Several eco-schemes focusing on techno-fixes
 - Key environmental pressures remain unaddressed

Key insights from eco-schemes assessment

Figure 1: Overall Assessment of eco-schemes



Worst examples include:

- precision farming
- eco-schemes for no-till farming without limits on herbicides
- end-of pipe solutions for livestock (additives to feed)
- “greening type” eco-schemes
- grassland schemes without right livestock densities



Eco-schemes recommendations

- **Support a transition**, not marginal improvements to unsustainable models
- **Do not pay for what should be mandatory** (in EU/national laws or in conditionality)
- **Set clear baselines & targets** in eco-schemes targeting efficiency improvements / reductions in inputs
- **Do no harm**: no environmental trade-offs
- **Ensure proportionality** between the level of payment and the expected environmental benefits.
- Focus on **system-based, agro-ecological approaches**: conservation agriculture, circular agriculture, agroforestry or organic farming usually integrate a variety of different management practices that impact on multiple sustainability objectives

Holistic diagnostic of the problems & of the solutions is crucial. We can't afford to create new problems or worsen existing ones while tackling one single environmental dimension



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