



# Focus Group 'Production of protein crops under climate change'

Berlin, Germany  
20-21 November 2024



# EU policy on plant proteins for a sustainable food system on protein dependency

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# EU policy on plant proteins for a sustainable food system

*European CAP Network Focus Group –  
Production of Protein Crops under Climate Change*

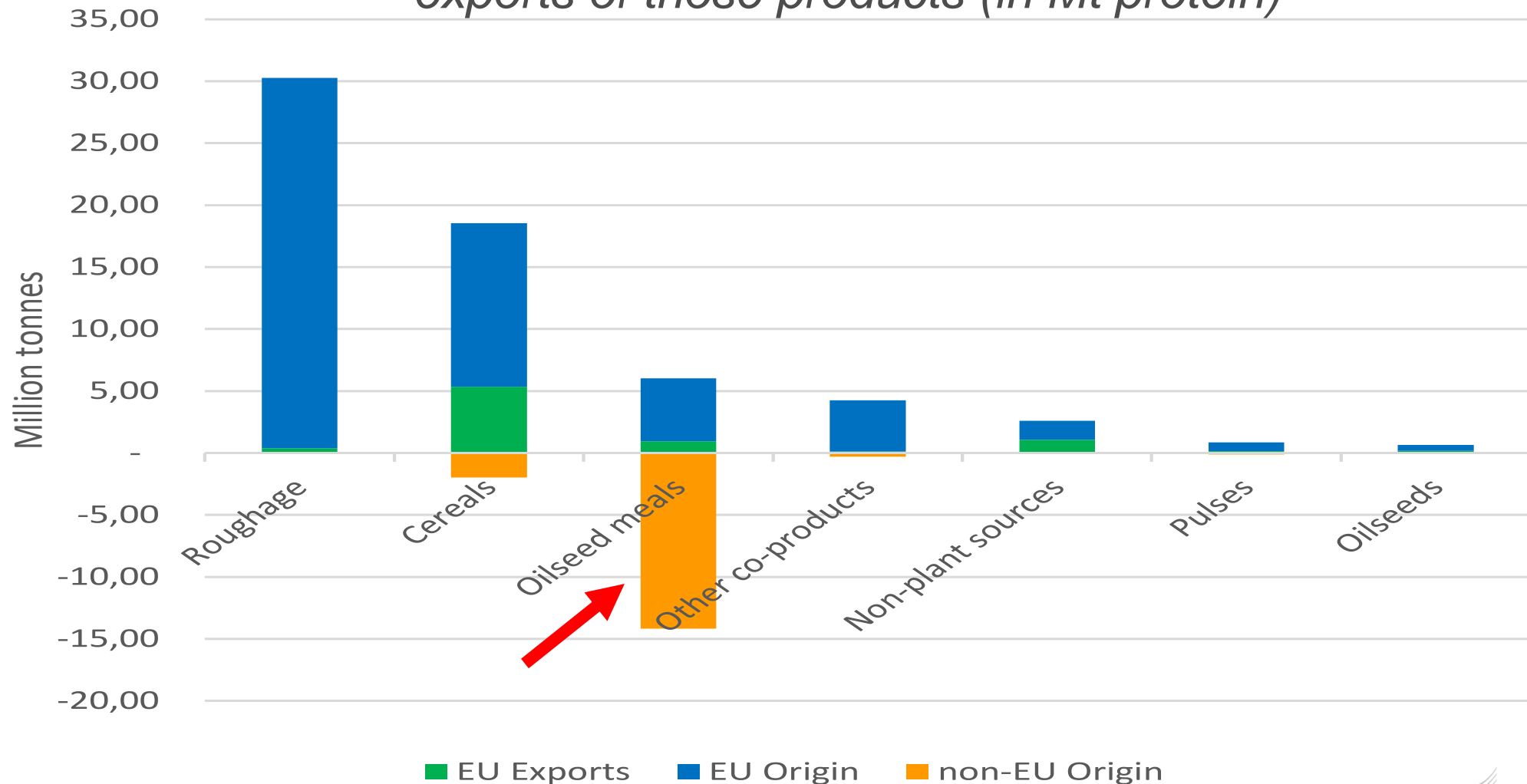
European Commission  
DG AGRI  
AGRI.E.4

*Berlin,*

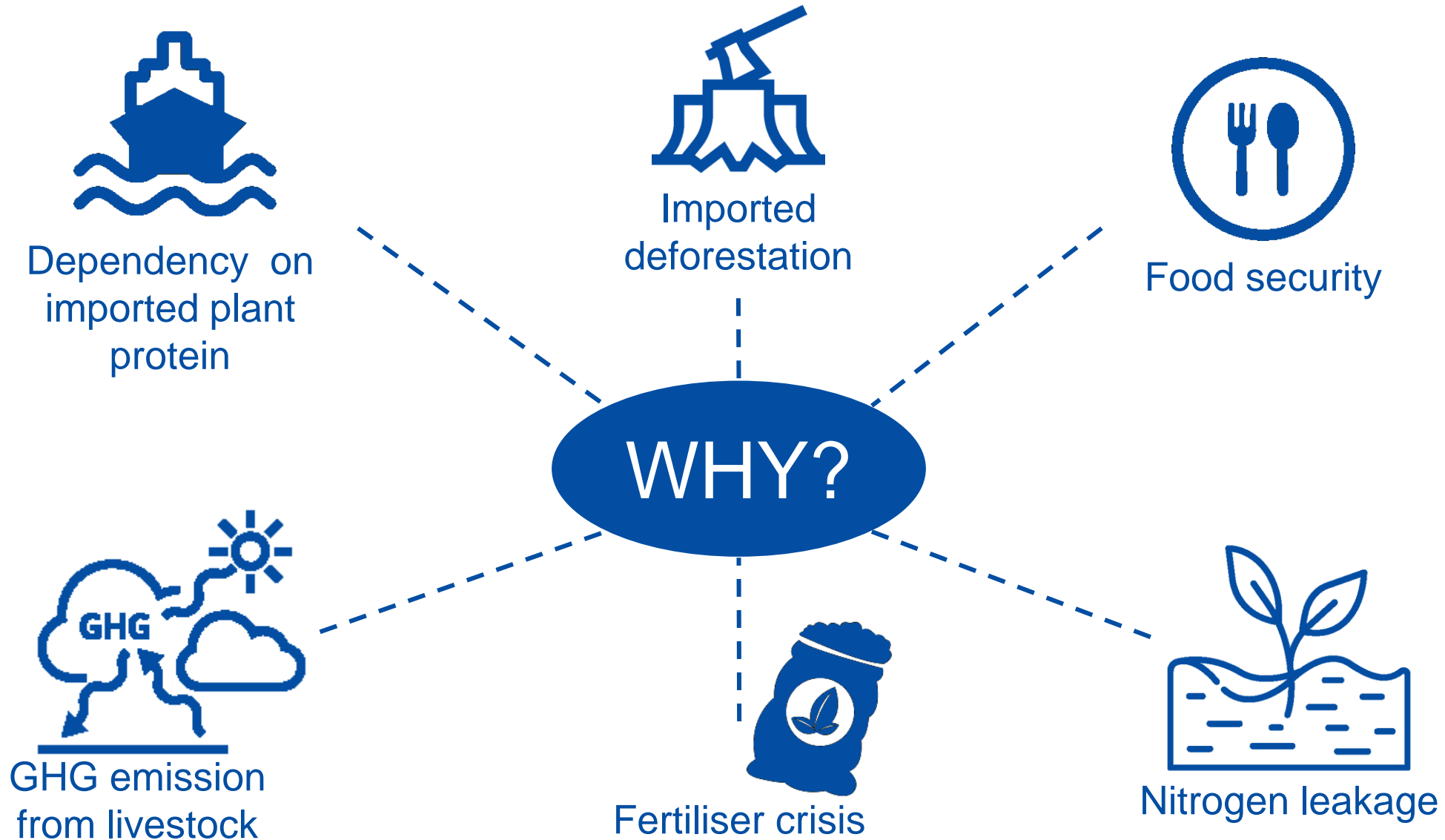
*20 November 2024*

# Why is plant protein high on the agenda?

*Origin of protein used for feeding EU livestock and exports of those products (in Mt protein)*



# Why is plant protein high on the agenda?



# Reduced import dependency



More protein crops in the EU

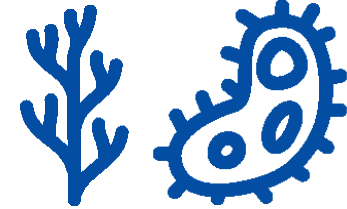
- Increase economic profitability along chain and find role in food system
- **Embrace environmental and climate benefits**
- Competitiveness (internal-external)

HOW?



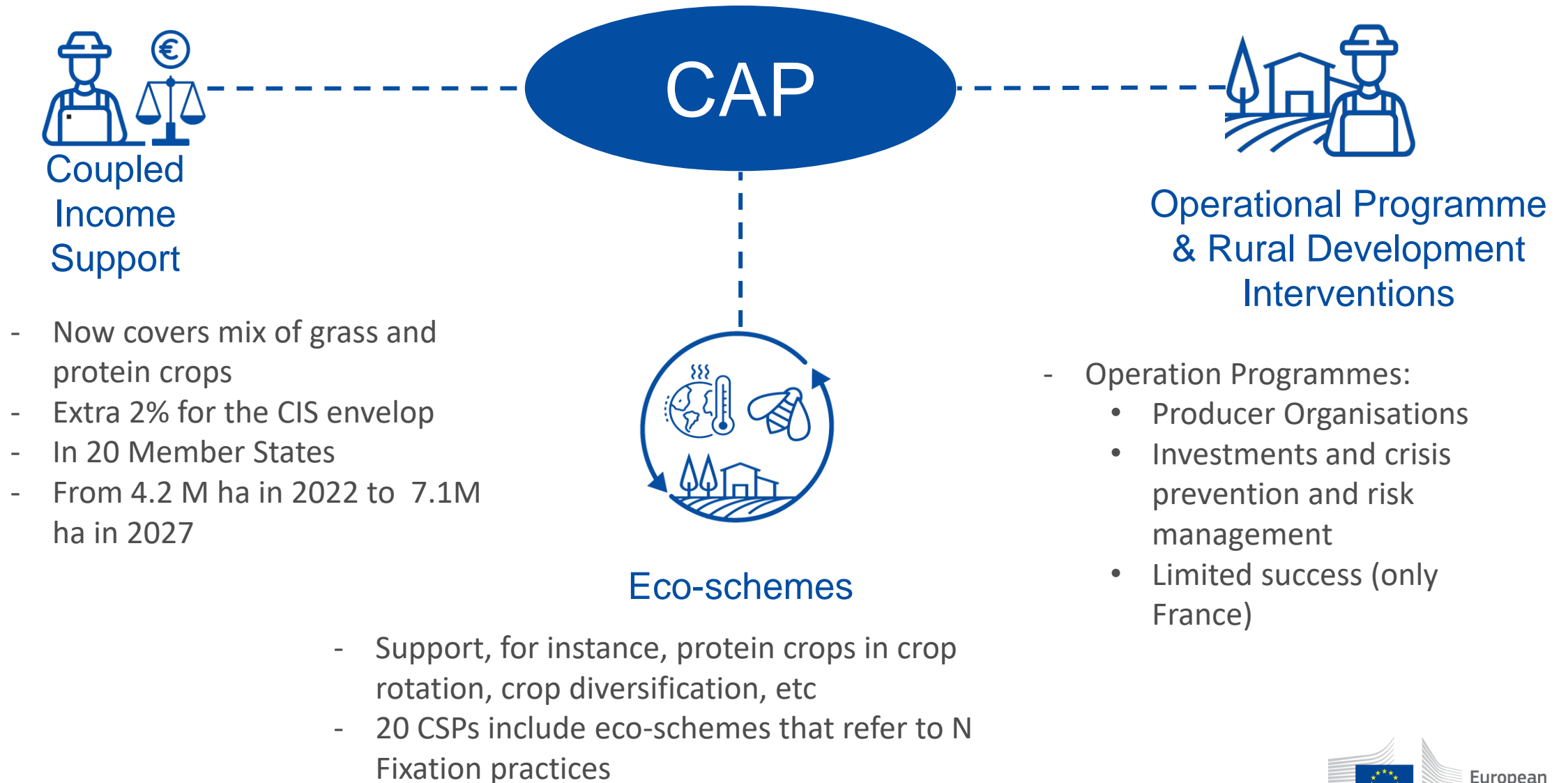
Demand

- Feed demand
  - Reduce imported feed use
  - Increase use of domestic feed
  - **Herd composition**
  - **Circular economy/role of livestock**
- Food demand
  - **Role of plant protein in diet**

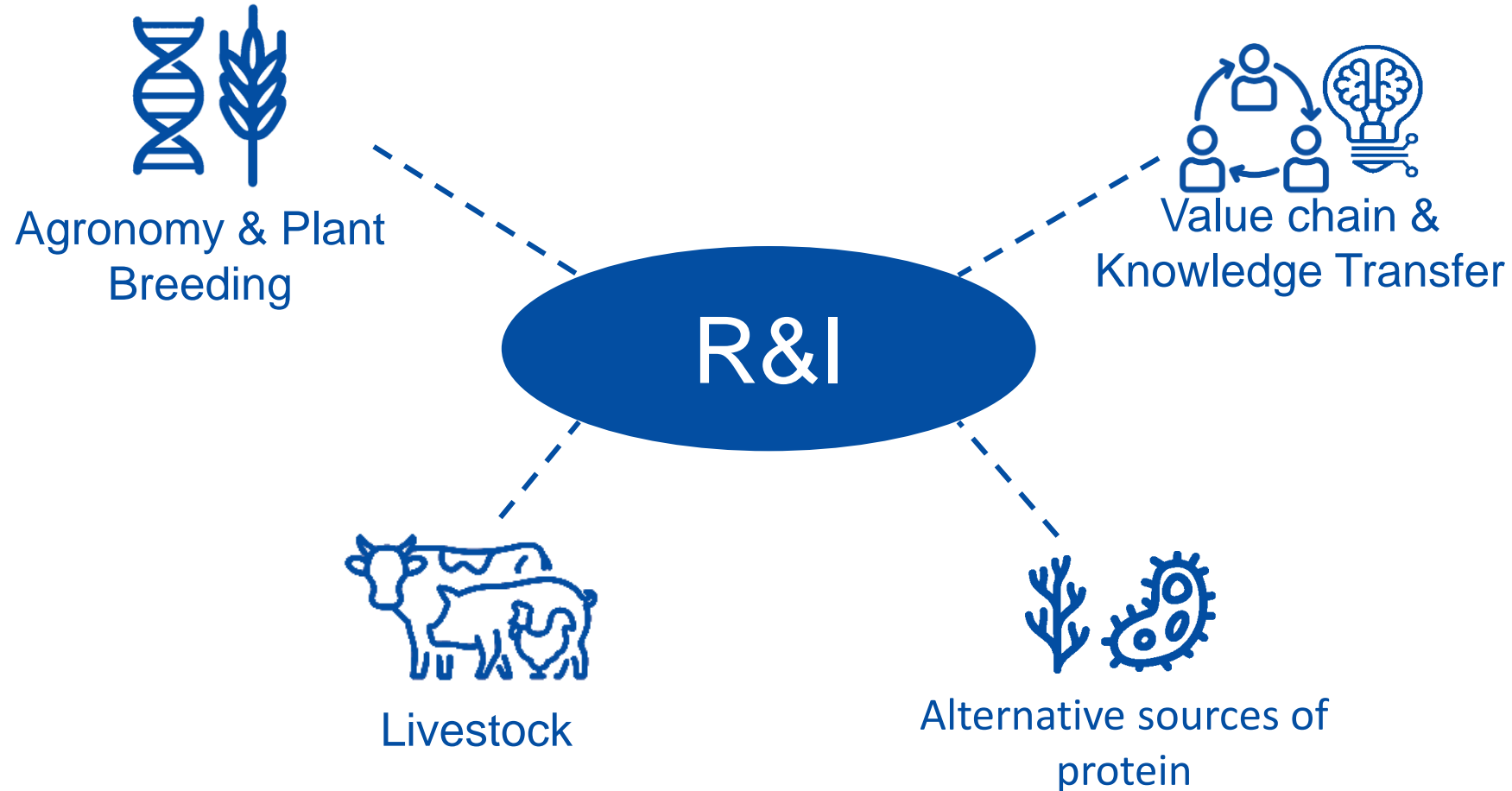


New alternative sources of protein

# What has been done so far? (1)



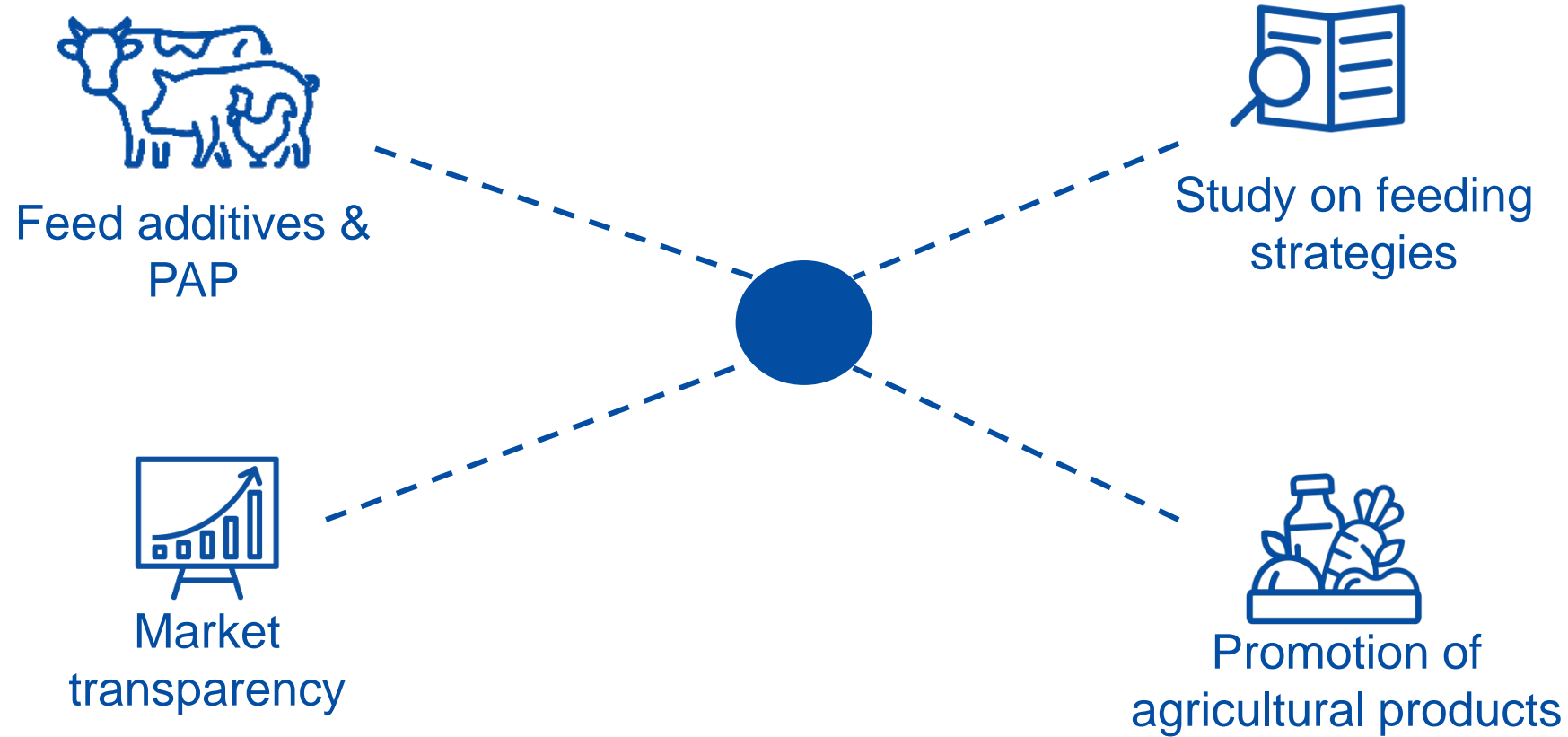
# What has been done so far? (2)



Since 2015, the EU invested in more than **120 R&I projects** that support, in a way or another, the reduction of the EU dependency on imported plant protein for the total amount of **Euro 640 million**.



# What has been done so far? (3)



# We need to do more

- **Council of the European Union**  
in *“Enhancing the potential of plant-based proteins in Europe” (7141/22)*
- **European Commission**  
in *“Food security Communication ” (COM/2022/133 final)*
- **European Economic and Social Committee**  
in *“Own-initiative opinion towards a sustainable plant protein and plant oil strategy for the EU” (7141/22)*
- **European Parliament**  
in *“Resolution on a European protein strategy” (2023/2015(INI))*
- **Strategic Dialogue**  
in *“Report of the Strategic Dialogue on the Future of EU Agriculture” (4 September 2024)*
- **Vision for Agriculture and Food**  
*to be adopted by the future Commission within its first 100 days*

# EU plant protein policy review




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## Protein supply and demand

This factsheet provides an overview of the supply and demand of protein in the EU. It details the different types of protein, plant and animal, as well as their usages as food and feed. It covers their production, consumption, import, export, and highlights the different market segments.

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## CAP Strategic Plans and protein crops

A focus on strategies and support provided by the member states

The goal of this factsheet is to provide an overview of the CAP Strategic Plans (CSPs) in relation to the strategies and supports provided by the Member States to protein crops. Those crops include a

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## Member State Initiatives

The transition to a more sustainable and resilient protein supply system requires coordinated action at all governance levels and across policy fields and the whole food chain. Several initiatives at national and regional level related to sustainable and resilient protein supply and demand are already being implemented. Those initiatives aim to increase the production and use of local

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## Research and Innovation

for reducing the EU dependency on imported plant protein

Through the research programmes Horizon 2020, Horizon Europe and the European Innovation Partnership, the European Union funds projects to develop competitive and sustainable farming systems and food chains that participate to the reduction of the EU dependency on imported plant protein.

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[https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/farming/crop-productions-and-plant-based-products/cereals/reducing-plan-protein-deficit-eu\\_en](https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/farming/crop-productions-and-plant-based-products/cereals/reducing-plan-protein-deficit-eu_en)

# Studies on Feeding Strategies and on Closing the EU Protein Gaps



<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/7a284525-198c-11ef-a251-01aa75ed71a1>



<https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC137180>

# Thank you!



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All information on the Focus Group is available on the webpage:

<https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/focus-group-production-protein-crops-under-climate-change>

