



The Common Agricultural Policy within the MFF 2028-2034

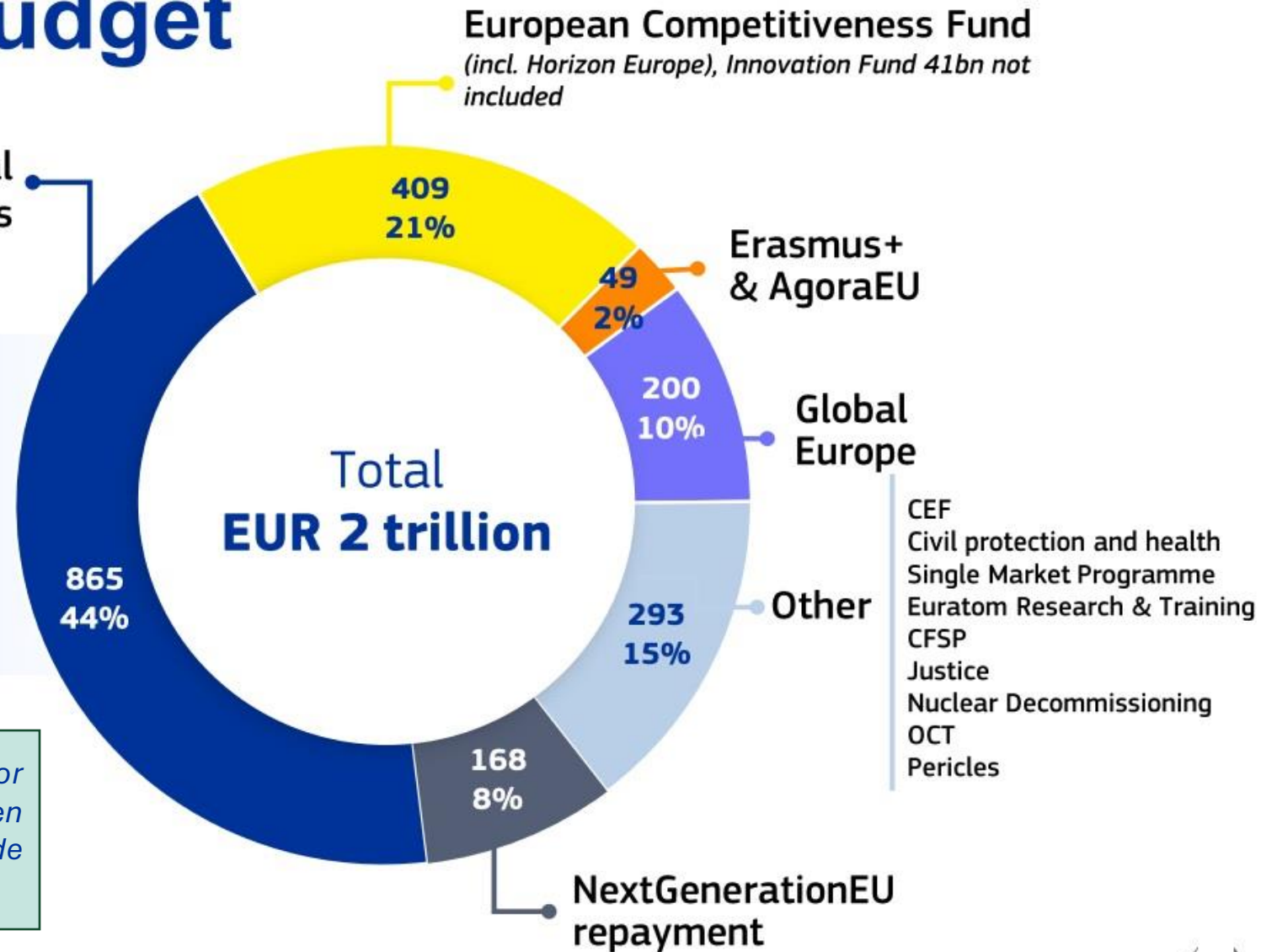
EU CAP Network Steering Group – Brussels, 28 October 2025

An ambitious budget

- From 52 to **16 programmes**
- **Simpler** for beneficiaries
- **Results** oriented
- More **agile**

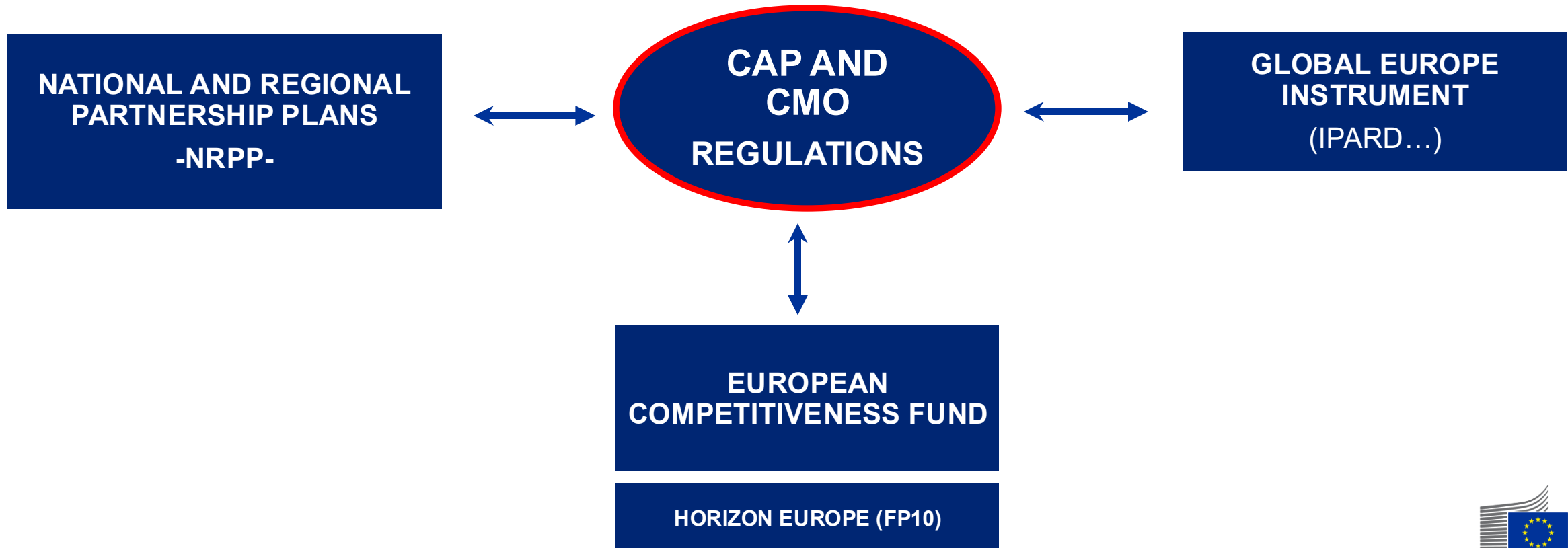
Ceilings continue to be based on a 2% fixed deflator when EU inflation is between 1% and 3%. When inflation is below 1% or above 3%, adjustment made based on actual inflation.

All amounts in EUR, **current prices**, adjusted with 2% deflator

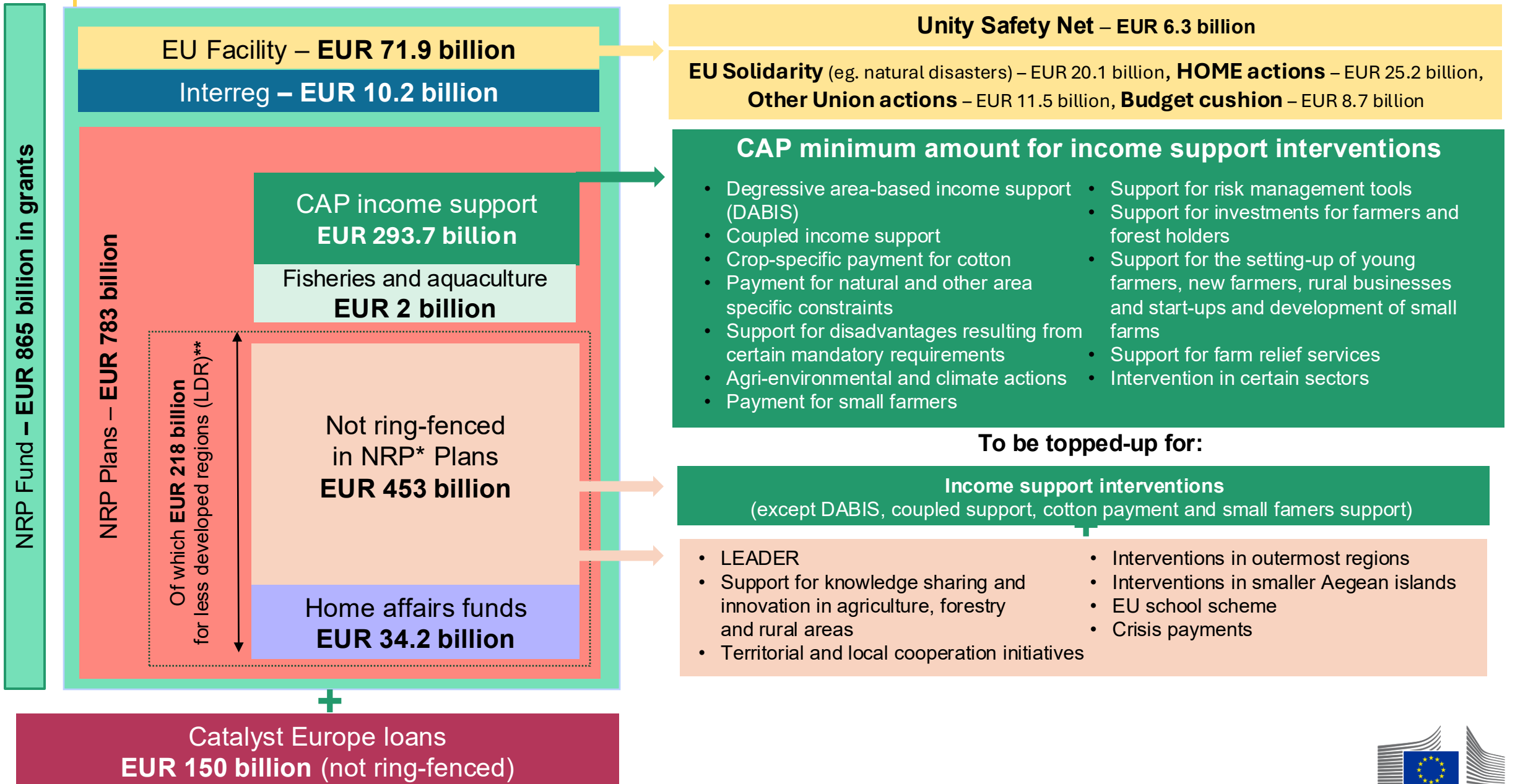


The CAP in the MFF architecture

PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK REGULATION



In current prices



** CAP and CFP interventions above the ringfenced amounts may be counted towards the earmarking for less developed regions provided they are for the benefit of those regions



National and Regional Partnership Plans

One NRP Plan

- Simplify the current framework: **simplified implementation, one set of rules, one programming**
- Holistic, consistent and coordinated framework
- Reforms, investments and other interventions
- Enable synergies
- More flexibility and adaptability

Comprehensive partnership with all relevant partners

- **Regional, local, urban, rural authorities** (and other public authorities/associations representing such authorities)
- **Economic and social partners**, including farmers, fishers and their organisations
- **Civil society**, such as environmental partners, non-governmental organisations, youth organisations, and bodies responsible for promoting social inclusion, etc.
- **Research organisations and universities**, where appropriate
- Ownership at all levels
- Tailored to each Member State's national and regional needs

Tailored to Member States' & regions' needs

- National, sectoral & regional and territorial chapters (depending on each Member State's administrative set-up, as is currently the case under cohesion policy/CAP)
- Tailored to each Member State's national and regional needs
- **CAP national recommendations** are adopted by the Commission providing guidance to each Member States for the implementation of the CAP-relevant specific objectives,

Governance & networks

- **Partnership** remains core principle, involving social partners and farmers in Plan preparation.
- **Monitoring Committee:** Member States can establish dedicated committee for CAP chapter, ensuring stakeholder involvement.
- **Flexible Implementation:** Member States may retain existing CAP bodies.
- **Coordinating Authority:** required if more than one managing authority/paying agency exists, ensuring national coherence.



EU and national CAP Networks facilitate stakeholder involvement, improves plans, and enhances exchange of best practices.



Ensuring «commonality» of the policy

EU	EU Specific objectives
	Performance indicators
	Common definitions
	Common CAP toolbox <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DABIS: min and max average payment per hectare;• Coupled support: max budget; max stocking density• Protective practices: common objectives to achieve• 43% of Plan budget for environnement and climate• Small farmers: max 3.000 EUR per farm• Many interventions mandatory
	National recommendations, approval of the plan
MS Regions	Preparation of the Plan
	CAP interventions tailored to their needs
	Implementation, progress towards targets

NRPP specific objectives: CAP related

Art. 3 NRP Reg.

(a) To support the Union's sustainable **prosperity** across all regions

(b) To support the Union's **defence capabilities** and **security** across all regions

(c) To strengthen **social cohesion** by supporting people and strengthening the **Union's societies** and the Union's social model

(d) To sustain the **quality of life** in the Union

(e) To protect and strengthen fundamental rights, democracy, the rule of law and to uphold Union values by

(i) Supporting fairer and sufficient income for farmers and their long-term competitiveness, including the farmers' position in the value chain

(ii) Contributing to long-term food security

(iii) Improving the attractiveness and living standards, including access to healthcare, in rural areas and fair work conditions and fostering generational renewal; improving farmers' preparedness and ability to cope with crisis and risks; enhancing the access to knowledge and innovation and accelerating the digital and green transition for a thriving agri-food sector

(v) enhancing sustainable agriculture and forestry management practices to promote resilient climate action, provision of multiple ecosystem services, supporting efficient water management, quality and resilience, the implementation of nature-based solutions, strengthening sustainable development, environmental protection, enhancing the conservation and restoration of biodiversity, soil and natural resources, and improving animal welfare.

Preserving and expanding the CAP toolbox

RINGFENCED AMOUNTS FOR CAP

Income support interventions		
Degressive area-based income support*	100% EU financing	
Coupled income support*		
Crop-specific payment for cotton*		
Payment for small farmers*		
Payment for natural & other area specific constraints*		
Support for disadvantages resulting from certain mandatory requirements		National contribution min. 30% of eligible public expenditure
Agri-environmental and climate actions*		
Support for risk management tools*		
Support for investments for farmers and forest holders*		
Support for the setting-up of young farmers, new farmers, rural businesses and start-ups and development of small farms*		
Support for farm relief services		
Interventions in certain sectors *		

Other CAP interventions	
School Scheme*	National contribution min. 30% of eligible public expenditure
LEADER*	
Knowledge sharing and innovation*	
Territorial and local cooperation	
POSEI-SAI*	

Crisis payments for farmers
(mobilisation of national allocations)

National contribution min. 30% of eligible public expenditure

National contribution rates at least 15%, 40%, 60%

For income support beyond ring-fenced amounts:
national contribution rates at 15 %, 40%, 60% apply

Exempted from reforms and budgetary flexibility (except on investment)

(*) = **Mandatory** for all Member States (or those concerned) to offer these interventions in their Plans

How is the new CAP simpler?

EU

- ✓ Simplifying farm support: 2 funds merged, more flexibility
- ✓ Easier access to support: simplified rules, **lumpsums payments**
- ✓ Reduced **administrative burden**: streamlined procedures, less reporting
- ✓ Less legislation, **fewer requirements**: focus on essential provisions

+

MS

- ✓ More autonomy for Member States to address specific and regional needs



Strengthening synergies

1. **Beyond income support**, farmers and rural areas can benefit from synergies with investments in e.g. **services, infrastructure, entrepreneurship bioeconomy, innovation, skills, biodiversity and conservation programmes, energy, and climate initiatives.**
2. Member States and regions shall “support strategies for the **integrated development of** (urban and) **rural areas**” tapping on the broader NRP toolbox.
3. **LEADER** support is **mandatory** for Member States; as multi-sector intervention (CLLD) facilitates synergies between several policy fields



Strengthening synergies: key for farmers

Investments in water systems



Today: different strands of EU funding support investments in water infrastructures in agriculture : secondary infrastructure, primary networks for mixed uses etc.

Tomorrow: better integrated planning of EU support to boost efficiency, optimise use of EU funding and increase synergies between EU and national funding.

Renewable energy production



Today: at national level e.g. : **RRF** invests in on-farm solar electricity production; **Innovation Fund** projects for innovative biomethane plants using local agri-food waste.

Tomorrow: optimised fund programming and reforms to enhance connections to energy grids, provide farmers with additional income, support local renewable energy, and advance the EU's renewable energy objectives.

Education and skills in rural areas



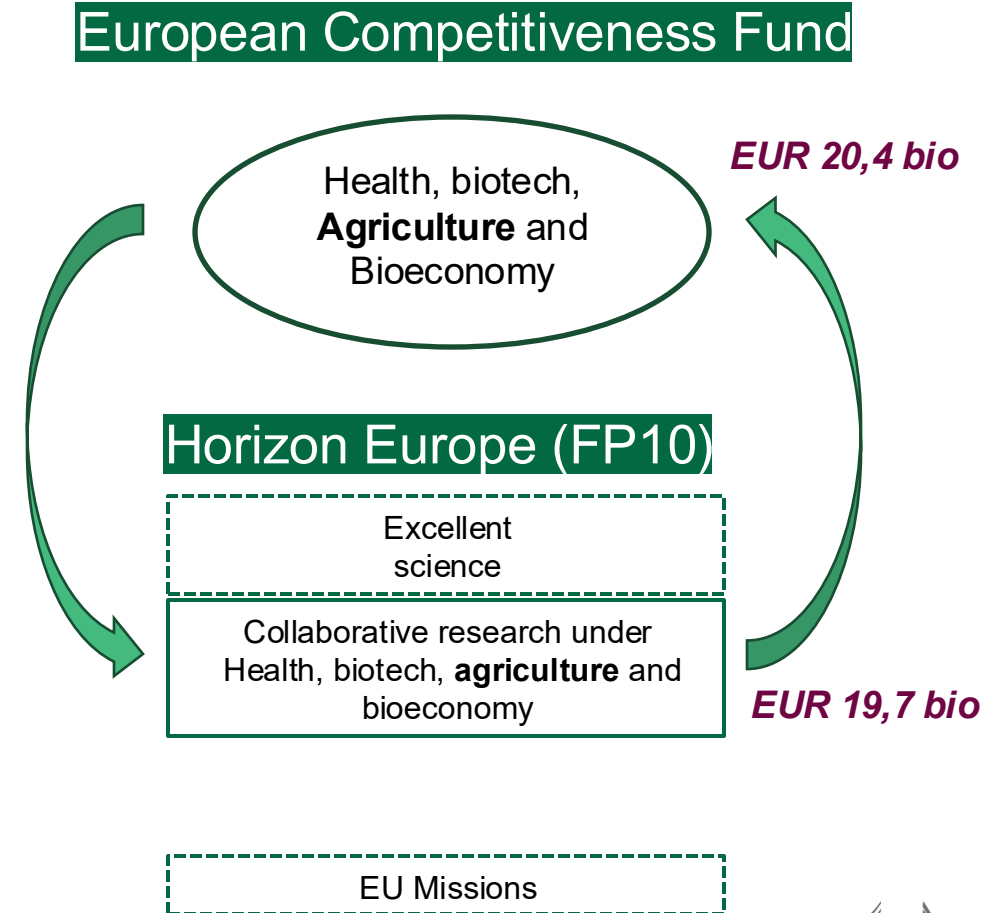
Today: several EU funds and programmes currently support education and training in rural and remote areas.

Tomorrow: Streamlined fund and programming will facilitate development of skills and social infrastructure in rural areas allowing synergies between the EU and national funding



Synergies for competitiveness and innovation

- Continued CAP support for **investments** and encouraged use of **financial instruments**, leveraging private capital
- Synergies and additional opportunities for farmers and foresters under **European Competitiveness Fund (ECF) & Horizon Europe**:
 - ✓ Boosting bio-based materials from agriculture and forestry and bioeconomy solutions.
 - ✓ Access to finance and other types of support for SMEs including startups, scale ups and innovators in the sector.



Stronger focus on performance

1. A **common performance, monitoring and reporting framework** to track progress on execution and delivery against policy objectives, – an evolution of the 2023 CAP reform, with greater focus on outcome-based planning
2. Regular exchanges with Member States to review achievements based on **more targeted performance indicators** (output and result indicators).
3. **Mid-term review** of the Plans and possibility for the Commission to ask for amendments
4. **Biannual performance review removed compared to today's CAP**, but planning and reporting of result indicators remains
5. **Transparency and reporting**: All information on EU funding opportunities, beneficiaries of EU funds and performance of EU funds gathered in a Union Gateway and a single MS website



Horizontal conditionality – Rule of Law

- The respect of the Rule of Law applies for all EU spending programmes
- As part of NRP Plans, all measures will have to be implemented by MS in compliance with the rule of law and the EU charter of Fundamental rights
- The **Conditionality Regulation** will continue to protect the entire EU budget from breaches on the rule of law. This also applies to CAP expenditure.
- There will be a possibility to **suspend** part or all payments at any moment during implementation, in line with the principle of proportionality, considering the nature, duration, gravity and scope of the breach.
- **The cashflow to farmers will not be jeopardised.** In their Plans, Member States will need to ensure that payments to beneficiaries continue, even if there are interruptions or suspensions in EU funding or financial corrections needed to protect EU financial interests. *Obligation between MS and beneficiaries to honour legal commitments.*

How is the Vision guiding the next CAP?

1. **Simpler with less details and aligned rules** and performance - based - building on the current CAP SP
2. Further **flexibility for Member States** on meeting policy objectives
3. Further **flexibility for farmers**, shift from requirements to incentives
4. **Predictability** and improved targeting for farmers' income support
5. Seeking **synergies and leverage** within and between funds: an integrated approach to address the rural challenges
6. **Focus on resilience**: comprehensive reply to crises and mounting market uncertainties including through a dedicated "Unity Safety Net"

CAP toolbox



Direct income support:

Better targeted

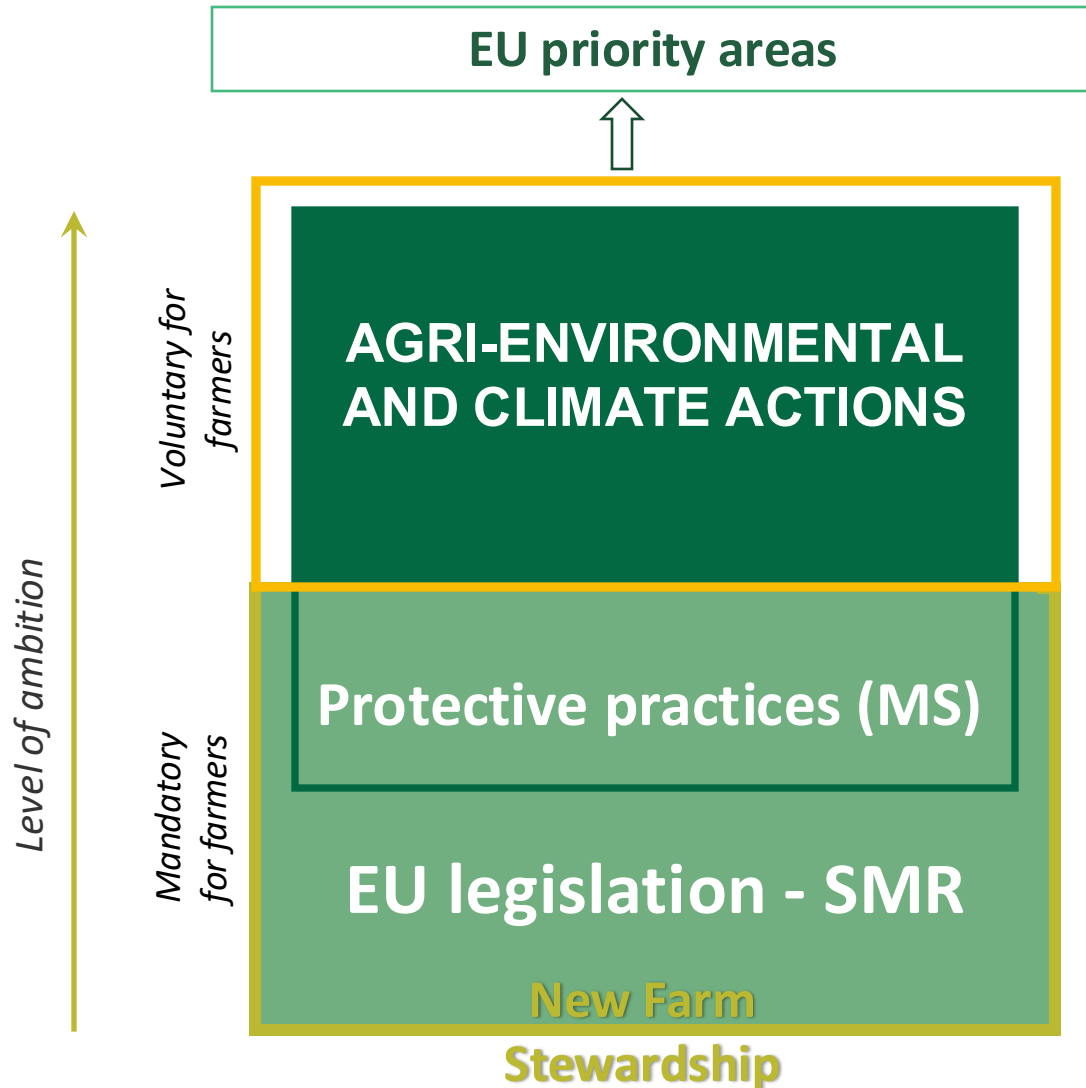
Fairer

Simpler

- ✓ Support for **active farmers** contributing to food security
- ✓ Flexible for targeting **specific groups** (young, small-scale, women) or areas
- ✓ **Mandatory degressivity** (€20k+) and **capping** (€100k/farmer/year)
- ✓ Aid per hectare: **€130- €240** national average
- ✓ Increased **coupled support** + optional top-up specific farms (e.g. protein crops, mixed farms)
- ✓ **Small farmers**: lump sums 3000

Incentives for sustainable practices

NEW



- ✓ **Common priority areas**
- ✓ **Farm stewardship system:** less EU requirements, more adapted to MS needs
- ✓ **Streamlined environmental support: agri-environmental actions**
- ✓ **Transition support:** lump sum (max 200.000 EUR) to adopt sustainable farming systems with less risks
- ✓ **More incentives:** co-financing approach for all agri-environmental actions going beyond EU legislation

A new farm stewardship system, including social conditionality

14 Statutory Management Requirements

Area	SMRs	Area	SMRs
Climate and environment	Water (2)	Empl. of workers	Working conditions (1)
	Biodiversity (2)		
Public health and plant health	Food safety (2)		Occupational safety and health (2)
	Plant protection products (2)		
Animal welfare	Animal welfare (3)		

Protective practices

Area	Practices protecting...
Protection of sensitive areas	Carbon-rich soils, wetlands, peatlands and landscape features
	Environmentally sensitive permanent grasslands on agricultural area in Natura 2000 areas
Soil health	Protection from erosion
	Soil potential (soil cover, crop rotation or diversification)
	Soil organic matter (residue management, ban on burning stubble)
Water	Protection of water courses and ground water against pollution and runoff, (inc. via buffer strips)

New: Do No Significant Harm (DNSH) in the CAP

1. All the payments under **interventions that are subject to the Farm Stewardship** system are deemed to comply with the DNSH principle:
 - degressive area-based income support;
 - coupled income support;
 - crop specific payment for cotton;
 - payment for natural and other area specific constraints;
 - support for disadvantages resulting from certain mandatory requirements;
 - agri-environmental and climate actions;
 - interventions in outermost regions;
 - Support for local agricultural products in smaller Aegean islands and in outermost regions
2. The application of the DNSH principle to the **rest of interventions (including investments)** will be facilitated by the **DNSH guidance** to be established by the Commission



Budget tracking - key CAP interventions with assigned coefficients

43% overall budget target for the Plan as a whole for climate and environment

INTERVENTION FIELD	CCM	CCA	ENV
Targeted support to farmers income	40%	40%	40%
Support to farmers in sectors in need, ruminants' livestock sectors	0%	40%	40%
Outermost regions and Aegean islands – Support to local agricultural production	40%	40%	40%
Support to farmers in mountain areas	40%	40%	100%
Support to farmers in areas with other natural constraints	40%	40%	40%
Support for environment and climate practices, including climate resilience measures	100%	100%	100%
Support to comply with mandatory requirements	40%	40%	40%
Green investments, including climate resilience measures	100%	100%	40%
Support for beekeeping	0%	0%	100%
Enhance access to innovation in agriculture	40%	40%	40%
Support to risk management measures, including climate resilience measures	0%	100%	0%
Crisis payments to farmers, including to restore the production potential and exceptional market measures	0%	40%	0%
Agroforestry systems, including climate resilience measures	40%	100%	100%
Forest – environmental and climate commitments, including climate resilience measures	100%	100%	100%
Green investments in forest and forestry, including climate resilience measures	40%	100%	40%
Prevention and restoration of damage to forests, including climate resilience measures	100%	100%	40%
Setting-up support for foresters	40%	40%	40%



Attracting a new generation of farmers

- **National generational renewal strategies**
- A more flexible **definition of young farmer status beyond 40 if granted before**
- **Degressive area-based income support:** possible to refocus income support on young farmers' needs



New: A “starter pack” to provide **easier access to comprehensive support** to start and grow farm businesses, fostering entrepreneurship and grasping new opportunities

New: Support to **farm relief services** to improve work-life balance and overall wellbeing, and create the space to focus on business development such as via training and upskilling



[Strategy for Generational Renewal in Agriculture](#) – adopted on 21 October 2025

CAP social sustainability ambition

1. The new CAP prioritises **social sustainability**, aligning with the **Rule of Law** and EU **Charter of Fundamental Rights**.
2. Safeguards are kept to ensure **fair working conditions**, requiring safe and healthy environments for EU farmers (dedicated SMRs).
3. CAP offers targeted measures like **advice** and introduce **farm relief services** to enhance mental health and work-life balance.
4. Support to small farms and young farmers



How are Plans more responsive to crises

Natural disaster

Provide, among others, **crisis payments to farmers** and support on-farm **investments in the restoration of agricultural potential**

Amendment of the Plan for an amount up to 1% of its Union financial allocation

Amendment of the Plan from their **unprogrammed flexibility amount (25%)** up to 2,5% of its Union financial allocation

Stage 1

Stage 2

Market disturbance

Unity Safety Net

specific for agriculture

(6.3 billion €)



Knowledge and innovation

1. Member States encouraged to keep strengthening their **strategic approach towards knowledge and innovation** and match resources with actual needs
2. Same successful CAP tools for knowledge sharing, skills development and innovation with **more opportunities for synergies** under the Plans to increase impact for farm competitiveness, sustainability and resilience.
3. Renewed focus on facilitating access to **impartial and qualified advisory services** including for accompanying new entrants and young farmers
4. Cooperation for innovation (**EIP-AGRI**) keeps playing a key role to speed-up access and use of innovation, and close the gap between research and practice via **synergies with EU R&I policy** (Horizon)



Timeline



Preparation for the NRP Plan/ CAP Chapter

