

AGRICULTURAL FACTS IN THE EU

ENVIRONMENTAL

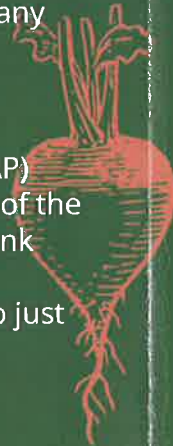
- Agriculture covers around 40% of Europe's land
- Agriculture is one of the key sources of environmental pressure, leading to water pollution, soil erosion, and biodiversity loss (for example, 57% decline of farmland birds in merely 40 years)
- Agriculture is the biggest single water consumer with over 70%

SOCIO-ECONOMIC

- Farmers are under high pressure to produce food, feed and fuel and to protect the environment at the same time. They are also heavily affected by environmental pressure such as climate change and loss of pollinators, exposing them to yield losses and economic risks
- Farmland is distributed in an extremely unequal way: around 3.1 % of farmers manage over 52% of farmlands
- The number of farmers continues to decline: One third of farmers had to quit their job in the past 10 year, and many more are to soon retire

POLITICAL

- The common agricultural policy (CAP) amounts €55 billion a year (ca 38% of the EU budget). It takes the biggest chunk compared to all other EU policies
- Around 80% of farm subsidies go to just 20 % of the farms



THE CAP

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY
The Subsidy System of the EU

The CAP is distributed into two so-called pillars: Pillar 1 focuses on income support, with Direct Payments coupled to the size of farms - meaning that CAP support grows with farm size. The first pillar takes up around 70% of the budget. The remaining 30% goes to Pillar 2, called "Rural Development Program" - focusing on rural development and infrastructure, as well as biodiversity protection and climate mitigation. The CAP, and especially Pillar 1, is heavily criticized by experts for lacking a focus in addressing the farmer needs, inequity in the farming sector, and weak environmental requirements. Unfortunately, the whole political system of the CAP is so outdated, inefficient and stuck, that any attempts to change it are met with huge resistance.

INFOGRAPHIC CAP

PILLAR I - 70%

"INCOME SUPPORT"

- DIRECT PAYMENTS
- INCOME SUPPORT
- MOSTLY BASED ON FARM AREA

PILLAR II - 30%

"RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM"

- INFRASTRUCTURE
- BIODIVERSITY
- CLIMATE

CLEARLY NOT ENOUGH IS BEING INVESTED INTO SUSTAINABLE MEASURES OF PILLAR II



NEGATIVE EXTERNALITIES OF THE CURRENT CAP

- **THE ORIGINAL PURPOSE OF THE CAP'S WAS TO SUPPORT FARMERS, INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY AND PROTECT MARKETS AFTER WORLD WAR II. NOWADAYS EUROPE OVERPRODUCES, LEADING TO 88 MIO TONS OF FOOD WASTE PER YEAR**
- **THIS SURPLUS IS EITHER WASTED OR EXPORTED INTO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHERE IT DESTROYS LOCAL MARKETS**
- **MANY EXPERTS WARN THAT THE CAP IS A BROKEN SYSTEM THAT IS UNFAIR TO SMALL FARMERS AND HAS EXTREME ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL EXTERNALITIES**
- **ACCORDING TO A RECENT UN REPORT FROM 2021, NEARLY 90% OF ALL AGRICULTURAL SUBSIDIES GLOBALLY HAVE A NEGATIVE SIDE EFFECT ON PEOPLE AND PLANET**
- **AGRICULTURAL SUBSIDIES STILL FLOW TO LARGE EXTENT INTO THE PRODUCTION OF ANIMAL AND ANIMAL-DERIVED PRODUCTS. MEAT HAS BECOME ONE OF THE MOST PROBLEMATIC PRODUCTS CONSIDERING NEGATIVE EXTERNALITIES ON CLIMATE AND THE ENVIRONMENT**
- **THE LIST GOES ON.....**

YOU HAVE THE CHOICE!



WANT TO LEARN MORE ?

CHECK OUT THE QR CODE FOR
MORE DETAILED INFORMATION
AND SOURCES



**JOIN OUR
CONSUMER COMMUNITY**

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IT'S IN OUR HANDS TO CHANGE

The broken system calls for a radical change: but luckily, the CAP is not all. **Your choices** play a much bigger factor to influence the market for agriculture. How to affect farmers, positively or negatively, is in our hands and pockets. Through a bottom-up, democratic approach, each of us votes to support more sustainable farming and the farmers engaged in it.

This is what the 'Good4You' box is trying to achieve!

WHAT THE GOOD4YOU BOX DOES

1. Supports direct connection between farmer and consumer through regional products
2. Provides students, staff, and lecturers with healthy and sustainable plant-based produce
3. Promotes sustainable farming - from a social, economic and environmental perspective
4. Shares knowledge about injustices in the current CAP and agricultural system
5. Empowers farmers and consumers in their autonomy and choices



GOOD4YOU



**FROM FARM
TO
YOUR FORK**