



Reforming the CAP to facilitate the transition to sustainable food and farming in Europe

Jabier RUIZ

WWF – European Policy Office

1 September 2017

*CAP 2020 Conference:
Towards sustainable agriculture*





IS THE CAP FIT FOR PURPOSE?

Faustine Bas-Defossez



EEB

European
Environmental
Bureau





Is the CAP “fit for purpose”?

A large call for a Fitness Check

Requested by:

- Over 200 Civil Society Organisations
- Members of the Scientific Community
- Sixteen MEPs
- Falkenberg: President Juncker’s advisor on sustainability

REJECTED BY EUROPEAN COMMISSION (DG AGRI)

- Alternative: Impact assessment with Public Consultation.



What is a fitness check?

Assessment criteria

- **Effectiveness:** Have the objectives been achieved? Which significant factors contributed to or inhibited progress towards meeting the objectives?
- **Efficiency:** Are the costs reasonable and in proportion to the benefits achieved? Also considering other, comparable mechanisms?
- **Internal Coherence:** Do the CAP instruments agree or conflict with each other in terms of objectives, institutions and/or effects?
- **External Coherence:** Do other policies agree or conflict with the CAP in terms of objectives, institutions and/or effects?
- **Relevance:** Is the CAP relevant to the challenges faced by EU citizens, farmers and policy makers? Is it using (and supporting) the most updated criteria, tools and knowledge?
- **EU Added Value:** Does the CAP address challenges better than national-, regional- or local-level solutions?



EEB and Birdlife take the lead Shadow fitness check

- Fitness check criteria applied using some 300 relevant publication to assess:
 - *CAP goals*
 - *UN Sustainable Development Goals*
- ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTIVENESS: *specific instruments show local successes on biodiversity, ecosystem services, soil and water quality BUT do not counter act agricultural intensification, abandonment, environmental degradation and biodiversity decline*
- ENVIRONMENTAL EFFICIENCY: *poor due to the low budgets assigned to the most effective instruments compared to less effective ones. Competition between instruments, high administrative burden, focus on farm rather than landscape reduces efficiency.*



Main overall outcomes

Shadow fitness check

- The CAP has some successes **but it is highly inefficient**, some of its objectives are not relevant, and its acceptance by farmers and the public is exceptionally low.
- The CAP urgently needs clear, coherent, overarching objectives. Monitoring and indicators are weak or missing to support policy outcome.
- There is much knowledge especially on Agri-Environment Measures and means to reduce environmental impacts in the EU and globally, but little uptake of it, for instance in the design and implementation of the greening measures.



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Not just about farming: using the food angle Need for a transition in the food system

- WWF: Food is one of the six major goals in our global strategy
 - *Production (focus on Agriculture)*
 - *Food waste and Food loss*
 - *Consumption and Markets*
- EEB & BIRDLIFE: explicit mention to Food as one of the angles the “next CAP” should cover.
 - *Towards a sustainable agriculture, land and food policy*
 - *Towards a new European Food and Land-Use Policy*
- Other CSOs asking for a Common Food Policy, and SFFP calling together for Good Food, Good Farming Now!



Reforming the Common Agricultural Policy

A crucial driver of food and farming in Europe

TIMELINE:

- End of 2017: *European Commission Communication on the Future CAP, setting the direction of travel*
- Mid 2018: *EC proposals for EU budget (and CAP?)*
- May-Nov 2019: *Elections to the European Parliament and New Commission*

- *New CAP by January 2021*
- *Or maybe, 2022, 2023, if legislative proposals for the CAP are delayed.*



Strong action during Public Consultation

The Living Land Initiative

A reformed CAP must be:

- **Fair** – for farmers and rural communities.
- **Environmentally Sustainable** – for clean air and water, healthy soil, and thriving plant and animal life.
- **Healthy** – for good food and the well-being of all people.
- **Globally Responsible** – for the planet's climate and sustainable development around the world.



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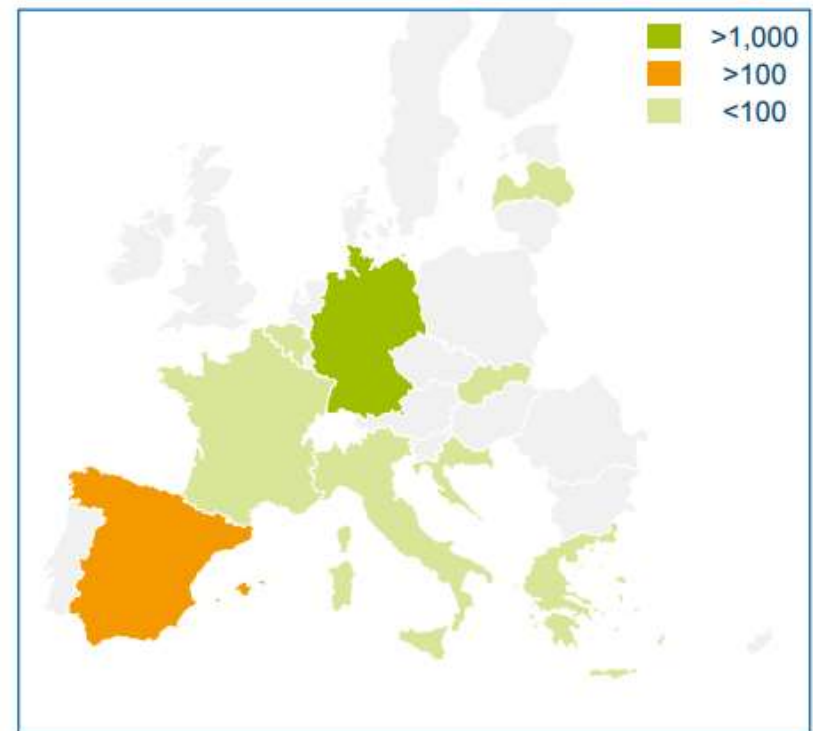
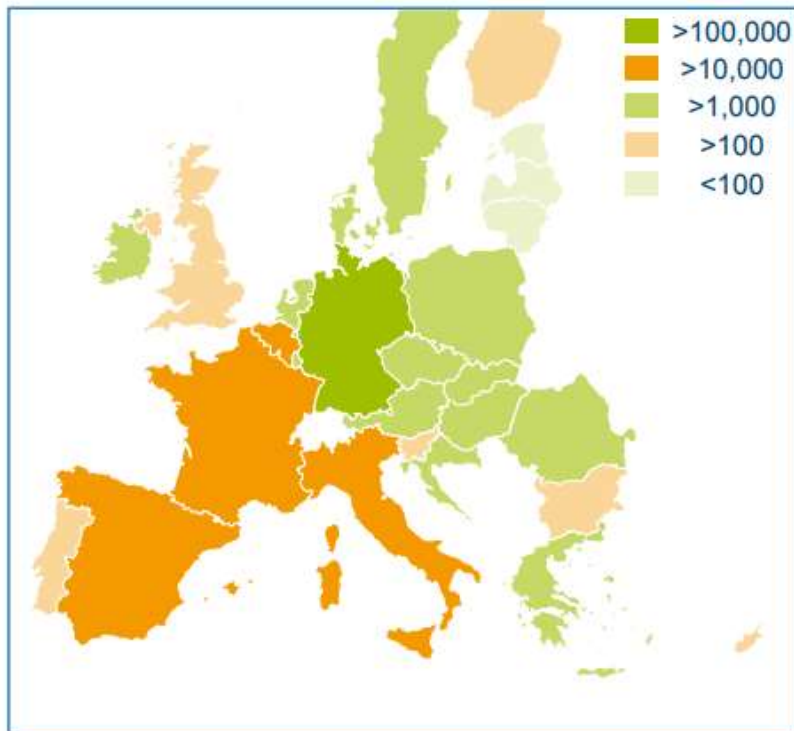
LIVING LAND



Large response from citizens and CSOs

The Living Land Initiative

Living Land Campaign





Large response from citizens and CSOs

The Living Land Initiative

Answers Living Land Campaign (258,575)

Problems & drivers

The CAP does not promote sustainable agriculture as it benefits only a small number of large farms.

Most burdensome elements

The current policy (mainly direct payments) has failed in the provision of concrete environmental and social benefits.

Objectives for a modern CAP

A modernized CAP must support the transformation towards a sustainable agricultural sector and protect the environment. Harmful subsidies must be terminated.

Ideas for simplifying the CAP

The subsidies of the first pillar should be linked to targeted and measurable environmental requirements

More ideas for modernizing the CAP?

I agree with the Living Land vision (www.living-land.org/ourvision).



What are we requesting for the next CAP Some details beyond the principles



WWF

POSITION
PAPER

APRIL

2017

- 1. Programmed and targeted schemes should become the core of this policy.**
- 2. Coherence with other EU and global policies and a widened governance structure.**

**TIME IS RIPE FOR CHANGE:
TOWARDS A COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY
THAT WORKS FOR PEOPLE AND NATURE**



What are we requesting for the next CAP

Some details beyond the principles

- 1. A different overall architecture, offering a coherent framework with different instruments.** For instance, those proposed by EEB are focussed on:
 - *the protection of nature and ecosystems*
 - *sustainable rural development*
 - *sustainable healthy consumption*
 - *transition to sustainable farming*
- 2. Co-management with environment authorities,** who should be deciding on and implementing the instruments of the CAP which are closely related to their area of work.



What are we requesting for the next CAP

Some details beyond the principles

3. A fair and sustainable alternative to direct payments.

- *Fostering the transition to sustainable farming*
- *Paying for the public goods created*
- *Respecting the polluter pays principle*
- *Ending with environmentally harmful subsidies*

4. Stronger and more ambitious rural development, or rural development-type approaches.

- *More funds, particularly for environmental targets.*
- *Participatory, locally-led and results-based approaches in the design of schemes.*



What to do with greening in the next CAP

One of the big questions on the table

Some options proposed by IEEP (April 2016):

1. Abolish separate green direct payments, *blending greening requirements with cross-compliance.*
2. Retain the greening direct payments in Pillar 1, *but streamline their design-control and raise the environmental ambition.*
3. Shift them from Pillar 1 to Pillar 2, *converting them into compulsory and programmed basic environmental measures.*
4. An integrated option, *redesigning the overall architecture of the CAP as a single set of well structured measures*



Aitäh!

WWF IN SHORT

+100

WWF is in over
100 countries, on
5 continents

1961

WWF was founded
In 1961



+6000

WWF has over
6,000 staff
worldwide

+5M

WWF has over
5 million supporters