

Joint Hearing on

*The territorial
implementation
of the CAP*

October 25th, 2023 | EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Agriculture and the agri-food industry are essential pillars of Europe's regional economies and are part of the culture and identity of our regions. **These sectors play an important role in maintaining economic and social activity in our rural areas** and are therefore crucial for preserving the territorial balance of EU Regions.

European farmers are facing many changes, geopolitical crises and an increasingly impacting climate change. Our Regions are involved in supporting farmers, particularly through the management and implementation of the EAFRD. The management at the regional level helps to meet the expectations of farmers and citizens, with efficient interventions adapted to regional needs. In this booklet, you'll find plenty of example of how EU policies implemented at a regional level are shaping the future of agriculture in our territories.

The EU policies and interventions are to that regard essential for the sustainability of our food systems and for the acceleration of transitions. This is why the AGRIREGIONS Coalition strongly defends a CAP that fully involves the EU Regions: **only a stronger Europe, able to take account of regional diversity, can respond to the new challenges and create opportunities for the future.**

For the AgriRegions

Arnaud Lécuyer

Vice-president of the Brittany Region
in charge of Agriculture & Agri-food



Curraletas and slabs of vine cultivation in the Azores.....	7
Support for livestock farmers in the Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes under the 2023-2027 EAFRD	8
Baden-Wurttemberg strengthen the environment, climate protection and animal welfare	9
Risk management tool: Bavaria supports its farmers in events of extreme weather	10
A simplified grant for young farmers to help them set up and make the transitions in Brittany	11
The objectives of the Lombardy Region for sustainable development: growth strategies for a transition towards innovative and sustainable practices in agriculture.....	12
A flat-rate agri-environmental and climate measure for farmers in Normandy	13
Support for dairy pastoralism in the Pyrenees in the Nouvelle-Aquitaine.....	14
The transition approach in Pays de la Loire	15
New support scheme for young farmers in Thuringia	16
Implementation of the LEADER, CLLD and Smart Villages initiatives in Wielkopolska	17

Azores (PT)



Curraletas and slabs of vine cultivation in the Azores

The cultivation of vines is mostly produced under the protection of basalt stone walls, called “currais” or “curraletas”. These walls are essential for the cultivation of the vineyard itself and for the quality of the wine, since they protect the vines from sea winds (salting), and are also windbreaks due to their porous structure. These very old practices with proven environmental benefits, if not supported, take the risk being replaced by other cultural techniques that are less beneficial to the environment.

It is also an important element of the traditional landscape which is mainly characterized by the reticulation of loose stone walls which are part of the cultural and landscape heritage of the Region.

Who can beneficiate?

Farmers

Access Conditions

Wine producers whose production belong to the typical production zones (which are identified)

Amount supported

800€/ ha

Contact: Emiliana Silva – Emiliana.LD.Silva@azores.gov.pt – 00 351 295 404 280



Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (FR)



Support for livestock farmers in Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes under the 2023-2027 EAFRD

In Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, 62% of farms specialize in livestock farming. The challenge for the Region is to ensure that each sector is supported in its development and transition, taking account of its specific features while maintaining a simple and single approach for all livestock farmers.

Thanks to the Region's close links with local players, it has been possible to draw up a complete typology of the buildings and equipment required for each sector. Simplified cost options (SCOs) have been defined for each type. Where appropriate, these have been adapted to the local context. **For example, the unit cost of buildings is higher in mountainous areas than in lowland areas.**

The models selected are conducive to technical innovation and meet three key challenges: animal welfare; working conditions for livestock farmers; and agriculture's environmental and climate transition. This measure is tailored to each sector, covering **90% of investment projects with SCOs.**

Before: Aid calculated based on estimates for each item of expenditure and payment based on invoices.

Now: Aid calculated based on project characteristics and paid once the project has been completed and its characteristics have been verified.

Contact: Marie-Pierre Piel - MARIE-PIERRE.PIEL@auvergnerhonealpes.fr (Region)
Rose Bergé – Rose.BERGE@auvergnerhonealpes.fr (Brussels Delegation)



Baden-Württemberg (DE)



Baden-Württemberg

MINISTERIUM FÜR ERNÄHRUNG, LÄNDLICHEN RAUM
UND VERBRAUCHERSCHUTZ

Baden-Württemberg strengthen the environment, climate protection and animal welfare

The Funding Programme for Agri Environment, Climate Protection and Animal Welfare (FAKT II) continues the successful predecessor programmes of AECM in the new CAP-Period from 2023 and develops them further in key aspects.

Around 40 % of the rural development funding earmarked for Baden-Württemberg in Germany's national CAP strategic plan for the period 2023 to 2027 is allocated to the FAKT II with approximately 40 measures. In addition to the continuation of proven support measures, new measures are offered, in particular to strengthen biodiversity and animal welfare. FAKT II also offers an improved support for grassland sites and greater support for organic farming in order to reward its special achievements in climate and resource protection and for the preservation of biodiversity.

The objective of FAKT II is, among other things, to protect the climate and the natural resources of water and soil, to preserve and promote biodiversity, to reduce pesticides and to promote the humane keeping of farm animals that goes beyond the requirements of statutory animal welfare.

The subsidies are granted by a payment per unit (hectares, trees, number of animals) per year. The farmer commits to a contract for five years.

Link: [Programme FAKT II](#) and www.gap-bw.de

Contact: Martin Rummert – martin.rummert@mlr.bwl.de – 0049 711 126 2286



© Bayerisches Staatsministerium für Ernährung

Bavaria (DE)

Bavarian State Ministry of
Food, Agriculture and Forestry



Risk management tool: Bavaria supports its farmers in events of extreme weather

Drought, heavy rainfall, storms, hail - weather extremes and other hazards regularly threaten the farmers harvests. Because protection against other climate change-related risks remains less common and is often economically not feasible for farms, Bavaria has introduced a comprehensive risk management tool by subsidizing a multi-peril insurance, with funds from the CAP (II. Pillar), integrated in the German Strategic Plan.

Subsidies of up to 50 percent of the premiums are available. The subsidy program is divided into three packages:

- In the "Crop Package", the risks eligible for support are hail, storms, heavy rainfall, frost, drought, and damage caused by crows and wild geese.
- In the "Grassland Package", the covered risks are hail and drought, as well as damage from cockchafer larvae.
- As to the "fruit, wine, hops and nurseries package", hail risk, heavy rainfall, storms, and severe frost are covered.

The process is simple: once the insurance contract is signed, farmers can easily ask to take part to the programme with the yearly multiple-subsidy-application. In the first year of the programme 5.000 farmers took part in with a total of 150.000 hectares.

Link: [Bavarian multi-peril insurance](#)

Contact : Anton Hübl – anton.huebl@stmelf.bayern.de – 00 49 89 2182-2211



© Région Bretagne



Brittany (FR)

A simplified grant for young farmers to help them set up and make the transitions in Brittany

The generational renewal of farmers and the acceleration of ecological transitions are the main objectives defined by the Brittany Region in its agricultural development strategy in the coming years. And generational renewal is an essential factor in speeding up the agroecological transition. Although a large number of young farmers set up in Brittany each year, their numbers are not sufficient to compensate for those who leave: each year, 750 young farmers set up, 500 of which are subsidised for 1,500 retiring farmers.

The grant for young farmers is now a flat-rate grant, which simplifies the procedures for young people setting up in farming and for the managing authority. The aid only varies according to whether it will be or not the main activity of the young farmer and is increased if the young farmer settles on an island.

The aim of this simplification is to encourage new farmers to set up and to renew the generations, in order to counteract the decline in the number of farmers over the last decade and also to preserve the useful agricultural area of the regions.

Installation grant: €22,000 (secondary activity: €11,000)

Installation grant on an island: €30,000 (secondary activity: €15,000)

Link: <https://europe.bzh/>

Contact: Malone Rolland – malone.rolland@bretagne.bzh – 00 32 2 282 61 90



© Regione Lombardia

Lombardy (IT)



The objectives of the Lombardy Region for sustainable development: growth strategies for a transition towards innovative and sustainable practices in agriculture

- **Favouring research and the transfer of innovation in the agriculture and forestry sector**, combining the ability to compete in the markets with efficiency in the use of resources and adaptation to climate changes.
- **Supporting the growth of agri-food chains, local agricultural production to ensure food security and food safety**: fair, innovative, and sustainable competitiveness (smart agriculture) through investments in agricultural businesses and supply chains, support for generational change, profitability, and risk management. Search for new market outlets for food companies and supply chains that are ambassadors of "Made in Italy".
- **Intensifying the agricultural production in a sustainable manner**: promote increased efficiency and reduce the impact on natural resources (air, water, and soil), support the genetic improvement of crops, livestock, and in the livestock sector, pursue the management of effluents with a view to the circular economy, farm energy efficiency, energy production from renewable sources and animal welfare.

Contact: giuseppe_costa@regione.lombardia.it – 00 32 2 518 76 10



Ilnur Kalimullin - unsplash.com

Normandy (FR)



A flat-rate agri-environmental and climate measure for farmers in Normandy

With *Fit for 55*, Europe plans to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 55% by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality in 2050. This brings the Normandy Region **to support the agriculture of tomorrow, facing the challenges of mitigation and adaptation to climate change, through support for changing practices**. To do this, it launched a flat-rate agri-environmental and climate measure called “transition of practices” or “transition contract” developed **at the scale of the system and no longer at the plot or surface area**. With a budget of €10 million, this system will support 500 Normandy farms, or €3,600/year per farm for five years.

Thus, three strategies are put forward:

- 1- **Phytosanitary strategy**: diminution of at least 30% in the use of herbicides and non-herbicides in five years;
- 2- **Carbon strategy**: diminution of at least 15% of the farm’s carbon footprint;
- 3- **Protein autonomy**: improvement of the protein autonomy of livestock.

An **agroecological diagnosis** of the farm is implemented to measure the initial and final state, as well as an action plan. After five years, if the results show that the objectives have been achieved, the transition contract is validated.

Link: <https://www.agriculteur-normand.com/>

Contact: Gabrielle Mathieu-Huet - gabrielle.mathieu-huet@normandie.fr



Nouvelle-Aquitaine (FR)



Support for dairy pastoralism in the Pyrenees in the Nouvelle-Aquitaine

Dairy pastoralism, the practice of seasonally moving dairy ewes from one grazing ground to another (transhumance), makes a significant contribution, not only to the production of cheese, but to the wider benefit of the local community. This activity helps to maintain the landscape and biodiversity of the French Pyrenees. It is also an important source of employment in the area.

This activity is increasing throughout various valleys in the Pyrénées-Atlantiques and is one of the priorities of the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Regional Strategic Plan ("measure 73.01.06 Pastoral investments"). Maintaining it requires a tailored and highly specific support policy that must adapt to specific natural, soil and climate constraints.

Enhancing the value of processing activities, has been included in the selection criteria for measure 73.01.06. However, an analysis based on the facts on the ground and local management has enabled priorities to be fine-tuned to meet specific challenges, for example by encouraging the pooling of herding activities.

While the activity was under threat a few years ago, thanks to the prioritisation of the regional policy, adapted to the diversity of the regions, many jobs have been maintained, in particular through the installation of 25 young people.

Link: [Plan Stratégique Régional FEADER 2023-2027 de la Nouvelle-Aquitaine](#)

Contact: Nolwenn Le Tallec – nolwenn.letallec@nouvelle-aquitaine.fr - 00 32 487 96 10 60



© Région Pays de la Loire

Pays de la Loire (FR)



The transition approach in Pays de la Loire

In line with its responsibilities towards the food sector, the Region aims to engage as many farmers as possible in a transformation of their practices by offering a tool called the Transition Approach. This ambition has been reaffirmed within the framework of the regional strategy "Land, Sea, Let's Act for Sustainable Food."

The objective of the Transition Approach is to prompt the beneficiary to question the functioning of their production system and provide them with the means to engage in a reflection on improvement-related topics in order to encourage their transitions.

The Transition Approach is mandatory to access requests for assistance in investment for farms (primary production and processing) and requests for assistance in installation, starting from January 1, 2024. Engagement in this process is conditional upon the completion of two actions:

- A 360° self-assessment of the farm following the format eligible for the Transition Approach (or Installation Study for installation assistance requests).
- An eligible training program under the Transition Approach.

Contact: dapa@paysdelaloire.fr



Thuringia (DE)

Freistaat
Thüringen 

New support scheme for young farmers in Thuringia

Many Thuringian farms are facing a generational change in the coming years. However, only one in three farms has a successor in sight. There is a lack of young people to take over or to start new farms. Therefore, Thuringia has launched a new support scheme for young farmers in 2023 with the help of EU CAP funds from the second pillar.

With the new support, new entrepreneurs, farm successors and farm manager successors will receive a state start-up grant of 35,000 euros up to a maximum of 70,000 euros. The grant is linked to eligibility conditions such as age, qualification, preparation of a business plan and labour requirements. Recipients receive the grant over a three-year period.

With this support, Thuringia wants to increase the incentives for young skilled workers to invest in taking over a farm or starting a new business. In addition, rural areas are becoming even more attractive for the individual life and career planning of young people. The demand for this new support programme was very high. A total of 25 applications were submitted in the first year, 13 of which were deemed eligible. Of these, nine were new start-ups of an individual agricultural enterprise, one was an extra-familial takeover of an agricultural enterprise and three were intra-familial farm successions. The total funding volume amounts to 812,000 euros. The first funding decision was handed over to the female successor of an organic farm in Schierschwende in the north of Thuringia in August 2023.

Link: [CAP in Thuringia](#)

Contact: Sven Bermig – sven.bermig@tsk.thueringen.de – 0032 (2) 7375243



© Województwo Wielkopolskie

Wielkopolska (PL)



**WIELKOPOLSKA
REGION**

Implementation of the LEADER, CLLD and Smart Villages initiatives in Wielkopolska

Wielkopolska Region has been responsible for implementing the **LEADER initiative** that aims to activate society and improve the quality of life in rural areas. Under its framework, **Local Action Groups** implement activities that improve environmental conditions and counteract the climate change in the region. Their activities also relate to the development of entrepreneurship, supporting bioeconomy, raising awareness of sustainable agriculture and boosting education programmes for public and community leaders.

Wielkopolska Region also manages the **Community-led local development (CLLD)** instrument, which will be jointly funded by the Strategic Plan for the Common Agricultural Policy 2023-2027 and the European Funds for Wielkopolska 2021-2027 programme. Furthermore, the implementation of the **smart villages** concept, investments will be made in the field of modern infrastructure, especially for adaptation to climate change and environmental protection and include construction of renewable energy installations and retention reservoirs and passive houses. The region also implements a number of environmental measures by funding programmes for local authorities, which include the rainwater collection programme, initiative for planting melliferous trees and a support for beekeeping.

Link: <https://dprow.umww.pl/obszary-wiejskie/lokalne-grupy-dzialania/>

Contact: Wielkopolska Region Brussels Office, brussels.office@wielkopolska.eu



The members of the Coalition

The AGRIREGIONS Coalition is the voice of European Regions mobilised to defend a fair and sustainable agriculture strengthened by a Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) fully recognising the role of regions.

Gathering 19 Regions among the most important in terms of agriculture and agrifood production, the AGRIREGIONS Coalition is a unique platform for the Regions of the European Union (EU) exchanging reflections on the future of European agriculture, with positions based on a bottom-up process relying on regional knowledge, experience and needs.

Particularly to the CAP, the AGRIREGIONS Coalition strongly defends the Common dimension of the policy, with the full involvement of the EU Regions, since only a stronger Europe able to take into account regional diversity can respond to the new challenges and opportunities faced by the European agriculture.



The European Coalition of AgriRegions

agrireions@gmail.com | 00 32 2 282 61 90

