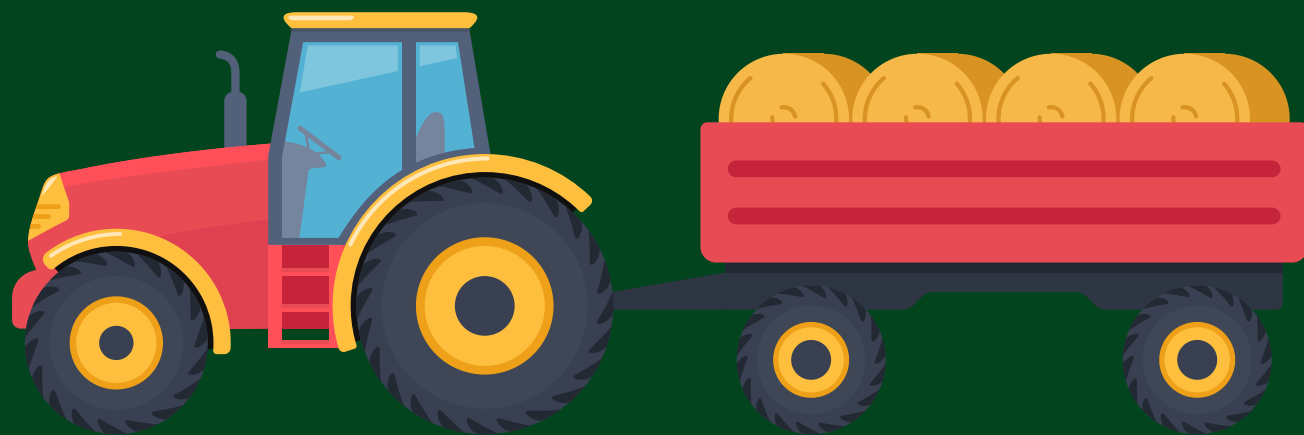


COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY (CAP)



What is the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)

Established in 1962, the CAP is a significant and longstanding policy framework of the European Union that was created with the primary objectives of:

- Ensuring a stable food supply
- Supporting farmers' incomes
- Promoting rural development across member states



CAP over the years

MacSharry Reform (1992)

Targeted overproduction and surpluses by implementing measures to decrease production and encourage environmental conservation.

Agenda 2000 Reform (1999)

Aimed to adapt the CAP for EU enlargement, involving adjustments to market support, direct payments, and rural development policies.

Mid-Term Review (2003)

Simplified the CAP introducing the Single Payment Scheme (SPS) that decoupled direct payments from specific production.

Health Check (2008)

Strived to boost competitiveness and sustainability in EU while simplifying procedures and enhancing market orientation.

CAP Reform (2013)

Notable changes, such as the Common Strategic Framework (CSF) for rural development, a greening component in direct payments, and the introduction of a basic payment scheme.

CAP Reform (2020)

Emphasized on environmental and climate concerns through "Green Architecture." It introduced "eco-schemes" within direct payments.

The key steps involved in the country CAP implementation

EU-Level Regulations

The EU member states and the European Parliament negotiate and agree upon CAP regulations. These regulations set out the overall framework for agricultural support programs, including direct payments, rural development measures, and market support mechanisms.

National Strategic Plans

Each EU member state is required to develop a National Strategic Plan (NSP) outlining how it intends to implement and achieve the CAP objectives within its territory. The NSP is based on the EU regulations but allows for some flexibility in how member states choose to allocate funds and design their agricultural support programs.



The action points of CAP

Direct Payments

These payments provide income support based on factors like land size, historical agricultural activity, and environmental considerations.

Member states distribute them to eligible farmers following rules in CAP regulations and their National Strategic Plans (NSPs)

Rural Development Programs

CAP includes funding for rural development programs aimed at improving the competitiveness and sustainability of rural areas. Member states design and implement these programs based on their specific needs and priorities.



The action points of CAP

Monitoring and Evaluation

Both the EU and member states have mechanisms in place to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the CAP. This includes assessing the impact of agricultural policies on farmers, rural communities, and the environment.

Periodic Reforms

The CAP undergoes periodic reforms to adapt to changing agricultural, economic, and environmental conditions. These reforms are negotiated at the EU level, and member states adjust their national policies accordingly.



CAP challenges

Income Inequality

Direct payments under the CAP are often linked to factors such as the size of agricultural land and historical production, which may lead to income disparities among farmers. Larger and more established farms may receive more substantial support, contributing to income inequality within the agricultural sector.

Environmental Concerns

The CAP has been criticized for not providing sufficient incentives for environmentally sustainable practices. Some argue that the policy has, at times, encouraged intensive farming methods that may have negative impacts on biodiversity, soil health, and water quality.



Market Distortion

CAP has historically led to market distortions. Price supports and subsidies can artificially inflate prices, leading to overproduction and inefficiencies in resource allocation.



Lack of Flexibility

The CAP has been criticized for being overly bureaucratic and lacking flexibility. The one-size-fits-all approach may not take into account the diverse agricultural practices and needs of different regions within the EU.

Dependency on Direct Payments

Farmers' income in some regions heavily depends on direct payments, which may lead to a mental dependency. This can discourage innovation and market-oriented strategies, as farmers may prioritize compliance with subsidy requirements over adapting to market demands.

CHPRA's actions to influence CAP

Education and awareness

Constant creation of content on the subjects of One Health, Regenerative Agriculture, Nutrient Density, Agroecology, Nutrition, etc. We are promoting information, establishing language and creating traction.

Advocacy and Lobbying

Manifesto for One Health in Europe, is a written piece that allowed us to advocate and lobby many people/ organisations we contacted around the One Health thematic.



We are on a mission to reshape
the healthcare system in Europe
based on the connection between
soil and human health.

Join us in our mission!

