

NEW KNOWLEDGE FOR A BETTER COMMON AGRICULTURE POLICY

**Investing in research delivers knowledge for targeted support of Europe-
an agriculture for healthy food, circular economy and land stewardship**

Why we need to act

Steering agriculture is a priority for European policy. European farmers have realized an incredible increase in productivity. This ensures food security and increasingly supports the step change to a bio-based economy. At the same time, new knowledge is needed to adjust CAP to international competition that increasingly requires low-cost production technologies, like monocultures or industrial life stock farming at expense of biodiversity and soil health. For example, fertilisers endanger fresh water resources that we depend on increasingly in times of climate change. New knowledge is needed to inform Common Agriculture Policy to become the game changer to an economically viable, environmental friendly and socially accepted agriculture in Europe.

What we will gain

Investment in research will yield the necessary knowledge for the CAP and the national transposition that enable the shift towards a bio-based and circular economy. Better informed policies will promote new business opportunities and solutions to technological challenges, such as smart precision farming. Targeted spending and regulation will optimise agricultural performance within the limits of our natural capital. It will make tax spending more effective while reducing the administrative burden. New policy incentives coupled with traditional farming expertise will enable farmers to become the environmental stewards of our land. Thus, Europe disencumbers from fossil resource dependency, exploits opportunities of nature based solutions addressing climate change with an agriculture that supports rural livelihoods while continually safeguarding food security.

Key research areas

Policy-making needs to be evidence based. We still face knowledge gaps on what the most economically viable, environmental friendly and socially beneficial agricultural practices and governance alternatives are. Research and innovation is to bridge the gap. INPSIRATION's bottom up approach revealed the most pressing needs for research in the following areas (see INSPIRATION's SRA for further details):

- quantifying the societal demand for divers agricultural products
- delivering technologies for smart precision farming
- recognizing the value of ecosystem services in agricultural policies
- indicators for a vision of sustainable agriculture shared by policy across scientific disciplines.

How to become active?

To express your interest in funding research that help EU CAP becoming the game changer for agriculture or to discuss the potential for co-funding with other European funders get in contact with your INSPIRATION national contact point.



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**Contact your INSPIRATION national contact at
www.inspiration-agenda.eu for further information
on this topic.**