



Congress of Cooperative Union of Slovenia

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Congress of Cooperative Union of Slovenia 21/03/2023

copa*cogeca
european farmers european agri-cooperatives

The Framework for Sustainable Food Systems: what way forward?

CONTEXT



A overarching legislative framework for the sustainability of food systems to ensure that foods placed on the EU market increasingly become sustainable



The Framework for Sustainable Food Systems: state of play

COPA-COGECA APPROACH TO FSFS

We fully agree with the objective

We believe each agricultural sector can contribute

Take into account the 3 pillars of sustainability is key

It will have a cost and it cannot only be bear by primary producers



The Framework for Sustainable Food Systems: state of play

POINTS FOR COPA-COGECA TO INTEGRATE IN FSFS

1. Recognition of sustainable agricultural practices other than organic
2. Tools for a better distribution of costs and benefits in the food chain
3. Dedicated budget to compensate for the extra production costs
4. No one size fits all solution when it comes to environmental sustainability: we have to take into account regional, sectorial and the different methods of production specificities
5. Crops and livestock go together, it's an ecosystem, stigmatizing one will hurt the other

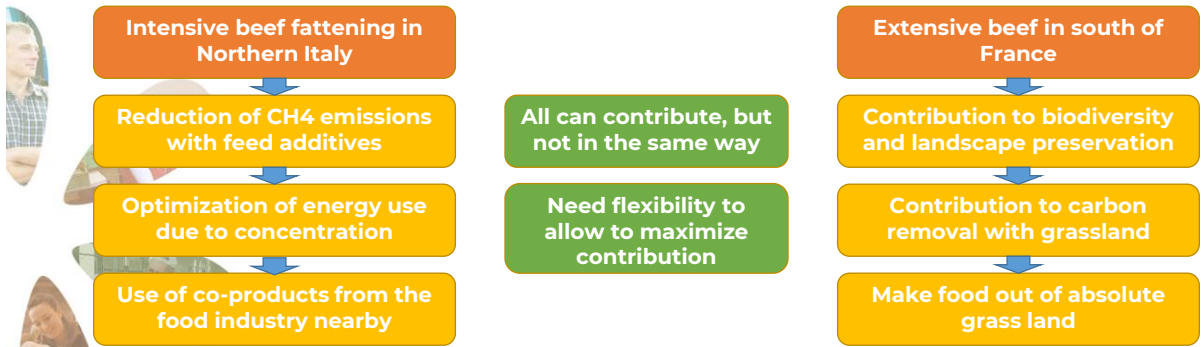


The Framework for Sustainable Food Systems: state of play

POINTS FOR COPA-COGECA TO INTEGRATE IN FSFS

All sectors and methods of production can contribute to improve environmental sustainability, but not at the same level on the same aspects

Example wit beef



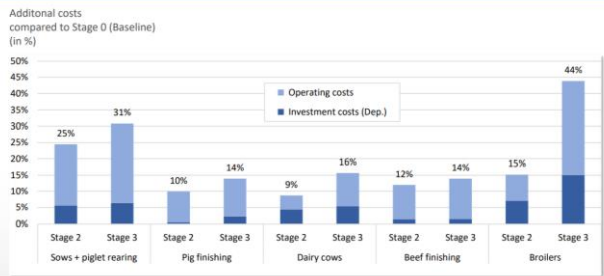
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Example of production costs: animal welfare

Animal welfare labelling systems proposed by the German authorities and the associated production costs for each of its tiers, providing the selling price necessary to cover the extra costs



Additional costs in stages 2 and 3



Stage 1: Beef finishing and broilers much lower than Stage 2, other species wise similar to Stage 2.
 Organic: Finishing pigs slightly above Stage 3, sows significantly above Stage 3 (lower performance).

New sustainability requirements are possible, but it has a cost

In addition, we live in a globalized world

Trade agreements currently being discussed:

- Mercosur
- Chile
- Australia
- New Zealand
- Mexico
- Trade liberalization agreement with Ukraine

They do not have the same animal welfare, pesticides use, antibiotics use, worker conditions, environmental, and safety requirements

If we include additional requirements for EU products without financial support, it risks creating a delocalization of our production and a sustainability leakage



New sustainability requirements are possible, but it has a cost

Who will pay?

Consumers, the market?

Consumers want more sustainable food products, but they are not ready to pay for it

Consumption of organic products **down by 15% in France, 5% in Germany**

Can we count on the market?

Producers?

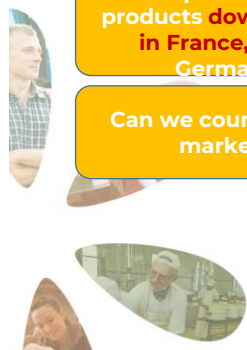
Already on thin ice, many farmer stopping because it is not profitable anymore

It will lead to an **externalization of production and a sustainability leakage**

Is this really what we want?

We need a dedicated budget for FSFS objectives

More sustainability is possible, but it is a society choice



The Framework for Sustainable Food Systems: state of play

Copa-Cogeca and its farmers and agri-cooperatives are determined to contribute to FSFS, but key elements need to be taken into accounts

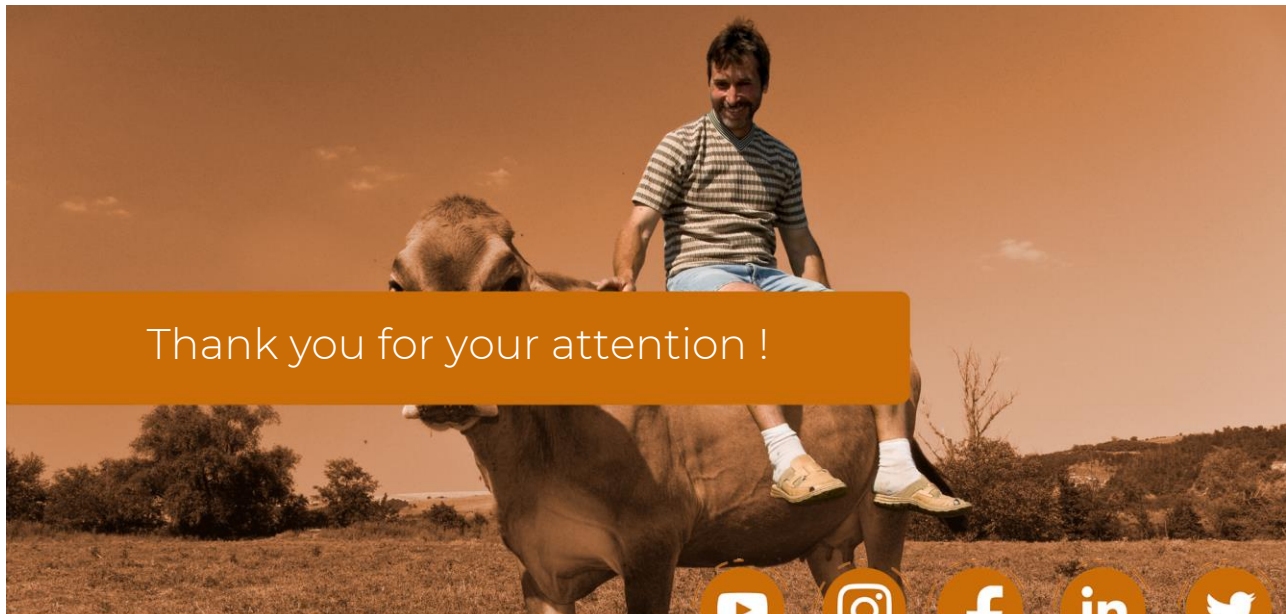
Our sectorial Working Parties are already working on their contribution

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AOB





Thank you for your attention !

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