

# The Future of Food and Farming: *EU and the CAP*

January 2018
Tassos Haniotis
Director
Strategy, Simplification and Policy Analysis
DG AGRI, European Commission

#FutureofCAP



# The objectives of the Communication at a glance

#### Strengthen the environmental and climate ambition...

> ... because it is urgent

#### Better target support ...

> ... because it is fairer

#### Rely more on knowledge, innovation and technology ....

> ... because it is modern

#### Rebalance the responsibilities between EU, MS and the farmer...

> ... because it could be simpler

### What does the Communication aim to do?

#### Confirm agriculture's crucial role and contribution ...

> ... in food provision, environmental protection and jobs and growth creation

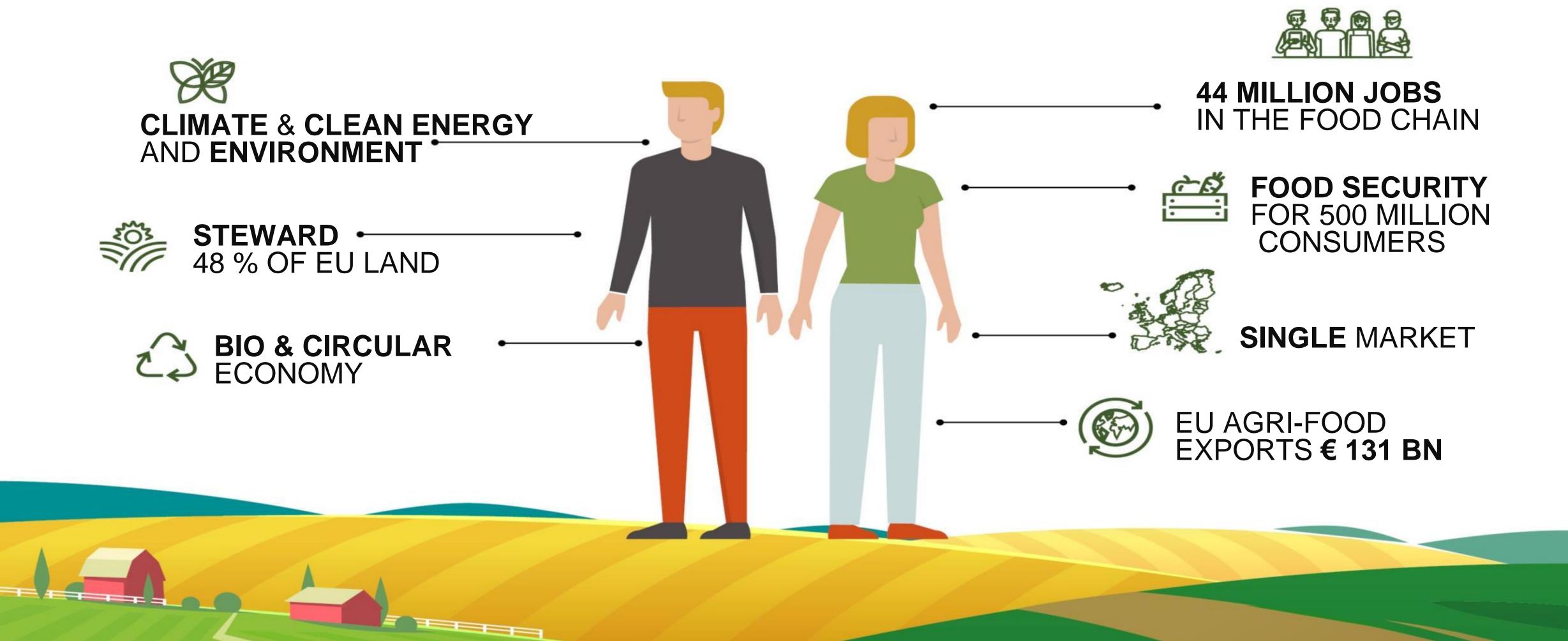
#### Consolidate and improve CAP framework ....

> ... through broad avenues of reflection about the future policy orientation

#### Prioritise simpler rules and more flexible approaches ...

> ... for the CAP to better deliver its results at EU, MS and farm level

## THE CONTRIBUTION OF EU AGRICULTURE TODAY



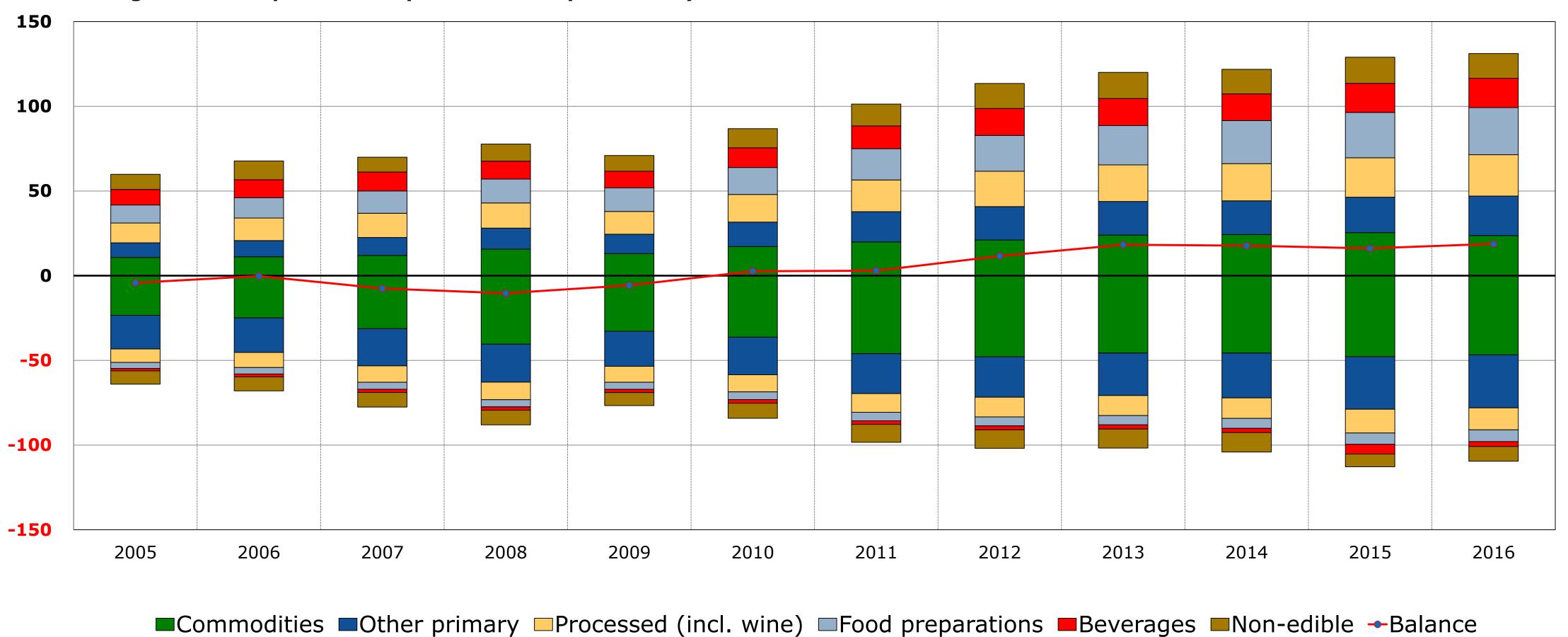
# Why a Communication on Food and Farming?

Analysis and wide public consultation confirm major achievements of the CAP...

- Increasing EU competitiveness ...
  - > ... and turning the EU into a net agro-food exporter
- Positively impacting jobs and growth ...
  - > ... in rural areas and the food chain throughout the EU territory
- Providing relative income stability ...
  - > ... within a very volatile income and price environment

# EU net agro-food exporter

EU agricultural exports and imports 2005-15 (in billion €)



Source: COMEXT.

# Why a Communication on Food and Farming (cntd)?

#### ...but also shortcomings to be addressed

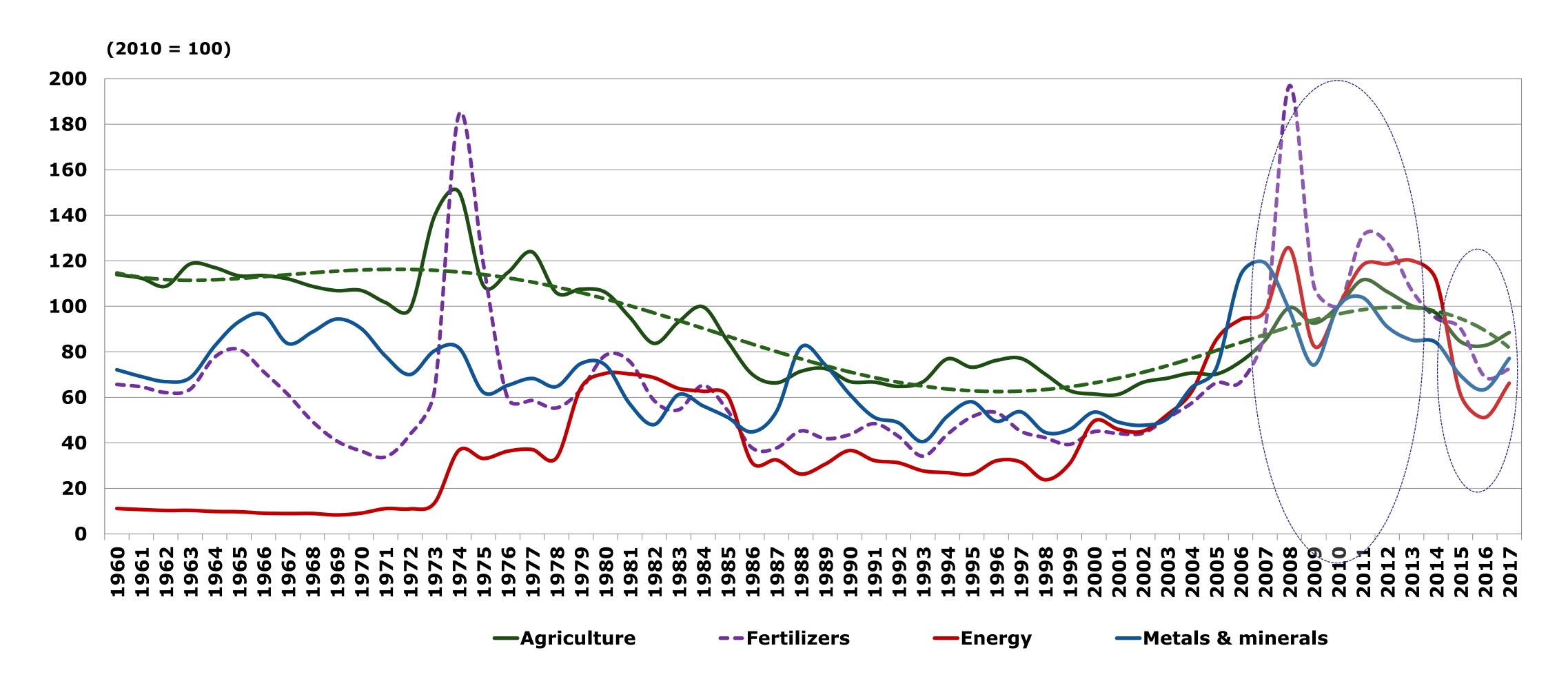
- Despite progress the environmental performance of EU agriculture ...
  - > ... requires further improvement to meet ongoing and future challenges
- Productivity growth is mainly driven by the outflow of labour ...
  - > ... and less by research, innovation or capital investment
- Questions on equity, safety net and simplicity of the CAP ...
  - > ... are still hotly debated despite repeated efforts to address them

# What has changed since the last reform?

#### Basic parameters that influenced decisions of the 2013 CAP reform differ today:

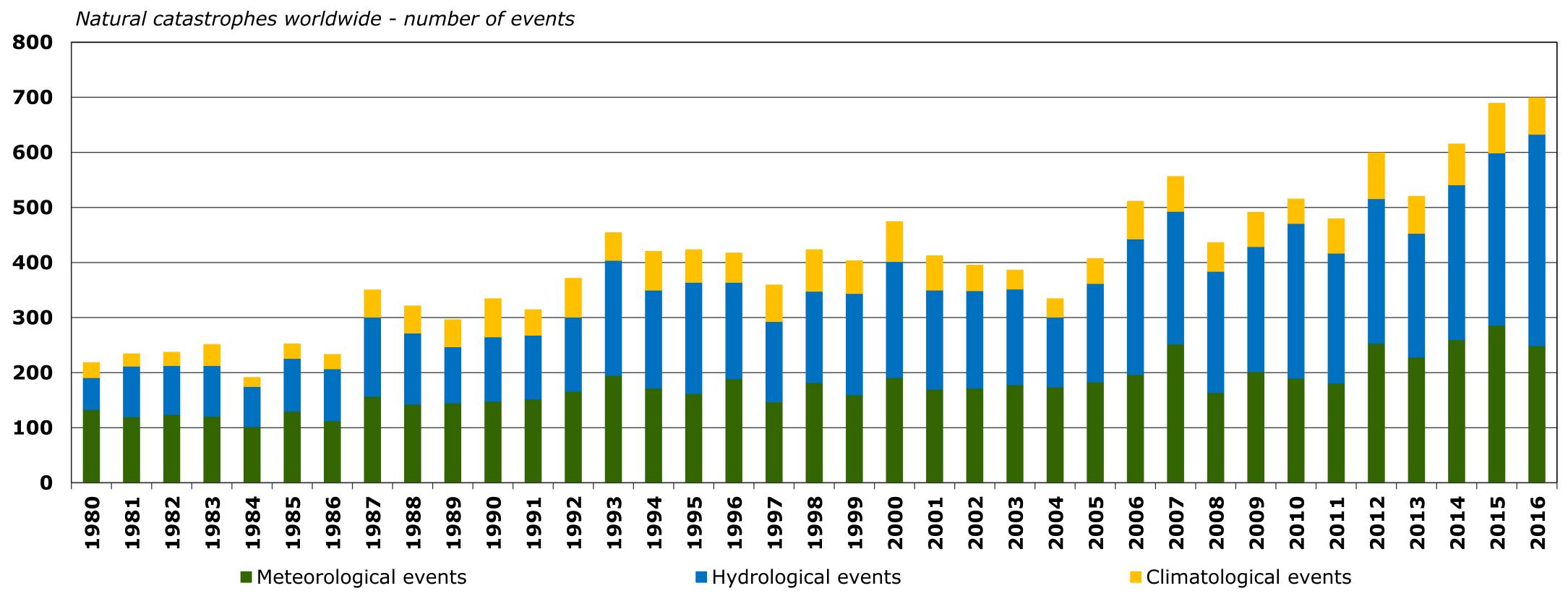
- The world commodity, economic and price environment ...
  - > ... especially in terms of both the level (lower) and expectations for agricultural prices
- The world trade environment ...
  - > ... especially the shift from multilateral to regional agreements
- New climate change, environmental and broader sustainability priorities ...
  - > ... especially COP21 and commitments stemming from it

# Commodity price changes in recent years



Source: World Bank.

### Climate linked loss events in dramatic increase



Meteorological events: Tropical storm, extra-tropical storm, convective storm, local storm

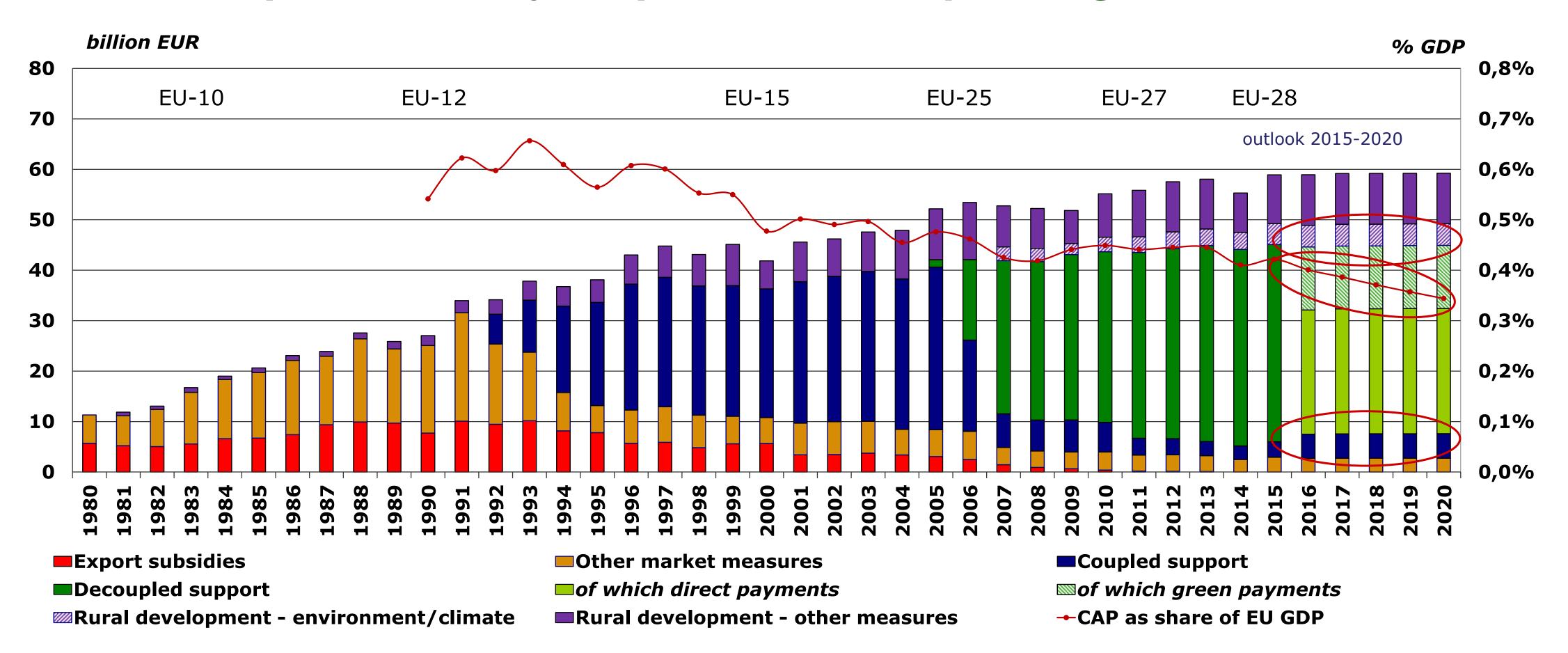
Hydrological events: Flood, mass movement

Climatological events: Extreme temperature, drought, forest fire

Source: © 2017 Münchener Rückversicherungs-Gesellschaft, Geo Risks Research, NatCatSERVICE (January 2017)

# Main issues for the future CAP debate:

public money for private and/or public goods?



Source: DG AGRI.

# Strengthening environment and climate action

#### EU sets wide objectives ...

> ... on air, water, soil and biodiversity

#### EU sets list of available types of intervention ...

> ... suitable for achieving CAP objectives

#### MS define the most pertinent schemes/operations ...

> ... based on EU-priorities and their specific needs

#### Farmers apply for schemes and comply with stringent criteria ...

> ... defined by MS to reflect environmental needs

# Better targeting support

Farm income still lags behind income in the rest of the economy ...

> ...with Direct Payments providing an important income safety net in all regions

The current distribution of area-based payments reflects land distribution ...

> ... and is thus concentrated among a minority of farmers

To target direct payments more effectively alternative approaches can be explored ...

> ... such as compulsory capping, degressivity or redistributive payments

To follow the principle of equality among member states ...

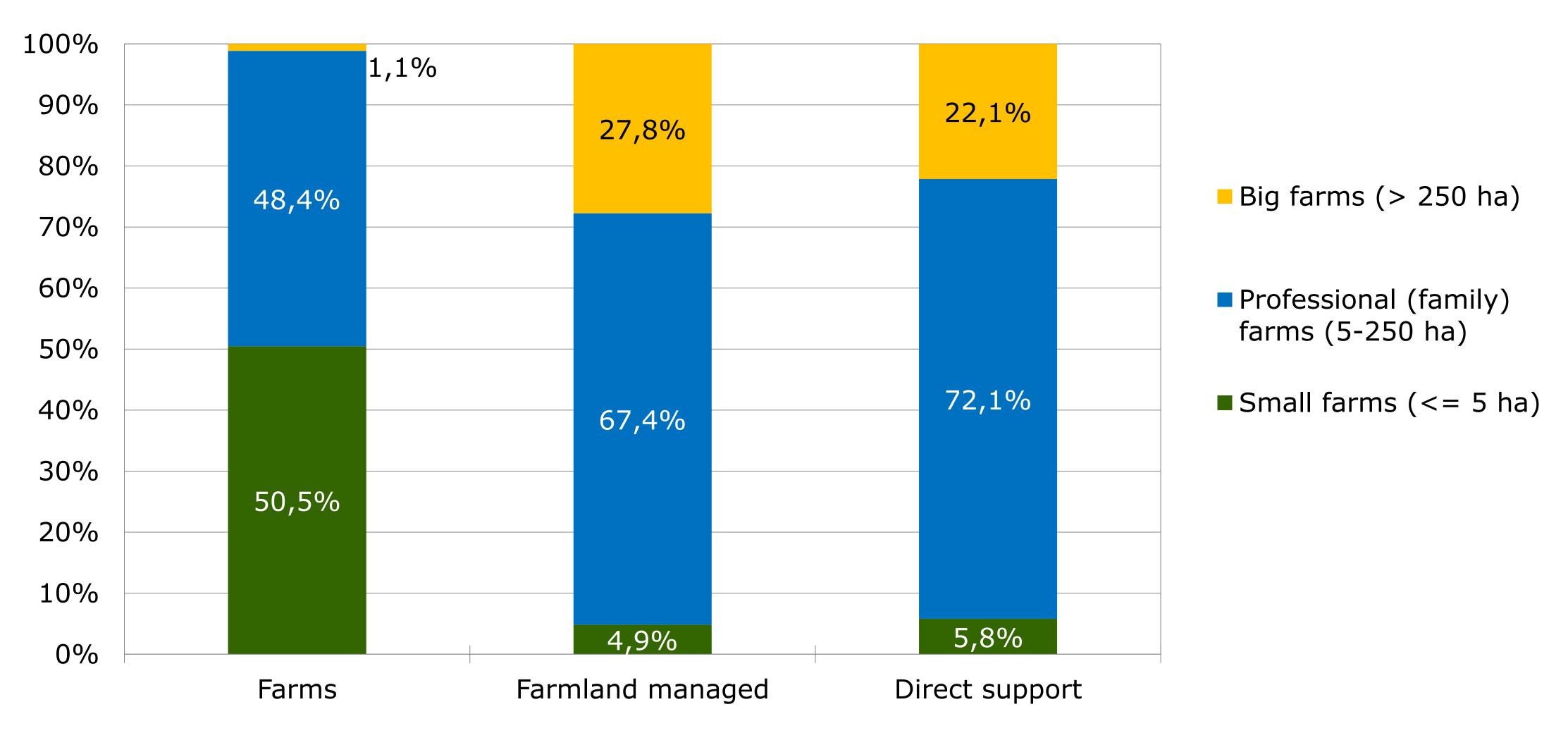
> ... differences in CAP support between them should be reduced

## DISTRIBUTION OF EU DIRECT SUPPORT TO FARMERS

NUMBER OF **FARMS** FARMLAND MANAGED **DIRECT SUPPORT** (million ha) (billion EUR) (million) **SMALL FARMS** (< 5 hectares) 3.43 7.7 **PROFESSIONAL** (FAMILY) FARMS (5-250 hectares) 3.29 107.4 29.3 **BIG FARMS** (> 250 hectares) 0.08 44.2 9.0

Source: CATS control data, 2015

# Distribution of EU direct support to farmers (%)



# Rely more on knowledge, innovation and technology

#### A better link of what we know to what we grow ...

> ... would promote the use of smart agriculture

#### Anticipating future knowledge needs ....

> ... should promote research to address them in a wide array of farm-related issues

#### Exchange and transfer knowledge ...

> ... will spread and multiply the impact of innovative practices

#### Well performing Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems...

> ... are essential to bridge the knowledge gap among farmers

# A new model of sharing responsibilities

Moving from one-size-fits-all to more tailored made solutions ...

> ... will reduce EU requirements to what is necessary to ensure EU value is added

The Union would still set the basic policy parameters of the CAP ....

> ... fulfilling the Treaty obligations and other EU agreed objectives (e.g., COP21, SDGs)

Member States should establish "CAP strategic plans" approved by the Commission ...

> ... tailoring interventions to reflect local conditions and needs in line with EU-objectives

A shift from compliance to results and performance...

> ... would increase MS flexibility in their design of measures/compliance requirements

# Focus on performance

A performance-based policy implies two distinct, but interconnected processes ....

> ... that of assessing the policy and that of assessing the policy implementation

A meaningful assessment of policy performance can rely on the manner by which...

> ... specific targets are achieved, especially with respect to specific objectives

Reliable policy assessment requires a selection of a set of indicators reflecting how ...

> ... the supported intervention contributes to achieving the specific objectives

Policy performance is assessed multi-annually based on a combination of methods ...

> ... while policy implementation requires closer monitoring at an annual basis

# Other priorities

#### Promote growth and jobs in rural areas...

> ... to address structural weaknesses and promote bio-economy

#### Attract new farmers ....

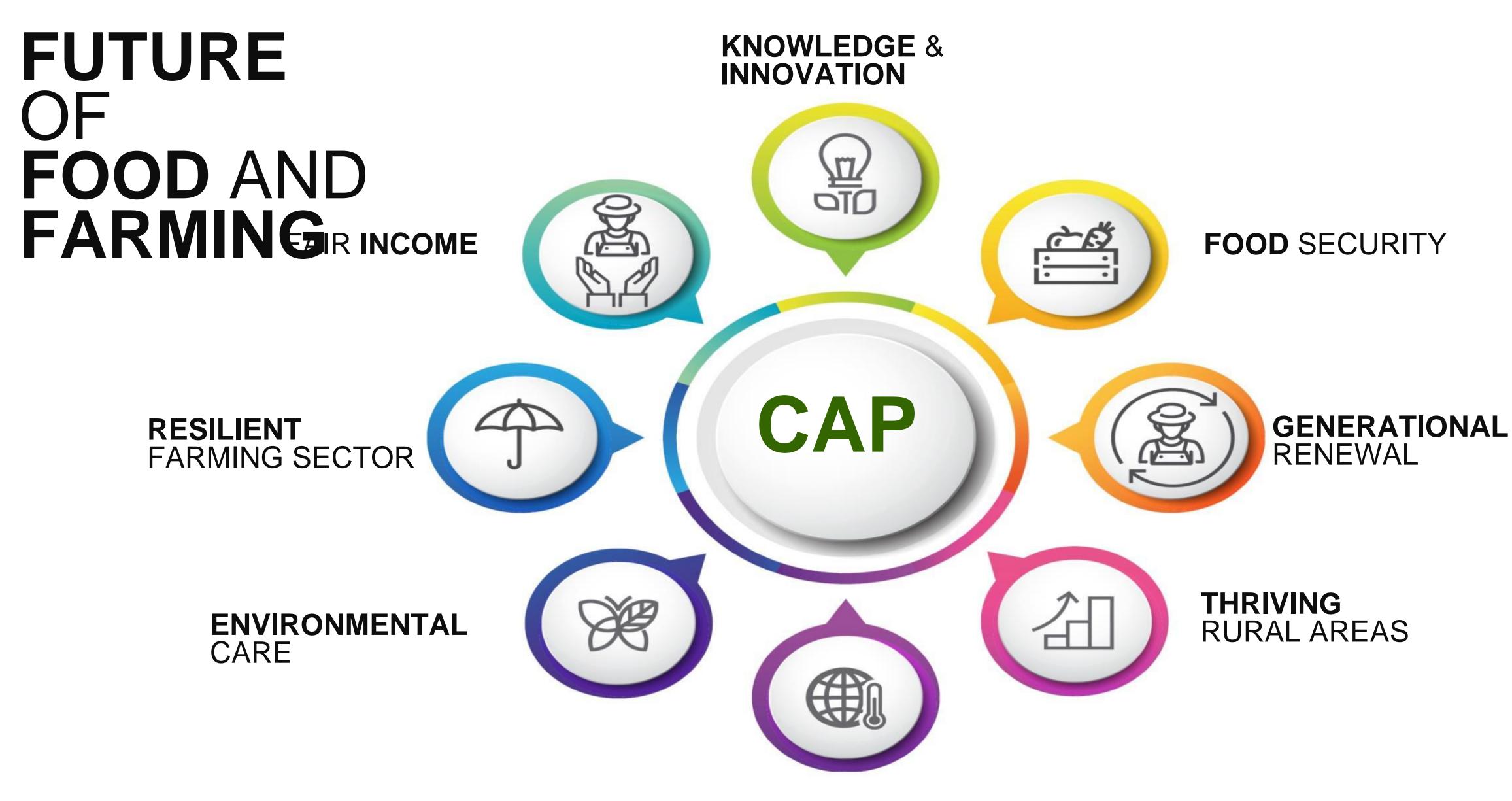
> ... to address the generational renewal challenge

#### Improve risk management tools ...

> ... to better address price, income and production-related risks

#### Address broader EU concerns and the global CAP dimension ...

> ... from emerging health challenges, to food waste and trade issues



**CLIMATE ACTION** 

# Reports and data available at:

https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/index en.htm

https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/policy-perspectives/index\_en.htm

https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/policy-perspectives/impact-assessment/index\_en.htm

https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/markets-and-prices/index en.htm

https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/events/2016-outlook-conference\_en

https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/statistics\_en

https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/cap-indicators en

https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/consultations/cap-modernising/2017 en

https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/future-cap-whats-cooking-next-cap\_en

### Thank you for your attention!