

The Farm to Fork Strategy

**For a fair, healthy and
environmentally-friendly
food system**

ICA online Rectors and Deans Forum 2020, 22 October 2020

Luis Vivas-Alegre
Policy Coordinator
Unit Farm to Fork Strategy
Directorate General Health and Food Safety (SANTE)
European Commission

European Union



Challenges to the EU food system

SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY



Healthier diets
– reduce
overweight



Improve
animal
welfare



Social rights
workers in food
chain



Food
affordability

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



Tackle climate
change



Protect the
environment



Preserve
biodiversity



Reduce food
losses and waste



Circular bio-
based economy

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY



Fairer incomes for
farmers, fishers &
aquaculture producers



Just
transition



New business & job
opportunities



Farm to Fork Strategy: overall goals



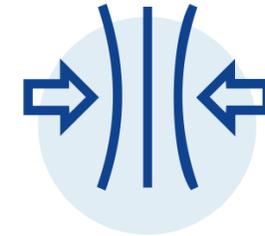
climate
footprint



global
transition



new
opportunities



resilience

Reduce the
**environmental
and climate
footprint** of the
food system

Lead a
global transition
towards competitive
sustainability from
farm to fork

Tap into
**new
opportunities**

Create a **robust
and resilient** food
system



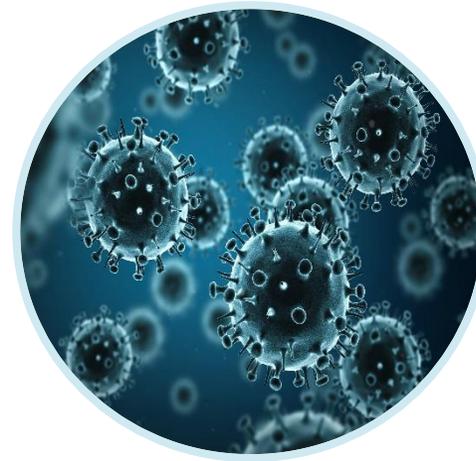
2030 Targets for sustainable food production



Reduce by 50% the overall use and risk of **chemical pesticides** and reduce use by 50% of more hazardous **pesticides**



Reduce **nutrient losses** by at least 50% while ensuring no deterioration in soil fertility; this will reduce use of **fertilisers** by at least 20 %



Reduce sales of **antimicrobials** for farmed animals and in aquaculture by 50%



Achieve at least 25% of the EU's agricultural land under **organic farming** and a significant increase in **organic aquaculture**





| Concrete actions: overarching

Legislative framework for sustainable food systems (2023):

- Framework with **comprehensive set of general principles and requirements** on the sustainability of food systems
- Basis **to ensure policy coherence** at EU and national level; mainstream sustainability in food-related policies
- Provisions on **governance, collective involvement** of stakeholders

Development of a **contingency plan** (2021)

for ensuring food supply & security in times of crisis



Actions to ensure sustainable food production (1)



Adopt recommendations to MS addressing the nine specific objectives of the **Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)**, before submission draft **CAP Strategic Plans** (2020)



Revision of **Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive** and enhancement of Integrated Pest Management (2022)



Revision of Regulations to facilitate **plant protection products containing biological active substances** (2021)



Action plan **for the organic sector** for 2021-2026 to stimulate supply and demand for organic products (2020)



Action plan for **integrated nutrient management** to reduce the pollution from fertilisers (2021)



Actions to ensure sustainable food production (2)

Proposal for a revision of the existing **animal welfare** legislation, including on transport and slaughter (2023)

Proposal for a revision of the **feed additives** Regulation to reduce the environmental impact of livestock farming (2021)



Legislative initiatives to enhance **cooperation of primary producers** (support position in food chain) (2021-22)

Clarification of the scope of **competition rules** with regard to sustainability in collective actions (2022)

Proposal for a **Farm Sustainability Data Network** (data and advice on sustainable farming practices) (2022)



Actions for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture

Reinforce efforts to bring fish stocks to sustainable levels via the **Common Fisheries Policy**; strengthen fisheries management in Mediterranean



Intensify **fight against fraud** through an enhanced traceability system

Next **Maritime and Fisheries Fund** will spend more than EUR 1 billion to support **sustainable seafood farming**



Adopt **EU Strategy on Algae**

Adopt **EU Guidelines on Aquaculture**: pathways for Member States' national aquaculture development plans



Actions to stimulate sustainable practices by food industry and retail, hospitality and food service

Initiative to improve the **corporate governance framework** (integrate sustainability into corporate strategies) (2021)

Develop an EU code and monitoring framework for **responsible business and marketing conduct** in the food supply chain (2021)

Stimulate **reformulation** of processed food, including setting of **maximum levels for certain nutrients** (2021)



Set **nutrient profiles** to restrict promotion of food high in salt, sugar or fat (2022)

Proposal revision EU legislation on **Food Contact Materials** (food safety, environmental footprint) (2022)

Revision **EU marketing standards** for agricultural, fishery and aquaculture products (ensure uptake and supply of sustainable products) (2021-22)

Enhance coordination to tackle **Food Fraud** (2021-2022)



Actions to promote shift towards healthy, sustainable diets

Determine the best modalities for setting **minimum mandatory criteria for sustainable food procurement** (2021)

Review of the **EU school scheme** legal framework: refocus on healthy and sustainable food (2023)

Review of the **EU promotion programme** for agricultural and food products (aimed at sustainable production and consumption) (2020)

Proposal VAT rates (currently being discussed in Council): could allow to make more targeted use of rates (e.g. to support organic fruit and vegetables).



Proposal for a harmonised **mandatory front-of-pack nutrition labelling** to enable consumers to make health conscious food choices (2022)

Proposal to require **origin indication** for certain products. (2022)

Proposal for a **sustainable food labelling framework** to empower consumers to make sustainable food choices (2024)

Nutrition - health

Nutrition Declaration	Per 100 g
Energy	kJ/kcal
Fat	g
of which saturates	g
Carbohydrate	g
of which sugars	g
Protein	g
Salt	g

Environment



Social



| Actions to reduce food loss and waste

Committed to reaching **the UN SDG Target to halve food waste at retail and consumer levels by 2030**, and reduce food losses along the food production and supply chains.



Proposal for **EU-level targets for food waste reduction** (2023)



Revise EU rules for **date marking** ('use by' and 'best before' dates) (2022)



| Enabling transition: research, innovation, investments

- **Horizon 2020:** additional call of EUR 1 billion for Green Deal priorities (2020)
- **Horizon Europe:** EUR 10 billion in R&I related to food, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture and environment
- **Partnership on food systems** for R&I communities around food systems
- **European Innovation Partnership (EIP-Agri)**
- **European Regional Development Fund** and **European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)**
- **Fast broadband internet** in rural areas to reach 100% (2025)
- **De-risk and facilitate investments**
(InvestEU Fund, renewed sustainable finance strategy)



| Enabling transition – Advice, knowledge & data

Advisory services, data and knowledge sharing

- Member States will need to scale up support for **objective, tailored advisory services** targeted at sustainable farm management
- Development of a **Farm Sustainability Data Network:** allow primary producers to monitor economic, environmental and climate performance
- **Support to SME** food processors, small retail and food service operators with tailored solutions to promote new skills and business models



| Enabling transition - Promoting global transition

- International cooperation to **support developing countries in their transition to sustainable food systems**;
- Inclusion of ambitious sustainability chapter, including on food, in all EU bilateral **trade agreements**.
- Work through **international standard setting bodies (e.g: Codex) and promotion of sustainable food systems in international fora and events** (e.g. UN Summit on Food Systems in 2021).
- **Environmental aspects** taken into account when **assessing requests for import tolerances** for pesticide substances no longer approved in the EU
- Promotion of appropriate **labelling schemes** - to ensure that food imported into the EU is gradually produced in a sustainable way.



Transition requires a collective approach

Farmers, fishers and
aquaculture producers;
Input industry,
Advisory services



Research & innovation
Knowledge providers
Finance

Food industry,
processors, retail,
food services and
hospitality sector



Citizens, NGOs,
social partners,
educators,
local, regional &
national authorities



| Further insights

- **Farm to Fork Strategy:** https://ec.europa.eu/food/farm2fork_en
- Records of the **Farm to Fork Conference, 15-16 October:** https://ec.europa.eu/food/farm2fork/farm-fork-conference_en
- Records of the **Food2030 Conference, 16 October:** <https://www.food2030transformingfoodsyste.ms.eu/#/streaming>
- **2021 UN Food systems summit:** <https://www.un.org/en/food-systems-summit>

