



Anita Csiba^{1*}, Gergo Wenner^{1,2}, Viktor Jozsef Vojnich¹

¹ University of Szeged Faculty of Agriculture 1, H-6800 Hodmezovasarhely Andrássy út 15.

² Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Science Economic and Regional Sciences Doctoral School, H-2100 Godollo Páter Karoly u. 1.

E-mail: csiba.anita@szte.hu

Abstract

Nowadays the sustainability is one of the most important problems in the agricultural sector. In our research project the main issue, what are the main challenges in the sustainability of the agricultural sector. In addition, we would like to get answers to the questions of what the motivating and inhibiting factors and which challenges promote or hinder the innovation and green investments of agricultural companies. However, the innovation, the digitalization of the agricultural and food production and the green investments are very important not only in terms of return and additional income, but also in terms of reducing harmful emissions required by the stricter directives and legals of the European Union, in order, that the companies able to comply with the increasingly strict of the European Union's legals and thus to be able to access resources in the future.

Introduction

Environmental Policy of the European Union

The EU faces complex environmental issues, ranging from climate change and biodiversity loss to resource depletion and pollution. To address these issues, European environment policy follows the principles of precaution, prevention, rectifying pollution at source and 'polluter pays'. [2]

Horizontal strategies

1. Sustainable development

The European Union's **Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS)** adding an environmental dimension to its **Lisbon strategy** in 2021. [2]

2. Biodiversity

The main international agreement on biodiversity of the European Union is the **Biodiversity Strategy for 2030**. [2]

3. Food systems

In May 2020, within the framework of the **European Green Deal**, the Commission presented its **Farm to Fork Strategy**, which aims to make food systems fair, healthy and environmentally friendly. [2]

2030 Targets for sustainable food production



Environmental Policy of the European Union

Main targets

- Combating climate change
- Biodiversity, land use and forestry
- Water protection and management
- Air and noise pollution
- Resource efficiency and the circular economy
- Sustainable consumption and production
- Chemicals and pesticide [2]

The four general principles of the European Union's environment policy

Precaution: if an action or policy has the potential to cause harm to the environment or public health, and there is persisting scientific uncertainty about its effects, this action should not be applied until further evidence is provided. [2]

Prevention: a tool aimed at preventing environmental damage, rather than reacting to it. This requires preventive measures to be taken to anticipate and avoid environmental damage. [2]

Rectifying pollution at source: if damage to the environment has already occurred, the polluters are obliged to take the appropriate measures to remedy it at the point of origin. [2]

'Polluter pays': if damage has occurred, the polluters are obliged to take the appropriate measures to remedy it and pay for the costs. It is implemented through the Environmental Liability Directive, which aims to prevent or otherwise remedy environmental damage to protected species or natural habitats, water and soil. [2]

The objectives of Common Agricultural Policy after 2020 [5]



Common Agricultural Policy

The Common Agricultural Policy is about food, the environment and the countryside. [4]

The CAP is a partnership between society and agriculture that ensures a stable supply of food, safeguards farmers' income, protects the environment and keeps rural areas vibrant. [4]

Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plan

EU countries' CAP strategic plans will combine a wide range of targeted interventions to address their specific needs and deliver tangible results in relation to EU-level objectives, while contributing to the Green Deal. [3]

The plans must contribute to, and be consistent with, EU legislation and commitments relating to climate and the environment, including those laid out in the Farm to Fork and biodiversity strategies. [3]

Food 2030

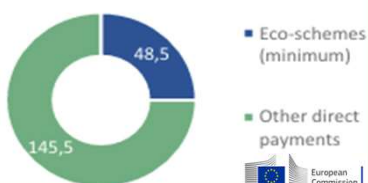
„Food 2030 is the EU's research and innovation policy framework supporting the transition towards sustainable, healthy and inclusive food systems, that respect planetary boundaries. It is in line with, and supports the goals of the European Green Deal, Farm to Fork strategy and Bioeconomy strategy.” [1]

According to the Food 30 nowadays the food systems are unsustainable and the main causes are the climate change, the resources scarcity, the pollution and waste, the environmental degradation, the loss of biodiversity, the population growth and the malnutrition and diet-related non-communicable disease. The EU's research and innovation policy to support the transition towards sustainable, healthy and inclusive food systems. [1]

References

- [1] https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/environment/bioeconomy/food-systems/food-2030_en
- [2] <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets/en/sheet/71/environment-policy-general-principles-and-basic-framework>
- [3] https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/cap-my-country/cap-strategy-plans_en
- [4] https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/common-agricultural-policy_hu
- [5] Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-2027
- [6] https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/document/download/89b607ec-8a43-4073-bafd/2493da7699e_en?filename=factsheet-newcap-environment-fairness_en.pdf&prefLang=hu

Spending on eco-schemes and other direct payments 2023-2027 (EUR billion) [6]



The greener CAP

