



The investment needs in Europe's agriculture and agri-food industry

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Table of content:

- I. Who are Copa and Cogeca?
- II. Why we need to invest in the agriculture and agri-food industry ?
- III. What are the challenges and opportunities to ensure a competitive and sustainable agriculture sector?
- IV. What are some of the priorities areas to mobilise investments in the agriculture sector?

I. Who are Copa and Cogeca?

Two organisations....

- **Copa** - Created in 1958, represents 23 million European farmers and their family members.
- **Cogeca** - Created in 1959, represents 22, 000 European agricultural cooperatives.
- **Copa and Cogeca** - Since 1962, a joint Secretariat - one of the biggest and most active lobby organisations in Brussels in the field of agriculture

The Voice of European Farmers and Agri-cooperatives
for a Smart, Sustainable and Competitive Agriculture Sector



II. Why we need to invest in the agriculture and agri-food industry?

Why we need to invest in the agriculture and agri-food industry?

1. To support growth and jobs for viable rural areas
2. To ensure **sustainable and competitive EU agriculture and agri-food chain sector**
3. To be a strong partner on the world market
4. To be able to feed the world in 2050

A photograph of a combine harvester in a field, unloading grain into a red tractor trailer. The harvester is on the left, and the trailer is on the right. A person in a green shirt is visible in the background on the right. The sky is overcast. A large orange text box is overlaid on the bottom right of the image.

III. What are the challenges and opportunities to ensure a competitive and sustainable agriculture sector?

Why we need to invest in the agriculture and agri-food industry?

To guarantee that the CAP objectives (Article 39 TFEU) are attained:

- to increase agricultural productivity
- to ensure a fair standard of living for farmers
- to ensure the availability of supplies
- to ensure reasonable prices for consumers
- to stabilise markets

Global challenges for the agriculture sector

Increasing demand for agricultural products:

- Change in dietary patterns
- Food/feed/non-food demands (e.g. bioeconomy)

Increasing pressure on agricultural production:

- Increasing strains on limited natural resources
- Climate change:
 - Increasing risk of extreme weather events (e.g. floods, droughts)
 - Long-term changes in climate
 - Plant and animal health status (lack of adequate tools for prevention, control and eradication of new emerging diseases/pests)

=> Maintain farm production in Europe & adapt to and mitigate climate change

Structural challenges of the EU the agriculture sector

- Fewer farms
- A new mix of production factors: replace labour by machinery
- Increasing farm size
- Ageing farm population
 - Only 6% of EU farm managers are younger than 35 years, while more than half are 55 years old or older

Additional challenges to European agriculture

- Access to financing
- Speculation and extreme price volatility for agricultural commodities
- High production standards (food safety, animal welfare and environmental)
- Price-cost squeeze (high input prices / low farm gate prices)
- Unbalanced and unfair functioning of food chain
- Competition with third countries as a result of increasing trade liberalisation

**Only a competitive,
sustainable and smart
agriculture sector can
face these challenges**

Opportunities for agriculture sector to further contribute to rural development

RURAL DEVELOPMENT MEASURES

- Multi- measures approach: combine training ,advise, knowledge exchange with measures on investments, AECM etc.
- Integration of production and processing and a more market oriented approach– producers groups, short supply chains - adding value to agricultural products
- Increase cooperation in the value chain – operational groups, joint actions
- Targeted support to young farmers

Opportunities to unlock the further potential for rural development

RURAL DEVELOPMENT MEASURES

- Producing more by using less - Resource efficiency and support for a less fossil-based economy
- Investments in diversification of the activities at farm level
- Risk management tools
- Rural networks – enhance stakeholders involvement and focus on crucial topics for the sector

Simplification and less administrative burden is crucial



IV. What are some of the priorities areas to mobilise investments in the agriculture sector?

Investment needs in the agriculture and agri-food sector

- Investments to support farmers to increase farm productivity
 - precision farming
 - smart technologies to increase efficiency in water and energy use
 - equipments to better use the residues
- Investment to support farmers to enhance animal welfare
 - adapt to the EU standards
- Investments in storage, logistics and infrastructure
 - increase supply - quantity and quality
 - better information on the available quantities

Investment needs in the agriculture and agri-food sector

- Investments to further improve the environmental sustainability of farming – less environmental harmful machineries
- Investments to respond to an increase demand for specific products e.g sparkling wine
- Investments to strengthen farmers and agri-cooperatives' position in the food chain – processing and marketing, promotion

INNOVATE, INVEST AND COOPERATE



**Investing in agriculture
is investing in the
future of EU**

Thank you!

www.copa-cogeca.eu