The Farm to Fork Strategy
For a fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food system

European Green Deal - von der Leyen Commission
The European Green Deal

- Promoting clean energy
- Investing in smarter, more sustainable transport
- Striving for greener industry
- Eliminating pollution
- Ensuring a just transition for all
- Financing green projects
- Making homes energy efficient
- Leading the green change globally
- Protecting nature
- From farm to fork
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
COVID-19 pandemic: implications for food systems

• Has shown the importance of a robust and resilient food system: access to a sufficient supply of affordable food for citizens;
• made us aware of the interrelations between our health, ecosystems, supply chains, consumption patterns and planetary boundaries;
• sustainable livelihood for primary producers is essential for the success of the recovery and the transition;
• Need for workers’ social protection, working and good housing conditions; protection of health;
• The annual increasing recurrence of droughts, floods and new pests: our food system is under threat and must become more sustainable and resilient.
Farm to Fork Strategy: overall goals

- **climate footprint**: Reduce the environmental and climate footprint of the food system.
- **global transition**: Lead a global transition towards competitive sustainability from farm to fork.
- **new opportunities**: Tap into new opportunities.
- **resilience**: Create a robust and resilient food system.
Establish a sustainable food system that:

- **has neutral or positive environmental impact** of food production:
  - preserving and restoring the land and sea-based resources;
  - mitigate climate change and adapt to its impact;
  - reversing the loss of biodiversity;

- **ensures food security and public health:**
  - Access for everyone to sufficient, nutritious, sustainable food;
  - high standards of safety and quality, plant health, animal health and welfare

- **preserves the affordability of food,** while (a.o.):
  - generating fairer economic returns & fostering the competitiveness sector
  - promoting fair trade
  - safeguarding occupational health and safety
  - ensuring integrity of the single market

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Food security and food safety are cornerstones of our food system, and will never be compromised.
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.
Integrated approach from farm to fork needed

Different levels of governance
Multiple instruments:
- Legislation and regulation
- Financial incentives
- Education
- Research and Innovation
- Procurement
- Voluntary commitments
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 to stimulate supply and demand for organic products
- Action plan for integrated nutrient management to reduce the pollution from fertilisers
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.

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

- Adopt **EU Guidelines on Aquaculture**: pathways for Member States’ national aquaculture development plans.

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

- Adopt **EU Strategy on Algae**.
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 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)
- 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).

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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)
Research, innovation, investments, skills & data

- **Horizon 2020** (call for Green Deal priorities) & **Horizon Europe**
- **Partnership** on food systems & European Innovation Partnership (EIP-Agri)
- **Regional Development Fund** and **Agricultural Fund for Rural Development**
- **Fast broadband internet** in rural areas
- **Facilitate investments** (InvestEU Fund)

Advisory services, data and knowledge sharing:

- MS support for **advisory services** for sustainable farm management
- **Support to SME** food processors, small retail and food service operators: 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.
For healthy people, healthy societies and a healthy planet.

The Farm to Fork Strategy

IT’S DOWN TO US!
Thank you