

Common Agriculture Policy funding opportunities for extensive grasslands



Sonja Karoglan Todorović

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Workshop

Extensively managed grasslands as natural carbon sinks – Practical implementation and requirements for CAP measures

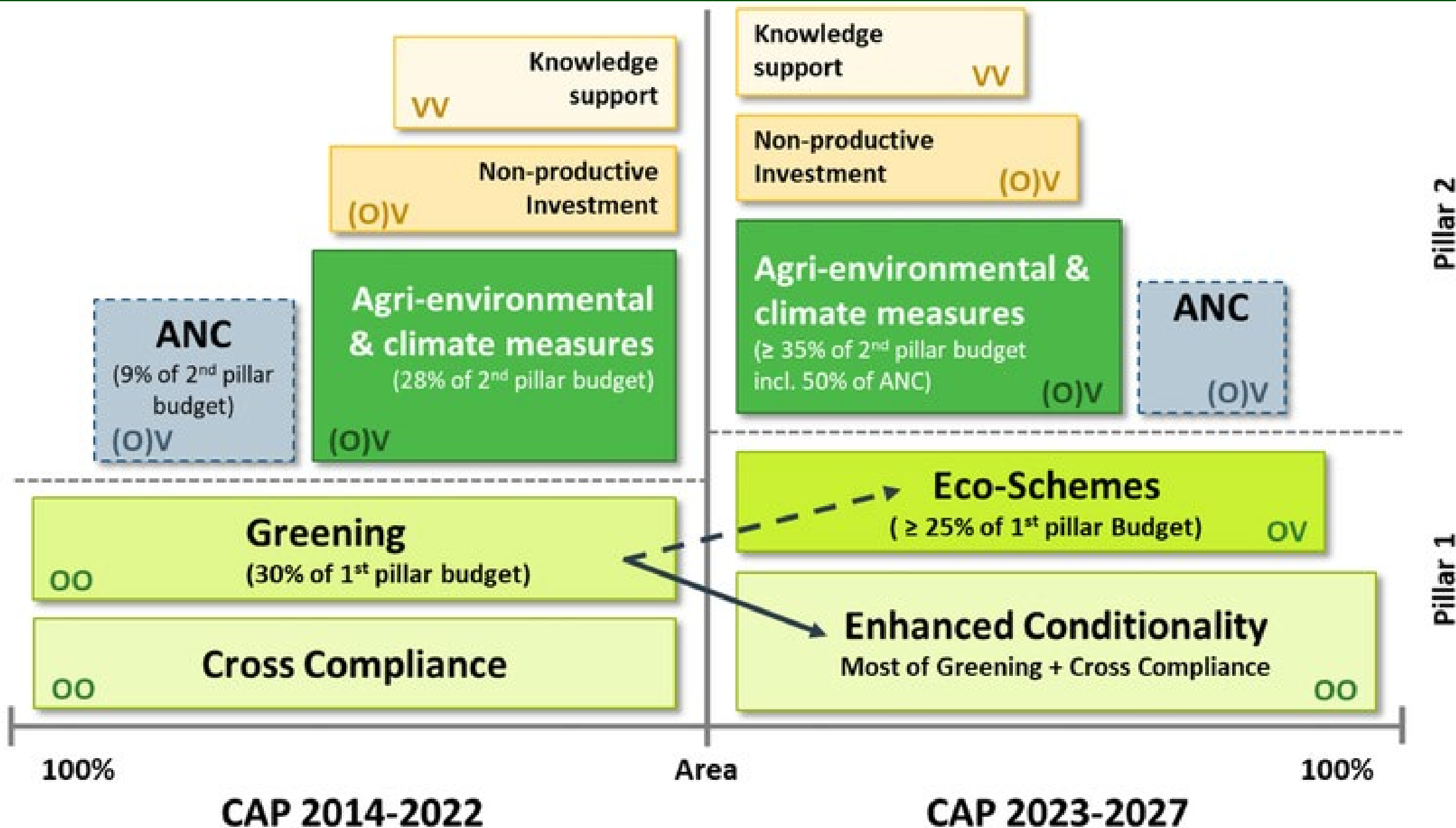
11.-13. June 2024, Slavonski Brod, Croatia

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CAP Green architecture

The background of the slide is a full-page impressionistic painting of a rural landscape. It features rolling hills, fields in various shades of green and yellow, and a dramatic sky with swirling blue and white clouds. The style is reminiscent of Vincent van Gogh's 'Olive Trees with Yellow Sky and Sea'.

- 1. Enhanced conditionality**
- 2. Eco-schemes**
- 3. Agri-environmental-climate measures**

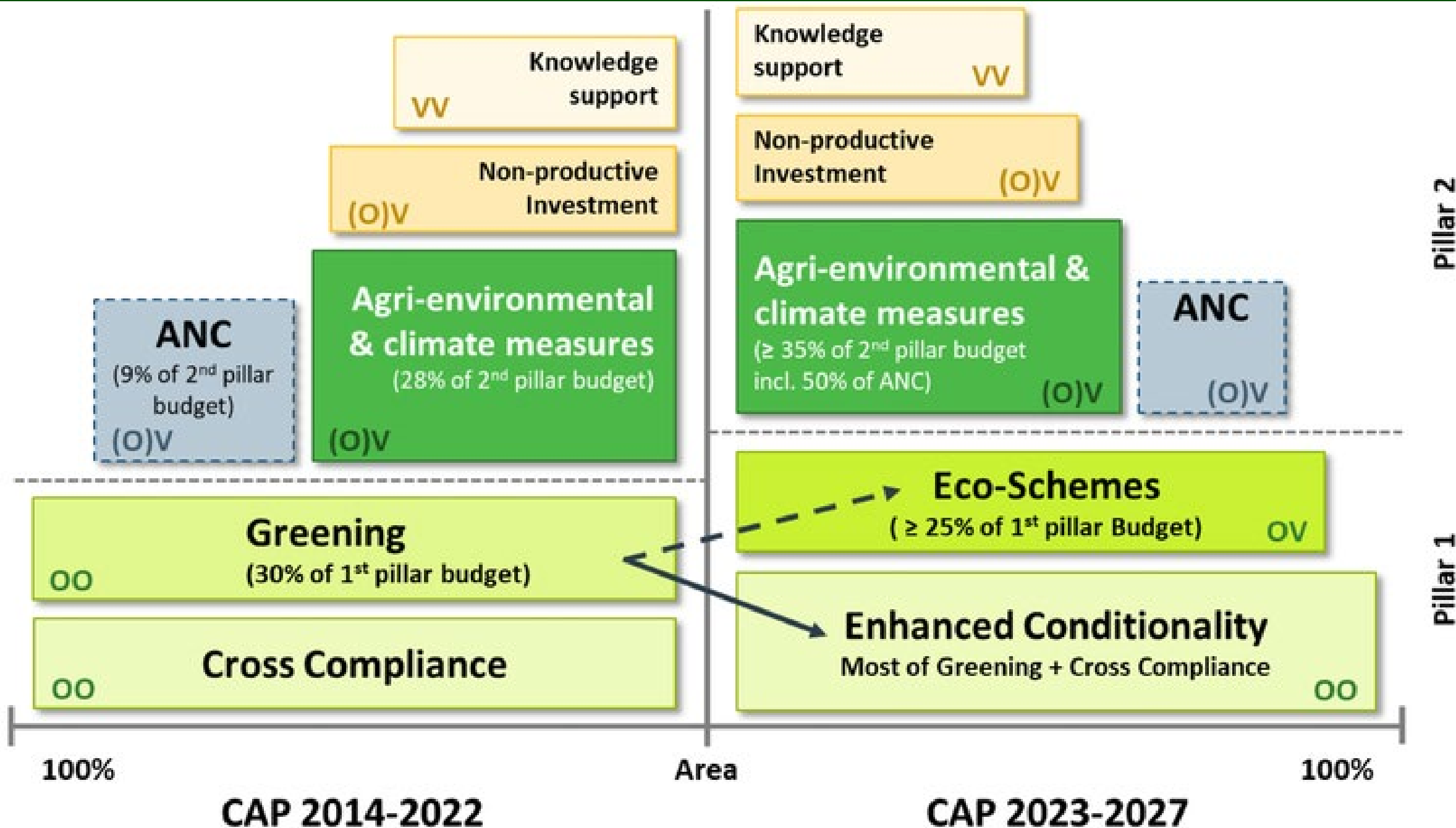


Enhanced conditionality (GAEC and SMRs)

Basic requirements for the receipt of Pillar 1 and 2 area- and animal-related payments, provides the starting point for voluntary interventions in the areas of environment and climate

GAEC 1: Maintenance of permanent grassland based on a ratio PG/agricultural area (at national, regional, sub-regional, holding level)

GAEC 9: Ban on converting or ploughing permanent grassland designated as environmentally-sensitive in Natura 2000 sites (suspended?)

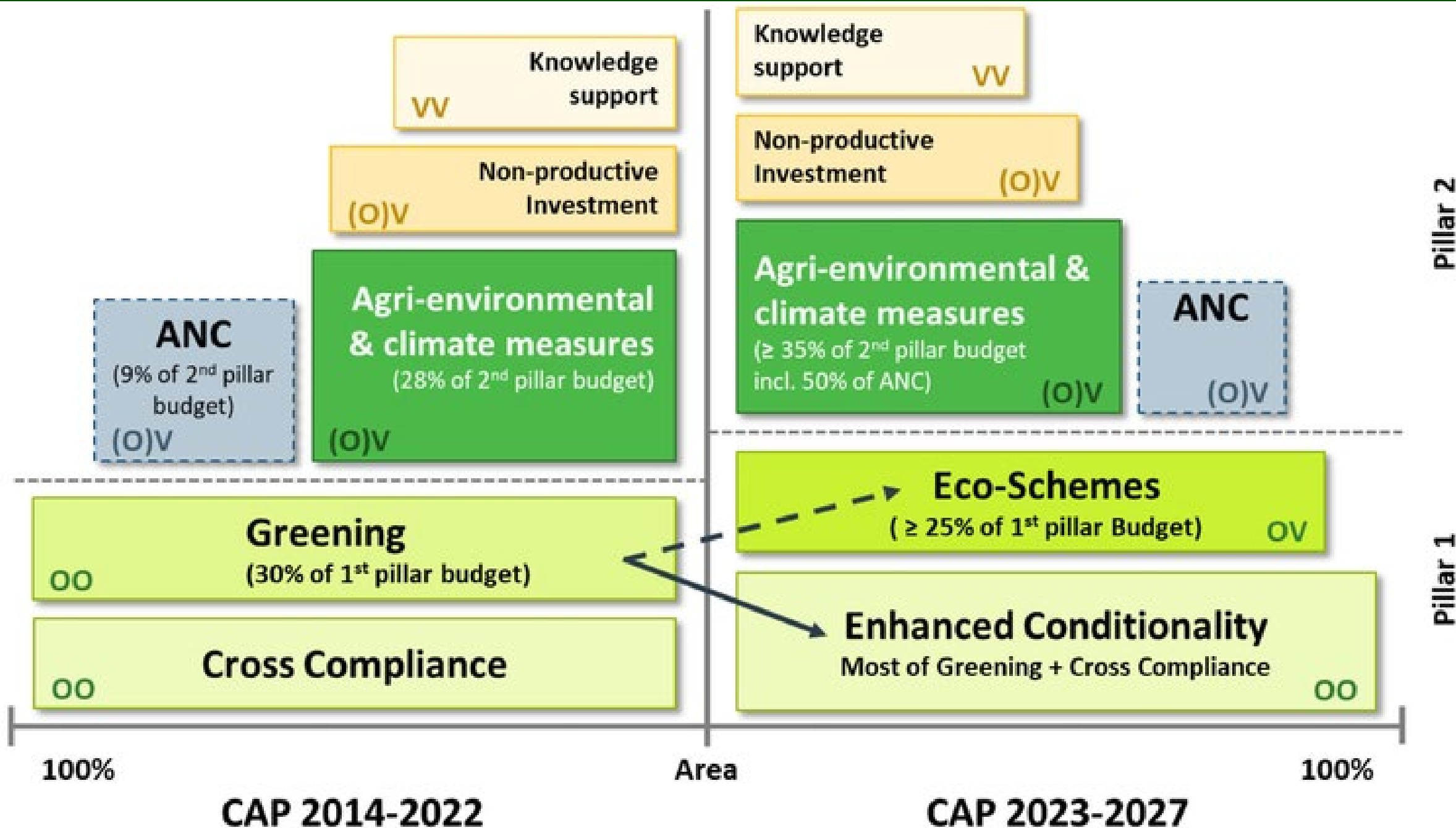


Eco-schemes

- **New intervention requiring MS to use a proportion of their direct payments from the CAP for climate, environment, and animal welfare**
- **Sustainable practices that exceed the standard requirements for area and animal-based payments under both CAP funds**

Grassland in Eco-schemes

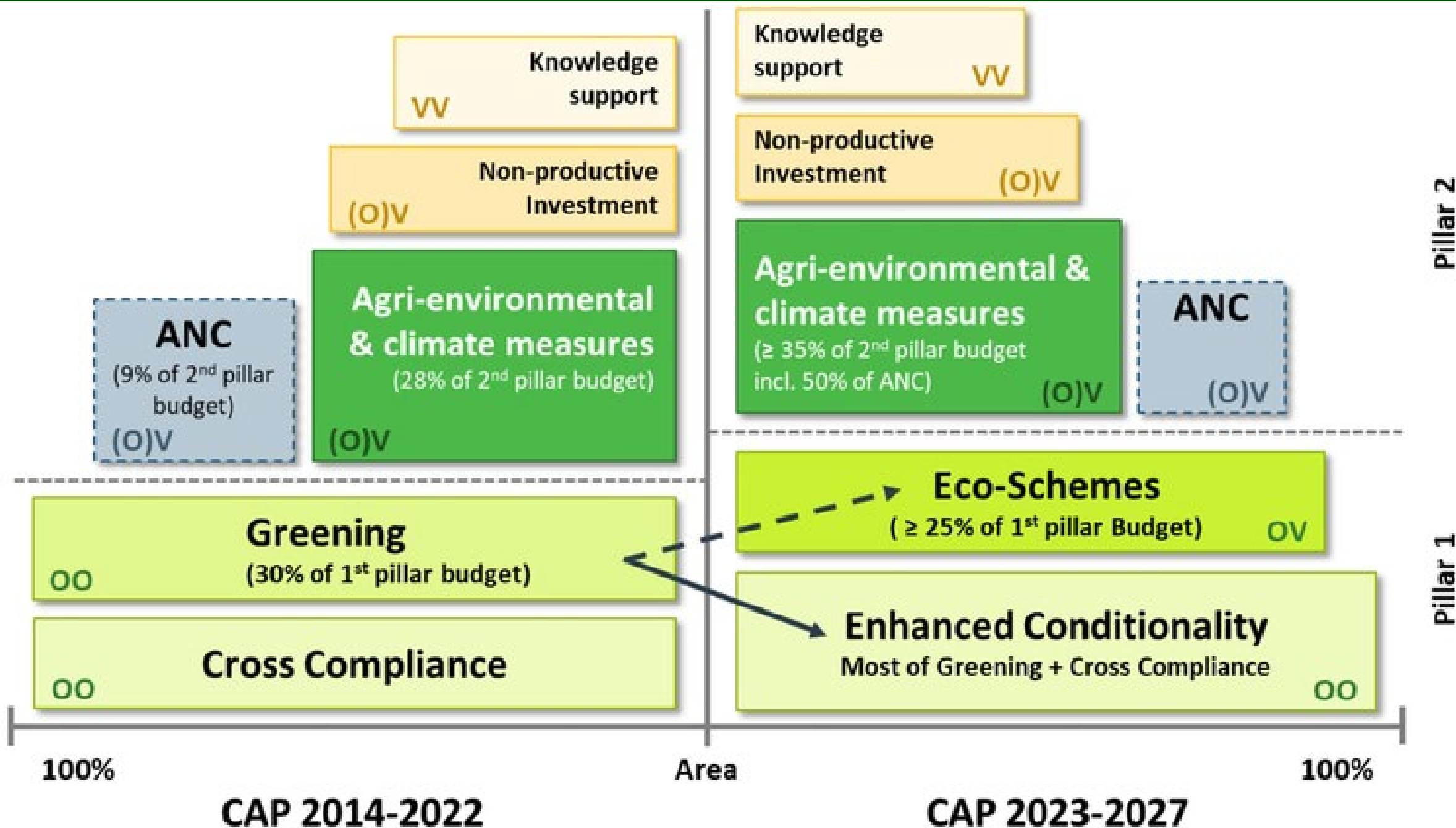
- 20 MS (EE, SK, RO, NL, DE, BG, BE, ES, EL, PL, PT, IE, HU, HR, FI, DK, SI, LT, LV, LU)
- 51 Eco-Scheme
- Eco-schemes targeting specific grassland habitats: 16 interventions in 12 CSPs
- Grazing and grassland management supported by a majority of CSPs



Agri-environmental-climate (AEC) measures

- Grassland is targeted by 26 CSPs (109 interventions)
- Most interventions are action-based and linked to the implementation of defined agricultural management requirements
- Result-based payments (RBP), where the payment depends on the achievement of measurable indicators of a defined environmental result, are still rare.

MS	intervention no.	biodiversity objective	RBP or hybrid	result indicator(s)	targeting and design
	ECO-SCHEME				
DE	DZ 0405	species-rich grassland	RBP	4 wild flower species	national with regional
	ENVCLIM				
DE	EL-0105-04	species-rich grassland	RBP	4 wild flower species + organic	national with regional
DE	EL-0105-04-a-01	species-rich grassland	RBP	6 wild flower species	national with regional
DE	EL-0105-04-a-02	species-rich grassland	RBP	8 wild flower species	national, with regional
ES	6501.3	identified meadows HNV	RBP	maintain/increase floristic diversity	one region (Navarre)
AT	70-17	grassland and arable, min. 1ha in first year	RBP	specific biodiversity objective chosen at farm level, indicators based on this	national, with regional
PT	D.2.2	<i>monatado</i> oak agroforestry	RBP	soil health; oak regeneration; biodiverse pasture; landscape features	Two N2K sites
SI	IRP18.03 BK.14	wet meadows (for birds)	Hybrid	feeding and nesting habitats of corncrake	national
SI	IRP18.03 BK.15	dry grasslands	RBP	To be developed during EIP project	sub-regional, two habitat types



Intervention categories according to SPR

Direct payments (EAGF)

- Basic income support (Art. 21)
- Payment for small farmers (Art. 28)
- Redistributive income support (Art. 29)
- Complementary income support for young farmers (Art. 30) (*)
- Eco-schemes (Art. 31)
- Coupled income support (Art. 32)

Sectoral interventions (EAGF)

- Types of intervention in certain sectors (Art. 47)
- Types of intervention in the apiculture sector (Art. 55)
- Types of intervention in the wine sector (Art. 58)
- Hops (Art. 61)
- Olive oil and table olives (Art. 64)
- Other sectors (Art. 67)

Rural development (EAFRD)

- Environmental, climate-related and other management commitments (Art. 70) (*)
- Natural or other area-specific constraints (Art. 71) (*)
- Area-specific disadvantages resulting from certain mandatory requirements (Art. 72) (*)
- Investments (Art. 73) (*)
- Investments in irrigation (Art. 74) (*)
- Setting-up of young farmers and new farms and rural business start-up (Art. 75) (*)
- Risk management tools (Art. 76)
- Cooperation (Art. 77), including
 - LEADER
 - EIP
- Knowledge exchange and dissemination of information (Art. 78)

Coupled income support/Animal welfare

- Most of the voluntary coupled support for livestock goes to intensive farms and does not support extensive systems.
- Some support is given to protein crops, mostly for livestock feed.
- Animal welfare measure also mostly support intensive livestock production and does not prioritize extensive grassland systems.

Investments

- Most interventions are in the form of productive investments, but non-productive investments are very important for extensive grassland production systems
- Interventions (43 on-farm, 55 off-farm) for restoration of biologically valuable grassland, ponds, hedges and stonewalls, investments in the protection of livestock against large carnivores

Making CAP work for extensive grassland production systems



Making CAP work for extensive grassland production systems

- Adjusting and broadening of SPR definitions (e.g. permanent grassland, agricultural activity, land manager)
- Design Eco-schemes for extensive grassland (annual, multi-year?)
- Design of interventions taking into account extensively managed grasslands (e.g. Coupled payments, AE measures, (non-productive) investments)
- Introduction of measures for restoration of extensive grasslands

Making CAP work for extensive grassland production systems (cont.)

- **Make payments for extensive grassland more attractive, based on adjusted calculations going beyond mere additional costs/income foregone approach (PES-such as carbon sequestration, fire control, flood and drought mitigation, nitrate leaching prevention, BD)**
- **Introduction of intervention for marketing and promotion of products from extensive grassland-based production**

Making CAP work for extensive grassland production systems (cont.)

- **Make use of Cooperation intervention to support extensive grassland production systems (Irish example)**
- **Introduce payments for environmental farm management plans (Austrian example)**
- **Introduce specific advisory packages to support extensive grassland production systems**



Thank you!

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