

# Situation of agroforestry systems in the EU/CAP (2025)

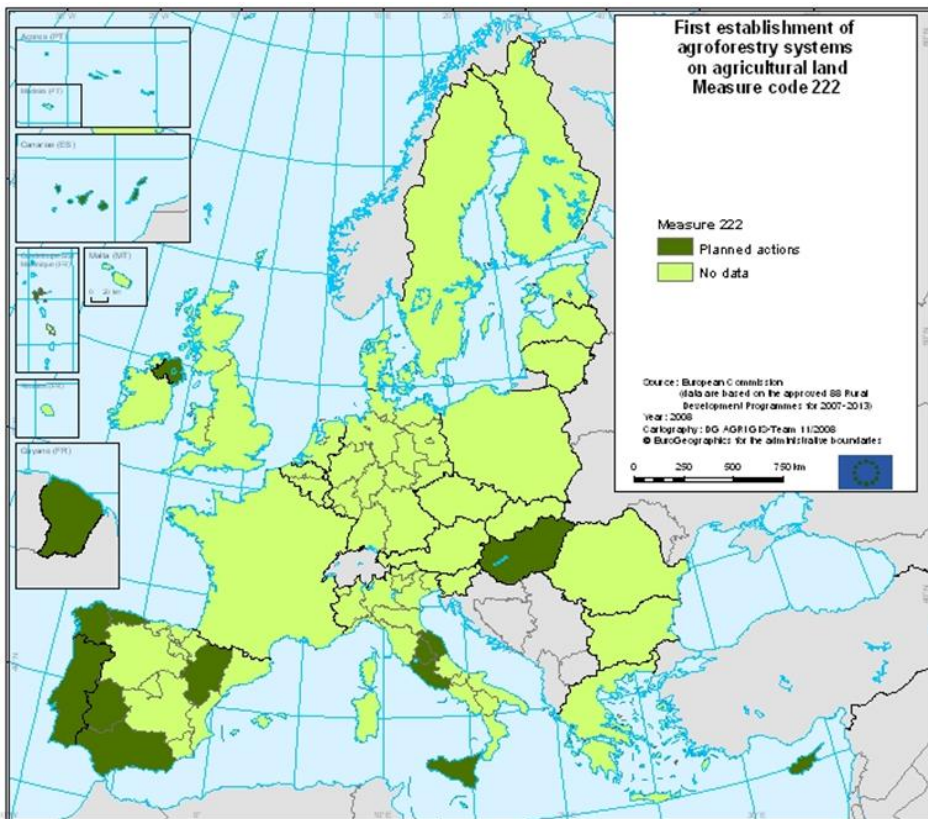
Tamas Szedlak forestry expert

16/17.06.2025 Băile Homorod, Romania

# History of Agroforestry in the CAP

- Introduction of AF to the CAP in 2005 (EC R 1698/05 and R 1974/06) for 2007-2013
  - Establishment of extensive AF system (max number)
- 2014-2022 (EC R 1305/13 amended by the Omnibus R)
  - Introducing support for maintenance of five years and regeneration and/or renovation.
- 2023-2027 (EC R 2115/2021 CAP Strategic Plan R)
  - Definitions for agricultural land, arable land, grassland, pasture, and requests the AF definitions,
  - AF in Investments, Management commitments,

## 2007-13 New measure 222: First establishment of agroforestry systems on agricultural land



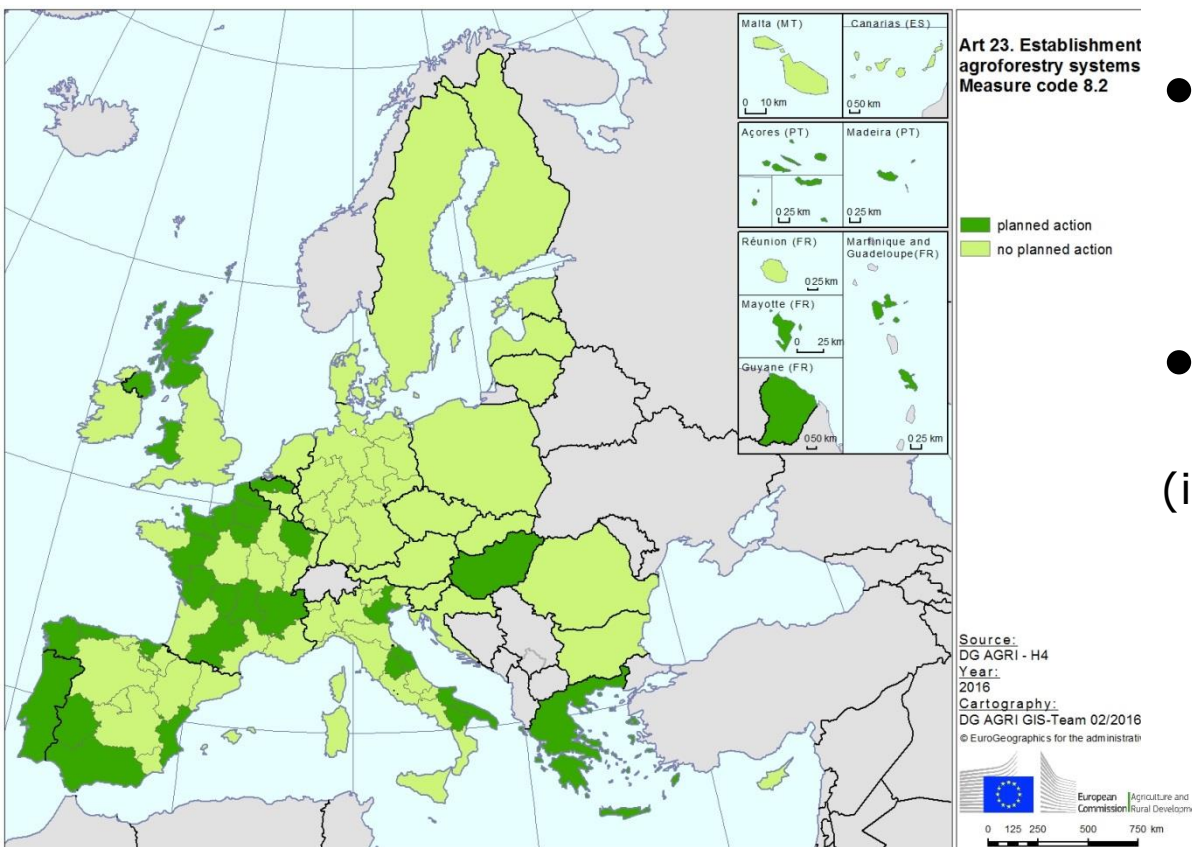
Rather limited uptake in 19 RDPs with programmed more than 3000 beneficiaries on 60.000 ha. But later abandoned in 8 of them.

## Implementation of agroforestry by 2015

- By the end of 2015, 275 beneficiaries, 8% of the programmed ones established 2904 ha new agroforestry systems indicating 5% implementation at area level.
- This low implementation rate is also indicated in the financial figures (EAFRD) since EUR 1.5 million was requested compared with the EUR 22.7 million programmed expenses, meaning 7% of implementation rate.

# 2014-2022 M 8.2, Art.23 Establishment of agroforestry systems

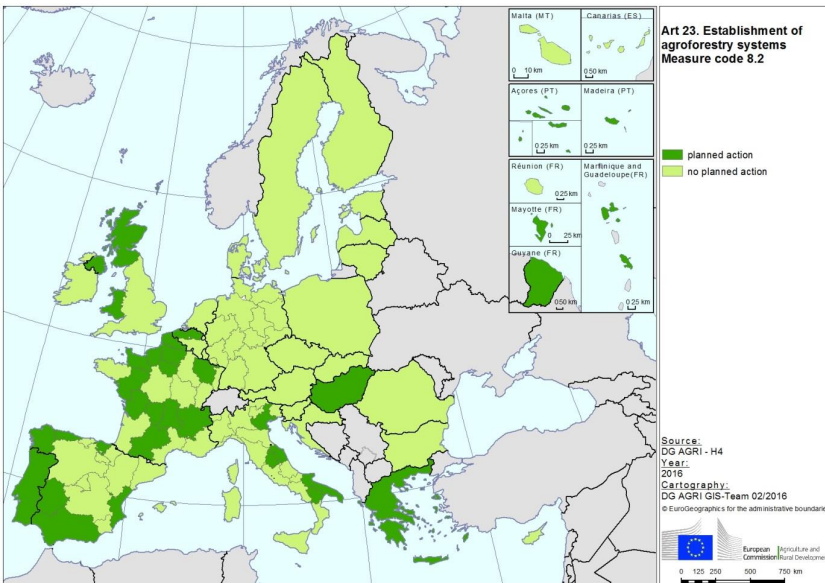
- 36 RDPs from 8 MS programmed the establishment of
- 73 thousand hectares new agroforestry systems, using
- 120 € millions total public expenditure\*  
(in 2017- preliminary data, and under modifications since the RDPs are amended regularly)



## M 8.2, Art.23 Establishment, regeneration, or renovation\* of agroforestry systems by the end of 2023

- Planned area: 15 433 ha
- Reported area 6 949 ha (45%) of the planned area
- implementation by priority and focus areas, 82% of the establishment area was under P5E and 17% under P4
- Planned expenditure: €27 million
- Reported expenditure €11.8 million (43%)

\*amendments by the “Omnibus” Regulation in 2017



# CAP 2023-2027 Green architecture

AKIS



Sectoral interventions

*Other national rules and funding*

**Eco-schemes**  
24 % of DP  
158 ES

+

**AECC /ANC/ASD/Investments**  
48% of EAFRD

Climate change: 187

**All area and animal – based support, subject to conditionality**  
89% of the UAA

Definitions of permanent grassland including woody features  
Definition of agroforestry systems  
Definition of eligible landscape features-around and inside of parcel

Voluntary

Mandatory

# CAP green architecture

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- Creation non-productive area (fallow land, field margins, flower strips)
- Establishment of new landscape features (Trees and hedges) – mainly under non productive investment support
- Maintenance ( pruning conditions) and restoration of existing landscaped features
- Preservation and rewetting wetland
- Establishment of agroforestry system
- Maintenance of **agroforestry** systems,
- **Afforestation** and **woodland premiums**

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- **GAEC 2 : Protection of wetland and peatland**
- **GAEC 4 : Establishment of buffer strips along watercourses, where ban of fertilisers and chemical plant protection**
- **GAEC 6:** Minimum soil cover to avoid bare soil in periods that are most sensitive
- **GAEC 8: ~~Minimum share of agricultural area [arable land] devoted to non-productive areas or features, retention of existing landscape features~~**

FaST – farm  
nutrient tool

Cooperation and  
advice

Research



# Agroforestry and the CAP Strategic Plans



- Total 11 MS planned 22 interventions
- Eastern-Europe ( PL, CZ, SK,HU) – Mediterranean countries ( EL, ES, FR, IT, PT) plus Flanders and Germany
- Support for establishment of agroforestry system via 11 Investment intervention (BE FL,CZ,HU,ES,IT,PL,PT(2),SK)- at least 8200 ha and 75 millions euro and 126 millions respectively for EU budget and total expenditure
- Support for maintenance of agroforestry system via 3 eco-scheme ( DE, EL, AT) and 7 environment-climate commitments ( BE-FL, CZ, ES,IT,PT(4),SK)- around 173 000 ha and 80 millions Euro and 243 millions respectively for EU budget and total expenditure.

# CAP Strategic Plans 2023-2027, agroforestry in rural development

- Based on the CAP Strategic Plan Regulation R No 2115/2021 there are no fixed or well formulated “measures” covering specific activities or investments.
- Under the new system there are 3 main articles for forestry interventions under the rural development section.
  - article 70 for management commitments,
  - article 72 for Natura 2000 related compensations and
  - article 73 for investments,

## Forestry related interventions under the CAP Strategic Plans

- Since there are no “pre-fabricated” measures, the CAP Strategic Plans may include “tailor made” interventions with various combinations of the activities.
- For example, there are “vertical” and “horizontal” combinations of the forestry related interventions. It (typically) means for “horizontal combinations” that in some cases one intervention covers the management/maintenance of afforested and the established/regenerated agroforestry areas under article 70, without providing separated target for the area to be covered or concerning the relevant allocated expenses.

## Forestry related interventions under the CAP Strategic Plans for 2023-2027 period (based on the adopted versions of the plans in 2023)

### Afforestation and agroforestry (article 70 and 73)

- Afforestation establishment, **as investments** under article 73,
  - BG, CY, CZ, DK, EL, HU, IT, LV, LT, MT, PL, PT, SK, ES. (in 14 MS 18 interventions)
- Afforestation maintenance commitments **as management commitments** article 70,
  - CY, CZ, DE, EL, HU, IT, LT, PL, PT, RO, SK, ES (in 12 MS, 19 interventions)
- Agroforestry establishment/restoration, **as investments** under article 73,
  - BE-FL, CZ, HU, IT, PL, PT, SK, ES. (In 8 Ms, 11 interventions)
- Agroforestry maintenance commitments **as management commitments** article 70,
  - BE-FL, CZ, IT, PL, PT, SK. (in 6 MS, 7 interventions)

# Planned expenditures and areas (where it is provided)

<b>Intervention</b>	<b>Total Public Expenditure, EUR</b>	<b>EU contribution EUR</b>	<b>Area - hectare, or number of operations/ units</b>
<b>Afforestation establishment article 73,</b>	353,247,645	226,120,897	8,680 operations and 77,926 ha
<b>Afforestation maintenance commitments article 70</b>	387,963,297	236,603,912	760,979 ha
<b>Agroforestry establishment and restoration, article 73</b>	18,020,515	12,104,625	3,237 operations and 7,515 ha
<b>Agroforestry maintenance article 70,</b>	4,767,676	2,578,930	17,559 ha

## Agroforestry in CAP SP (in Articles 70 and 73)

- **Agroforestry:** the total planned public expenditure is around EUR 23 million of which EUR 15 million are the EU contribution. Of these costs EUR 18 million total public expenditure (EUR 12.1 million EU contribution) represent the establishment costs and EUR 4.8 million total public expenditure (EUR 2.6 million EU contribution) covers the maintenance expenses.
- These expenses are to cover the establishment of the planned around 7,500 hectares agroforestry systems (to be noted that some MS (ES, PT) did not provide area data in the output indicators, just number of operations), and the maintenance of around 17,560 hectares agroforestry areas.
- Implementation is ongoing, annual and biannual reportings.

# Post 2027 period preparation

- Preparation is ongoing, the proposal from the Commission for the new CAP is expected in July 2025.
- Based on the history and the role of agroforestry in climate change, biodiversity, in provision of various ecosystem services and in bio-economy areas, the continuation of support for agroforestry can be expected.
- Consultations are ongoing (internal and with stakeholders, e.g., with EURAF and others)

# Thank you



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