

# Policy Brief: Carbon Farming for Carbon Removals

## Main results / outcomes

Carbon farming aims to optimise carbon capture from the atmosphere to plant material and soil. Many farming techniques that support carbon farming (such as conservation agriculture) exist but are not practiced on a large scale. It is necessary to create incentives for the adoption of climate-friendly practices through carbon farming, as currently, there is not yet a targeted policy tool (under development ) to significantly incentivise the increase and protection of carbon sinks.

## Practical Recommendations

- Accelerate the development of certification methodologies based on the Q.U.A.L.I.T.Y criteria set out in Carbon Removal Certification Framework, CRCF)
- Support the work of the Carbon Removal Expert Group on the voluntary certification of carbon removals and request an assessment of whether a functional EU carbon farming tool can be developed
- Continue to develop the standardisation of monitoring, reporting and verification methodologies to provide a framework for carbon farming
- Continue to promote carbon farming practices through the CAP
- Depending on the recommendations of Carbon Removal Expert Group on the voluntary certification of carbon removals support the development of an EU-wide carbon farming system
- Develop a range of incentives that support the adoption of carbon farming practices
- Support R&D processes that attempt to measure the impacts and life cycle of carbon sequestration techniques
- Develop education and extension processes on the environmental and economic benefits of carbon farming techniques



**Figure 1.** Image that shows carbon farming. Copyright: FREEPIK

## Expected Impacts

The expected impacts of the policy recommendations include improved farm incomes, enhanced resilience to climate change, increased carbon sequestration, enhanced biodiversity and soil health, positive environmental externalities

## About this abstract

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**AgroFossilFree** is a H2020 multi-actor project that will evaluate the current status in EU agriculture regarding energy use and assess existing needs, allowing farmers to optimize agricultural production through more efficient energy use and reduced GHG emissions, resulting in economic, agronomic and environmental benefits. AgroFossilFree will create a framework under which critical stakeholders will cooperate to evaluate and promote the currently available Fossil-Energy-Free Technologies and Strategies (FEFTS) in EU agriculture. The project is running from October 2020 to September 2023.

**Website:** [www.agrofossilfree.eu](http://www.agrofossilfree.eu)



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