



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,  
Bia agus Mara  
Department of Agriculture,  
Food and the Marine

# CAP Reform - process and proposals

Ted Massey, EU Division  
ICOS National Conference  
7<sup>th</sup> November 2019

# Introduction



- Setting Irish context
- CAP Reform Process
- Key elements proposed in the current CAP Reform regarding the environment

# Agriculture in Ireland



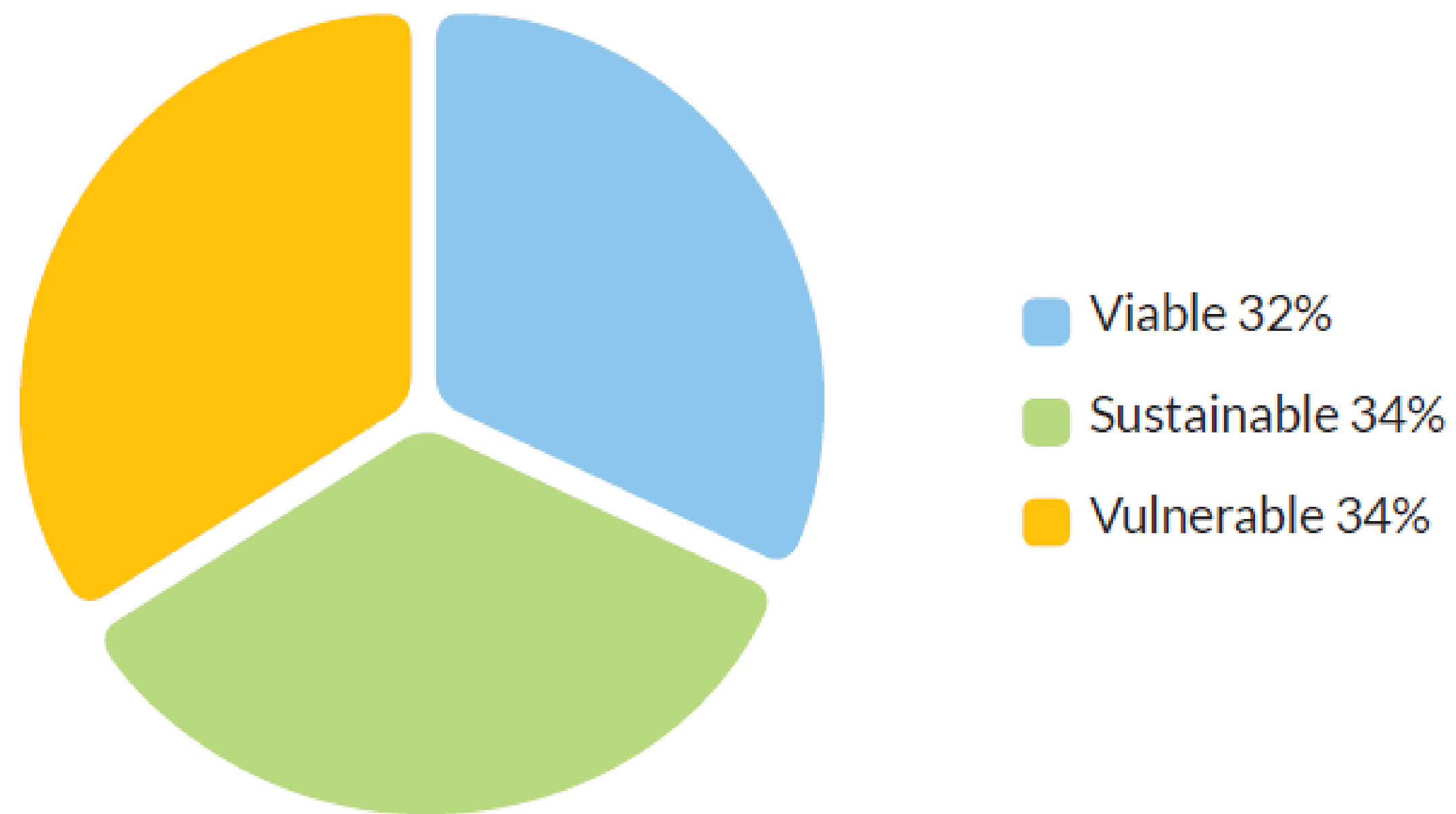
- ~ 4.5m Ha. agricultural land (of a total of 6.9m Ha. in the country)
- 92.1% grassland, 6.3% cereals
- Primarily livestock based
- 137,100 family held farms
- Average farm size: ~ 32.5 hectares



# DAFM's Annual Review and Outlook 2019

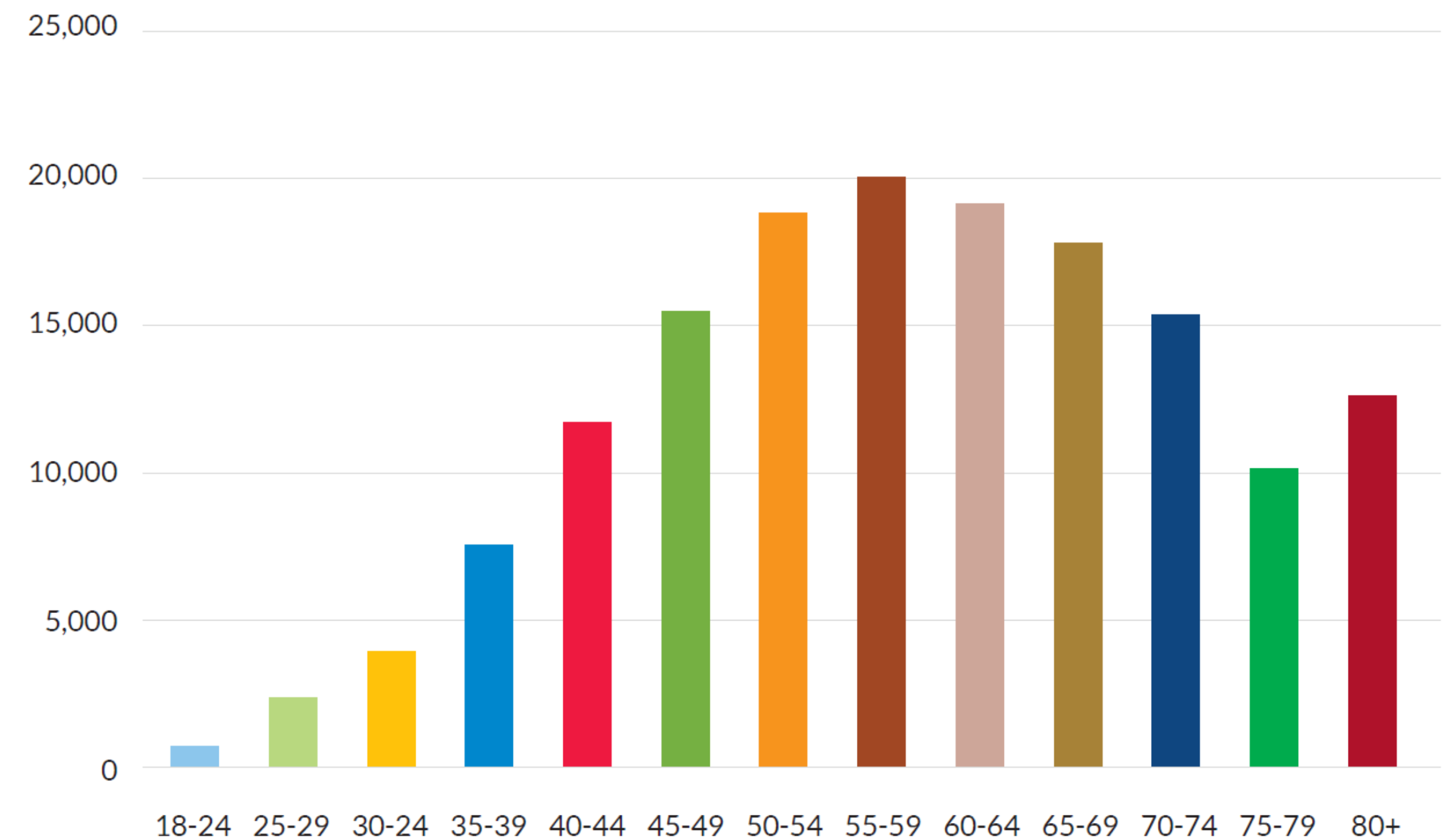


Figure 2.7 Viability of National Farm Survey Farms, 2018



Source: Teagasc, National Farm Survey 2018

Figure 2.15 Age profile of Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine clients, 2018



Source: Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine



# Climate change

## In Ireland over the last 30 years

- Average annual national rainfall has increased approx. 5%
- Average annual temperature increased approx. 0.8°C

## Predictions

- Drier, warmer summers
- Wetter, milder winters
- Extreme events are likely to increase in intensity
- Precipitation may occur in more intense downpours

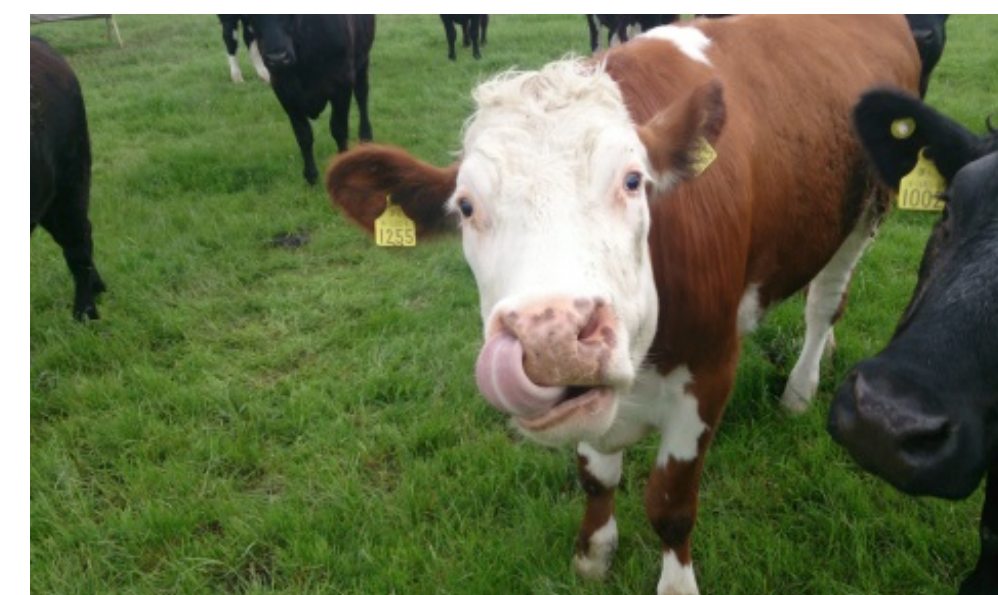
## Impacts on Irish Agriculture

- Increased risk of disruption to agricultural activities
- Increased vulnerability to seasonal extremes e.g. extreme flooding and drought
- Agricultural management systems may need to adapt to future climatic trends



# Environmental challenges

- Animal numbers ↑
- Fertiliser sales and trends ↑
- Soil fertility ↔
- Water Quality ↓
- Greenhouse gas emissions ↑
- Ammonia emissions ↑
- Biodiversity ↓





# The CAP Reform Process – how does it work?



- Commission presents proposals
- Parliament agrees its Position
- Agriculture Ministers agree their Position
- Both combine with Commission to reach a shared agreement
- No agreement yet





# State of Play for the current CAP Reform



- Commission proposals presented June 2018
- Parliament's agriculture committee has voted on their amendments but not enough time remaining for a full plenary vote
- Agriculture Ministers still discussing their position
- Presidency seeking maximum progress
- Transitional measures presented





# Budget



## Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 – the total budget for the EU for a seven year period

- Budget for CAP Post 2020 not yet agreed
- Must be unanimous support among Member States for the full EU budget
- Proposed budget will then be agreed or rejected by European Parliament
- Challenging times ahead!

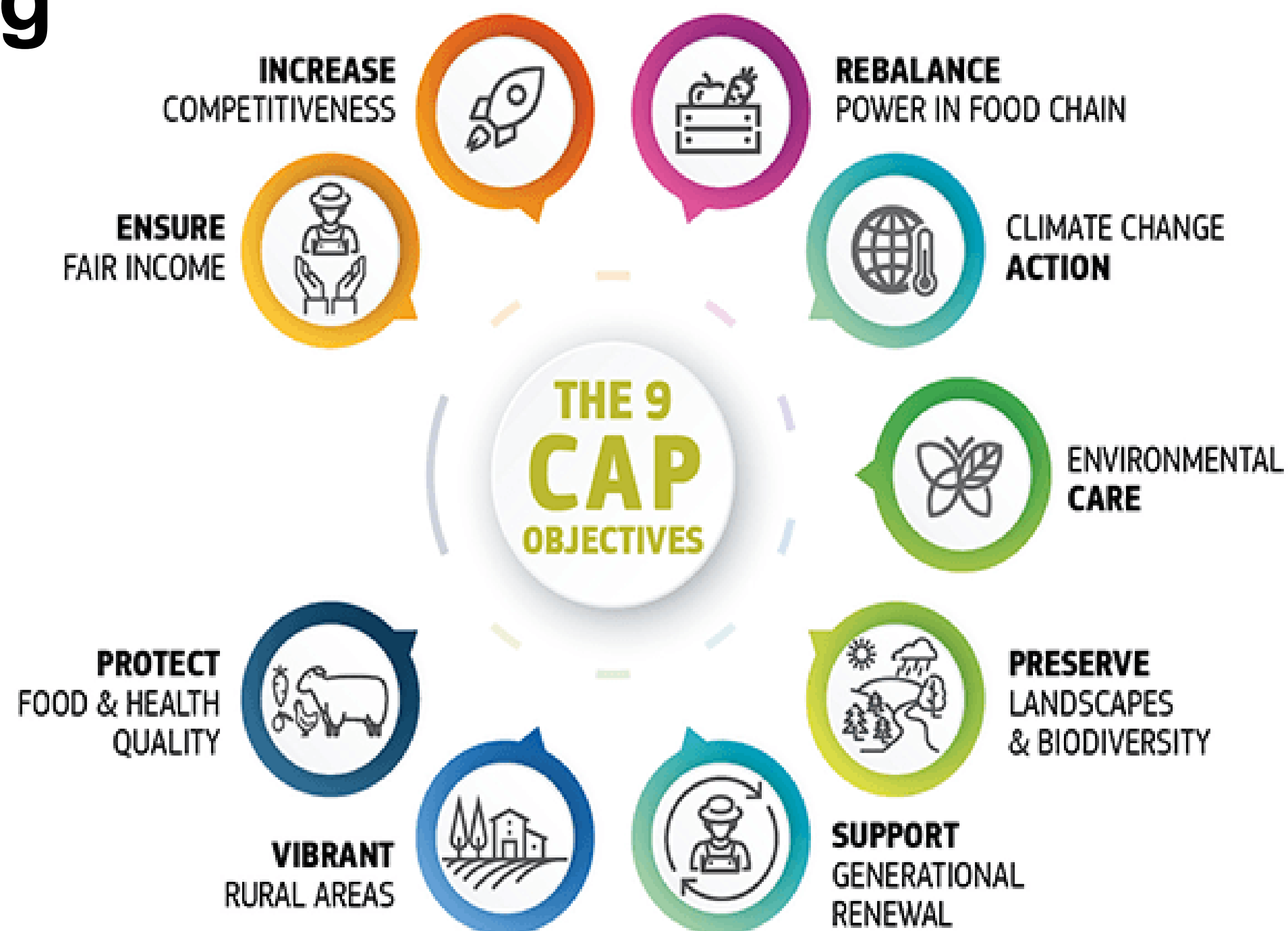


# CAP Post 2020 proposals



## Discussions still ongoing

**Nine objectives** set out what the policy is intended to achieve for farmers, citizens, climate etc.





# Main Changes proposed for CAP



- New Delivery Model
- Environment
- Direct Payments
- Risk Management
- Young Farmers

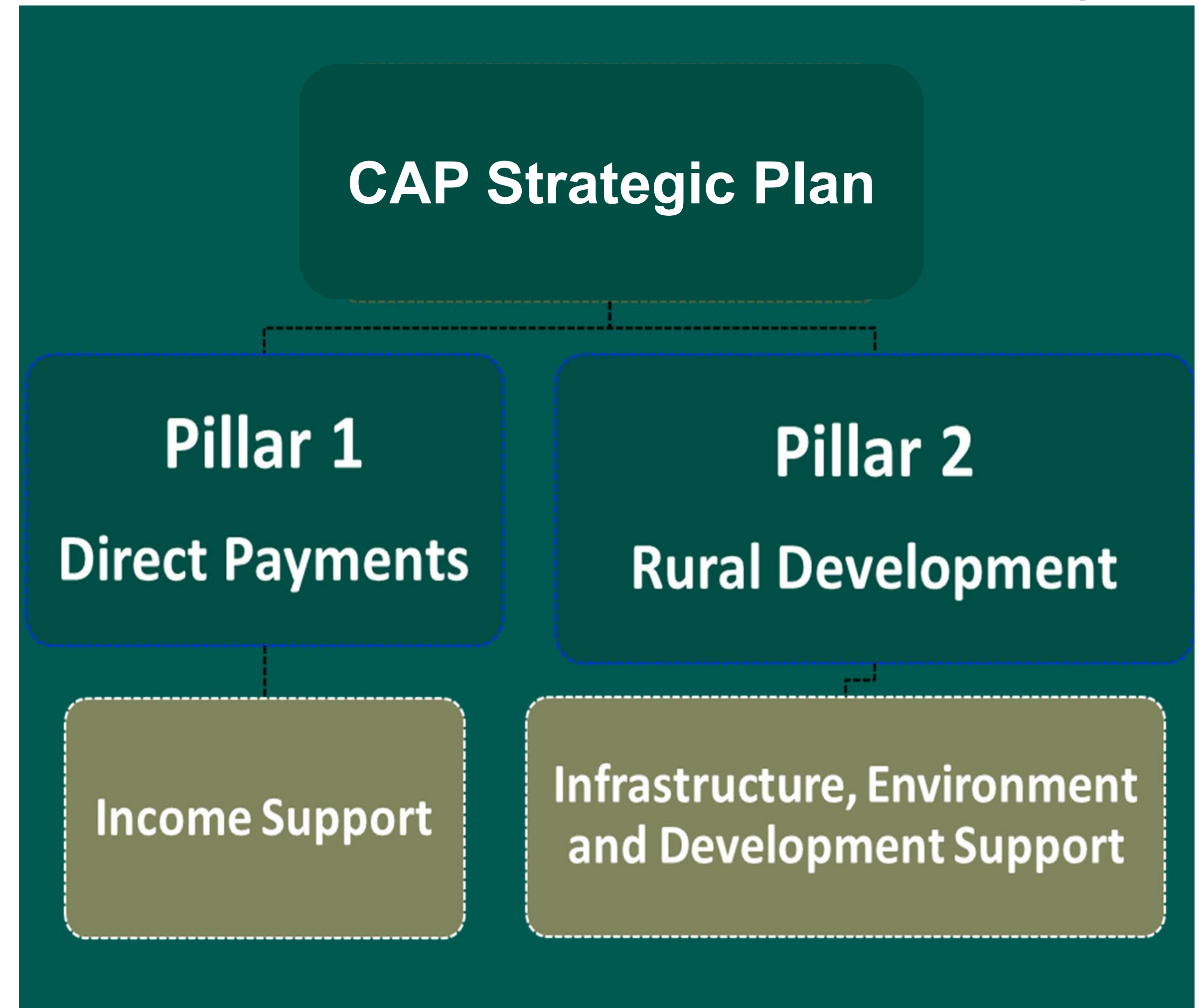




# New Delivery Model



- One national CAP Strategic Plan to cover all interventions; Direct Payments and Rural Development Payments
- Performance based approach based on annual indicators and targets





# CAP Strategic Plan



- Coherent analysis and set of interventions
- Involvement of environmental authorities
- Monitoring Committee to monitor implementation
- Deviation may result in Commission seeking action plan

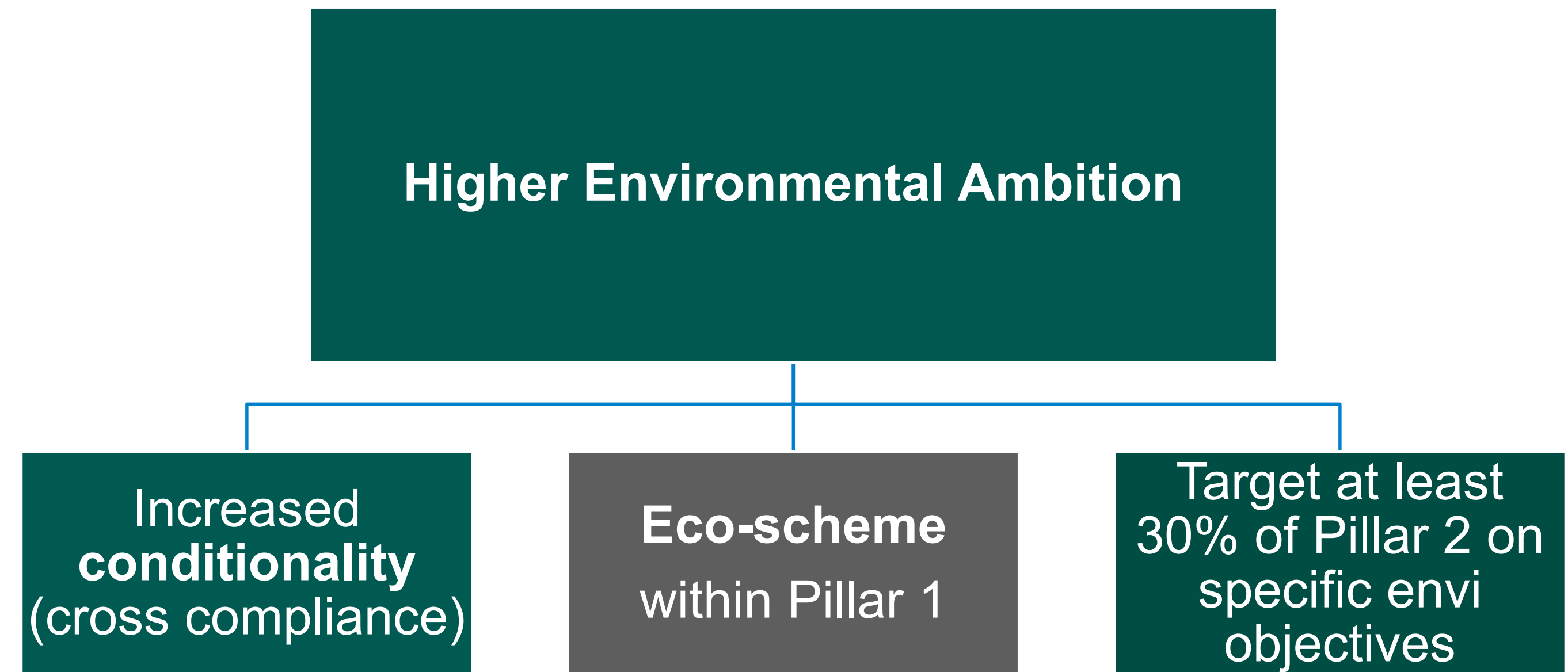




# Enhanced focus on environment



- No backsliding
- Higher environmental ambition
- Increased conditionality (cross compliance) for all direct payments
- Pillar 1 eco-scheme
- Pillar 2 AEEM
- At Member State level target 30% of Pillar 2 on specific envi objectives





# Conditionality (cross compliance)



- Increased SMR and GAEC's
- Main proposed changes:
  - GAEC 2: Protection of wetland and peatland
  - GAEC 5: Nutrient management planning
  - GAEC 8: Crop rotation to protect soil quality and potential
  - GAEC 10: Protection of permanent grassland in Natura 2000 sites

# Eco-scheme



- Mandatory for Member State – voluntary for farmers
- List of agricultural practices beneficial for climate and the environment
- Payment only for interventions going beyond SMR, GAEC and legislative requirements
- Must be consistent with Pillar 2 AEEM
- Annual payment per Ha – annual scheme
- Payment additional to BISS or based on additional costs incurred and income foregone
- Funded within Pillar 1



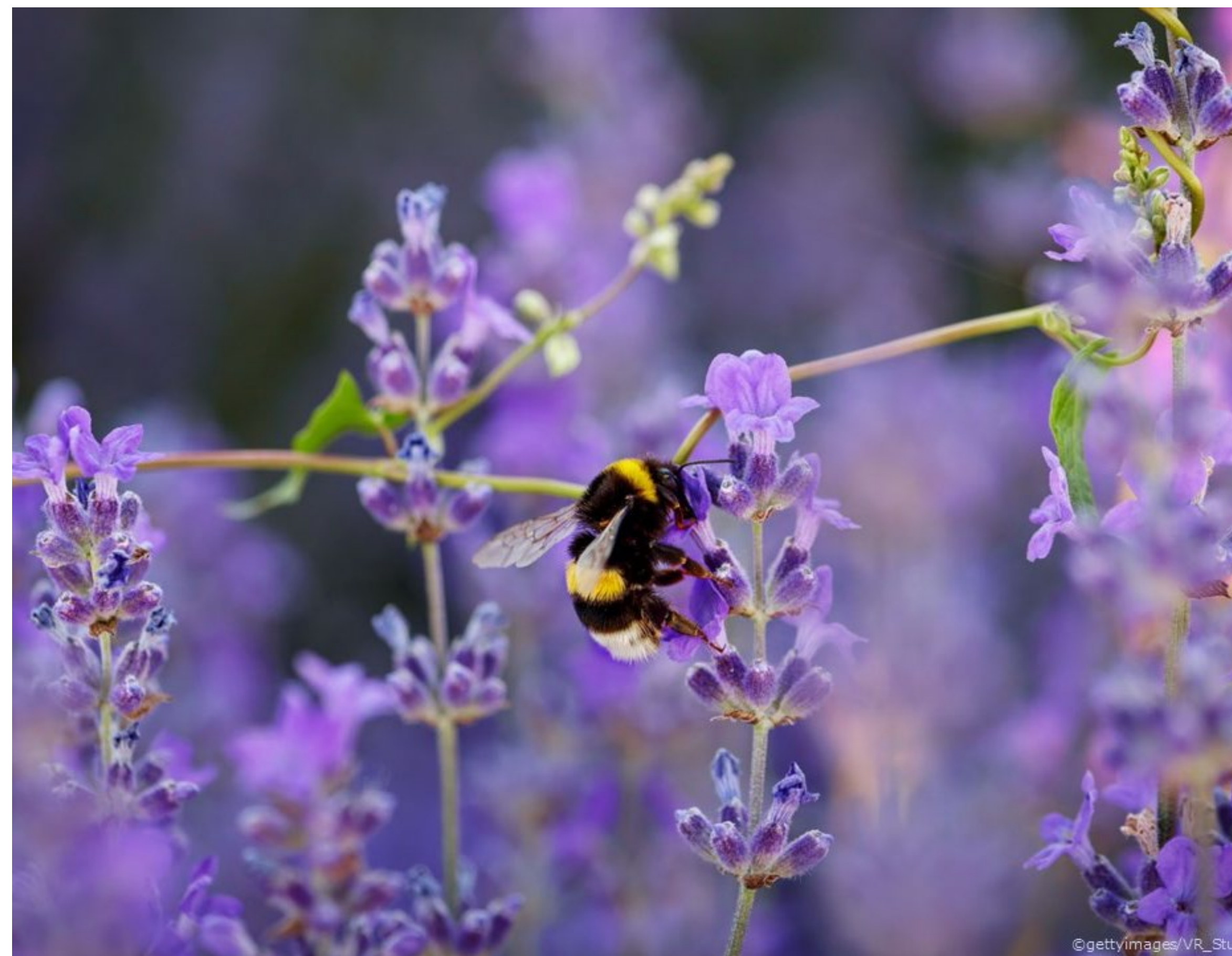
# Pillar 2 AECM



- Mandatory for Member State – voluntary for farmers
- Payment only for interventions going beyond SMR, GAEC and legislative requirements
- Interventions must differ from but be consistent with those supported by eco-scheme
- 5 - 7 year commitment
- Payment based on cost incurred and income foregone
- Participant must have access to knowledge and information required

# Conclusion

- Facing a challenging period
- Requires a coherent approach
- Environmental targeting will be critical under the new CAP
- Industry also has a role to play
- Seeking your views







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