

## **DBV and FNSEA Joint Priorities for the Future EU Budget and Common Agricultural Policy**

The negotiations on the EU's future Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and the post-2027 Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) are now entering a decisive phase. Decisions taken in the coming months on overall EU spending priorities, CAP architecture and delivery model, and the balance between EU- and national-level funding will directly shape farm incomes, competitiveness and the EU's capacity to deliver food security, environmental outcomes and vibrant rural areas. The CAP must remain an economic policy, maintain farming production and promote generational renewal. In this context, DBV and FNSEA have the following policy priorities:

1. Protect and strengthen the CAP budget: no real-terms cuts. The proposed €294 billion for 2028–2034 is insufficient; the CAP needs at least €500 billion (Pillars I & II) EU-wide to secure supply, support farm incomes and meet new challenges. Establish an adequate “crisis reserve” to establish a proper EU safety net, with transparent functioning rules.
2. Uphold the commonality of the policy and ringfence the budget, administration, governance, and implementation of the CAP. Transfer all CAP-relevant articles from the NRPP to the CAP Regulation, including provisions on definitions, CAP interventions, rural development, as well as governance and control systems.
3. Strengthen the income effectiveness of all CAP instruments. CAP measures must clearly and effectively improve farm incomes across all types of farms, regardless of size, legal form or production orientation. All EU rules and interventions should be assessed against their ability to provide real financial incentives and positively impact farm incomes.
4. A rural target must not replace CAP Pillar II. The proposed 10% NRPP rural target is useful but cannot substitute the EAFRD. Keep an independent, earmarked Pillar II / rural development budget of at least €100 billion, with a dedicated Rural Development chapter in the CAP Regulation and associated measures (investment, AECM, disadvantaged areas, reinforced and adequate risk management, knowledge transfer, LEADER). Cofinancing rules shall not generate distortions between Member States.
5. No mandatory capping or degressivity. Mandatory implementation of degressivity across all Member States is not feasible given the diversity of farms structures. A basic income support must remain available to all active farms per hectare. DBV and FNSEA call for a reliable, income-effective basic payment, stronger support for young farmers.
6. Simplify the CAP. Reduce overall conditionality and abolish the sectorally unrelated social conditionality from the EU agricultural support. DBV and FNSEA are calling that baseline requirements and protective practices must be practical, easy to implement, and must not undermine the economic viability of CAP support. Remove rigid principles such as DNSH and replace mandatory practices with voluntary and properly incentivised measures. Favour measures that increase competitiveness by investments.

The decisions to be taken must be grounded on a real ambition: Agriculture is one of the key components of the security of the European Union.