



# FARM' IN

INCLUSION THROUGH  
SOCIAL FARMING



Co-funded by  
the European Union

European Project Co-funded by the Program Erasmus+ KA210- VET |  
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# 1.12. CAP 2023-2027

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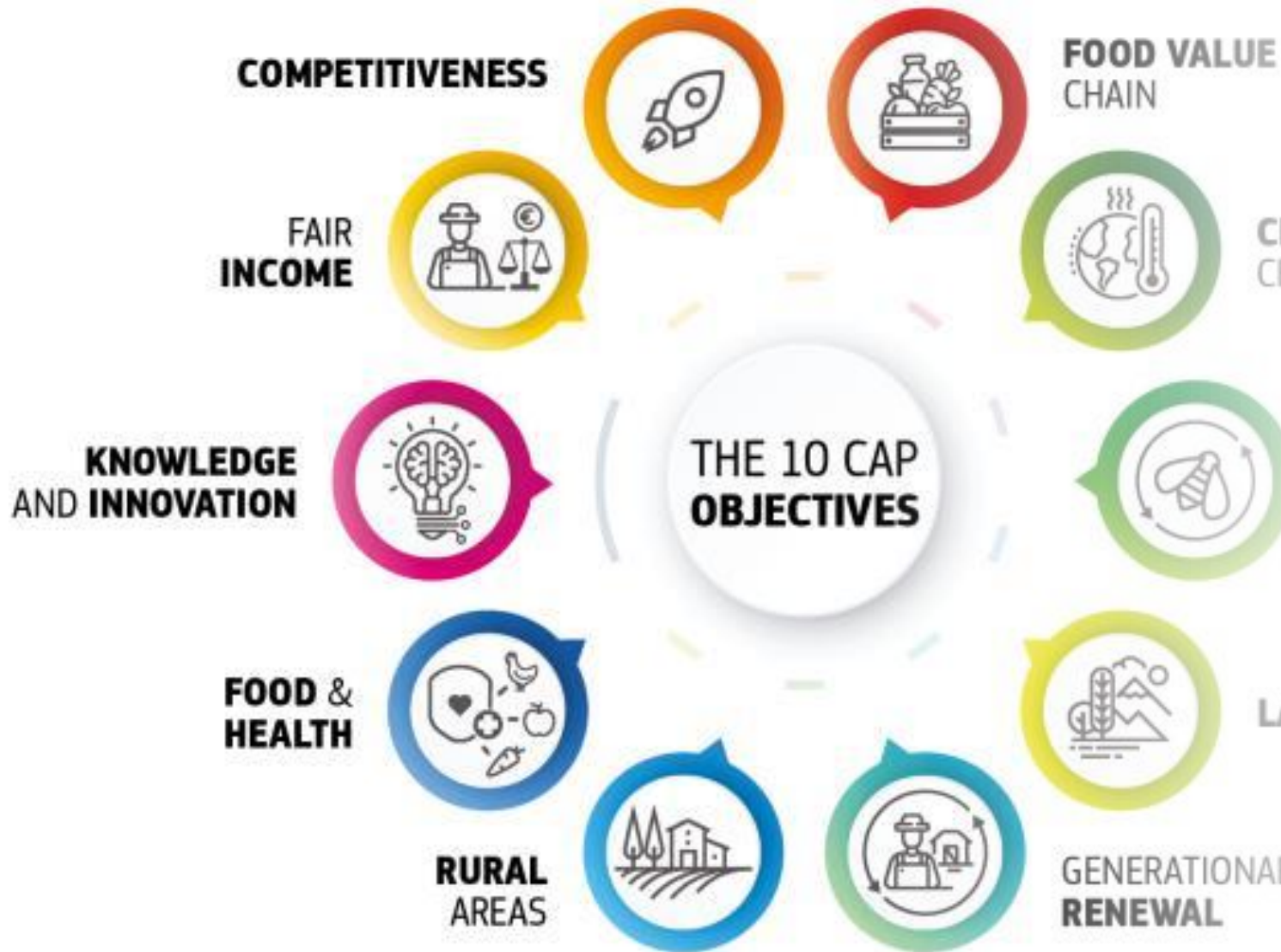
The EU guidance documents highlight

- the importance of social issues and inclusive growth in rural areas, with an emphasis on the need to develop services also as innovative job opportunities
- the need to keep rural areas vital (2016 Cork 2.0 Declaration on Rural Development) and to strengthen the economic fabric of rural areas (2017 Commission Communication on the “Future of Food and Farming”)
- the commitment to the development of dynamic rural areas (2021 CAP Strategic Plan Regulation)

Agriculture and rural areas are central to the [European Green Deal](#), and the CAP 2023-27 will be a key tool in reaching the ambitions of the [Farm to Fork](#) and [biodiversity](#) strategies.



# CAP 2023-2027 objectives



- to ensure a fair income for farmers;
- to increase competitiveness;
- to improve the position of farmers in the food chain;
- climate change action;
- environmental care;
- to preserve landscapes and biodiversity;
- to support generational renewal;
- vibrant rural areas;
- to protect food and health quality;
- fostering knowledge and innovation.

Key objective: **vibrant rural areas** → Jobs, growth and equality in rural areas

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Promote employment, growth, gender equality, including women's participation in agriculture, social inclusion and local development in rural areas, including circular bioeconomy and sustainable forestry.





# The role of CAP interventions in rural areas

- The CAP plays a major role in alleviating some of the unemployment and poverty pressures on rural areas.
- A recent study by the World Bank demonstrated the positive role played by the policy in reducing poverty and helping passing through its benefits to the wider economy of rural areas, especially through the positive effects of decoupled payments and rural development measures.
- Rural development policy can play a role in promoting a more inclusive society and making rural areas a better place to live. Keeping people, and notably the young ones, in rural areas and addressing other social challenges require enabling conditions, such as access to business opportunities, knowledge, and basic services.

# The role of CAP interventions in rural areas

Under the basic services measure, the rural development policy contributes to the closing of the gap between the rural and urban population and tries to slow down the depopulation of rural areas by making them more attractive and viable, including for younger generations.

# Common objectives and MS specificities

EU countries implement the 2023-27 Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) through tailored [national CAP Strategic Plans](#), targeting local needs while supporting EU objectives and the European Green Deal.

The 28 CAP Strategic Plans are working at different speeds, based on their organization, needs, problems to be addressed, etc.

→ [The 28 CAP Strategic Plans underway: summary of implementation in 2023-24](#)



# CAP 2023- 2027 for Social farming

## **SLOVENIA**

- Intervention Investment support for the establishment and development of not-agricultural activities, including bio-economy and heritage conservation

## **ITALY**

- not-agricultural productive investment in rural areas
- cooperation for rural, local and smart villages

## **GREECE/ITALY/SLOVENIA**

Leader, EIP-AGRI OGs; AKIS

# Not-agricultural activities

- Intervention generally aimed at incentivizing investments in business diversification activities that promote economic growth and sustainable development in rural areas.
- Support for investments in not-agricultural activities pursues the objective of contributing to the increase in income of agricultural families as well as improving the attractiveness of rural areas, contributing, at the same time, to counteract the tendency towards depopulation of the same.



# Italy - not-agricultural productive investment in rural areas (CAP 2023-2027)

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## Result indicators

R.39 - Developing the rural economy: Number of rural businesses, including bioeconomy businesses, created thanks to CAP funding

R.42 - **Promoting social inclusion: Number of people covered by social inclusion projects**

## Types of interventions

1. agritourism; 2. **social farming**; 3. educational/didactic activities; 4. transformation of agricultural products and their processing and marketing (direct sales); 5. tourism-recreational activities; 6. forestry, aquaculture, and maintenance of greenery and the territory.

# LEADER

LEADER is the EU's participatory and bottom-up approach to involve rural people in community led local development through local strategies, local projects, and decision-making processes.



# LEADER

LEADER aims at promoting the vitality of rural areas and helping to combat phenomena of depopulation, poverty and environmental degradation, triggering development processes capable of making rural areas more:

- ✓ sustainable because they are climate-neutral;
- ✓ welcoming for the high standards of quality of life offered;
- ✓ attractive for the type and remuneration of the job opportunities available.







Experiences  
from past CAP

© Municipality of Črna na Korošk



# Better social services for children and the elderly from Romania's Revărsarea

This project used CAP funds to help convert a disused cinema building into a modernised and well-equipped community facility.

CAP supported the transformation of the building, allowing the ESF to be used for introducing new specialised social inclusion services for priority vulnerable groups, such as children living with grandparents while parents work abroad.



# Results

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- Two social centres were officially launched in June 2023
- More than 100 children and their families have received social services aimed at decreasing school dropout, preventing social exclusion, addressing domestic violence, and promoting overall well-being.
- Roma minority members (often facing discrimination and marginalisation) receive tailored support that promotes their inclusion and empowers them to overcome systemic barriers



# Anton Vrbnjak Farm (Slovenia)– Diversifying into therapeutic horse riding

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Support from the LEADER measure was used for purchasing a carriage; equestrian equipment for horseback riding; developing riding paths with signposts; the construction of a riding hall whose dimensions were 20 x 40 m, as well as hiring an instructor/therapist.

## Results

- The project expanded the range of tourist products and services in the Prlekija area, with both economic and social benefits.
- A 15 % growth in visits to the farm has been recorded.
- A new job for a therapeutic riding instructor was created on the farm.





# Supporting a healthy lifestyle for all generations (Slovenia)

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A LAG in cooperation with local actors set up a project to create free outdoor recreational infrastructure for different audiences; modernise and improve children's playgrounds; and motivate the local population to engage in outdoor physical activity through workshops and lectures.

## Results

- In four municipalities, 29 locations were established for outdoor recreation and made available to a range of target groups.
- Over 45 events, workshops and presentations were targeted at the target groups, including children, parents, grandparents, elderly and people with disabilities.



# Promote access to work for disabled people in rural Greece

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A Charitable Association certified as a provider of social care services to young adults and minors with severe intellectual disabilities used LEADER funding to establish a pasta and jam-making workshop, to provide training and employment opportunities.

The project combats the social exclusion and discrimination endured by this particularly vulnerable group by promoting local development through the creation of jobs and the diversification of income sources for local producers.

## Results

- The workshop created at least five full-time jobs, including one person with an intellectual disability. Work opportunities are expected to increase when the demand for the workshop's products increase.
- The workshop uses material from five local producers. Three distribution companies distribute the workshop's products to a total of 65 stores.



# Terre & comuni (Italy)

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The project area is very close to two centres for asylum seekers that receive refugees from Africa and the Middle East. A social enterprise with a LAG developed the project blending the use of the ESF and the EAFRD for testing new tools for promoting social innovation.

## **Results:**

- Training for 46 young unemployed people (27 local and 19 migrants) on enterprise setting up, social farming, and European funding, including 100 hours working (10 participants) either at the premises of the local botanic park on sustainable horticulture or at the LAG offices, where they got involved in analytical and research work on the conditions and problems of migrants present in the area.
- Participants produced a sustainable garden, the wooden African barn.





# Agrisociale: Coltiviamo Cittadinanza (Italy)

LAG Sulcis Iglesiente stimulated SF activity at a municipal level through a project started in 2011: five municipalities were selected, via a public call by the LAG, to manage financial resources to create social farms.

## Results:

- St'Orto. Coltiviamo Diritti
- Kindergarten and other childcare activities

