

# LET'S UNITE FOR A JUST TRANSITION!

Did you know the EU spends €55 billion of your taxpayer money every year on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)? That's one-third of the EU budget! The CAP serves as the EU's instrument for agricultural subsidies and support. Most of this money goes to big industrial farms, while smaller farms struggle. This isn't by accident: powerful agro-industry giants

and lobby groups use their economic power to keep business as usual. We have a chance to change this! In 2025, the Council of the EU will negotiate the next budget, which determines what funds are available and how they should be used. Now is the time to speak up. You have a voice in how your taxes should be spent, let's demand that politicians fund our future!





Currently 80% of CAP money goes to only 20% of EU farms because of the harmful subsidy system: the bigger the farm, the bigger the subsidy. This industrial approach damages nature and drives smaller farms out of business. Europe lost 37% of farms between 2005 and 2020, while large farms increased by 20% during the same period. Instead of allowing this trend to continue, the CAP should support a just agroecological transition for all!



The current dominant model of European agriculture is **not the only way!** Many farmers, activists, NGOs, and citizens across Europe have worked on solutions to fix our food systems.



## THE AGROECOLOGICAL TRANSITION

Agroecology is a farming system based on ecological, social and political principles which can **feed the world while respecting the environment**. It involves phasing out chemical fertilizers and pesticides, diversifying crops, and collaborating with nature, while producing enough good food for everyone. A widespread switch to agroecology across Europe would reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the agricultural sector by 40%!

# **BLOCKERS OF CHANGE**

It is not by chance that the CAP continues to reward large-scale, destructive industrial agriculture. **There** is a powerful web of players pulling the strings:

Pesticide and food industry giants, along with agro-lobby groups, regularly **meet with MEPs** to prevent social and environmental reforms.

Over half of what you spend on food goes to big businesses, not local farmers.



**Wealthy landowners** and corrupt politicians use secret land deals to **get CAP funds** which could otherwise have gone to smaller-scale farmers.

Just 3% of farms owners control 52% of the EU's farmland.

### SOCIAL & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

The shift to sustainable farming requires that farmers receive support to change their practices and adapt to climate change, and this should be affordable for you. **The EU can make this change happen.** 

To make this a just transition, the EU needs to:

Redistribute public funds to support the transition to **climate-friendly farming**.



Regulate agribusinesses to ensure that they don't make enormous profits at the expense of the rest of the supply chain and the planet.

(Re)introduce market regulations to ensure **stable incomes for farmers**, also in times of crises.



Guarantee the **rights of agricultural workers**, eliminate exploitation and increase safety at work.

# **GENERATIONAL RENEWAL**

Only 12% of farmers are under the age of 40, threatening the existence of rural communities that our food systems rely on. While many young people want to become farmers, they face challenges like low incomes and accessing land. We need a CAP that rethinks rural development by providing young farmers and farm workers with financial support and educational assistance.



JOIN THE COOKBOOK-ACTION!

We will deliver your demands to the European Commission!

