



Towards an organic food system

Airi Vetemaa, Estonian Organic Farming Foundation

airi.vetemaa@gmail.com

The future of food and agriculture FAO 2017:



- High-input, resource-intensive farming systems, which have caused massive deforestation, water scarcities, soil depletion and high levels of greenhouse gas emissions, cannot deliver sustainable food and agricultural production.
- Needed is a transformative process towards 'holistic' approaches, such as agroecology, agroforestry, climate-smart agriculture and conservation agriculture, which also build upon indigenous and traditional knowledge.

Role in sustainable development goals

UN SDG 17



**ORGANIC AGRICULTURE & THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS.
ORGANIC IS PART OF THE SOLUTION**

Increasing
positive impact



Reducing
negative impact



<https://www.eosta.com/en/news/sustainable-development-goals-and-the-link-to-organic>

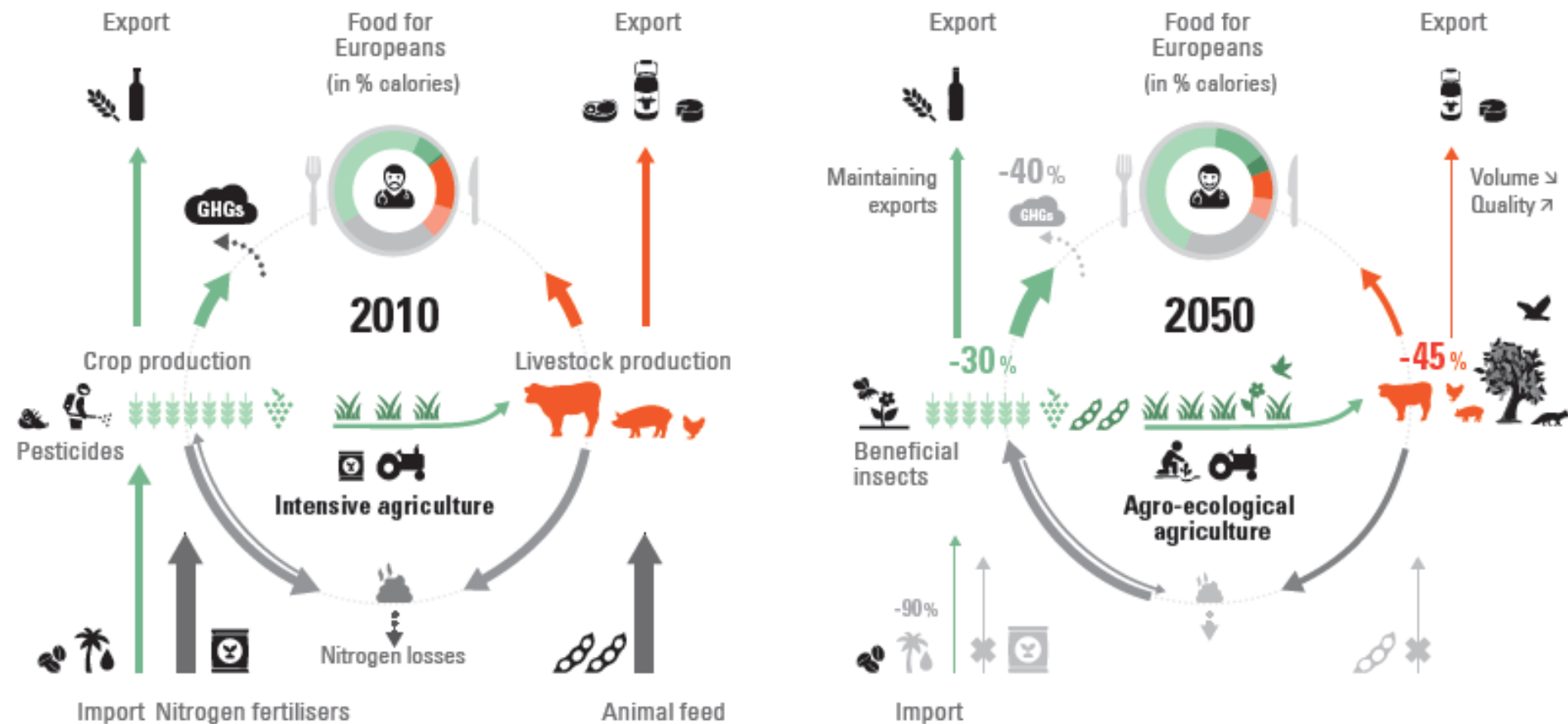
Scientific research



Organic farming performed better

- **Water protection:** high potential for the protection of groundwater and surface water, especially in nitrogen leaching and pesticide contamination
- **Soil fertility:** more earthworms, lower acidification, less compaction
- **Biodiversity:** more pollinators, farmland birds, field margins vegetation etc
- **Climate mitigation:** higher organic carbon content in soils and higher carbon sequestration
- **Climate adaptation:** higher erosion prevention and flood protection
- **Resource efficiency:** higher N and energy efficiency

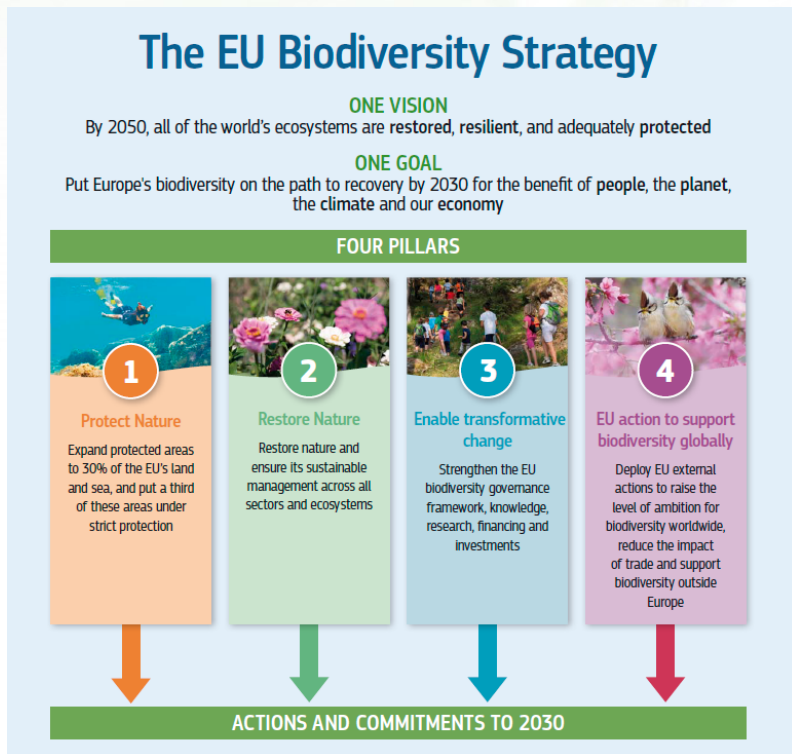
IDDRI Report 2018: fully agroecological Europe 2050



EU Green deal: Farm to Fork & Biodiversity strategies

Common target:

- at least 25% of the EU's agricultural land under organic farming by 2030



EU Action Plan for the development of organic production 2021-2027



- **Promote consumption** - boosting demand, maintaining consumer trust and bringing organic food closer to citizens
- **Increase production** – CAP support schemes, sharing best practices, research and innovation, reinforcing local and small-scale processing, supporting the food chain, improving animal nutrition.
- **Improve sustainability** - improving animal welfare, ensuring the availability of organic seeds, reducing carbon footprint, minimising the use of plastics, water and energy, focus on research and innovation



EU Action Plan for the development of organic production 2021-2027



„Organic farmers are the pioneers of the sustainable agriculture of the future. They open ways in greening agriculture and innovative production techniques that are friendly to the environment, and promote circularity and animal welfare.“



Organic Farming is part of the solution!

Thank You for listening!

