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CAP Strategic Plans – priority considerations





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Climate change

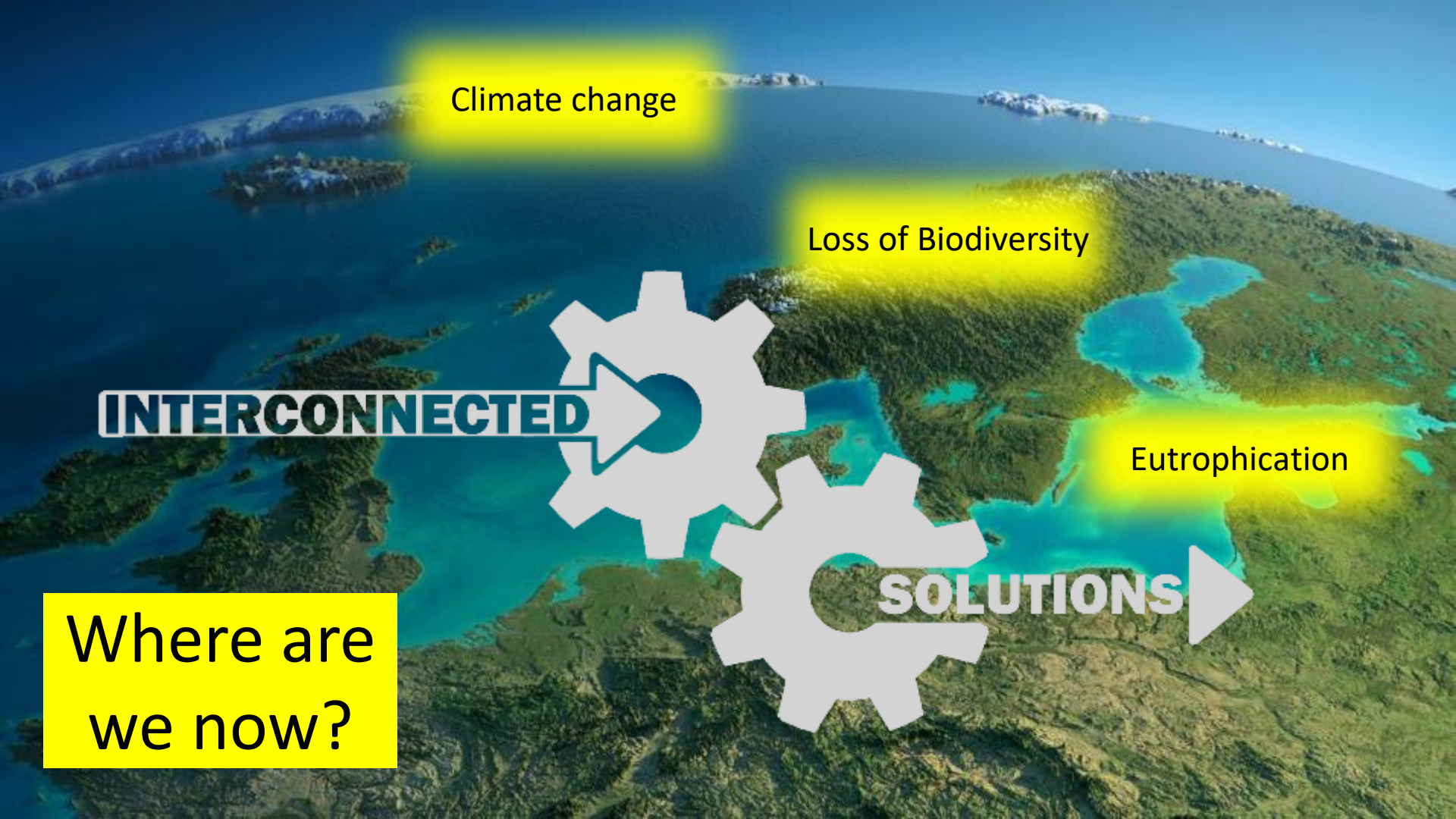
Loss of Biodiversity

Eutrophication

INTERCONNECTED

SOLUTIONS

Where are
we now?



Eutrophication



Lake Erie

> 50% of surface
waters not in good
status (EU WFD)



The Baltic Sea


Photo: Seppo Knuuttila



Bay of Mexico



Yellow Sea

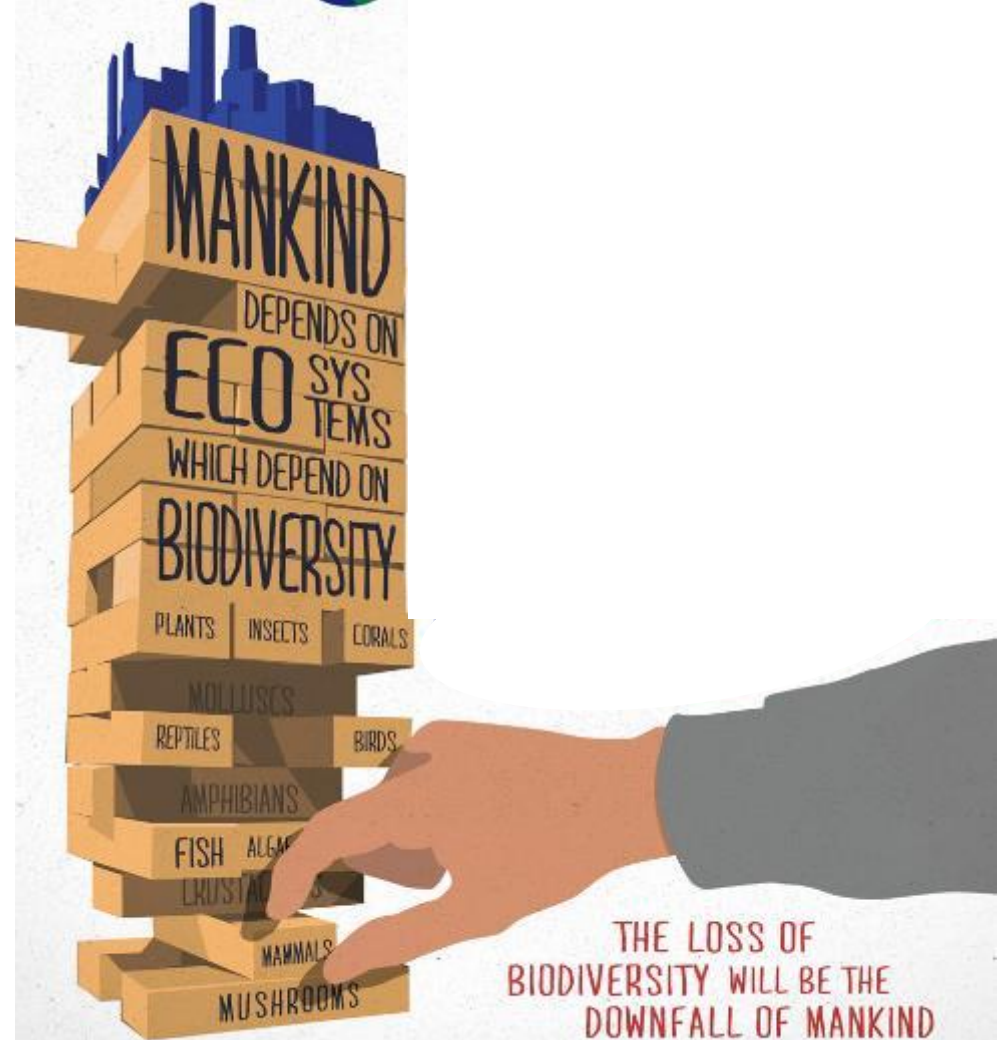
A photograph of a cornfield where the soil is severely parched and cracked into a mosaic of irregular polygons. The corn plants are green and appear to be struggling in the dry conditions. The sky is bright blue with many small, white, fluffy clouds.

Fertile soil depleted in
60 years (FAO)

Erosion

Loss of biodiversity

Diversity is the corner stone of all life



Loss of biodiversity

Environment

'Shocking' decline in birds across Europe due to pesticide use, say scientists

New figures reveal decline in farmland birds at a 'level approaching an ecological catastrophe'

Josh Gabbatiss Science Correspondent | @josh_gabbatiss | Wednesday 21 March 2018 18:57 | 35 comments

More than 75 percent decline over 27 years in total flying insect biomass in protected areas

Caspar A. Hallmann , Martin Sorg, Eelke Jongejans, Henk Siepel, Nick Holland, Heinz Schwan, Werner Stenmans, Andreas Möller, Hubert Sumser, Thomas Hören, Dave Goulson, Hans de Kroon

Published: October 18, 2017 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0195809>

“in 30 years
amount of
insects has
declined
80%



Monoculture = feed

Piece of rain forest converts into meat



It's not the cow, it's how!



The Climate crisis

"In our view, the evidence from tipping points alone suggests that we are in a state of planetary emergency: both the risk and urgency of the situation are acute"

Nature | Vol 575 | 28 November 2019



Main climate change impact on the agriculture in Europe

Mediterranean region

- Large increase in heat extremes
- Decrease in precipitation
- Increasing risk of droughts
- Increasing risk of biodiversity loss
- Increasing water demand for agriculture
- Decrease in crop yields
- Increasing risks for livestock production
- Agriculture negatively affected by spillover effects of climate change from outside Europe

Boreal region

- Increase in heavy precipitation events
- Increase in precipitation
- Increasing damage risk from winter storms
- Increase in crop yields

Atlantic region

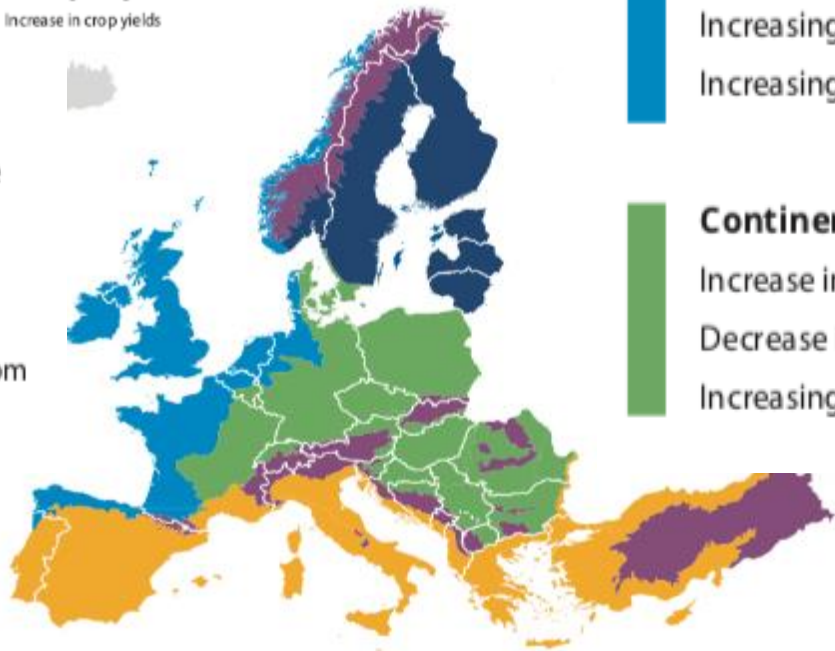
- Increase in heavy precipitation events
- Increasing risk of river and coastal flooding
- Increasing damage risk from winter storms

Continental region

- Increase in heat extremes
- Decrease in summer precipitation
- Increasing risk of river floods

Mountain regions

- Temperature rise larger than European average
- Upward shift of plant and animal species
- Risk of hail
- Risk of frost
- Increasing risk from rock falls and landslides



Source: Adapted from EEA (2017b).

Re-routing...



Monocultures

Cash crop fed livestock

Driven by external inputs (mineral fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides, insecticides, fossil fuel)

Segregated production systems

PARADIGM SHIFT

Crop rotation & diversity

Grazing livestock

Soil fertility & green cover

Nature-based processes and measures

Interconnected production systems

DEGENERATIVE



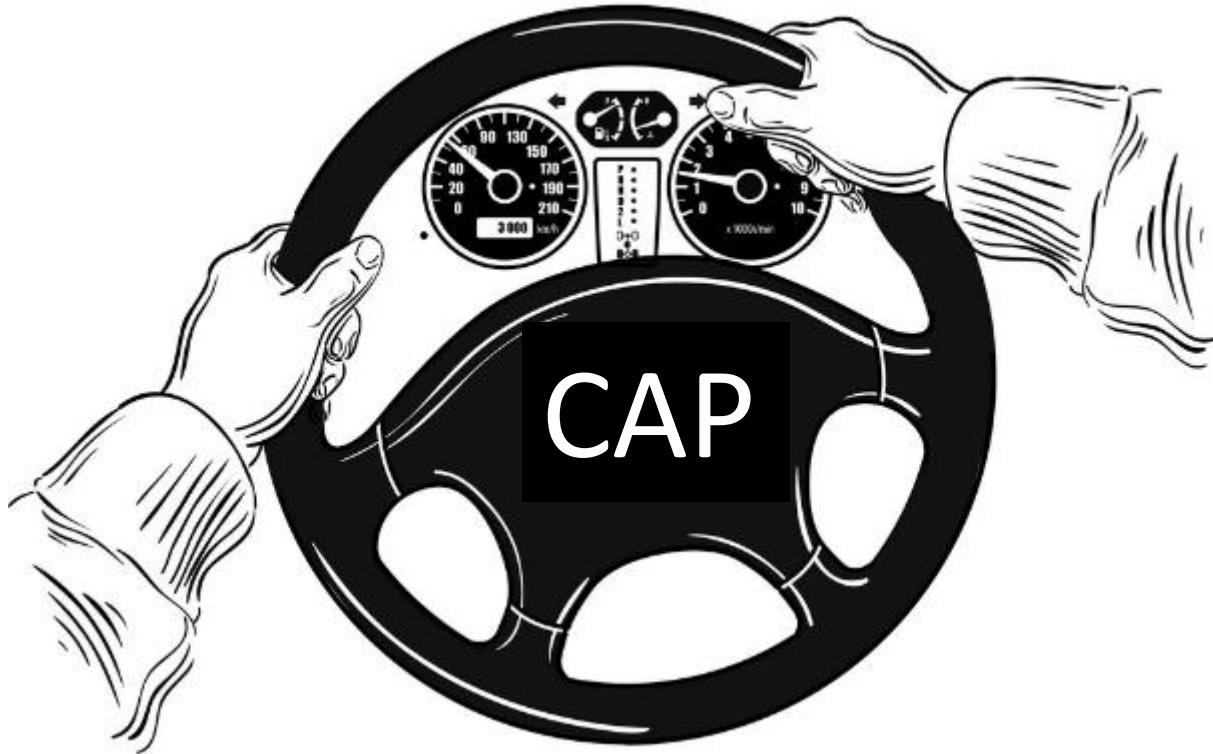
SUSTAINABLE



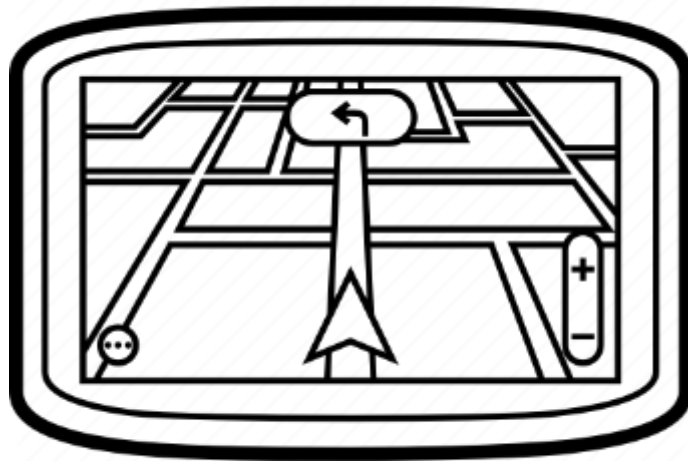
REGENERATIVE



Steering instrument



How to reach the goals?



EDUCATION AND AGRICULTURAL
EXTENSION

5 Core Principles of **REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE**

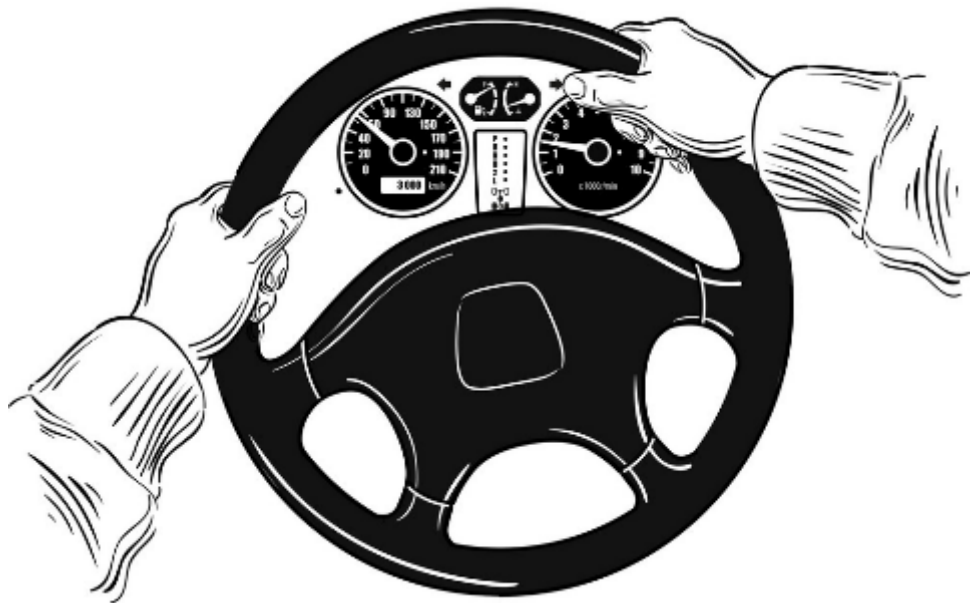


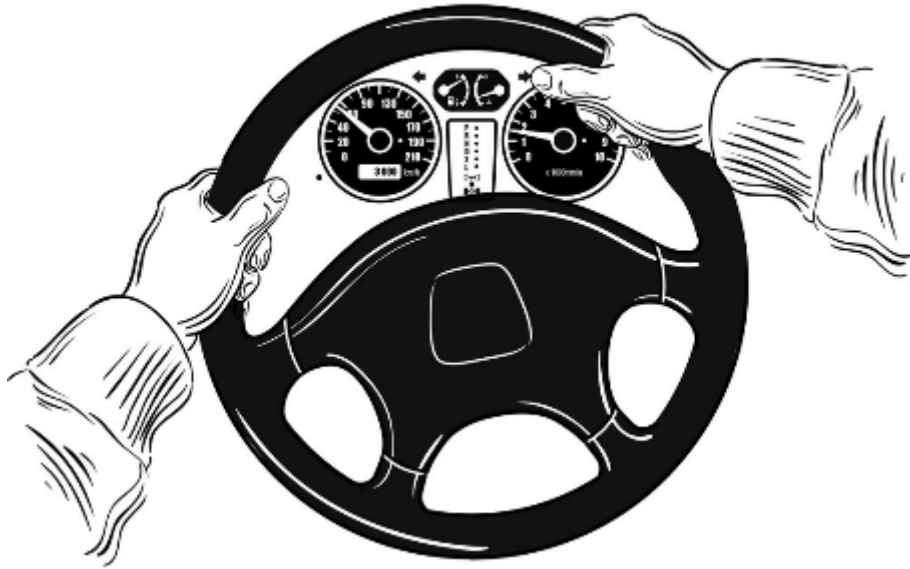
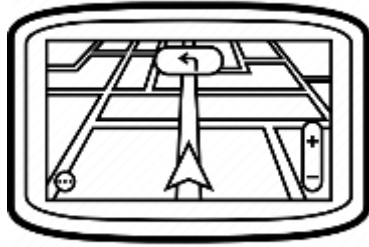
THESE ALL WOULD FIT TO THE ECOSCHEMES



CAP Strategic Plans

- Commission proposal sets right direction
- Connected to and delivering for national environment and climate objectives policies






- Include the education and agricultural extension
- Higher ambition and more precision in conditionality (re i.a. crop rotation, biodiversity, peatland)
- Recognition of perennial grasses, agroforestry in definitions and indicators

- Mandatory (for MS) ecoschemes with funding from Pillar I, and including
 - Incentive/reward payments for climate action
- EAFRD Compensation schemes to focus on multi-benefit, holistic and cooperative measures, land management, bridging transition to organic production and more resilient, less input-dependant agriculture





Same soil 2016 ja 2018, Qvidja

Subsidies must incentivize adopting regenerative practices.

4/1000

Light is the
energy
source

Plants

Soil

The soil's microbial "labor
force" incorporates carbon
into the soil structure

Most valuable workers

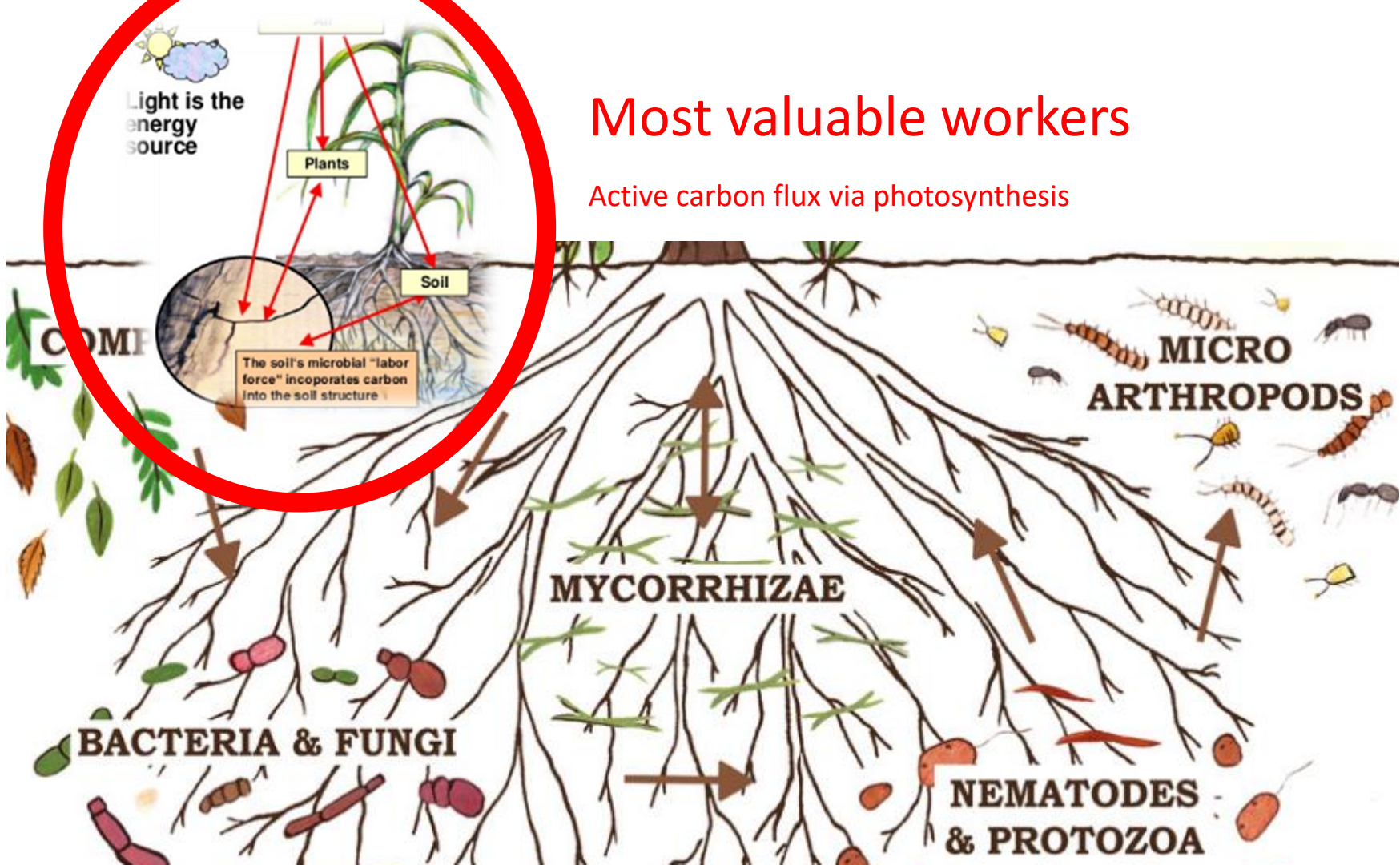
Active carbon flux via photosynthesis

**MICRO
ARTHROPODS**

MYCORRHIZAE

BACTERIA & FUNGI

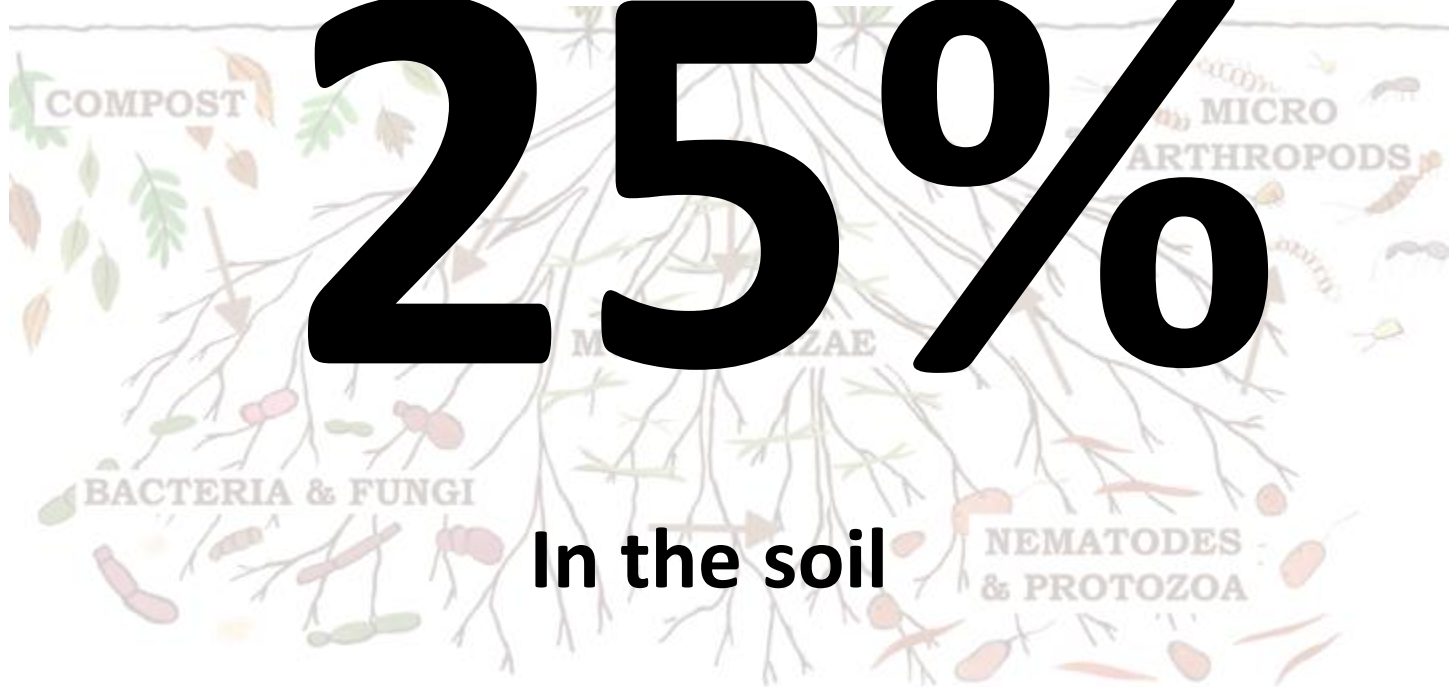
**NEMATODES
& PROTOZOA**



Of all the world's biodiversity

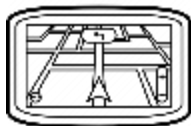
25%

In the soil



SYSTEM CHANGE ON-GOING IN FINLAND: Carbon Action Platform

Soil Carbon Sequestration, biodiversity, Baltic Sea

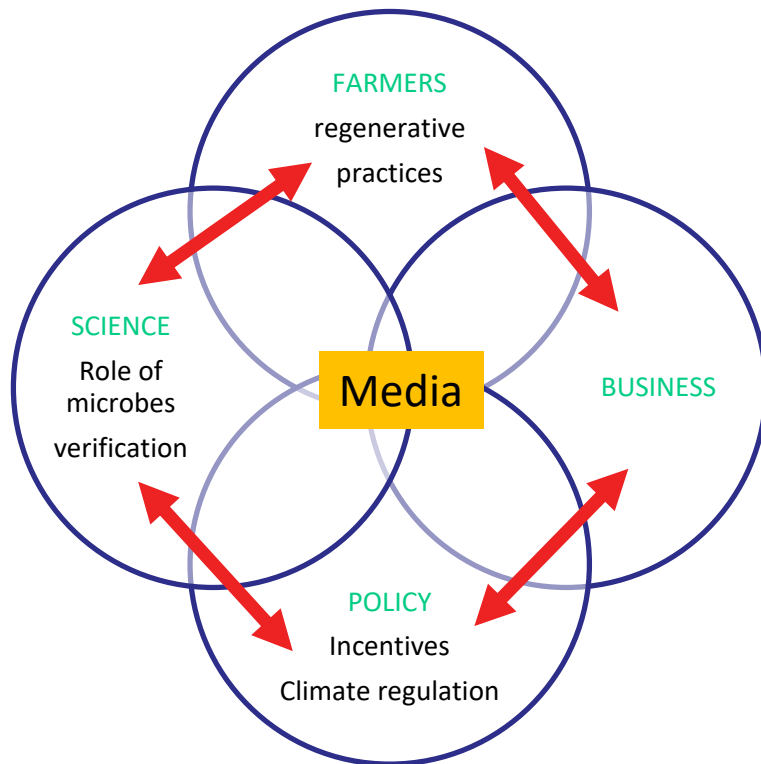


115

committed farmers (FIN)
(intensive education for regenerative
methods)
+Advisors, Farmers unions

ALL

Main research institutes of
Finland and main universities
Large global network

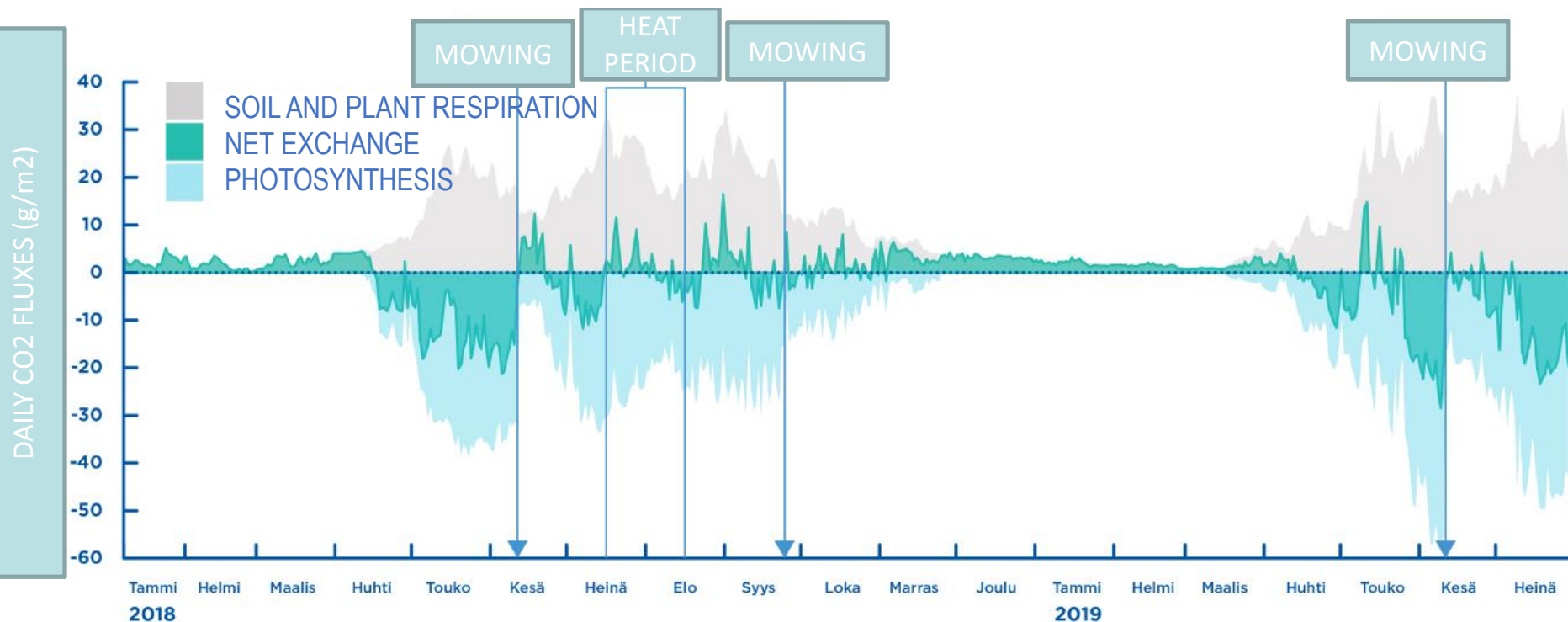


CAP

Carbon credits

Result-based
subsidies
would fit!

Development of verification of soil carbon storage



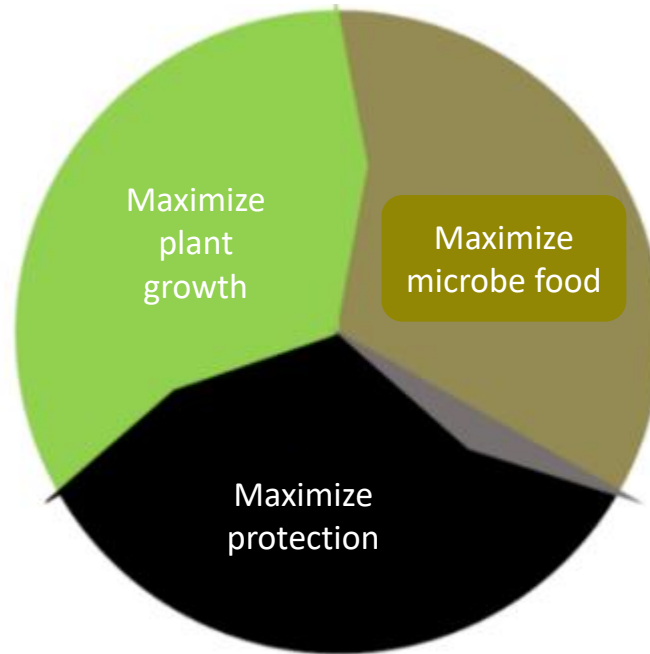
Implementation on farms: farmer-led science and action

- Over 100 different Carbon Farms around Finland
- Training, peer-to-peer learning, testing and piloting in co-operation with researchers
- 3 hectare test area where each carbon farmer tests different measures of C sequestration. Soil samples now and after 5 years
- Testing different measures in practice, give feedback and development tips to researchers



Checklist to increase soil organic carbon

- Continuous plant cover
- Balanced plant nutrition
- Reduce inorganic inputs to activate microbes
- High leaf area



- Make sure soils smell good
- Develop large root systems
- Give wrecked soils a kickstart (organic soil amendmends)



- Minimal tillage and disturbance
- Minimal pesticide use
- Stable aggregates and good structure

CC 4.0.
Tuomas J. Mattila
2017.

Pilot farmers: future seems bright!

(summer 2019):

"At the start, it all seemed really different and new compared to the practises I had learned and was accustomed to. Being involved in the education has raised fresh thoughts and changed my whole mindset."

"My goal is to have the soil in really good condition and practise farming which maintains and improves soil fertility. This brings positive economy also. Also small farms can manage well if they do it right. Best professional education of my life. "

" I am particularly interested in how carbon farming practises can improve grass yields and quality and secure good yield in variable circumstances. "

Nutrient
retention

Soil carbon
sequestration

Biodiversity



More carbon in the soil =
better profitability by

- less expensive external inputs
- better crops
- longer grazing season etc

In the future CAP also: public
goods, result-based subsidies?

(Market value is additional)

Focus on multi-benefit, holistic aims – win win win

“The one who grasps principles
can successfully select his
own methods.

The one who tries methods,
ignoring principles,
is sure to have trouble.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

