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The full study is available here:  
<http://bit.ly/2qPyjAV>



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*The EU  
farming  
employment*

Current challenges  
and future  
prospects

A study commissioned by the Committee  
for Agriculture and Rural Development

## MAIN CONCLUSIONS

In order to curb some of the main issues identified, the 2021-2027 CAP could be pay greater attention to:

- Increasing efforts to keep young generations within the sector and encourage new entrants to take up or set up farming businesses.
- Improving the quality of rural employment by investing in diversification and added value to farming, in line with the 'greening' and sustainability strategies.
- Tailoring rural development support to the needs and potential of the region/country, focusing namely on rural values and rural fabric (CAP 'rooted' in the territory).
- Offering more flexibility to fine-tune CAP Pillar 1 to meet regional needs, and in particular stimulating more agricultural production where production is scant through coupling, so as to incentivise older farmers to retire and hand over their holding and/or land to younger farmers.
- Streamlining the two pillars of the CAP at the territorial level so as to achieve a common vision and clear objectives with regard to farming employment.
- Better coordinating and articulating the CAP goals and tools with EU social policies and other European Structural and Investment Funds, especially in respect of the migrant workforce.

## ABSTRACT

This study outlines the current trends and patterns of farming employment in the EU and discusses possible development paths for the European agricultural labour force. In particular, this study investigates the drivers of and structural changes within agricultural labour markets at regional, national and EU level, building on a range of quantitative and qualitative analysis methods.



Agriculture and Rural Development

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## FOCUS ON

Further contraction of farming employment is expected at the European level, in line with the European Commission's agricultural outlook for 2030. Generational renewal in the agricultural sector is likely to remain an issue of concern in the business-as-usual scenario.

The schemes and measures implemented through the first and second Pillars of the CAP have produced diverse, sometimes opposite effects on the farming labour force.

In that regard, the 2021-2027 CAP could seek a better alignment of the two pillars' objectives at the territorial level.

In addition, a stronger coordination of better integrating and coordinating the CAP goals and tools with EU social policies and other European Structural and Investment Funds would be beneficial, especially in respect of the migrant workforce.

Comments on this study are welcome at:  
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