

EN

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Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(9.7.2026)

1. Yes. The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and national and regional partnership plan legislative proposals of July 2025 reinforce the targeting of degressive area-based income support to farmers who need it most, in particular to young and new farmers, as well as to areas with natural constraints and small farms. The Commission proposes degressivity and capping of income support for the largest beneficiaries and the differentiation of the support by group of farmers and type of areas on the basis of the farm income needs. This allows ensuring higher income support, for instance: in rural areas with lower competitiveness such as mountain areas, for small and medium farms. Moreover, a higher support per hectare to young farmers is proposed to be mandatory.

2. Agriculture and the agri-food supply chain benefit from a series of Omnibus simplification proposals that the Commission tabled to reduce administrative burden and enhance competitiveness of the European economy. Financial support to improve competitiveness, such as investment support and training continue to be available under the proposed new CAP. This proposal is also designed in a simpler way: the new degressive area-based income support scheme will not be implemented through a complex entitlements system. A simpler payment to small farmers in the form of a lump sum payment replacing several interventions is proposed.