

EN

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Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(28.8.2026)

1. The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) supports eco-schemes and environmental, climate-related and management commitments that contribute to the achievement of EU environmental and climate goals. Programmed and reported measurable indicators aim at monitoring the implementation of these interventions. Schemes can be based on achievements, to reward the results. The Commission proposal for future CAP includes incentive payments for agri-environmental-climate actions. Moving from compensation to incentives opens the way to reward environmental services.

The Carbon Removals and Carbon Farming Regulation (CRCF)¹ can support a results-based eco-scheme for farmers by establishing a voluntary EU certification framework by which farmers are rewarded for the carbon removed. The CRCF requires carbon farming activities to generate co-benefits for biodiversity, ecosystems, soil, water and climate adaptation. CRCF methodologies covering agriculture, agroforestry, rewetting of peatlands, and afforestation have been adopted on 9th July 2026.

2. The Commission adopted the Roadmap towards Nature Credits². A dedicated Expert Group³ is advancing discussions on methodologies and metrics, governance and integrity, market readiness and finance, policy coherence, and international cooperation. Monitoring, reporting and verification will be developed under ongoing pilots that test the feasibility of a market for nature credits of nature positive actions for various ecosystems at EU scale.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2024/3012 - https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L_202403012.

² https://green-forum.ec.europa.eu/green-business/nature-credits_en.

³ The Expert Group met in December 2025, March 2026 and 18 June 2026.