

# Cultivating a sustainable and productive European agriculture



## 5 principles to guide the Common Agricultural Policy reform toward fairer and greener European agriculture

### 1 Empower farmers and consumers through market driven policies

Market-driven policy offers the best opportunities to farmers, supply chain partners and consumers. The direct payments system, which helps protect farmers and ensure food security should continue to be an integral part of the CAP, provided it does not distort the market.

### 2 Create a Single Market for agriculture

To make European agriculture more competitive, it is paramount that any support system is managed at the EU level. A CAP must have a common budget with adequate funding beyond 2020.

### 3 Promote sustainability and productivity

Given growing demand due to population growth and uncertain climatic conditions, it is imperative that sustainable production is encouraged and promoted. This provides more security for farmers and better price stability.

### 4 Support research and innovation

Research, innovation and the use of innovative techniques such as precision agriculture will be key to achieving a sustainable and productive agriculture in the future. The CAP should encourage these new technologies, products and practices.

### 5 Promote a global level playing field

The EU is not self-sufficient in all raw materials; protein crops are one example. Trade with third countries is therefore crucial for supply chain management and agreement on international production standards is needed to ensure fair competition.