

France Case study – Agroforestry Development Plan

Country	France
Sector	Agriculture
Year	2015-2020
Narrative description	<p>Rooted in the concept of agroecology, agroforestry systems present a land use system in which trees, shrubs and other woody perennials are grown in combination with crops and pastures. In France, for many years the concept has been promoted and the adoption of such practices are increasing.</p> <p>The national agroforestry plan can be seen as good practice, in that it focuses on different elements and actions divided into five main axes. These axes include research and monitoring, regulatory frameworks and financial support, advisory services and promotion, and an increase in economic sustainability as well as international advocacy. However, its actual implementation (including allocation of financial resources) will determine if the plan can live up to its potential. If it does, it can be seen as a good practice with net-zero compatibility.</p> <p>Agroforestry can bring multiple co-benefits including climate adaptation, soil protection and an increase in biodiversity. However, the latter depends on its actual implementation, e.g. which trees and shrubs are being used and where they are planted. A row of hybrid poplar trees might even have adverse effects on species relying on open habitats.</p>
Responsible authority	Ministry of Agriculture (Ministère de l'agriculture, de l'agroalimentaire et de la forêt)
Relevant legal basis	Law 2014–1170 of 13 October 2014 of the future for agriculture, food, and forestry (LOI No. 2014–1170 d0 avenir pour l'agriculture, l'alimentation et la forêt)"
Policy Type	holistic (different tools combined, including regulation, awareness raising ...)
Governance Level/ Target audience	France - National Farmers and decision makers
Objectives	Mainstreaming and promoting agroforestry in the wider context of agroecology

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Summary of reasons for success	<p>In the post-2020 CAP such approaches could receive stronger support as a climate mitigation measure throughout all of France, given that biodiversity safeguards and benefits are put in place.</p> <p>In addition to ongoing payments for ecosystems services (PES), initial grants such as those in the Irish forestry programme might also present an option to upscale the measure.</p>
Replication potential	<p>The agro-forestry approach is known and is already being applied on a smaller scale in many EU countries. The approaches vary from ecosystem to ecosystem, climatic conditions and traditions.</p> <p>However, holistic plans to enshrine agroforestry and agroecology into national agricultural policies can easily be implemented by other member states</p>
Relevant website	<p>https://euraf.isa.utl.pt/files/pub/synthese-plan_agroforesterie-anglais.pdf#overlay-context=welcome</p> <p>https://agforward.eu/index.php/en/home-redirect.html</p> <p>https://agriculture.gouv.fr/objectif-atteint-pour-la-4e-journee-nationale-de-lagroforesterie</p>