Farm to Fork Strategy:
Livestock systems differentiation as fundamental step to design sustainable policies

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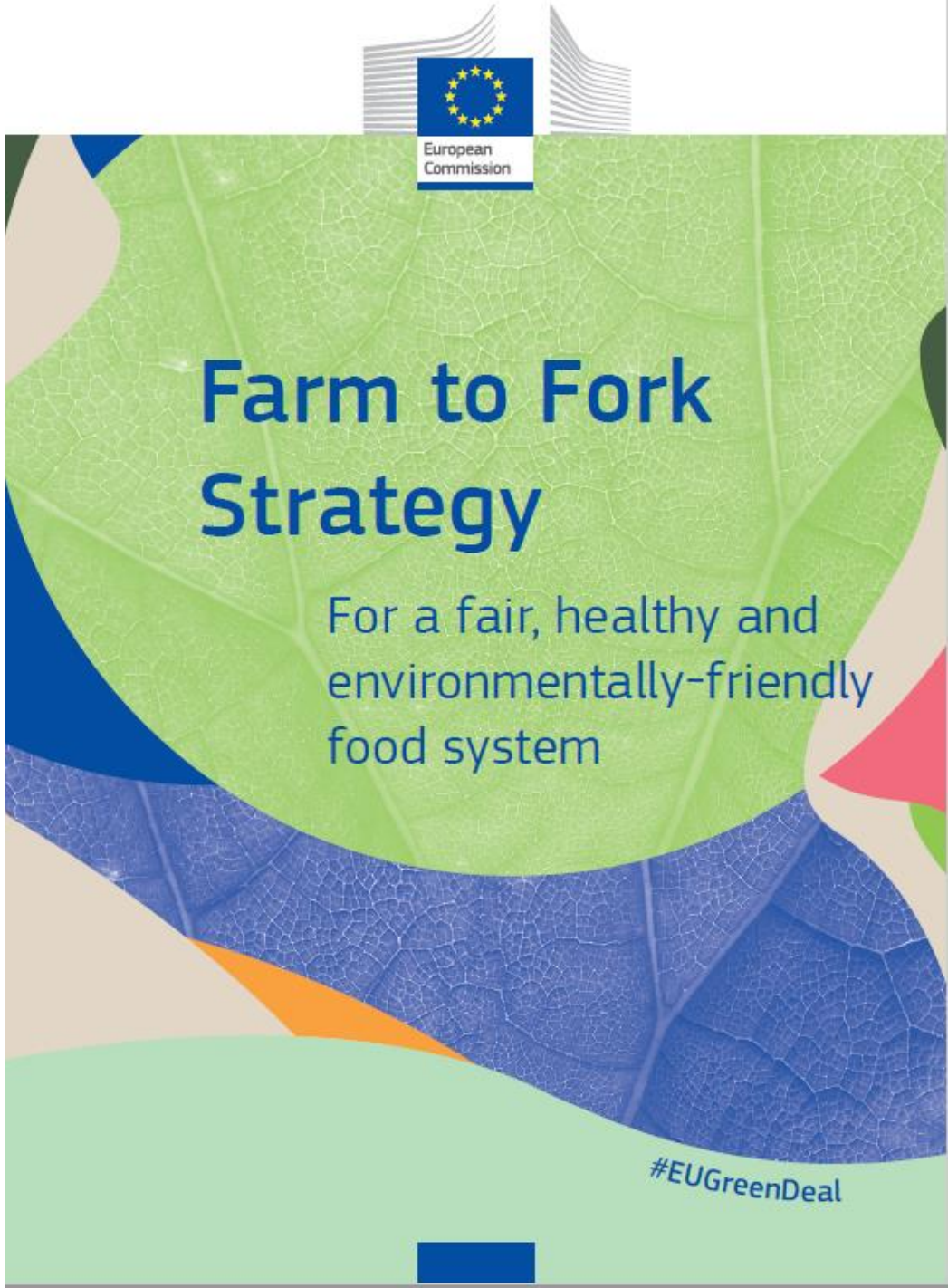
European Green Deal

1. Clean Energy
2. Sustainable Industry
3. Building and Renovation
4. **Farm to Fork**
5. Eliminating pollution
6. Sustainable mobility
7. Biodiversity

Farm to Fork Strategy

1. Need for action
2. Building the food chain that works for consumers, producers, climate and the environment
3. Enabling the transition
4. Promoting the global transition



Building the food chain that works for consumers, producers, climate and the environment

- Ensuring sustainable food production:
  - Enhance farming practices that remove CO2 from the atmosphere.
  - Reduce chemical pesticides by 50% by 2030.
  - Reduce fertilizers at least 20% by 2030.
- Reduce environmental and climate impact of animal production.
- 25% EU agricultural land under organic farming by 2030.
- Improve CAP targeting.

Building the food chain that works for consumers, producers, climate and the environment

- Ensuring food security:
  - Guarantee sufficient and varied supply of food to people.
  - Understand the complexity of the food chain.
  - Ensure the fulfilment of the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Building the food chain that works for consumers, producers, climate and the environment

- Stimulating sustainable food processing, wholesale, retail, hospitality and food services practices:
  - EU Code of conduct for responsible business and marketing practice.
- Promoting sustainable food consumption and facilitating the shift to healthy, sustainable diets:
  - Move to a more plant-based diet with less red and processed meat.

To sum up

- F2F Strategy:
  - Presents policy orientation.
  - Stablishes objectives and goals.
  - Seeks for coordination between different policies.

But **Farm to Fork does not point out to specific measures or practices.**

The 9 Paradoxes of Farm to Fork Strategy

Debate

- Do you agree with the ideas presented in the video?
- Do you think there are any questionable statement?
- Which one do you think is the main paradox or the most relevant issue presented in the video?
- In your opinion, what kind of farming systems they refer to?
- If someone that does not work on the livestock sector what do you think they will think after watching the video?

1. Nutrition

- From prehistory until now animal proteins consumption has been crucial in developing human brain.

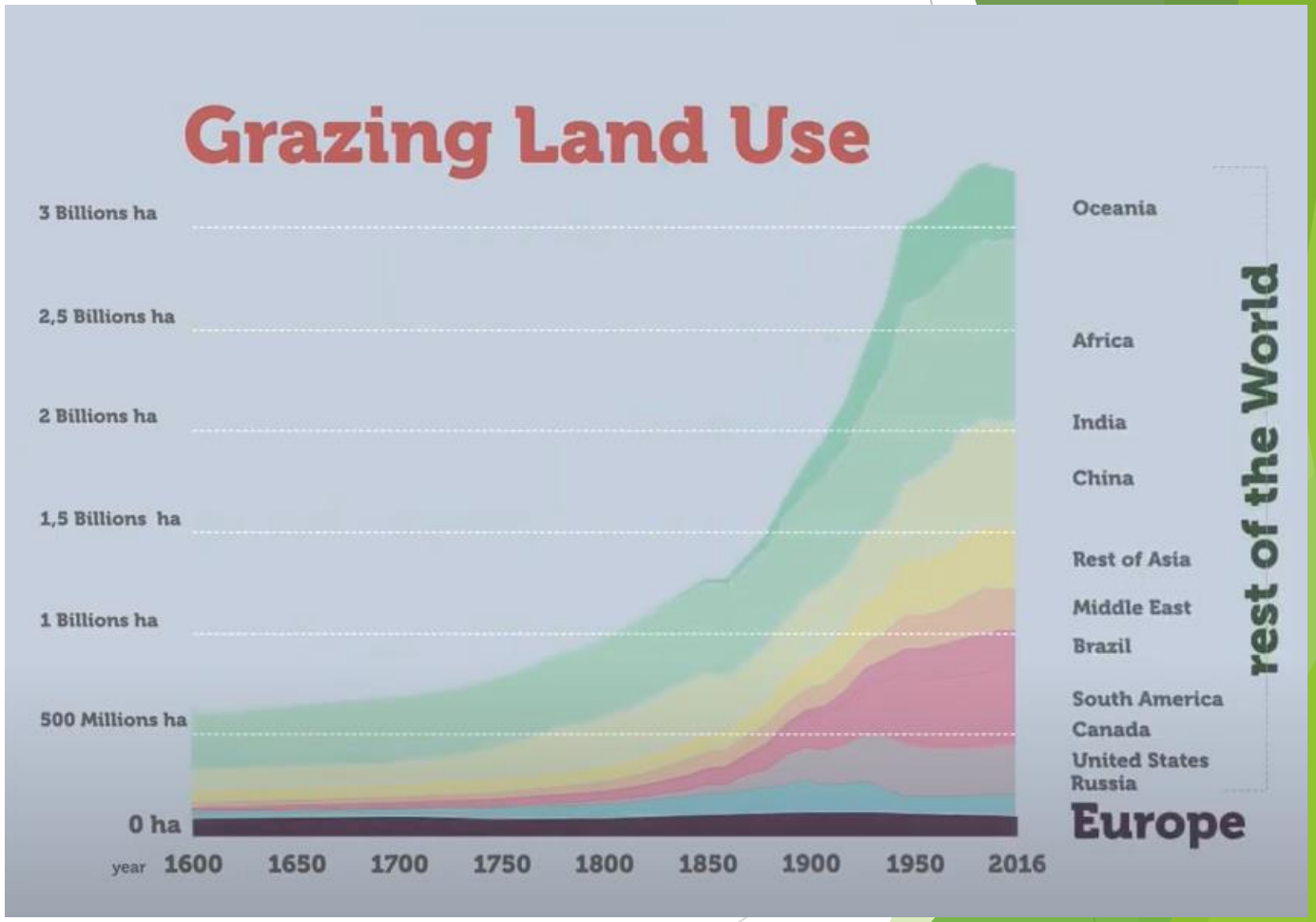
Current **food consumption** patterns are unsustainable from both health and environmental points of view. While in the EU, average intakes of energy, red meat[33], sugars, salt and fats continue to exceed recommendations, consumption of whole-grain cereals, fruit and vegetables, legumes and nuts is insufficient[34].

Reversing the rise in overweight and obesity rates across the EU by 2030 is critical. Moving to a more plant-based diet with less red and processed meat and with more fruits and vegetables will reduce not only risks of life threatening diseases, but also the environmental impact of the food system[35]. It is estimated

Where is the paradox?

2. Land use

- It is false that animals use useful crop land.
- EU land for livestock and grazing has kept constant despite population increased.



F2F: 68% of the total agricultural land in EU is used for animal production.

(Eurostat, 2019)

2. Land use

- Trend of farming abandonment in less-favoured areas.
- Intensification and industrialization -> higher efficiency.

Grazing has been substituted by imported feeds

(MacDonald et al, 2000; Terres et al, 2015)

3. Environment

- Livestock production contribute to maintenance of lands, avoiding abandonment, construction booms, hydrogeologic imbalances or biodiversity loss.
- EU meat production has less impact than the global average.

3. Environment

the EU will pursue the development of **Green Alliances** on sustainable food systems with all its partners in bilateral, regional and multilateral fora. This will include cooperation with Africa, neighbours and other partners and will have regard to distinct challenges in different parts of the world. To ensure a successful global transition, the EU will encourage and enable the development of comprehensive, integrated responses benefiting people, nature and economic growth.

Appropriate EU policies, including trade policy will be used to support and be part of the EU's ecological transition. The EU will seek to ensure that there is an ambitious sustainability chapter in all EU bilateral trade agreements. It will ensure full implementation and enforcement of the trade and sustainable development provisions in all trade agreements, including through the EU Chief Trade Enforcement Officer.

- Maintenance of rural population
- Ecosystem services provision

-> are linked to extensive livestock systems

(EEA, 2010; Van der Ploeg and Roep, 2003)

4. Economy

- F2F hints a downsizing of the EU livestock sector
  - Increase imports and associated emissions
  - Economic impacts of imports
  - Livestock is interconnected with many other sectors

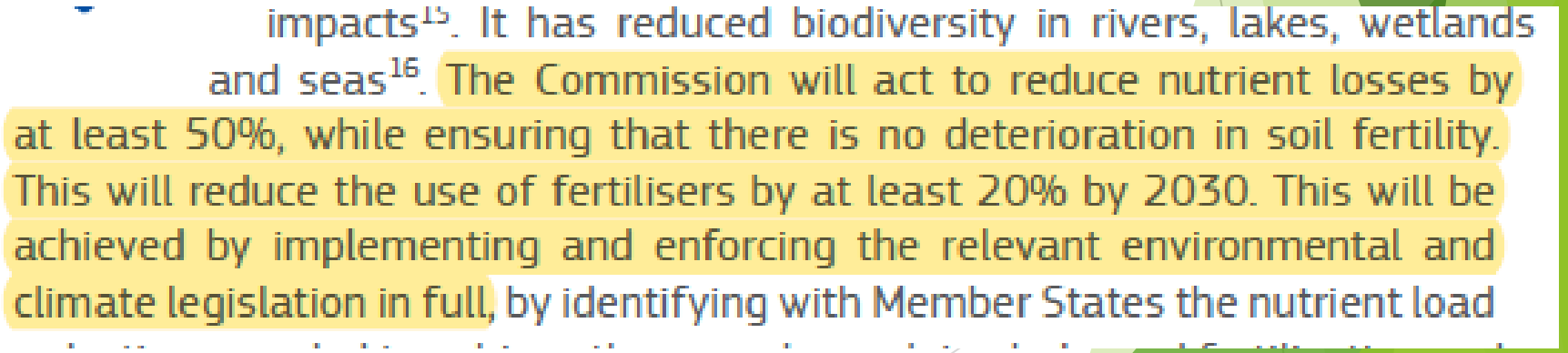
agricultural land is used for animal production[19]. To help reduce the environmental and climate impact of animal production, avoid carbon leakage through imports and to support the ongoing transition towards more sustainable livestock farming, the Commission will facilitate the placing on the market of sustainable and innovative feed additives. It will examine EU rules to reduce the dependency on critical feed materials (e.g. soya grown on deforested land) by fostering EU-grown plant proteins as well as alternative feed materials such as

6. Fertilisers

- 20% reduction of fertilisers
- 25% increase of organic production

  It will not be possible if livestock is reduced

- Industrial livestock systems require fertilisers for feed production



impacts[15]. It has reduced biodiversity in rivers, lakes, wetlands and seas[16]. The Commission will act to reduce nutrient losses by at least 50%, while ensuring that there is no deterioration in soil fertility. This will reduce the use of fertilisers by at least 20% by 2030. This will be achieved by implementing and enforcing the relevant environmental and climate legislation in full, by identifying with Member States the nutrient load

(de Boer and van Ittersum, 2018; Tamminga, 2003)

7. Employment

- One farm guarantee 7 jobs positions in rural areas.
- Livestock is essential to keep rural population.

8. Culinary and cultural heritage

- F2F aims to create shorter supply chains

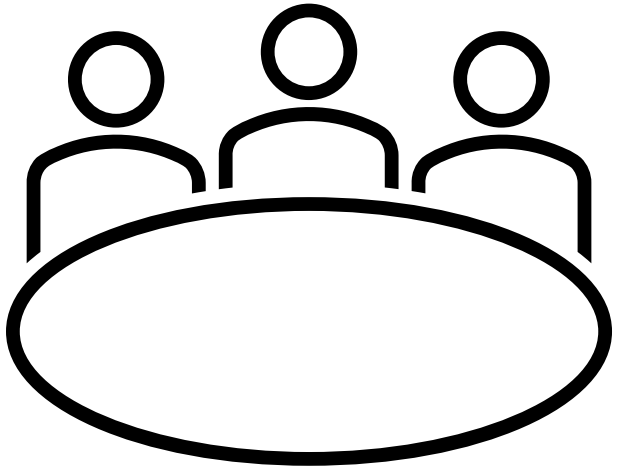
9. Food security

- Necessity to feed an increasing population.

Take-home messages

- Simplistic messages can lead to misunderstandings.
- All food can be produced in an unsustainable way, not only meat.
- High importance of production systems differentiation due to their contrasting implications.
- Importance of global perspective.

Open debate



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