



EUROPARC FEDERATION

and the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) post-2020





Healthy and competitive agriculture needs a healthy environment and nature resources as provided by Protected Areas.

European Protected Areas are National and Regional Parks, Nature and Biosphere Reserves, Marine and Landscape Protected Areas, Periurban Parks, Natura 2000 sites, and other categories of legally designated areas with the common aim of protecting Europe's unique variety of wildlife, habitats and landscapes.

Position Paper

**EUROPARC Federation
February 2018**



European Protected Areas & Sustainable Agriculture

Working in Partnership for
Biodiversity and
Rural Development

A contribution to the debate on the
EU Common Agricultural Policy Reform

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www.europarc.org/agriculture-protected-areas-commission/



The logo for EUROPARC is located on the left side of the image. It features a blue circular emblem with a white map of Europe in the center. The word "EUROPARC" is written in white capital letters along the top inner edge of the circle, and "TION" is written along the bottom inner edge. The background of the slide is a light blue sky with white clouds and a field of green grass at the bottom.

Farmers and Protected Areas can be allies, working for common solutions.

We must learn from the **best practise** available in effective **partnerships**, apply and adapt these models, **develop tools** to replicate and implement these successful approaches across the European Union.

**A healthy
environment
and nature
protection
need farmers'
engagement**

EUROPARC seeks agricultural policies, which can be defined as:

Good for People, Good for Nature

because they ensure a good, secure supply of food,
because they respect and protect
the environment and natural resources,
because they provide a fair income to the farmer.



The role of Protected Areas and Natura 2000 Sites in rural development needs to be valorised by the new CAP.

Through their support to sustainable agriculture and sustainable tourism, **Protected Areas work actively and concretely against land abandonment and depopulation of rural areas.**


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Key points of the EUROPARC Position on Protected Areas and CAP post-2020:

- The key role **Protected Areas** play, involving their working in partnership with farmers, claims their **eligibility as beneficiaries of specific funds for rural development.**
- Farmers have to be remunerated, for providing the society **not only food but also a variety of ecosystem services** in terms of health, landscape and nature resources.



- The new CAP should pay **specific attention to farmers acting within or close to Protected Areas and Natura 2000 Sites**
- ... guarantee available **funds, simplification** of the procedures, **accessibility** on the funds, ... **results** of the actions **and coherence with wider EU policies**
- Protected Areas are committed to improve **partnership** with farmers for developing common solutions and creating mutual benefits. These **efforts have to be awarded by EU and national and regional authorities at financial, legal and political level**

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- ...support to **transitions towards organic and sustainable farming**
 - Protected Areas and Natura 2000 Sites can be the laboratories to experiment **“innovation”**
 - **role of the European Union** to maintain a **coherent policy** on sustainable agriculture across all Member States, as well as to guarantee the coherence with other European policies and with the Natura 2000 network

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EUROPARC Toolbox “Sustainable Agriculture”:

(News, PAs case studies, information...)

**[www.europarc.org/toolbox/sustainable-
agriculture](http://www.europarc.org/toolbox/sustainable-agriculture)**

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