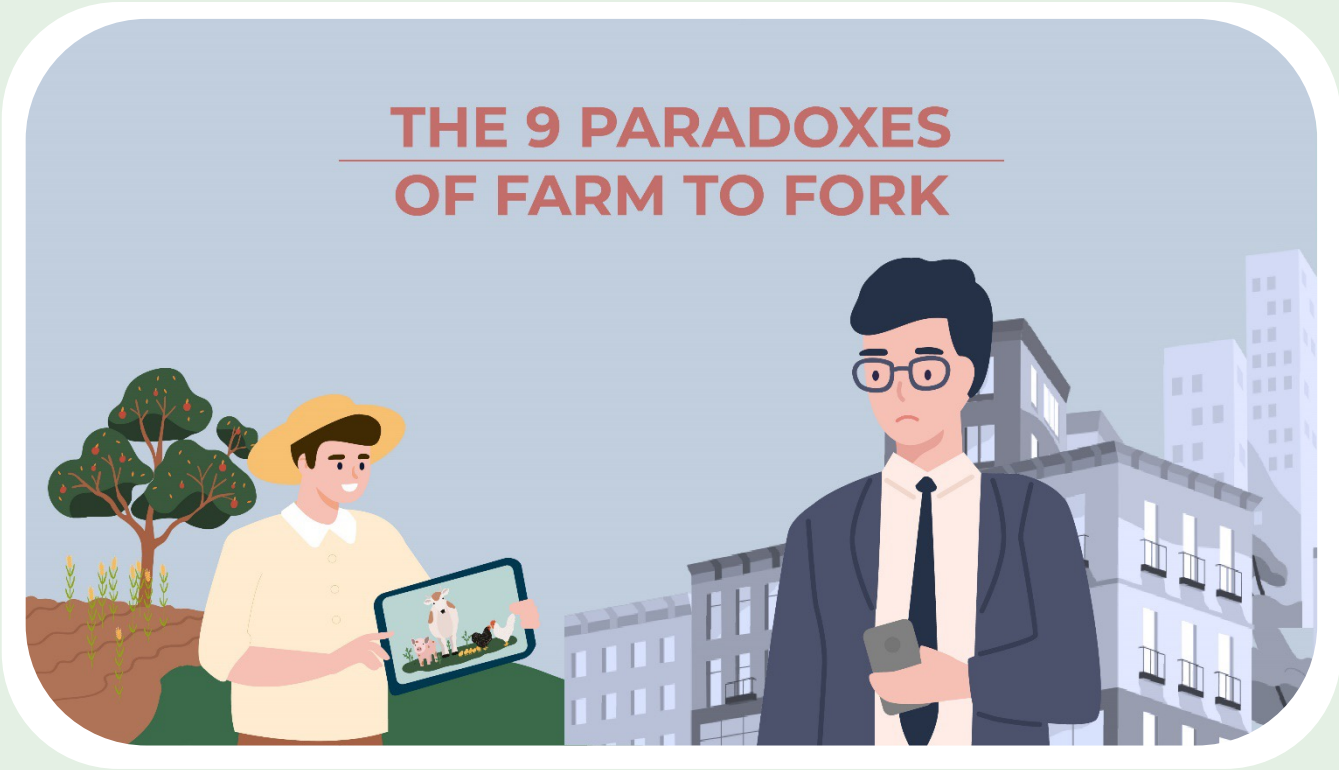
The Paradoxes of the Farm to Fork Strategy

- Ideological approach: measures taken without any discussion with the interested parties.
- Lack of an impact assessment.
- The association's appeal to involve the players in the supply chain, farmers and producers in the decision-making process.



-50% pesticides

25% organic land

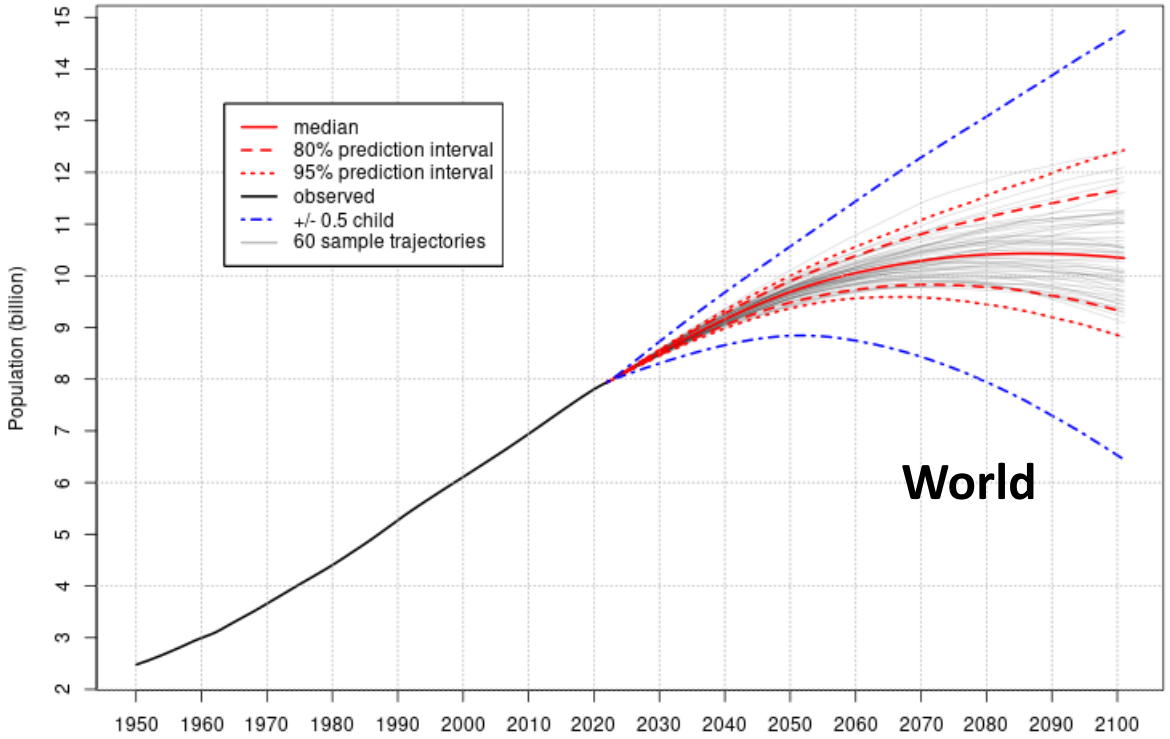
-20% fertilizers

-50% antimicrobials

4% fallow land

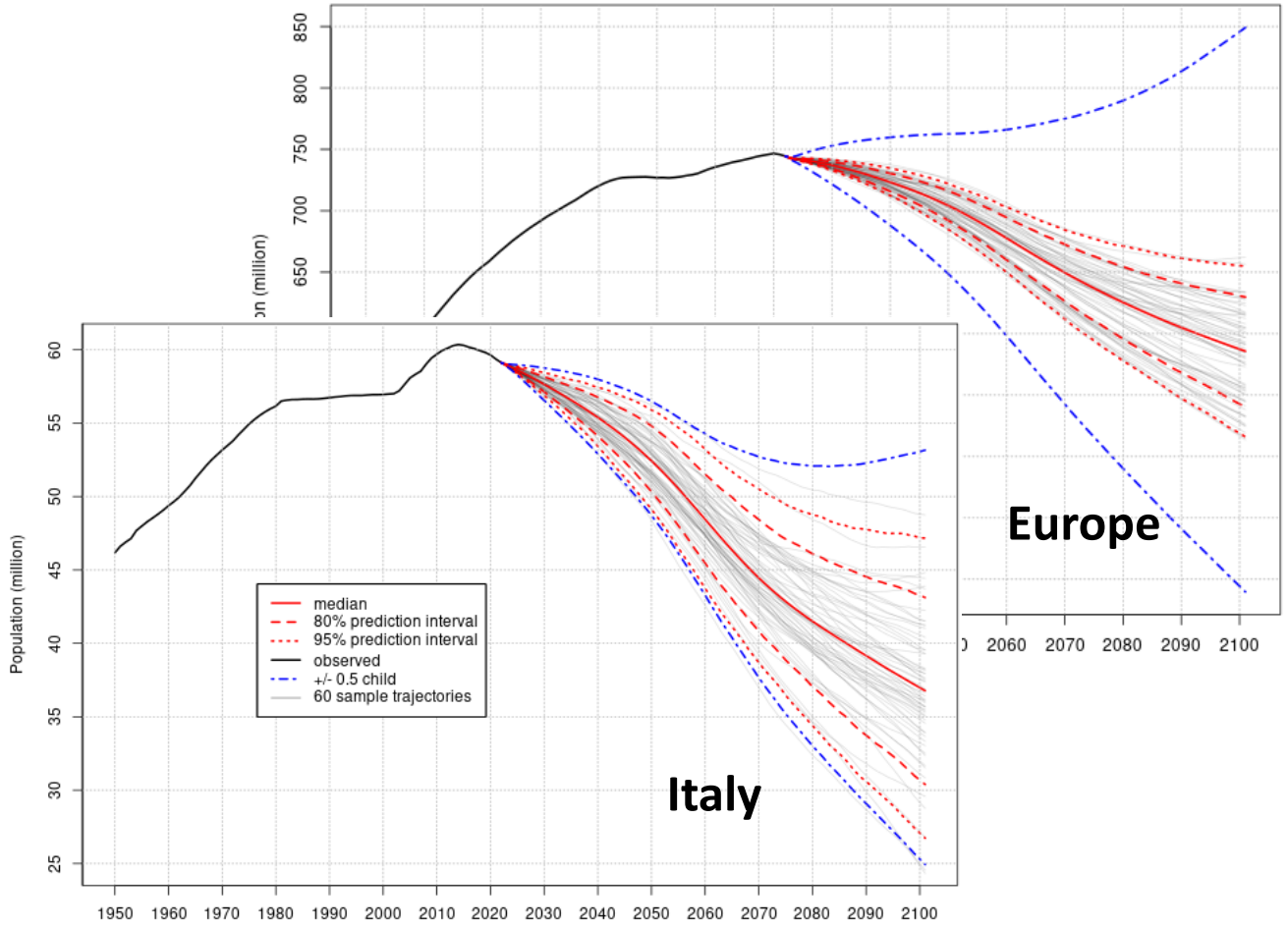
Increase in population and demand for food

Population growth in the world



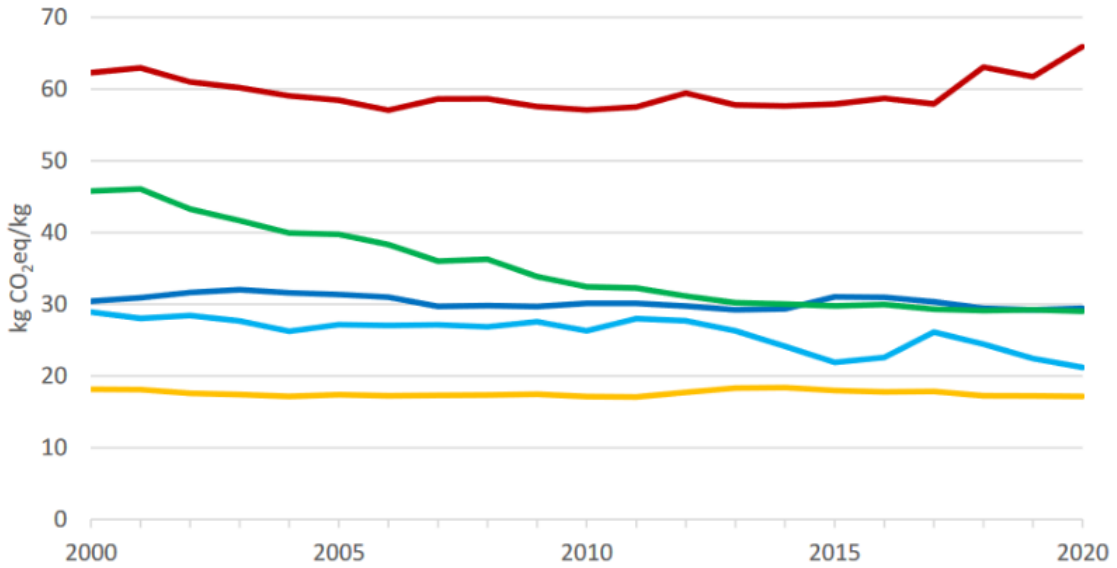
Source: 2022 United Nations, DESA, Population Division, Licensed under Creative Commons licence CC BY 3.0 IGO. United Nations, DESA, Population Division. World Population Prospects 2022. http://population.un.org/wpp/

Population growth in Europe and Italy

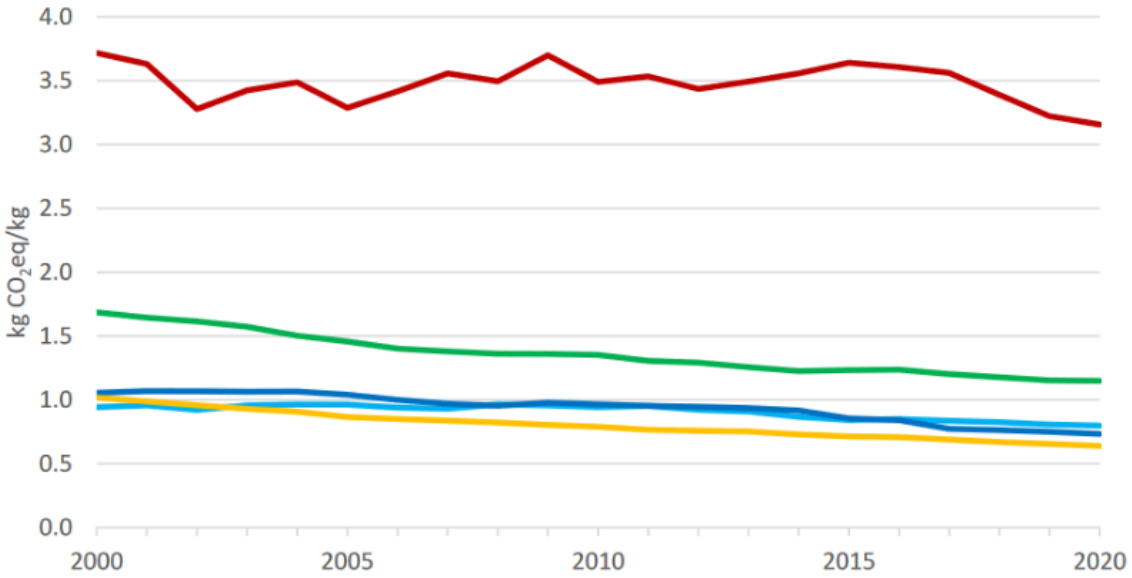


Europe is the area of the world with the fewest emissions per unit of product

Emissions intensity of beef by region



Emissions intensity of cow milk by region



Africa Americas Asia Oceania Europe

Source: FAO, 2022, Emissions intensisties. In: FAO. Rome. Cited October 2022. https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/EI

Economic sustainability

Without viable businesses, there is no agriculture.
The **viability of businesses** in a market economy (planned economies of food systems have always led to famine) **depends on their profitability.**

Profitability increasingly depends on competitiveness: dependence on income subsidies or tariff systems (more closed markets) generates a loss of productivity.

Agricultural businesses must be defended from dominant positions and helped with investments.

Services rendered to society must be quantified and paid on the basis of value (and not on an ideological assumption).

Social sustainability

Without farmers, there is no agriculture.

Social sustainability must be assessed based on robust indicators, otherwise there is a risk of derailing more and more towards folklore.

The most relevant indicator is the depopulation index: **30 years of Rural Development (20% of EU resources)** have led to the **depopulation of rural areas!**

The second indicator tells us that rural areas have become impoverished compared to other continent areas.

Environmental sustainability

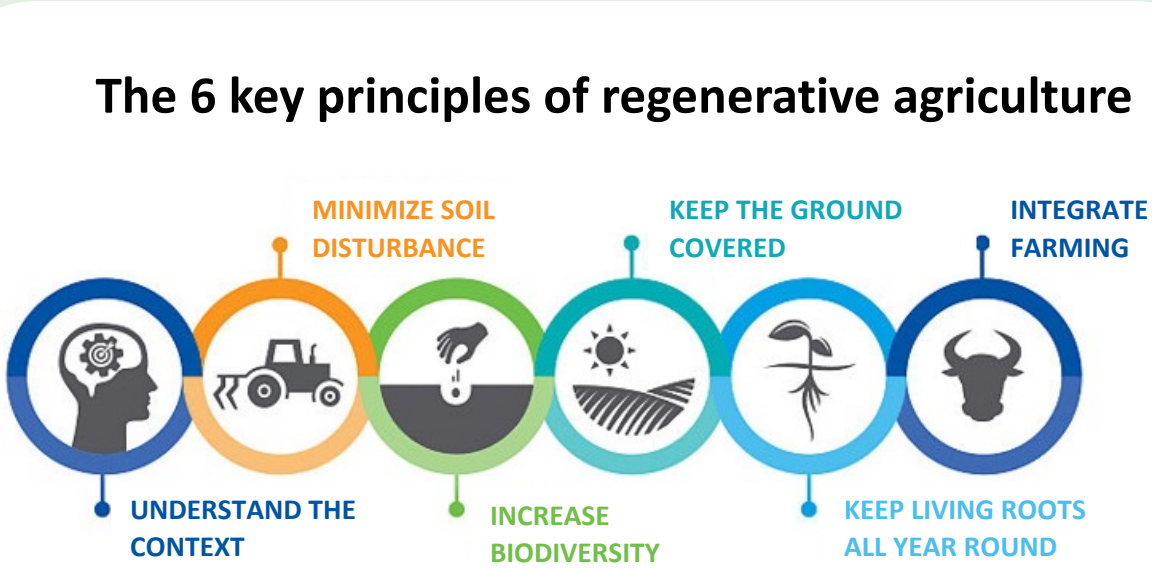
The environment is the main resource of agriculture.

Efficient agriculture (produces food) and conservative agriculture (produces ecosystem services and landscape) must find equal dignity.

Both must be able to generate goods and services while guaranteeing sustainability principles 1 and 2

Environmental sustainability must be considered a resource (lower costs, greater value of products) rather than an onerous requirement.

A new paradigm to combine productivity and sustainability: Regenerative Agriculture



Source: A. Reyneri di Lagnasco, 2023.

Regenerative Agriculture (RA) focuses on the **regeneration of soil and agro-ecosystems.**

RA **improves fertility**, provides **high productivity** and high-quality food, and **helps fight climate change** and **restore biodiversity**.

RA is the expression of an **integrated agriculture** that takes up the holistic approach of **organic** agriculture **without introducing a priori limits to the adoption of technological innovations** in the sector of nutrition (fertilizers, synthetic biostimulants) and defence (synthetic plant protection products) **or genetic improvement techniques** (GMO, New Genomic Techniques, etc.).

Incorporate ***carbon farming*** goals into a more systemic vision.

Appeal to the European Institutions

Europe has a great opportunity: to **use the Green Deal to appreciate the progress made by its agricultural and livestock systems**. It would be unforgivable to waste this advantage. **The future lies in innovation and technology, to produce more with fewer resources**. The livestock system is ready to play its role: we ask the European Institutions to **involve in the decision-making process all professionals and experts in the sector** who - without ideologies but with their own skills - can facilitate the transition towards a balance between environmental and economic sustainability.