



http://cap.europe.bg

WHY RE*TURN TO THE FUTURE



The information campaign “CAP:re:turn to the future” is pleased to announce a video/photo competition “RE:TURN TO THE FUTURE – AGRICULTURE” to celebrate this European policy’s 50th anniversary. This year’s edition of the competition will try to capture the world of agriculture in Europe through imagery that connects the past and the future. The initiative recognizes the outstanding use of video / photography to tell compelling stories of the life of agricultural producers and the impact that their achievements have on the EU citizens.

Video artists and photographers – professional and amateurs - are invited to submit images that embody the spirit of the European village and the remarkable local food products of the European states and regions in a variety of formats, also including posters, multimedia and art installations.

Competition themes:

1. Quality, diversity, health – the EU agricultural policy and production
2. The future of rural society
3. Organic farming and agritourism

The Grand Prize Winner will be invited to visit the European Parliament in Brussels. Deadline for submission of works: 20 August 2012.

<http://bg-bg.facebook.com/CAPreturnToTheFuture>



A 50 years anniversary is a time to reflect on the past to be able to draw from the accumulated experience and invest in the future. Agriculture played a major role in the economy of the six founding countries of the EEC in relation to overall production, employment, and trade.

The CAP has had an added value for European integration. Intervening in the markets, it had an integrating effect which has gone much beyond agriculture. The market organizations created under the CAP were not only the first regulations of the Community with legally binding effect on the citizens of the member states, they gave also the European Commission wide-ranging responsibilities in managing the policy. Thus, the CAP became the blue-print for the way European integration works.

Objectives of the campaign

- * Inform the public in four member states of the role and importance of the Common Agricultural Policy in the life of the European citizens on the occasion of its 50 years’ anniversary
- * Focus the attention of the urban people on the opportunities that CAP provides them to get to know other European countries and their traditional products and farming achievements
- * Create Community spirit

Campaign themes

- * “The Bulgarian, Estonian, Portuguese and Maltese agriculture under the CAP”
- * “What do urban citizens expect from CAP?”
- * “Maintaining the production capacity of communities: the local experience”
- * “Quality, diversity, health – the European agricultural policy and production”
- * “The future of rural society in Europe”
- * “Organic farming and agritourism”



Campaign events

- * International conference “CAP – Past and Future” - Sofia, June
- * Round tables “CAP: How to proceed” – Plovdiv, Tallin, Lisboa, La Valletta – September, October
- * Closing campaign conference – Brussels, December

Portugal*

The main crops grown in Portugal are cereals (wheat, barley, corn and rice), potatoes, grapes (for wine), olives and tomatoes. Portugal is one of the world's largest exporters of tomato paste and a leading exporter of wines. More than one-third of Portugal is forested. Most of the mountainous areas are well suited to forestry and forest products, such as cork, resins and pine and eucalyptus timber. The market value of these natural products has increased and there is a growing demand for the industry. Portugal's long coastline and the abundance of fish in the surrounding waters have favoured the development of the fishing industry.

Estonia*

Just a couple of generations ago agriculture was the main occupation of the Estonians. Nowadays only about 3% of the workforce is engaged in agriculture and the sector yields just slightly more than 3% of the overall production and 1.7 of GPD. Modern technologies are being used more and more; there’s almost nothing left of the old manufacturing sector. Milk cattle, also pigs and poultry are the main farm animals raised in Estonia. Field crops include cereal crops, potatoes and vegetables. Some dairy products and some specific products – e.g. cultivated and wild berries, mushrooms, ecologically pure produce etc -are for export. The local produce contain considerably less chemicals and organic farming is gaining popularity.

Malta*

Agriculture in Malta has great significance for maintaining the landscape and cultural tradition as a part of the Maltese economy and way of life. The Maltese farmers cultivate a good variety of so-called greenhouse crops, such as tomatoes, green peppers, eggplants, courgettes and cucumbers. This means that Malta is self-sufficient with regards to agricultural produce. In Malta, all agricultural produce (only exceptions are tomatoes for processing and potatoes for export) pass through a centralized market complex known as the ‘Pitkalija’. The setting up of the Agricultural Marketing Centre was mainly intended to help farmers obtain the best possible prices for their produce. The small size of the island of Malta and the island of Gozo, can be viewed as an asset as local produce does not have to travel long distances to arrive ‘from the farm to the fork’.

Bulgaria*

The contemporary trends in the Bulgarian agriculture are toward aggregation of the farms, increasing the arable lands, dynamic development of grain production and reduced crops in some other sub-sectors. More than 90% of the agricultural land is currently used for production and grain and technical crops. The main grain crops in Bulgaria are wheat, maize and barley. Among the technical crops the largest share is occupied by the sunflower – 83%, peanuts and tobacco. The production of vegetables has long-term tradition thanks to the rich soils. Typical products are tomatoes, peppers and onions. Vine growing on the Bulgarian territory dates back to the ancient times and is specialized in both desert and wine sorts.