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Education, Extension, Collaborative Action for Farmers and Future Farmers

A Climate Adaptation Policy Blueprint:
Systems Approach to Ukraine's European Union Integration

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The purpose of this report is to support Ukraine's development of **comprehensive training programs** that empower **both**:

- A. traditional agricultural knowledge** *and*
- B. modern climate adaptation strategies**

in order to strengthen agricultural compliance with **EU climate standards.**

Agenda

1. Risk Assessment
2. Relevant CAP Mechanisms
3. Barriers & Foreseen Risks
4. Solutions
5. Funding Solutions
6. Policy Recommendations

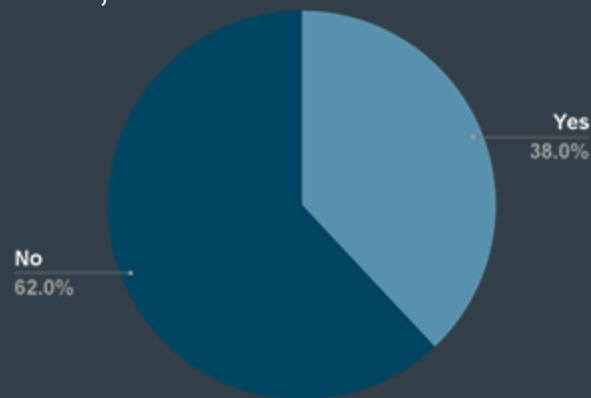
Key Risk Assessment Questions & Considerations

1 Urgency

How does **climate change** impact Ukrainian farmers, and how urgent is the need for **agricultural education and training** to address climate-related obstacles?

- What are the potential **short-term and long-term consequences of delaying** the implementation of education and extension services for farmers?
- What is the **current adoption rate** of climate-smart agricultural practices among farmers, and how does this impact Ukraine's food security?

Have you adopted climate-smart agricultural techniques (e.g., drought-resistant crops, no-till farming)?



Key Risk Assessment Questions & Considerations

2 Readiness

What are the **existing gaps** in Ukraine's agricultural education & training system, and how well are **current extension services equipped** to address them?

- How prepared are current Ukrainian institutions **to expand agricultural extension and advisory services?**
- **How aligned** are Ukraine's agricultural policies and extension services with EU standards under the **Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)?**

"I have access to sufficient knowledge and resources to implement climate adaptation strategies on my farm."

(Rate 1-5 from "Strongly Agree" - "Strongly Disagree")



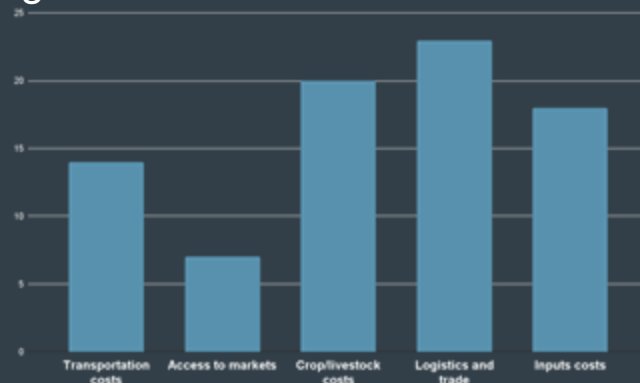
Key Risk Assessment Questions & Considerations

3 Feasibility

What **logistical and/or infrastructural challenges** exist in delivering quality education and extension services to **rural farming communities**?

- What role do **public-private partnerships** play in enhancing the feasibility of education and extension **initiatives**?
- How **willing and/or equipped** are farmers to adopt **new** agricultural techniques and digital extension services?

What are the most significant barriers to selling your produce and maintaining profitability?
(select all that apply)



Relevant CAP Mechanisms:

Pillar II

1. Support adoption of **climate-smart** agricultural practices
2. Provide measures for implementing CAP objectives to foster **knowledge & innovation; jobs, growth, and equality in rural areas; and generational renewal**
3. Enable increased **public/private partnerships** and local engagement of individual farmers

Relevant CAP Mechanisms:

- R.1:** Enhancing performance through knowledge & innovation (EIP-AGRI)
- R.2:** Linking advice & knowledge systems (AKIS)
- R.28:** Environmental or climate-related performance through knowledge & innovation
- R.36:** Generational renewal
- R.37:** Growth and jobs in rural areas
- R.41:** Connecting rural Europe

Key Barriers



Lack of government incentives or policies to promote agricultural education and extension services.
Limited capacity to address immediate farmer needs.



High costs of implementing training programs and low financial support for farmers to access education.



Limited collaboration between research institutions, agricultural extension services, educators and local farmers.

Proposed Solutions



Advocate for government-subsidized agricultural training programs, extension services. Increase resources to current government agricultural educational services.



Develop scholarship and grant programs for farmers to access agricultural training and education.



Strengthen partnerships between universities, agricultural institutions, and farming communities to facilitate knowledge-sharing and capacity-building programs.

Funding

from European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)

- offers **collaborative funding and research opportunities** across European governments and organizations
- empowers rural community-led initiatives that further **knowledge-sharing and innovation**
- supports **Measure 1** (knowledge transfer & information sharing), **Measure 2** (advisory services, farm management, relief services), and **Measure 16** (cooperation)



**The European Agricultural
Fund for Rural Development**
Europe investing in rural areas

Funding

from Horizon Europe 2021-2027 [Pillar II]

Global Challenges & European Industrial Competitiveness

- offers investments for **research, innovation, technologies and solutions** that forward EU climate policies and sustainability goals
- offers funding for **climate resilience** (Cluster 5)
- offers funding for **food, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture, and environment** (Cluster 6)
- eligibility requirements include EU membership, CAP compliance



Funding

from Horizon Europe 2021-2027 [Pillar III]

Innovative Europe

- offers **investments to stimulate research innovation**, breakthroughs and ecosystems
- offers **European Innovation Ecosystems** to encourage collaboration among organizations, investors and policymakers shared goals of innovation
- offers funding opportunities to commercialize solutions to climate change, food shortages and digitalization through the **European Institute of Innovation and Technology**



Recommended Policy Action Plan

Immediate Steps

1. Identify **existing** organizations, associations, and institutions currently supporting Ukrainian farmers to develop a **collaborative committee** between leaders of university agricultural programs, farming associations, agricultural trade schools and local government to determine **logistics of nation-wide program to connect farmers to support system**
2. Survey and identify **existing and future farmer needs**; address obstacles and opportunities to **incentivize program engagement**
3. Determine opportunities within **existing government finances** to fund and/or subsidize extension and education services to today's farmers **prior to EU accession**

Recommended Policy Action Plan

Short, Medium and Long Term Solutions

Today's Farmers **2026-2036**

Expand **extension services** to support farmers' **immediate** climate and conflict-related needs

Strategy:

- Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food
- Leverage existing NGOs, private agri-tech businesses and university programs (grad/post-grad) to support Ukraine's farmers in post-conflict, climate-smart agriculture



Recommended Policy Action Plan

Short, **Medium** and Long Term Solutions

Tomorrow's Farmers **2036-2046**

*Incentivize **skills and knowledge** that support sustainable, climate-smart innovation and development for Ukraine's rising generation*

Strategy:

- Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine
- Expand available scholarships, job-training and service learning opportunities in engineering, environmental and agricultural studies



Recommended Policy Action Plan

Short, Medium and **Long Term** Solutions

Future Farmers **2046-2060**

*Instill **adaptability skills** such as critical thinking, creativity and interdisciplinary problem-solving into **early childhood education***

Strategy:

- Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine
- Equip tomorrow's generation with the skills to further learn, innovate and adapt through socio-emotional, experiential learning curriculum

