

# COP27 Climate Agreement on Food & Farming

A Commitment by countries to reduce GHG-emissions from food and farms 30% by 2030

Food- and retail companies can do the same

<https://climateagreementfoodfarming.org>

**COP27 Press Conference**

7th November 2022

**Speaker: Jeroom Remmers,  
Director TAPP Coalition**



# Agenda

	Time
1. <b>Why?</b> The need for a COP27 Climate Agreement on Food and Farming	13.30
2. <b>What?</b> Commitments needed under the Agreement	13.40
3. <b>How and who?</b> Which countries and stakeholders can sign?	13.45
4. <b>Questions</b>	13.50
5. End: 14h	



# My background: True Animal Protein Price Coalition (TAPP)

Ca. 60 Partners TAPP Coalition: **companies**, **farmer** organizations, **health** organizations, **animal welfare**-, **environmental**-, **youth**- and **food** organizations

Partners in USA and EU countries

**We represent 0,6 million people; 3000 (EU) companies**

Over 5000 companies & NGO's in >100 countries supported our Carbon Pricing Food Campaign in 2021



Mission: making healthy, sustainable food the cheapest option;  
True Pricing meat/dairy including external environmental costs

<https://tappcoalition.eu>

<https://futurefoodprice.org>



# Why a new Climate Agreement Food and Farming?

Global GHG-emissions in 2019 were 59 Gton CO<sub>2</sub>eq and food systems are responsible for 33 percent (19,6 Gton CO<sub>2</sub> eq), up to 42 percent.

Reducing food system related GHG-emissions by 30% by 2030 compared to 2018-2020 levels means a reduction of 5.9 Gton CO<sub>2</sub> eq.  
(Methane Pledge goal is 8 Gton reduction)

If 100% of global food system emissions are reduced 30% by 2030, this eliminates 0.2°C warming by 2050.

# Goal of the Agreement



Reducing food and farm related greenhouse gas emissions  
with at least 30 percent by 2030 (compared to 2020 levels)

Help realise Paris Climate Agreement goals of 1,5 degrees C.



# Additional Benefits



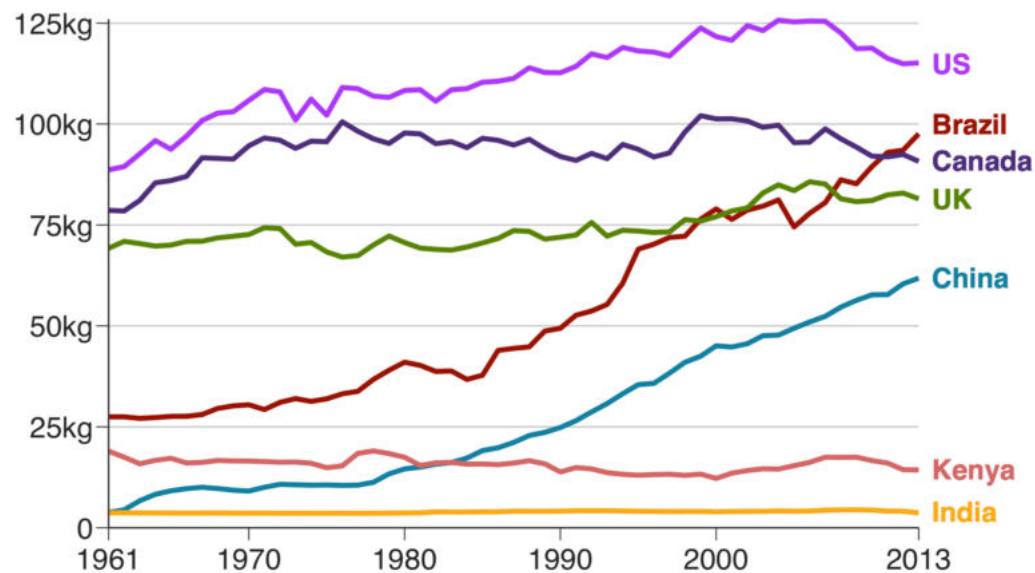
- Signing will also help to **reverse biodiversity loss by 2030**, realise the Methane Pledge, the Leader's Pledge for Nature and **zero deforestation and net zero by 2050** goals.
- Signing will help to improve (meat related) public health, **reducing health care costs**.
- The Climate Agreement will **empower** similar initiatives that will be mutually supportive, like The UK led agriculture **breakthrough agenda for climate-smart agriculture by 2030** (with goals for cutting GHG-emissions of livestock by 20 % by 2030 and 30 % by 2040), the **FACT Dialogue, the FAST initiative, AIM for Climate, the Global Research Alliance** (most of them focused at research, governance and investments). Signing will also speed up (research and funding) actions agreed in the AIM for Climate, GRA, FACT and FAST.



# Why? The need for a COP27 Climate Agreement on Food and Farming

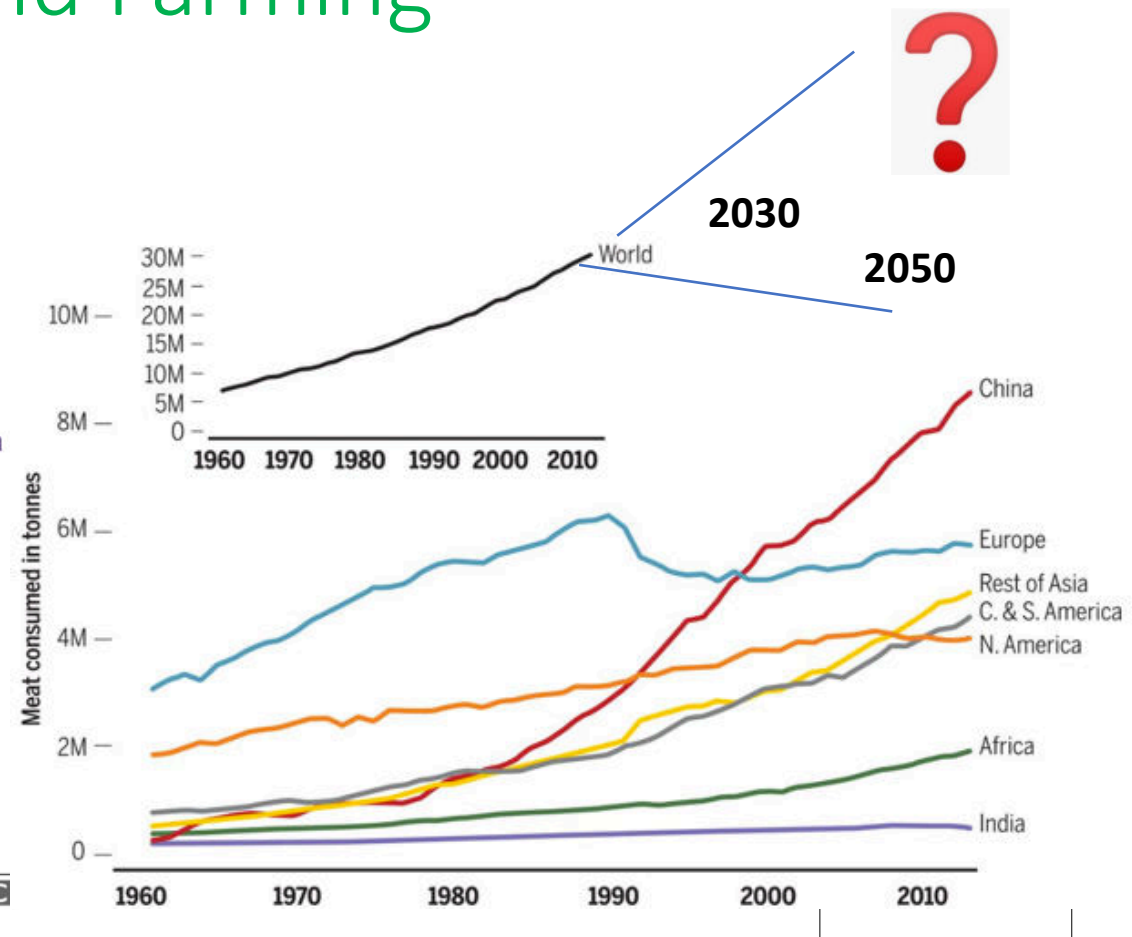
## Meat consumption by selected country

Average annual consumption per person

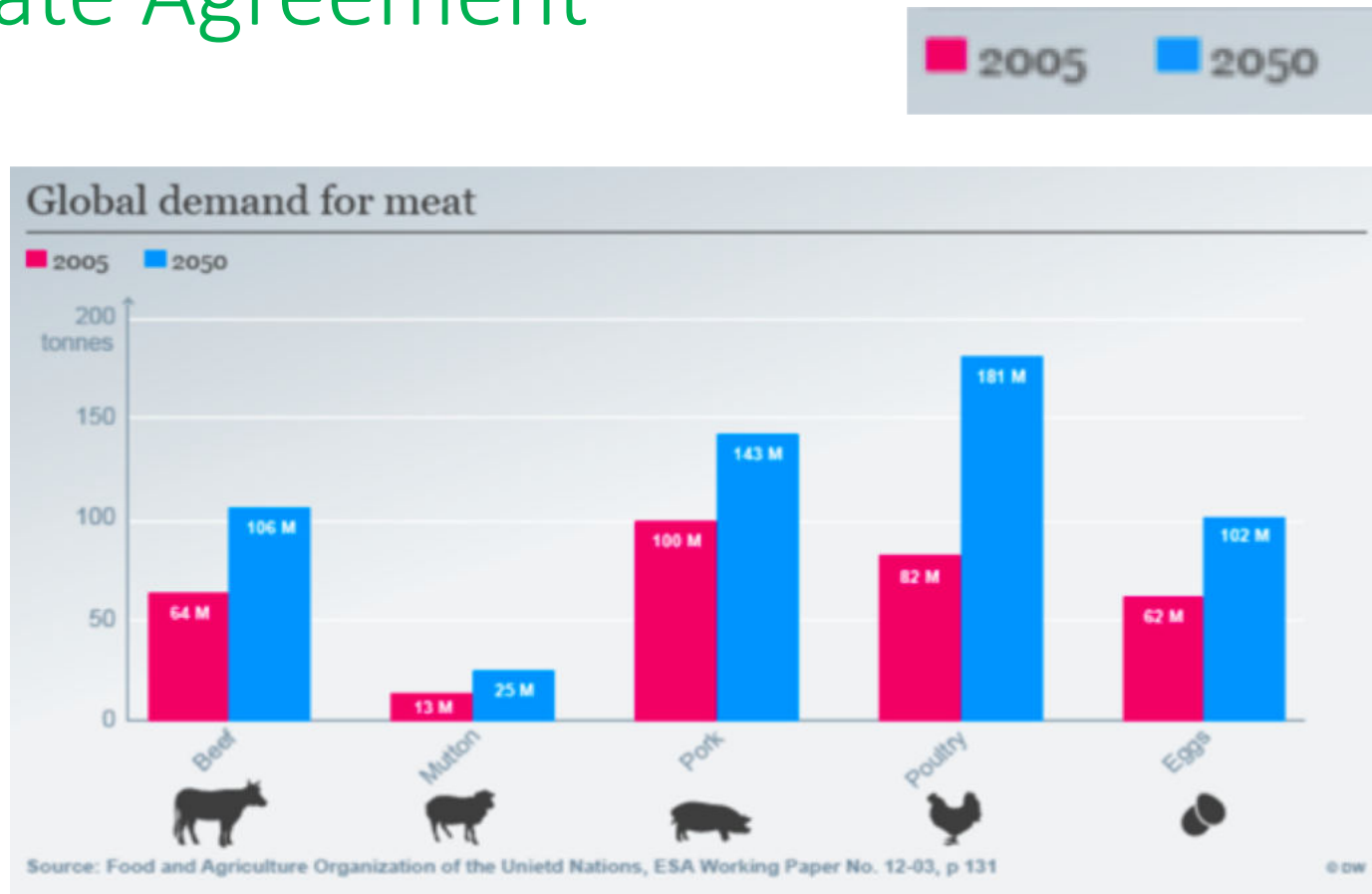


Source: UN Food and Agriculture Organization / Our World in Data

BBC



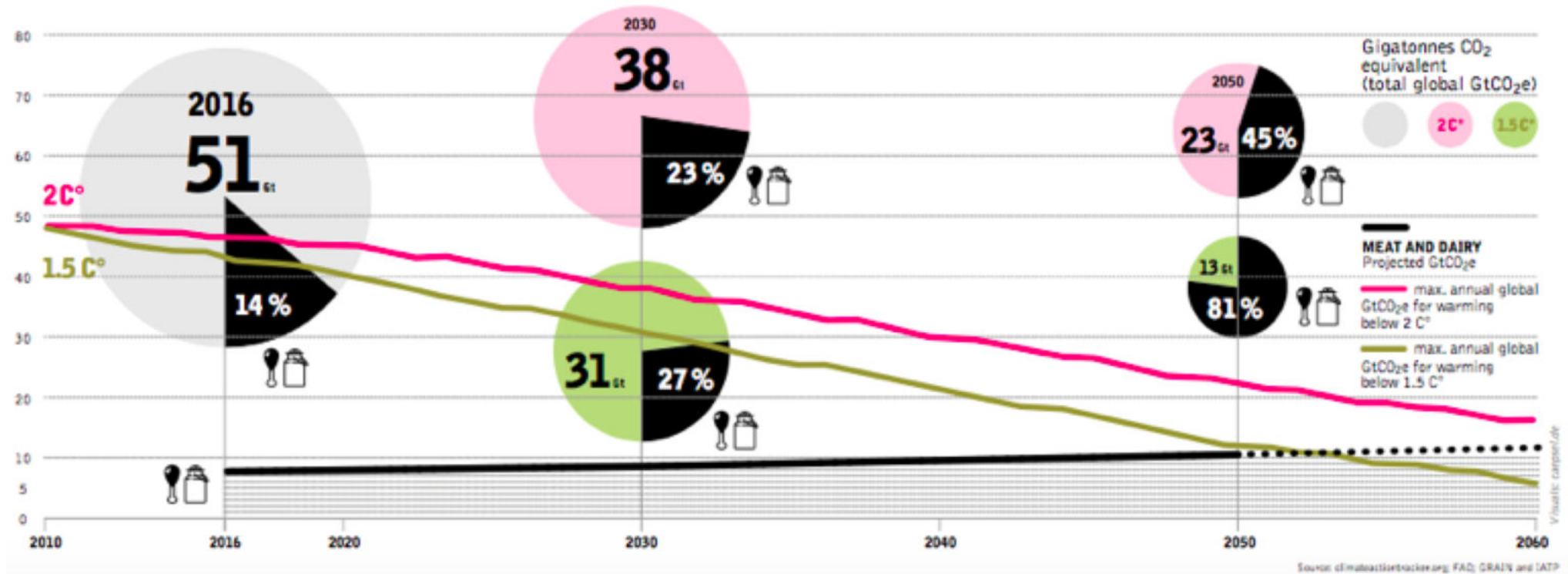
# Growing meat consumption conflicts with Paris Climate Agreement





# BUSINESS AS USUAL (BAU) GROWTH OF MEAT AND DAIRY PRODUCTION MAKES THE PARIS AGREEMENT IMPOSSIBLE AND CLIMATE CATASTROPHE INEVITABLE

ESTIMATED GHG EMISSIONS SCENARIOS FOR 2 C° AND 1.5 C° COMPARED TO THE BAU GROWTH OF MEAT AND DAIRY EMISSIONS



- Meat and dairy cause 60% of global **biodiversity loss** (WWF UK); deforestation S-America
- **low income farmers** – environmental costs are not (fully) included in price
- **Meat overconsumption in high meat consuming countries lead to negative health impacts**

# Meat & cheese: highest CO2 eq emissions/kg food

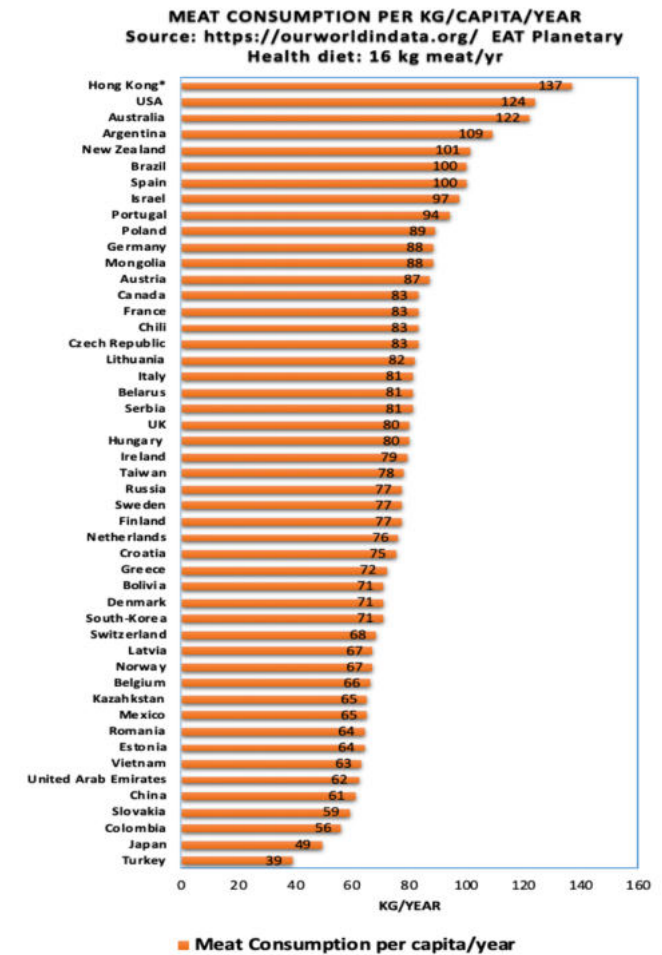
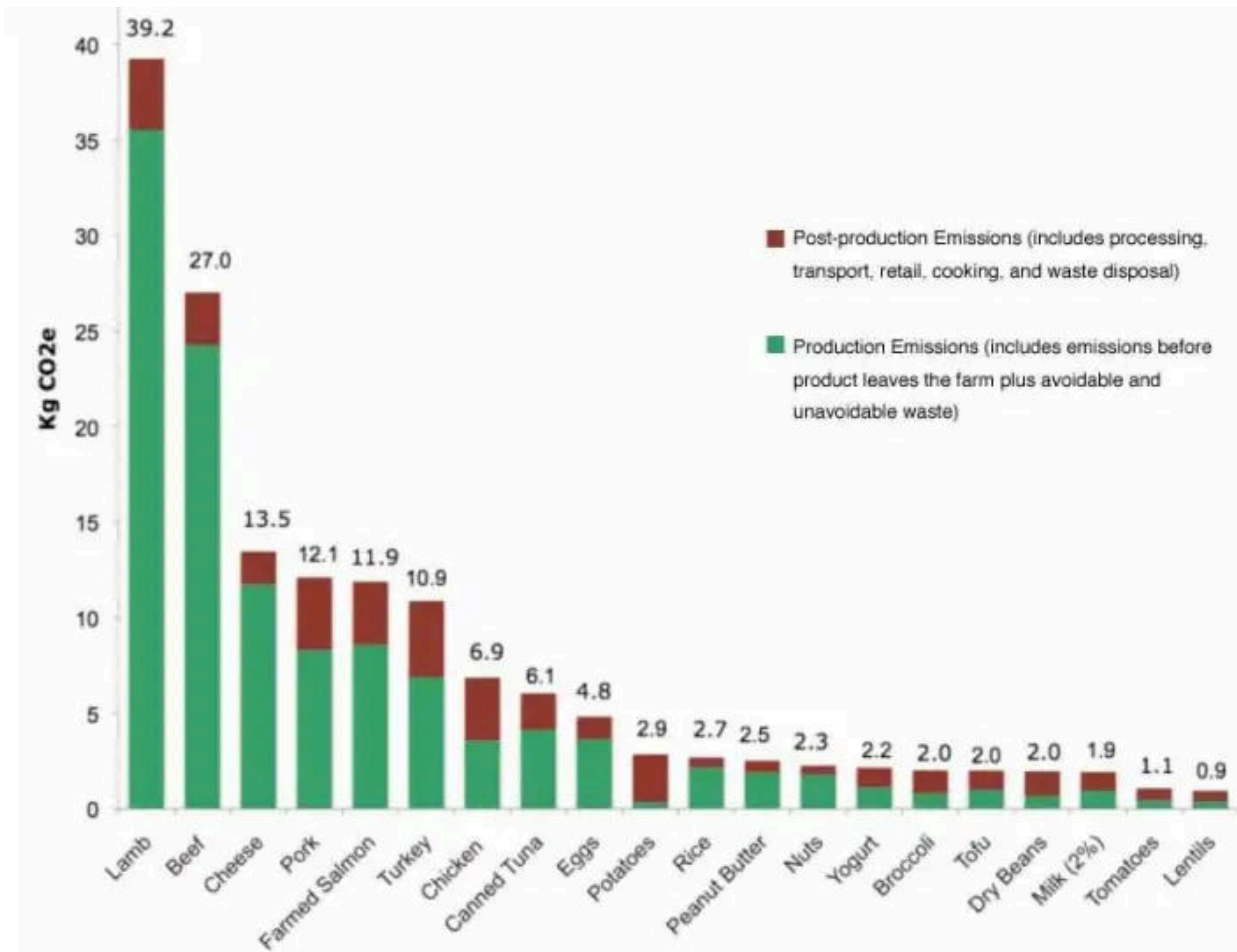
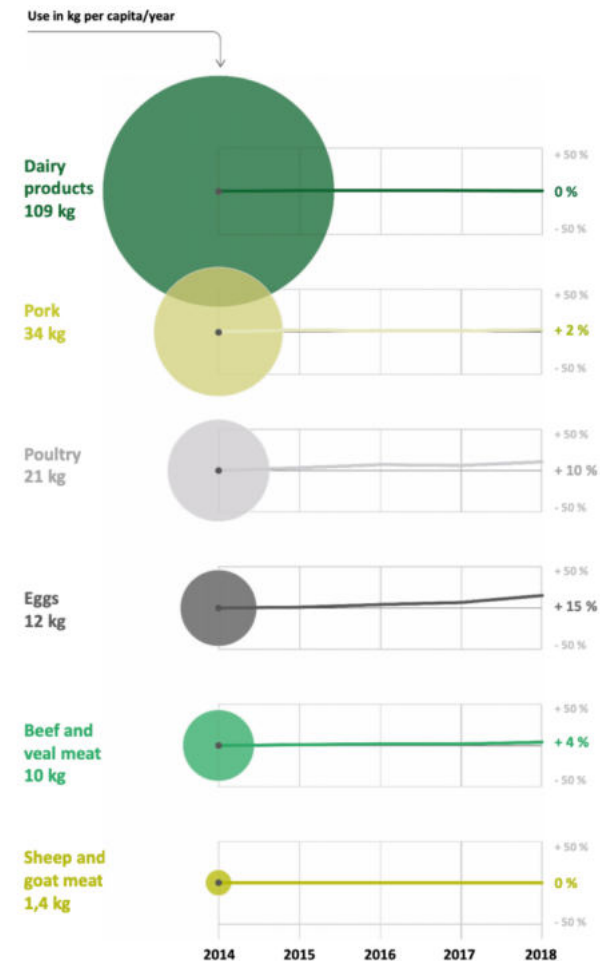
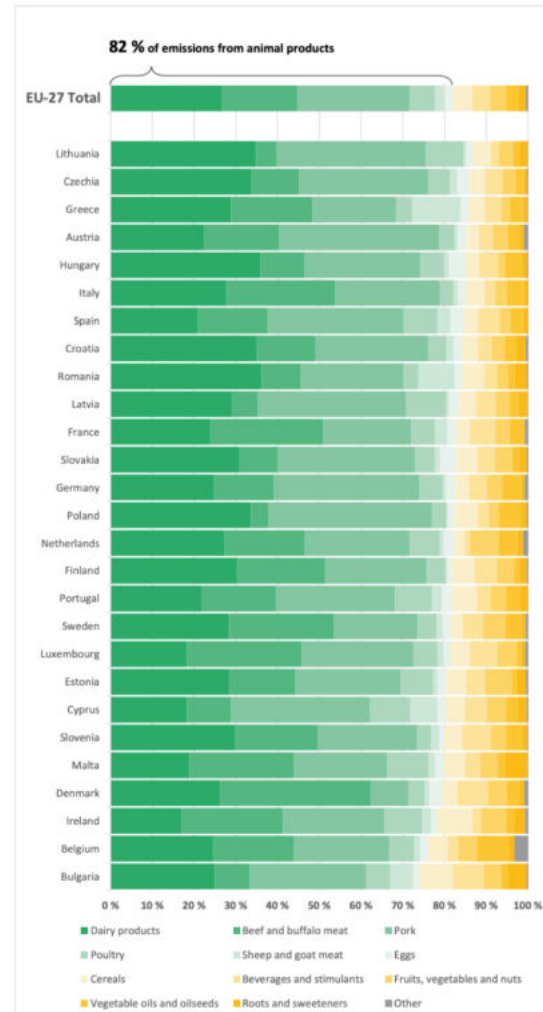


Figure 11 – EU annual consumption per capita of animal products not declining



Source: ECA based on data from the Commission Prospects for Agricultural Markets in the EU 2020-2030, 2020.

Figure 13 – Carbon footprint of foods in EU diet



Source: Sandström, V. et al.: *The role of trade in the greenhouse gas footprints of EU diets*, 2018, p. 55 (constructed with data received from V. Sandström).

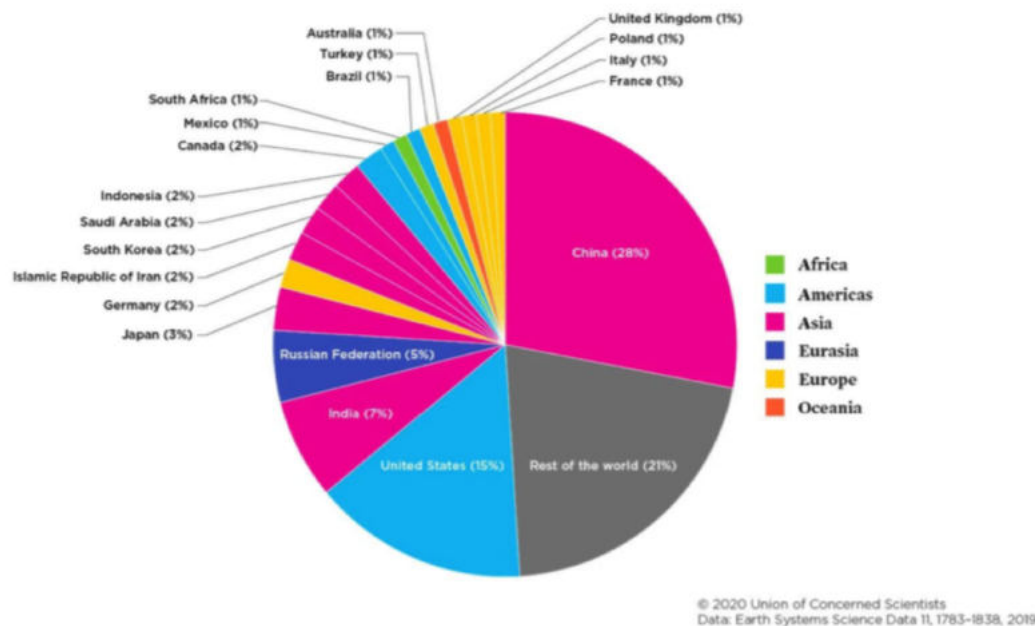
EU Court of Auditors (2021):

80% carbon footprint of foods in EU diet are from meat and dairy

Meat consumption per capita 2014-2018 still increasing

# Meat, dairy, eggs cause 20% of global GHG-emissions, a study finds. This is equal to GHG emissions from USA and Russia combined!

Or: the CO<sub>2</sub>-emissions combined from UK, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Turkey, Australia, South Korea, Mexico, Canada, South Africa, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia and Iran!



Share of countries CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

<https://www.ucsusa.org/resources/each-countrys-share-co2-emissions>

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/sep/13/meat-greenhouses-gases-food-production-study>

## Animal-based food production contributes to the most emissions

Annual global emissions from the top 10 contributing animal- and plant-based foods

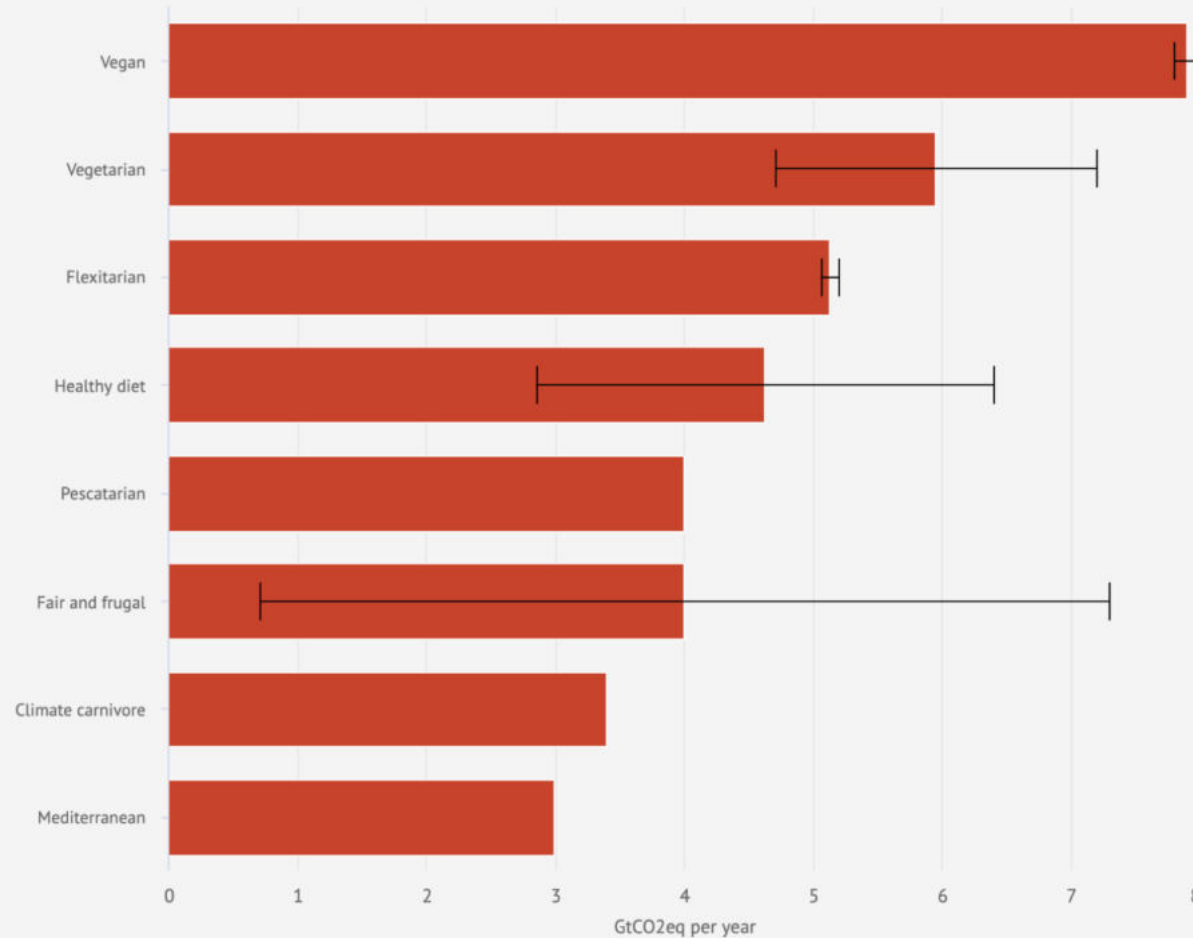


Guardian graphic. Source: Xu, et al., 2021, "Global greenhouse gas emissions from animal-based foods are twice those of plant-based foods"

The food system causes 35% of global GHG-emissions; livestock contributes 57%; this equals 20% of global GHG-emissions

Source: Illinois University, publication in Nature Food, 13 sept 2021 in the Guardian

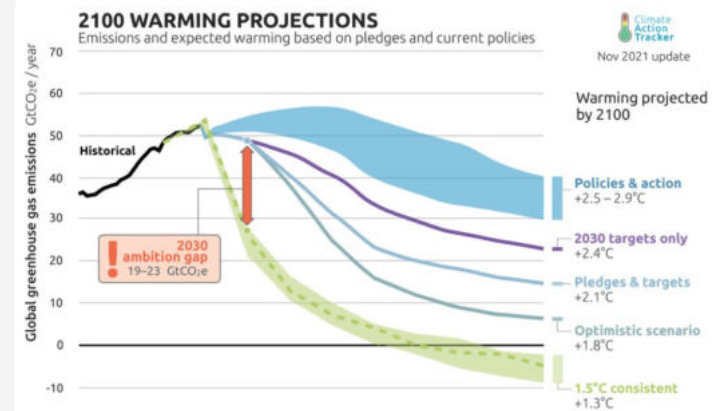
### A global switch to veganism would deliver the largest emissions savings



Greenhouse gas savings potential from the global adoption of various diets. Error bars show the spread of results from different studies. Data without error bars are from one study only. Adapted from [IPCC \(2018\)](#). Chart by Carbon Brief using [Highcharts](#).

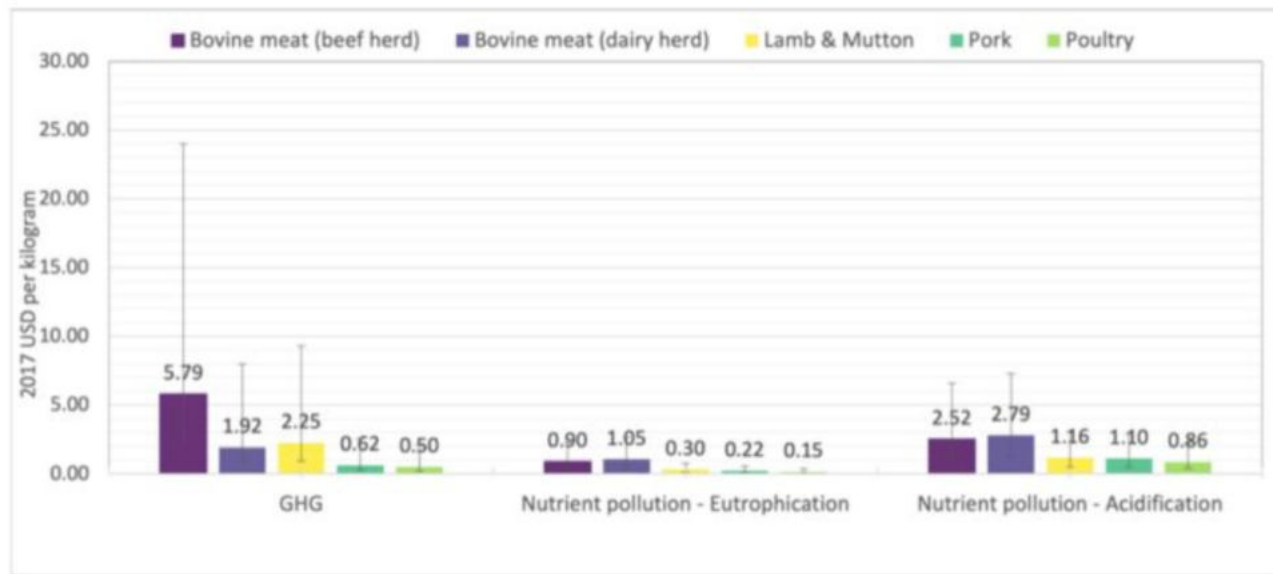
Eating less meat can reduce global GHG-emissions 3-6 Gton CO<sub>2</sub> eq/year

Emission gap 2030 is 19-23 Gton CO<sub>2</sub> eq





In high income countries a CO2 tax on meat needed: 5,79 USD/kg beef, 0,62 USD/kg pork



**Figure 2:** Environment-related social costs from climate change and nitrogen pollution for selected meat types, in sum 5.76-9.21 USD/kg for beef, 3.71 USD/kg for lamb and mutton, 1.94 USD/kg for pork

Source: Oxford University Report 2022 “Is meat too cheap? Towards optimal taxation of meat.”

**CO2? Tax food too!**



# Consumer survey France, Germany, NL Okt 2020

## MAJORITY WEST-EUROPEAN CONSUMERS SUPPORT INTELLIGENT MEAT TAX

70% of German, French, Dutch consumers support 0% VAT rate on vegetables and fruits and a higher VAT rate on meat



WE WANT A HIGHER MEAT PRICE

<https://www.dvj-insights.com/support-for-meat-tax-study-dvj-insights-tapp-coalition/-Survey-Results-1606202904.pdf>

# What? Commitments needed under the Climate Agreement Food/Farming (1)

Signatories can choose 3 options: reducing agriculture GHG-emissions 30 percent by 2030, or reducing food related (per capita) GHG-emissions 30 percent by 2030 or reducing both.

- A. Taking **at least two actions on Food and two actions on Farming (agriculture)**, put in place by the end of 2025, that substantially help to realise the 2030 reduction goals
- B. Updating the Climate Agreement on Food and Farming website annually with existing and new Food and Farm policies and National Determined Contributions.

# Commitments (2)

- C. Participating in annual virtual meetings (led by FAO?) to share progress on food & farm related GHG-emission reduction and discuss monitor reports.
- D. Inviting other countries /states/regions to sign this Climate Agreement too.
- E. Mainstreaming low carbon, more plant-based food and farming practices into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral policies and into G7, G20, WTO, WHO, FAO, OECD and UNFCCC decisions. Ensuring the value of low carbon, healthy and sustainable food and farming practices and ensuring negative externalities on climate and nature are given the right price.

# Optional commitments Farms



1. **Provide financial incentives** and resources (i.e., training, natural fertilizers, supplies etc.) **to farmers to reduce GHG-emissions**. Many approaches can be deployed, eg agroecological or regenerative methods, like crop rotation, low-tillage, multi-strata planting, organic farming.
2. Offer **financial incentives to animal farmers** to reduce their herd sizes.
3. Legislate, monitor, and enforce **maximum methane emissions from farms**.
4. **End importation of products** derived from destruction of the **Amazon rainforest**.

# Optional commitments Farms

1. **Apply the pollution pays principle** on GHG emissions at the farm level or import.
2. **Reduce agriculture subsidies** that contribute to high greenhouse gas emissions.
3. Increase and **encourage investments in low-carbon, climate resilient farming.**



# Optional commitments Food



1. Establish **national and per capita reduction goals** for animal-based food consumption.
2. Start **education campaigns** on the environmental and health benefits of plant-predominant diets. This could include a requirement that supermarkets display sustainability ratings of food purchases, or display carbon footprint data or true pricing data incl. CO<sub>2</sub>-costs. Similar education projects could be introduced in schools and other institutions.
3. **Eliminate or reduce consumer taxes on vegetables and fruits** or subsidize healthy plant based food.



# Optional commitments Food



4. **Reduce public procurement of animal-based products**, promote institutional plant-forward eating (eg by joining the Cool Food Pledge for public institutions) or serve climate neutral food products in public bodies.
5. Legislation to **restrict marketing and junk pricing** of food products with a very high carbon footprint, eg. bans for selling protein rich food at prices lower than normal retail cost prices.
6. **Create a tax on high carbon footprint food products** to reflect external costs on climate, environment and human health. Tax revenues could be used to finance farmers to reduce GHG-emissions, improve animal welfare or sustainability standards; or transition to plant farming (or re-wild if plant farming is not possible). Or include livestock GHG-emissions into ETS.

# Optional commitments Food



7. Legislation or **pricing policies for supermarkets/retail** to reduce food related GHG-emissions with at least 30% by 2030 (scope 3 emission)
8. Encourage to **prevent food waste from high carbon food** products, e.g. by legislation for smaller portions of meat in catering/restaurants and smaller packaging of meat in retail.
9. Encourage or legislate the **25% uptake of vegetable proteins** as healthy, low carbon substitutes **in all kinds of mixed meat products** like sausages, minced meat, hamburgers etc.

# Who can sign?



**All countries can sign + States/regions with > 10 million inhabitants + food/retail companies**

- We analyzed policies for 9 countries :
- Germany, Netherlands, China, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium, Italy) and the European Union
- <https://climateagreementfoodfarming.org/existing-country-commitments/>
- More countries can comply (to be analysed by themselves)
- At least 2 Food and 2 Farm related climate policy actions needed to comply

# Signing proces



- **Countries/regions can sign during or after COP27 and fill a form, indicating 4 policies**
- **Goal End of 2022: 30 countries signed**
- **Goal End of 2023: 90 countries signed**
- **Signing is open to endorsements by Non State actors (business, civil society, financial institutes, local/regional governments, UN organisations, health sector).**
- **Non State actors can help to ask national governments to sign**
- **Every year: online meeting proposed to be led by FAO for review of commitments**

# Signing the Climate Agreement Food/Farming

- Signatories (countries, states, regions, food/retail companies can sign here:

<https://form.jotform.com/222742859990369>



- Other companies, civil society, financial institutes, local governments, UN organisations etc. can fill in this form <https://form.jotform.com/222964663419364>
- Signing in person during the COP27 conference can be done during a side event 11th November at 15h EET in Room 9 (Tutankhamun).
- Registration via <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/food-system-climate-solutions-unfccc-uncop27-in-personstreaming-tickets-450896161557>. Livestream: <https://www.youtube.com/c/UnfcccInt/playlists>

# Questions?

Please share & support:

<https://climateagreementfoodfarming.org>

Jeroom Remmers

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