



Cultural Heritage Agency
Ministry of Education, Culture and Science

*Heritage as an aspect
of the Common
Agricultural Policy*

Heritage as an aspect of the Common Agricultural Policy

Colophon

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A characteristic scene in a peat meadow landscape: cows near a ditch, Aetsveldse Polder, Weesp

For centuries, the Dutch have reclaimed, drained, raised, levelled, embanked and allotted their land, with agriculture as the driving force.

The Dutch cultural landscape is completely human-made and can be read like a book containing the narrative of our history.

Agricultural landscapes serve more purposes than just production; they are an important component of our national heritage. Many historical landscape elements have been lost as a result of 20th-century agricultural modernization - all the more reason to be careful with those historical landscape elements and structures that remain.

The future of this landscape is to a significant extent shaped by agriculture, which in its specific form is largely regulated by the European Union. These policies are laid down in the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and have a direct bearing on how our landscape will be shaped over the next few years. The Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands considers the implementation of the CAP a heritage challenge. This brochure

illustrates the CAP's potential to preserve and enhance the quality of our cultural landscape. Explicitly excluded, for the moment, are farm houses, farmsteads and archaeological sites as defined by the Monument Act. The focus of this brochure is the relation between the cultural-historical landscape and the CAP and, by extension, the exploitation and management of the land.

Although the concept of 'landscape heritage' does not encompass the promotion of natural assets or biodiversity, heritage and biodiversity are nonetheless closely linked. Centuries-old wooded banks, for example, have a beneficial effect on biodiversity as well as being important cultural-historical assets.

Landscape diversity leads to natural diversity, besides providing beautiful locations to wile away many pleasant hours.

For whom

This brochure is intended as a source of inspiration for policy makers, farmers, collectives and operational groups and to stimulate an awareness of the relation between our landscape heritage and the CAP.

Wood rows such as these near Annen (Drenthe Province) comprise both heritage aspects and natural assets. They also create a diverse landscape.



The Common Agricultural Policy

For some time now, the EU has been engaged in a modification of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The current emphasis on production will be replaced by a focus on the environment and rural development.

Fewer funds than previously have been allocated to the Netherlands: approximately 880 million Euro per year. The main reasons are the ongoing liberalization of global trade, the eastward expansion of the European Union, a greater awareness among consumers of issues surrounding food safety, food quality and animal welfare, and, finally, the EU's aim to make environmental concerns an integral part of its comprehensive regulations. Although heritage is not a separate issue or explicit criterion within the CAP, it is often implicitly included.

Two subsidy pillars

Under the CAP, farmers may apply for subsidies provided they fulfil a number of requirements. The European funds derive from two pillars. Pillar 1 comprises income support and market and price policies, while Pillar 2 comprises the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD). Subsidy stacking is not allowed. The main differences between the pillars are:

The allocated sum: Pillar 1 comprises ca. 90% of the budget, Pillar 2 the remaining 10%; The distribution: Pillar 1 is funded by Europe while any subsidies from Pillar 2 have to be matched for 50% by national funding.

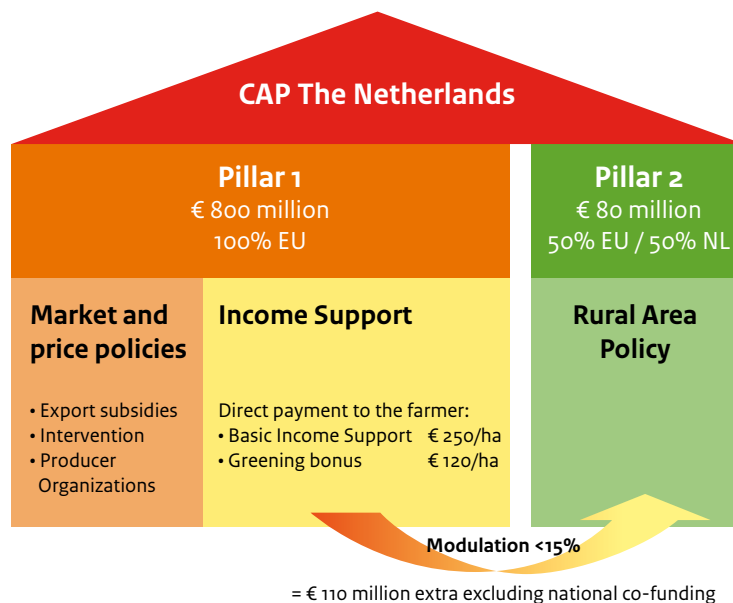
Greening requirements in Pillar 1

From the annual funds in Pillar 2, the Netherlands receive ca. 800 million Euro. 70% of that sum has been earmarked as basic income support to every farmer, on average € 250 per hectare per farm. Other than helping to keep the landscape agricultural, basic income support is not expected to have a measurable positive impact on heritage.

In order to qualify for the remaining 30% – an additional € 120 per hectare – a farmer must meet a number of *requirements for green direct payment*, one of which applies mainly to livestock farming, two others to crop cultivation. These three criteria are further explained in the next chapters:

- Preservation of permanent grassland (livestock);
- Crop diversification on fields (cultivation);
- Setting aside 5% of the total farmed acreage for ecological management (cultivation).

Common Agricultural Policy 2014



One of the criteria to qualify for green direct payment applies to livestock farms.

First requirement for green direct payment: preservation of permanent grassland

The first requirement to qualify for the 30% green direct payment is that at least 75% of a farm's total acreage must comprise permanent grassland. In addition, the land must have been used as such for the past five years. Outside Naturazoo areas, no restrictions apply to the ploughing over of grassland.

Heritage assets in open peat meadow areas

Openness

One of the main cultural-historical assets of the peat meadow area is its openness. By preserving grasslands, this quality is ensured but not enhanced. About half of the Dutch farmers qualify for CAP subsidies on these grounds. The requirement – preserving grasslands – is easily fulfilled since it is merely a continuation of current practice. Supplementary sowing is allowed; the landscape's experience value will be further enhanced if a meadow is sown with an herbaceous blend.

Over the last few decades, the total surface of maize in meadow areas has increased. Just before harvest, maize fields are man-high,

forming a barrier which obliterates the openness of the landscape. From a heritage point of view, large contiguous maize fields are therefore less desirable than an alternation of grassland and maize. The new CAP stipulates that dairy farms may grow maize on no more than 25% of their total acreage. In the past, this was 30%; the new situation therefore benefits the preservation of openness.

Ditches

Besides openness, ditches also represent visual heritage assets in dairy regions. Ditches help to regulate the water table, slowing down the degradation of the peat. Especially the medieval so-called *cope* reclamations in the *Groene Hart* area are of international significance. The open landscape and the regular grid pattern of the ditches together define this peat meadow area. Filling in these ditches, for example in the context of upscaling, is therefore undesirable from a heritage point of view.

Dutch ditches are increasingly provided with so-called nature-friendly banks. This concept is effective in improving biodiversity and water quality. However, it is often based on a standard design with little regard for local cultural-historical assets. The *Belvedere* project 'Cultuuroevers' has demonstrated an alternative

Peat meadow with ditch, Vlist





Open landscape with ditch in the Schermer polder

Variations in the terrain always have a story to tell. In the case of Grevenbicht on the river Meuse, Limburg Province, it is the constant meandering of the river in the past.

Archaeological assets in the peat meadow area

Grassland conservation also favours the preservation of subsurface archaeological features, provided the water table remains stable; desiccation can rapidly destroy centuries-old remains. From an agricultural point of view, however, a high water table is in many cases far from ideal. In the past, water tables were frequently lowered to create optimal conditions for agricultural production.

From a heritage point of view, ploughing is not a problem in itself but deep ploughing is, as it may affect any archaeological features present in the subsoil. A permit is therefore required for ploughing to a depth in excess of 0.3m on archaeological monuments. Deep ploughing moreover accelerates the oxidation process of peat, which will subsequently disappear at a faster rate.





Elevation contrasts tell a story

The overall flat Dutch landscape is dotted with elevated areas, representing abandoned housesteads in the peat, river dunes (*donken*), dyke remnants or levees. Because any knowledge regarding the meaning of such areas is often limited they are at risk of being levelled. That would be unfortunate, for much information would be destroyed in the process. Such landscape assets deserve to be preserved; they are 'words spoken by the landscape', telling the story of our past.

In the Dutch context, the CAP does not provide any direct means to preserve or manage these types of landscape elements. However, Pillar 2 allows the allocation of rural development funds to projects which indirectly benefit these elements as well, and the local Council may include guidelines for the management of any (geomorphological) assets in its zoning regulations for rural areas.

Farmers are the creators of our landscapes as they appear today: landscape view from the Gulpenerberg

approach. Here, the field pattern formed by the ditches and the open character of the landscape are combined in designs for nature-friendly banks.

Experience

In the case of grassland-bird management, culture and nature combine well. Peat meadows have always harboured many grassland species. The birds thrive in herbaceous grassland and forms of management involving postponed or staggered mowing are becoming more common. Under these regimens, fields are not mown in one go but in stages, leaving large swaths of long grass in May and June which protect the chicks. Another advantage is that the resulting landscape is more varied.

Funding for these initiatives in the context of joint agriculture-based nature management is available within Pillar 2 of the CAP. Clever combinations of for example grassland, agriculture-based nature management and recreational exploitation result in a more intense experience of the landscape, from which heritage benefits as well.



Pillar 1 – cultivation

Farmers engaged in cultivation must meet the following two criteria in order to qualify for a green direct payment.

Second requirement for green direct payment: crop diversification

Crop rotation must be practiced on agricultural fields. Specifically, not consecutive rotation (every year a different crop) but spatial rotation (at least three different crops simultaneously on a specified minimum acreage). Depending on the size of the farm, this involves at least two or three crops at a specified ratio.

Crop diversification is common practice in Dutch agriculture and it is therefore unlikely to pose any problems for crop farmers. With regard to heritage, this criterion is irrelevant, for either way the visual landscape will be little affected.

Third requirement for green direct payment: 5% Ecological Focus Area (EFA)

For a crop farmer, diversification is only the beginning. Crop farmers qualify for green direct payment by converting 5% of their operational surface into an EFA, an Ecological Focus Area. EFAs are a new element in the CAP; they conform to the European Union's desire to make agriculture more sustainable and to focus on natural and landscape qualities.

Elaboration EFA criterion

The 5% surface is calculated on the basis of a farm's officially registered acreage. Conversion

into an EFA will diminish the productive value, but this is partly compensated by the € 120/ha green direct payment. Because this sum does not cover the loss in full, the cultivation and harvesting of certain crops is allowed but manuring or fertilizing are not.

Equivalent package

Landscape elements can certainly play a role in the implementation of an EFA. However, for landscape elements, compensation per hectare is only possible if farmers opt for the 'Equivalent package', also called 'buffer-strip package'. If a farmer chooses to realize the 5% EFA by means of this package, managed field margins have to comprise at least 30% of the EFA. In that case the EFA is listed as a sustainability certificate.

Options include:

- Managed field margins, with or without ditches;
- Protein-rich or cover crops;
- Landscape elements;
- Adjoining ditch margins, nitrogen-retentive or cover crops.

Generic list

The 5% EFA may also be achieved by selecting crops from the 'generic list', such as non-managed field margins with a width of between 1 and 20m, protein-rich and cover crops and willow coppice. Their relative contribution to the total EFA is limited (weighted factor < 1) so that a larger surface in cover crops is needed to meet the 5% criterion, compared to the same surface in landscape elements.

Farm with field, Noordgouwe, Zeeland Province. Farms like these will be affected by the new 5% greening requirement in the form of an EFA.





Existing heritage assets barely play a part in the event of implementation by means of field margins, although they may render a landscape more varied. Of some cultural-historical interest are traditional crops such as flax or hemp, which have been cultivated in the Netherlands for a long time. Willow coppice may take the form of shrubbery, osier beds or rows; a row of pollarded willows, however, does not qualify as willow coppice.

Package selection

For most agricultural entrepreneurs, choosing from the generic list is the simplest way to meet the requirements for green direct payment. In some cases, existing production practices can simply be continued without modification. Even then, however, it may be advantageous to opt for the equivalent package, which allows the inclusion of ditches as part of the EFA and a multiplication of the total surface by a factor 2.

See the tables in the appendix for an overview of crops on the Generic list and in the Equivalent package.

Opportunities for heritage with the 5% EFA approach

The ecological management of 5% of a farm's fields provides an excellent opportunity for small landscape elements such as wooded banks, tree lines, shrubbery, ponds, hedges, hedgerows and many more. Small-scale landscapes in particular still harbour a wealth of highly valuable elements – from a cultural-historical and nature perspective – in field margins.

As of January 1, 2016, small landscape elements may be included in the equivalent packages but only in combination with managed field margins. To the extent that they are situated outside the cultivable area but are still part of the same property, small landscape elements may now be included in the definition of the 5% EFA. Ditches, however, are explicitly excluded from this category of small landscape elements.

Osier beds (Dutch: grienden) are strips of land near water, planted with willow coppice that is harvested annually. Shown here is a griend near Linschoten (Utrecht Province). Grienden are highly valuable cultural assets.

Pillar 2

The second pillar concerns the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and comprises subsidies for nature conservation and economic development.

The second pillar of the CAP contains European funding amounting to an annual total of 80 million Euro. The member states each contribute the same amount for implementation,¹ resulting in a total sum of government funds annually available in the Netherlands of 160 million Euro. In Dutch, these funds are referred to as POP3 (*Plattelands Ontwikkelings Programma*) after the third term of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. In its implementation, an EAFRD/POP3 centres on five themes, two of which are relevant to heritage: Nature and Landscape, and LEADER3.

Nature and Landscape: Agricultural Nature and Landscape Management

The theme Nature and Landscape involves the implementation of the September, 2013 Nature Covenant (*Natuurpact*) between the Dutch State and the provinces. The Pact comprises agreements with regard to the decentralized continuation and implementation of Agricultural Nature and Landscape Management (*Agrarisch Natuur- en Landschapbeheer*).

Local landscape features enhance the characteristic appearance of a landscape. An example in point are the hedgerows lining the Dorrenweg, Limburg Province

Agrarian collectives

The implementation of agricultural nature management is the responsibility of so-called agrarian collectives (*agrarisch collectief*), collaborative groups of farmers and/or groups of farmers and other land users. The collectives work together with other local parties responsible for maintenance in the area, such as caretakers, water boards, provincial landscape management organizations, municipalities and entrepreneurs in the recreational sector. On the basis of these provincial guidelines the collectives and local parties draft an area plan in which heritage may be involved both in the drafting and in the implementation stages. For example, landscape elements can be managed as habitats for protected species. Collectives can submit their plan to the provincial government by means of an area budget plan

Agrarian collectives also collaborate with other involved parties; heritage organizations may be designated as such. Certainly, the area budget plan submitted to the Province by the agrarian collectives provides an excellent opportunity to include heritage. In these cases it is important that the collectives involved are indeed agricultural; heritage in itself cannot be leading, although it may serve as a source of inspiration.

A Focus on natural assets

Provinces have drafted nature conservation plans in collaboration with interested parties. The focus

¹ Although 75% could potentially be co-financed by the EU, the Netherlands has stated in its POP3 that it will draw 50% from its own national budget.



of these provincial plans is on natural assets, in particular on species. The plans are mainly evaluated on the basis of international agreements such as the Birds and Habitats Directives. This emphasis on natural assets provides opportunities for heritage as well. In many cases, landscape heritage and biodiversity are two faces of the same coin. Although they can easily be combined, many parties are nonetheless insufficiently aware of the opportunities for heritage provided by biodiversity. In practice, ensuring a favourable habitat for species amounts to creating a diverse landscape with elements which ensure a pervasive 'green-blue' balance so that species can find their way around. Planting hedges and hedgerows over a length of several kilometres, for example, allows birds to thrive while the same features enhance the landscape's experience value. In other words, like the 5% EFA, the implementation of Agricultural Nature and Landscape Management may also involve heritage assets in the form of small landscape elements.

Cultural history may not be a leading factor but it can be a source of inspiration when making choices. Hedgerows, for example, can always be placed at random locations in the landscape; however, a (cultural-historical) map analysis will allow an informed choice. Even when an area is temporarily fallow and its future purpose yet undecided, heritage can still provide a starting point.

Rural economic development: LEADER3

Obviously, more is going on in rural areas than just agriculture. People reside and live there and they hike, bicycle and spend their leisure time in the landscape. Within the CAP, Pillar 2 provides the financial means to reinforce the vitality of rural areas by means of LEADER funds. Again, the sum is matched by the government bodies in question (the State, provinces, water boards or municipal councils). Depending on which measure is involved there may be an additional requirement of private co-financing up to 40% of the total sum.

There are over 20 LEADER areas in the Netherlands, each with its own Local Group (*Plaatselijke Groep*) or Local Action Group (*Lokale Actie Groep*). Each group drafts a seven-year overall plan for executable projects within its area, called Local Development Strategy (*Lokale Ontwikkelingsstrategie*, LOS). Heritage may be part of this strategy and serve as a source of inspiration. In general, projects must conform to one of three main themes:

- Regional population decline;
- Town-countryside relations which contribute to rural development;
- In areas with limited urbanization: projects with an economic, ecological and social angle.

All three themes provide avenues for heritage. By exploring the areas and soliciting ideas from residents and other interested parties, local



Osier beds are labour intensive and not very profitable. Their exploitation is therefore decreasing. Osier-bed worker in Linschoten (Utrecht Province)

Dining in a vineyard in Zeeland Province. Such events strengthen town-country relations and generate extra revenues.





Walking across farmland has become very popular over the past ten years. Farmers who made their land accessible received compensation per hectare.

Support at the provincial level

There are many organizations with specific expertise in heritage and regional development, the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands being an example in point. Numerous provincial heritage organizations – provincial support centres for heritage (*erfgoedhuizen*) or monuments (*steunpunten monumentenzorg*), provincial divisions of *Landschapsbeheer* (Landscape Management), folklore societies and provincial branches of *Heemschut* – are able to advise with regard to areas for which a concrete plan has been developed.

Provincial cultural-historical sensitivity maps are a good source of information on landscape assets at the level of individual plots. Such assets can be incorporated into nature conservation plans, either by the provinces themselves or as a condition imposed upon the collectives, which in their turn will adopt elements or structures into their own registration systems. Provincial sensitivity maps can be consulted online through the province's official website.

support for heritage may be generated. The time invested by volunteers in a project may be included as part of its co-financing.

Example of a LEADER project: hiking in the landscape

Walking across farmland is popular. The removal of many infrastructural obstacles and the creation of new routes has increased the possibilities for recreation. Many trails pass special cultural-historical elements, structures and/or remains which form a scenic background for the walkers and function as landmarks on the route. In cases where such elements were in poor condition or had completely disappeared, the creation of a trail has often instigated their restoration or reconstruction. A case in point is the province of Zeeland, where archaeological features have been made visible and can now be

experienced, buildings have been restored and new routes created, each with its own cultural-historical theme. The projects were financed by European as well as provincial and national funds.

This example shows that LEADER projects lend themselves to the creation of walking trails. They enjoy local support, they enhance the vitality of rural areas, they have an economic impact, and they contribute to nature and landscape conservation. But also farmers or land owners with cultural-historical elements on their property can benefit from LEADER projects, for example by inviting tourists to their farm. LEADER can also partly contribute to the restoration or maintenance of cultural-historical elements.

Heritage as a source of inspiration, also outside the CAP

Many other ways besides the CAP exist to cherish, preserve and enhance landscape heritage.

Over the last few years, the role of heritage as a source of inspiration for spatial (regional) transformations has increased. Provinces and municipalities have many options for incorporating the cultural landscape in their policies, and also enthusiastic farmers who wish to do more for heritage have plenty of opportunities besides CAP.

Heritage as the starting point of spatial plans

Heritage may serve as a source of inspiration for planners. A number of examples published in the past few years demonstrate some of the possibilities. Plans which take heritage into account have been presented by for example Alterra in its report *Grootschalige landbouw in een kleinschalig landschap* (large-scale agriculture in a small-scale landscape). Another option is the so-called ‘*cascobenadering*’: an approach whereby functional zoning allows for development whilst preserving flexibility, historical continuity and ecological cohesion. In this situation, heritage is a component of comprehensive landscape planning.

Caring for historical landscape elements

Farmers may qualify for a green direct payment by converting 5% of their total acreage into EFA. From an heritage point of view, an ideal situation would involve a 5% EFA in the form of maintenance of cultural-historically valuable landscape elements. Under the current policy this has become a viable option. Before January 1, 2016, such maintenance did not qualify for compensation under the CAP. Even then, however, there were (and are still) alternatives; also provinces and municipalities can offer compensation for landscape element maintenance. An example is the *Subsidieregeling Groen Blauw Stimuleringskader* (STIKA; ‘Green-Blue Development Fund’) in Noord-Brabant Province.

Stabilization of groundwater tables in peat meadow areas

With respect to any archaeology present in peat meadow areas it is important that the water table remains stable. Desiccation will obliterate vulnerable archaeological remains. On the other hand, a high groundwater table may well be undesirable from an agricultural perspective. Studies of the future of peat meadow areas have been ongoing for years, involving heritage assets

as well. In principle, 5% of the funds available under Pillar 1 can be applied to areas where natural conditions only allow for limited forms of exploitation. The Netherlands have opted not to do this. However, there may be a policy change following the 2017 Mid-term Review, after which the country may or may not decide to apply this option.

Combining dark green and light green

Provincial nature maintenance plans (the POP funds of Pillar 2) focus on natural assets, particularly species. The plans are evaluated largely on the basis of international agreements such as the Birds and Habitats Directives. This is the so-called dark green approach. The cultural landscape, on the other hand, is light green. In the present situation, heritage cannot be a goal in itself in provincial nature maintenance plans, except when natural assets are involved. Nonetheless it is worthwhile to try to push the boundaries, for historical and ecological interests often merge.

Deep ploughing: caution is called for

Dairy farms wishing to apply for green direct payment are required to maintain grassland at all times, although land may be ploughed over. From a heritage perspective, this is acceptable although a ploughed meadow disrupts the visual impression of a meadow landscape, which is green and open. Deep ploughing, however, is problematic as it may damage centuries-old archaeological remains.

A positive attitude

Heritage provides ample opportunities to positively influence future landscape developments. In some cases, this cannot be accomplished via the CAP but fortunately there are many other options. What matters most is a positive attitude towards heritage: if you want something, just do it.

Reed harvest in Staphorst. Like working the grienden, harvesting reeds is labour intensive. The reeds are used to repair thatched roofs, for example.





Small, low-lying meadows near Vlist (Zuid-Holland Province), too small for today's agricultural practices. Nonetheless the grass is harvested and such fields have a place in modern rational farming.



More information

(most of these websites are available only in a Dutch version)

- The website of the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands: www.cultureelerfgoed.nl
- Information on cultural landscapes in the Netherlands: www.landschapinnl.nl
- Information on archaeology in the Netherlands: www.archaeologieinnl.nl
- For municipalities dealing with heritage in the context of spatial planning: www.handreikingofergoedenruimte.nl
- Case studies of how to deal with heritage and space: www.praktijkvoorbeelden.cultureelerfgoed.nl
- Publications of the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands: www.publicaties.cultureelerfgoed.nl
- The latest news on the CAP: www.toekomstglb.nl
- (policy) information on nature and landscape: www.portaalnatuurenlanschap.nl
- More information on agrarian collectives: www.scan-collectieven.nl
- The website of Netwerk Platteland: www.netwerkplatteland.nl
- The website of the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (Rijksdienst voor Ondernemend Nederland): www.rvo.nl/onderwerpen/agrarisch-ondernemen/gemeenschappelijk-landbouwbeleid

Hiking over farmland is popular.
Example from the province of Zeeland.



Appendix 2

Generic or general list

In order to fulfil the requirement of using 5% of a farm's total acreage as an Ecological Focus Area a farmer may select one or more of the elements listed below. A cover crop in the EFA must comprise at least two species from the same category. Stacked funding, either through an *Agrarisch Natuurbeheerpakket* or ANB ('Agrarian Nature Management Package') or as green direct payment is not allowed.

Options	Weighted factor	Conditions	Species
For EFA: unmanaged field margin	1	a. Borders on a cultivated field b. Minimum width 1m, maximum width 20m c. No agricultural production (i.e. no mowing or grazing)	Not specified
Nitrogen-absorbing crops	0.7	An aftercrop is mandatory on leaching-prone soils after the autumn harvest	Lucerne, Lupin, Esparcette, Birdsfoot-trefoil, Red clover, Field bean and Common vetch
Willow coppice	0.3	Conditions to be announced	Willow
Cover crops (standard), Cat. 1	0.3	a. Either sowing a blend of at least two species from Cat. 1-2, or using grass as a cover crop to the main crop b. Fertilizers are allowed c. Crops should stand for at least ten weeks d. Sowing no later than October 1 e. Pesticides are not allowed during the ten weeks the cover crop stands and afterwards until December 31 f. Cover crops after maize on leaching-prone soils do not count	Cat. 1 and 2: Egyptian clover, Meadow Fescue, Field Mustard, Leafy Turnip, Fodder Radish, Camelina, Perennial Rye-grass, Field Pea, Ethiopian mustard, Phacelia, Hybrid Fescue, Green Buckwheat, White mustard, Crimson Clover, Italian Rye-grass, Japanese Oats, Lupin, Niger, Reversed Clover, Tall Fescue, Red Clover, Chinese Mustard, Seradella, Millet, Corn Spurrey, White Turnip Timothy, Smooth Meadow-grass, Flax, Common Vetch, White Clover, Garden Rocket
Cover crops after flax or hemp, Cat. 2	0.3	a. Either sowing a blend of at least two species from Cat. 1-2, or using grass as a cover crop to the main crop b. Fertilizers are allowed c. Sowing no later than October 1 d. Pesticides are allowed	Cat. 1 and 2:
Cover crops nematode prevention Cat. 3	0.3	a. Sowing a blend of at least 2 species from Cat. 3: pesticides are allowed b. Sowing a blend of at least two species from Cat. 1-2: pesticides are not allowed during the ten weeks the cover crop stands and afterwards until December 31 c. Fertilizers are allowed d. Sowing no later then October 1 e. Cover crops after maize on leaching-prone soils do not qualify	Cat. 3: Marigold (high or low), Sticky Nightshade, Garden Rocket, Japanese Oats
Cover crops nematode prevention, Cat. 1	0.3	If species from Cat. 1 and 2 are used for nematode prevention, conditions apply as specified for cover crops Cat. 1	Cat. 1 and 2

Cultivation buffer-strip package (Equivalent package)

The cultivation buffer-strip package (*akkerbouw-strokenpakket*, formerly *akkerbouw-randenpakket*) has been expanded and the conditions publicized. Stacked funding, either through an *Agrarisch Natuurbeheerpakket* or ANB ('Agrarian Nature Management Package') or as green direct payment, is not allowed.

Options	Weighted factor	Conditions	Species
Managed field margin as part of an EFA	1.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The zone constitutes at least 30% of the weighted surface of the mandatory Ecological Focus Area b. Bordering on a cultivated field c. No production d. Minimum width 3m, maximum width 20m e. Sown with a (flower) blend f. At least 50% of the cover is also present in winter g. Fertilizer or pesticides are not allowed 	Permitted blends to be announced
Ditch bordering on managed field margin as part of an EFA	2.0, standard width 3m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The ditch is entirely or partly part of the property b. The ditch borders on a managed field margin as part of an EFA c. The width of the ditch does not exceed 6m 	
Nitrogen-absorbing crops	0.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pesticides are not allowed but fertilizers are: Lucerne, Sainfoin, Birdsfoot-trefoil, Red Clover and Common Vetch b. Pesticides allowed, but fertilizer is not: Lupin and Field Bean c. Irrigation not allowed during the growing season d. An aftercrop is mandatory on leaching-prone soils after the autumn harvest; the aftercrop must be sown before November 1 and stand until at least March 1 	Lucerne, Lupin, Sainfoin, Birdsfoot-Trefoil, Red Clover, Field Bean and Common Vetch
Cover crops (standard), Cat. 1	0.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Either sowing a blend of at least two species from Cat. 1-2, or using grass as a cover crop to the main crop b. Fertilizers are allowed c. Crops should stand for at least ten weeks d. Sowing no later than October 1 e. Pesticides are not allowed during the ten weeks the cover crop stands and afterwards until December 31 f. Cover crops after maize on leaching-prone soils do not qualify 	Cat. 1 and 2
Cover crops after flax or hemp, Cat. 2 and nematode prevention, Cat. 3.	0.3	A cover crop after flax or hemp or a nematode prevention crop from Cat. 3 may function as an EFA. The same conditions apply as for Cat. 1	Cat. 1, 2 and 3
Landscape elements	1.5 – 2.0	Bordering on cultivated fields	Which landscape elements and of what dimensions will qualify for an EFA is still to be announced

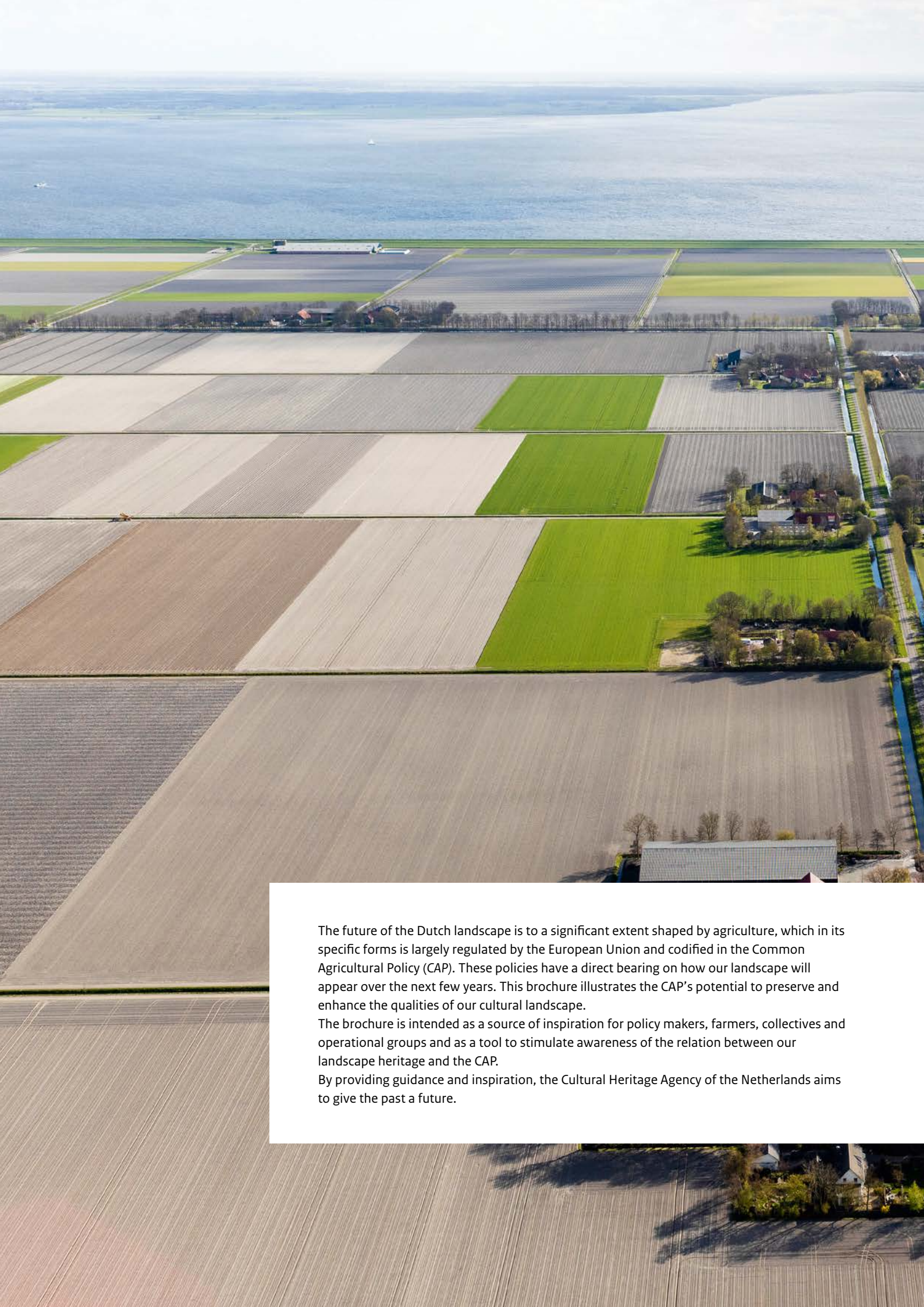


The Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands and CAP

At the start of 2014, the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands commissioned the *Dienst Landelijk Gebied* (Rural Areas Agency) to produce a quickscan *Kansen voor cultuurlandschappelijk erfgoed in het GLB* ('Opportunities for cultural-landscape heritage in the CAP'). This brochure is both a follow-up and an expanded version. Both publications were produced by the Cultural Heritage Agency in the context of the priority task Living Landscape (*Levend Landschap*) contained in the document 'Character in Focus: Vision for Heritage and Spatial Planning' (*Visie Erfgoed en Landschap*, or VER). The VER presents the national government's ambition to approach heritage as an integral aspect of spatial use and spatial development in the Netherlands. The focus of the priority task Living Landscape is the integration of economic, ecological and heritage interests at a local level. Both publications aim to increase the role of heritage concerns in the day-to-day management of for example agricultural businesses.

The text of this brochure has been read and evaluated by representatives of the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, the *Interprovinciaal Overleg IPO*, the *Netwerk Platteland*, the *Stichting Collectieven Agrarisch Natuurbeheer SCAN*, *Landschappen NL* and *LTO Noord*. Final responsibility for the text rest with the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands.





The future of the Dutch landscape is to a significant extent shaped by agriculture, which in its specific forms is largely regulated by the European Union and codified in the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). These policies have a direct bearing on how our landscape will appear over the next few years. This brochure illustrates the CAP's potential to preserve and enhance the qualities of our cultural landscape.

The brochure is intended as a source of inspiration for policy makers, farmers, collectives and operational groups and as a tool to stimulate awareness of the relation between our landscape heritage and the CAP.

By providing guidance and inspiration, the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands aims to give the past a future.