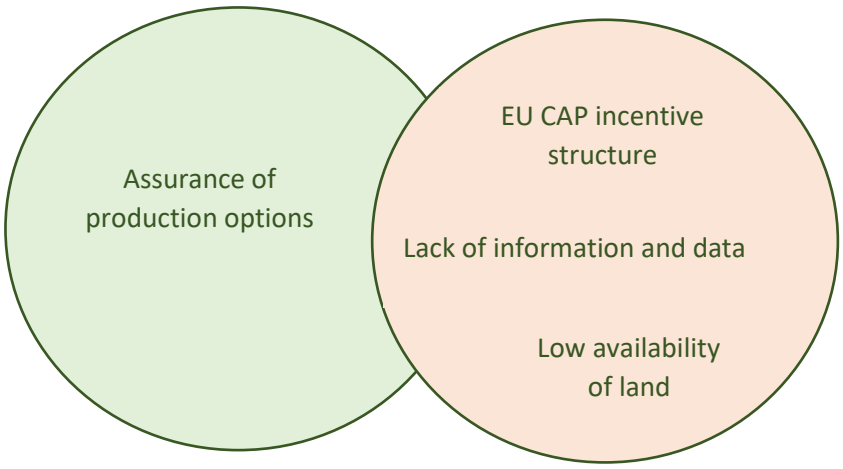
FINLAND
COUNTRY FACT SHEETS
PEATLAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES, TRENDS and POLICIES

www.eragas.eu/research-projects/peatwise

PEATLAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (PMP) with mitigation potential

Water level	LAND USE and mitigation measure	Implementation status
Rewetting	*WETLAND*	established and (further) developed
Water table elevation	*GRASSLAND* Biomass production	(further) developed
	FORESTRY	(further) developed
Drainage based land use	*CROPLAND* Adjusted tilling No-tillage cultivation	 established established and further developed
	GRASSLAND Crop rotation Carbon adding	 (further) developed (further) developed
	FORESTRY Uneven aged forests	 established

PROMORTING FACTORS **HINDERING FACTORS**



In Finland, rewetting activities are clearly linked to restoration and nature protection purposes as established or further developed **PMP**. Water table elevation practices with grassland and forestry use are under development. A large share of named PMP is related to drainage based practices without changes in water level. Those are mainly based on soil management activities, e.g. adjusted or no tillage, crop rotations or adding carbon to soils. The majority of these practices are currently in developed, and are not yet established as measures contributing to GHG emission mitigation. As established PMP, forestry, i.e. afforestation and uneven aged forests, were mentioned.

As framing condition that **promotes** the application of the mentioned PMP, the assurance of production options has been mentioned.

The EU CAP incentive structure has been identified as **hindering** factor. More precisely, the missing compensation mechanism and consideration of different peatland use options were mentioned. Further, a lack of information and data was indicated, i.e. there is uncertainty about the effectiveness of management practices. Finally, the availability of land was stated as a hindering factor.

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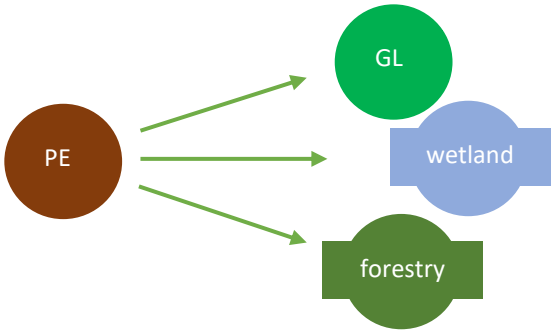
TRENDS IN PEATLAND USE

Area of drained peatland in 2050

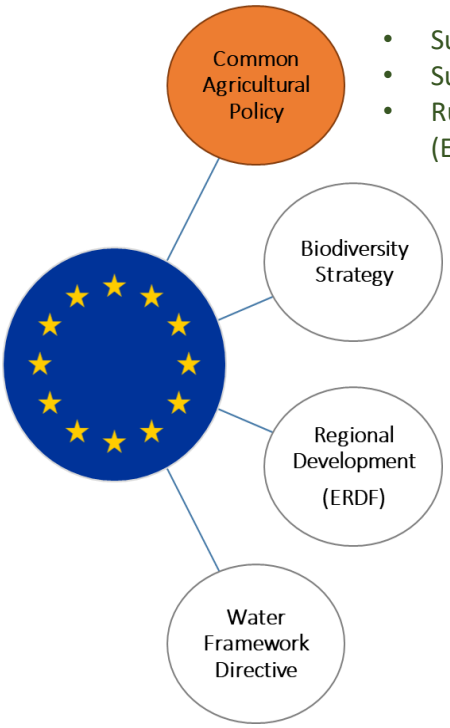
…for agriculture **cropland** (CL)/**grassland** (GL)	**INCREASE**
…for **forestry**	**INCREASE**
…for **peat extraction** (PE)	**DECREASE** (due to restoration)

Changes in land use



Estimates on trends in peatland use were given cautiously by Finnish respondents. Answers do not show a clear trend for used peatlands except for peat extraction areas (see above). Respondents commented, that the current peatland use might as well remain the same. Triggers for changes in land use would be technical innovations within agriculture or forestry, however, these are currently not foreseeable. Further, according to the estimates, the area of peatland used for agriculture and forestry will remain about the same. Peat extraction activities will decrease, as energy sources are diversifying.

POLICIES AND POLICY INSTRUMENTS RELEVANT FOR GHG MITIGATION



- Subsidy for grassland on peat soils
- Subsidy for water level control systems
- Rural Development Program for Mainland Finland 2014–2020 (EAFRD)

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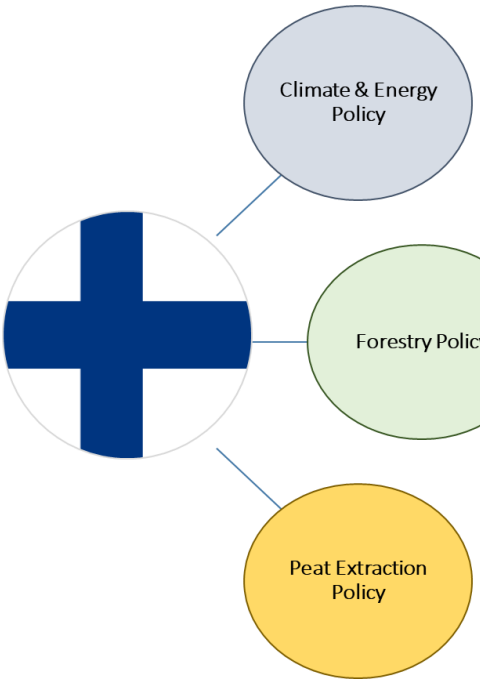

- National climate and energy strategy
- Government Report on Medium-term Climate Change Plan for 2030

- National forest strategy 2025
- Prohibition of new ditching for forestry on pristine mire areas

- Prohibition of peat extraction from natural peatlands

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Taken into consideration: Wichmann, S. (2018): Economic incentives for climate smart agriculture on peatlands in the EU. Ernst Moritz Arndt University Greifswald; Greifswald Mire Centre.

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