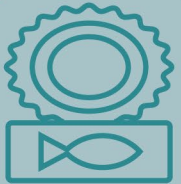


# Transition Pathway for a more resilient, sustainable and digital agri-food ecosystem

12 December 2023

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# Relevant EU initiatives in Agri-food

The European Green Deal

Farm to Fork Strategy

Biodiversity Strategy

Bioeconomy Strategy

Blue economy Strategy

Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) / Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)

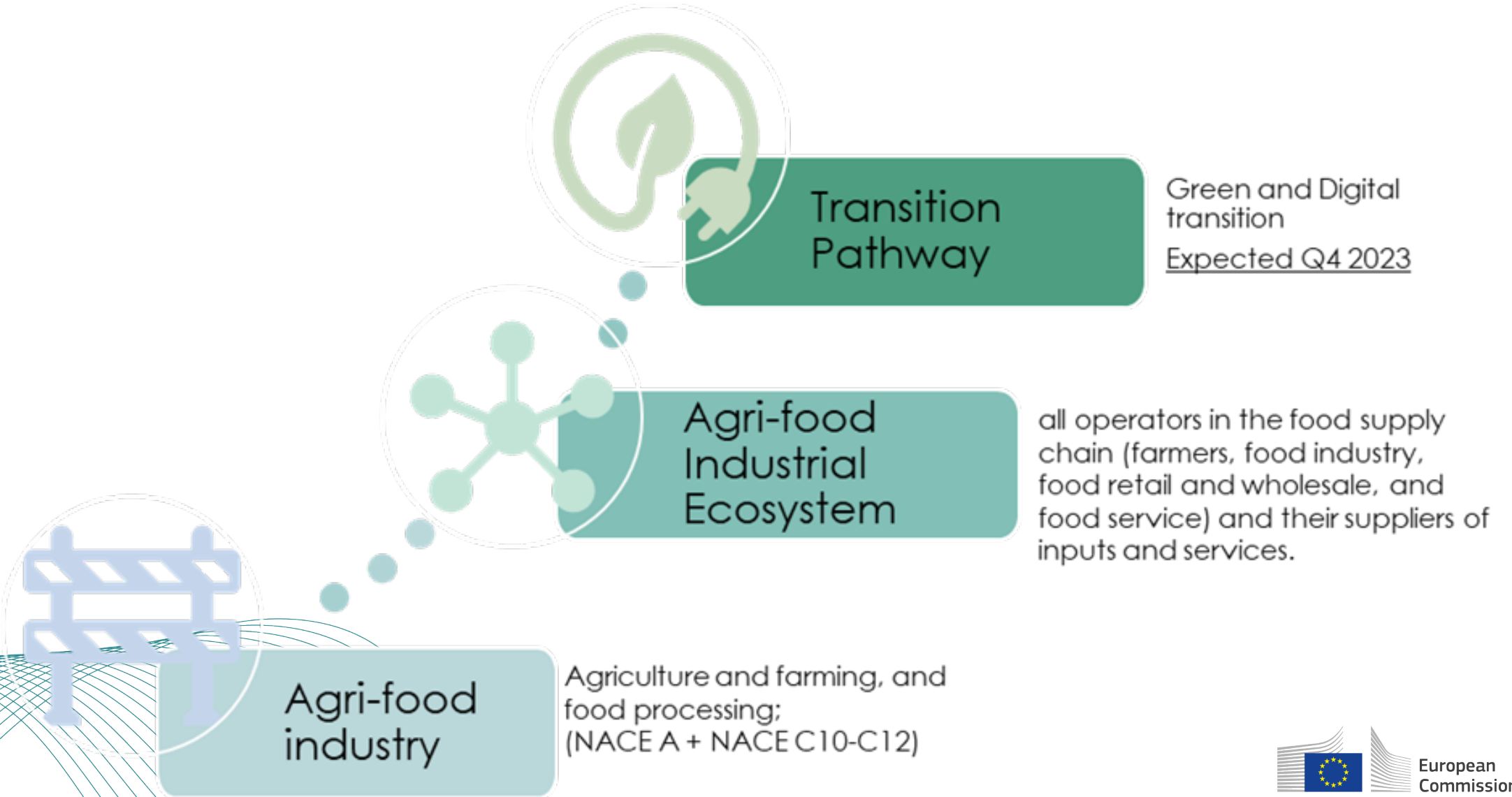
The EU Code of Conduct on responsible food business and marketing practices

**EU New Industrial Strategy – Industrial eco-systems**

# Industrial Ecosystems in the EU



# What is the agri-food ecosystem?



# What is the agri-food transition pathway?

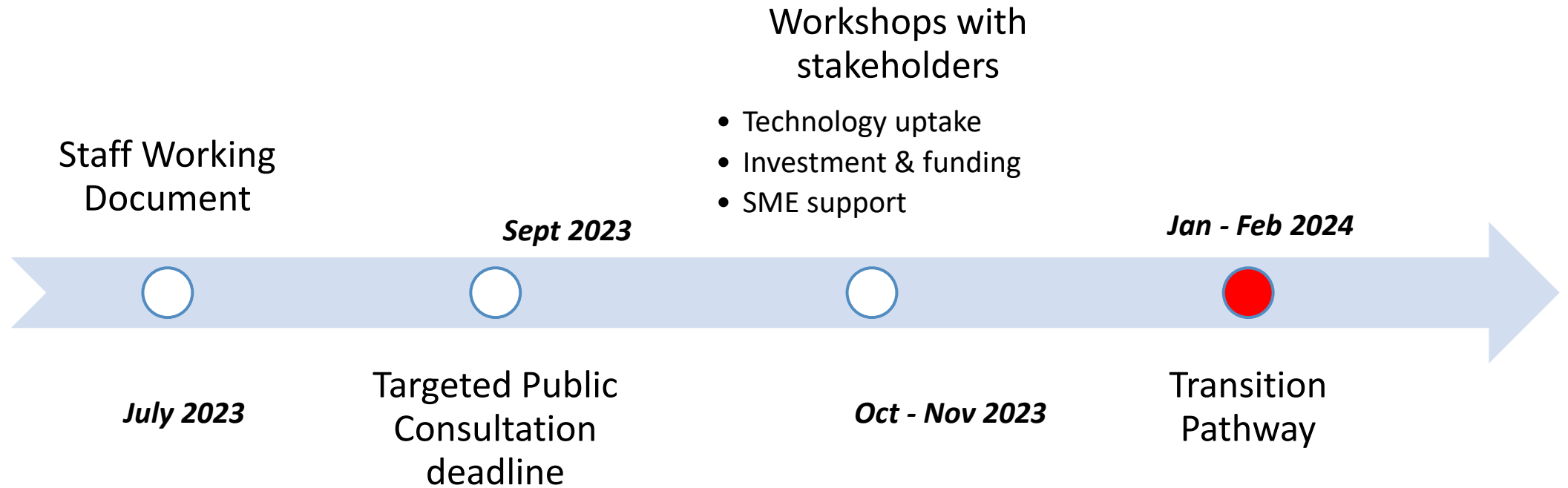
## It is...

- ✓ a joint vision for the future of the EU agri-food ecosystem
- ✓ the result of a co-creation process among stakeholders
- ✓ a concrete and actionable plan for the resilience, sustainability and digitalization of the EU agri-food ecosystem

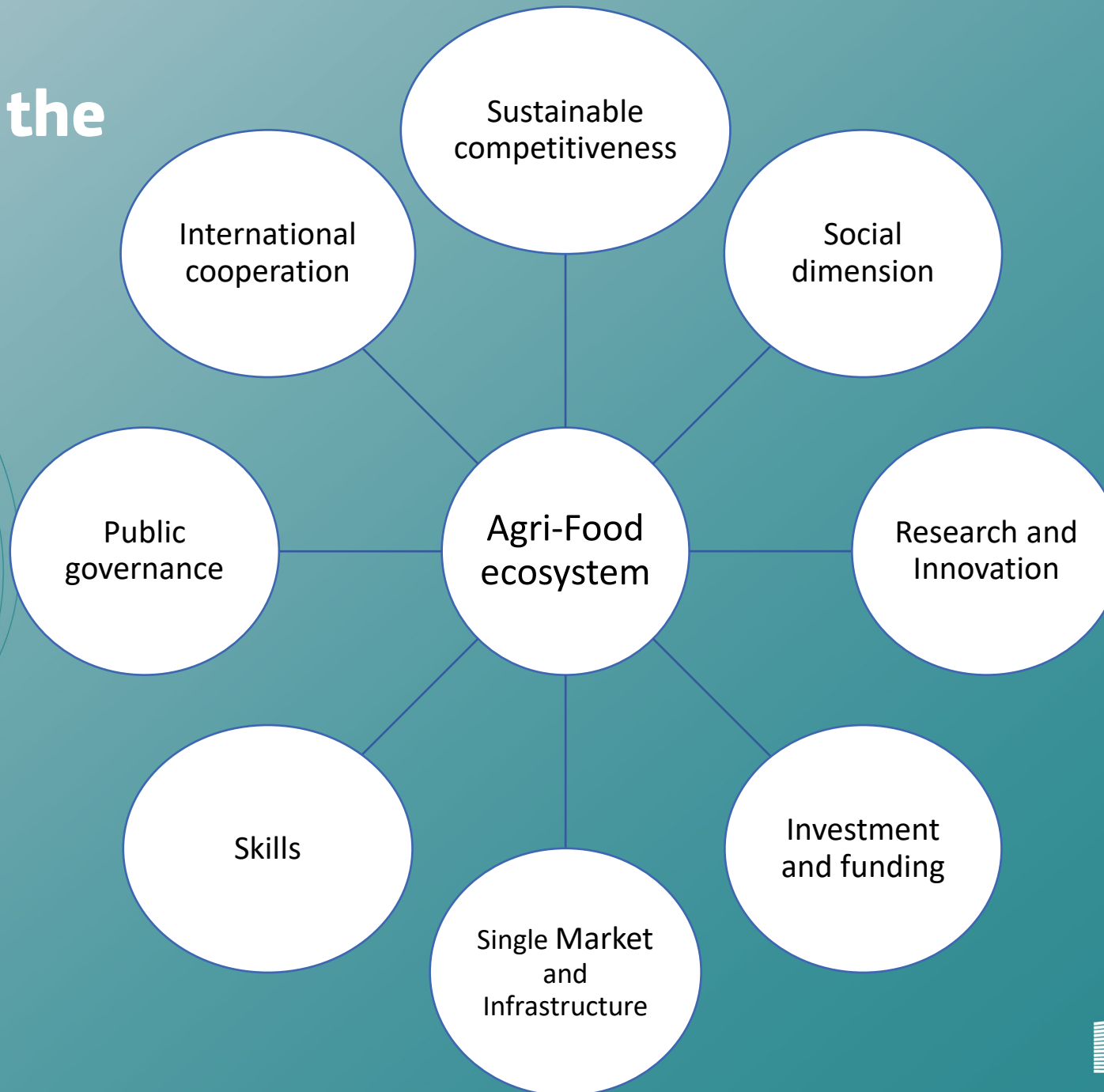
## It is not...

- ✓ meant to substitute on-going work and consultations on legislative proposals and other policy action
- ✓ an assessment of existing legislation

# Co-creation process of the Agri-Food Transition Pathway



# Dimensions of the pathway



# Sustainable Competitiveness

Food systems thinking

Sustainable and resilient food system

The Farm to Fork Strategy aims at transitioning towards a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food systems

- Environmental sustainability
- Social sustainability
- Economic sustainability

Food security and resilience in the food system

International trade



# Public governance

Mapping of all the relevant EU initiatives (no new propositions)

**The Farm to Fork strategy** remains the main EU policy framework for the transition to sustainable food systems (27 actions)

- Legislative Framework for Sustainable Food Systems (FSFS)
- EU Code of Conduct on Responsible Food Business and Marketing Practices

EU Common Agricultural and Common Fisheries Policies

Biodiversity strategy

Bioeconomy strategy

New industrial strategy

European skills agenda

Digital strategy

# Social dimension

## A just transition

Role of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

Role of social dialogue (ESSDC)

Impact of food affordability, food prices and food insecurity

Healthy diets

Working conditions

Role of rural areas and cities on transforming food systems

# Research and Innovation

## **Workshop 1: Uptake of digital technologies for a resilient and sustainable Agri-food industrial ecosystem (27 Oct)**

Horizon Europe Programme

Horizon Europe Partnerships (mainly under Cluster 6) – Sustainable food systems partnership

Horizon Europe Missions (Healthy soil)

EIT-Food

EIP-AGRI (linked to CAP)

European Technology Platforms (ETP 'Food for Life', TP Organics)

EIC Pathfinder / Accelerator

S3 Platforms

TEFs – DG CONNECT

# Investment and funding

## **Workshop 2: Investments and funding in the Agri-Food industrial ecosystem (9 Nov)**

Mapping of available funding from EC Services (for agri-food)

Access to finance tools

DG AGRI Compass (Released on 12 October)

Private investment barriers

# Mapping of EU Investment and funding opportunities

Programme	Lead EC Service	Definitions (2021-2027)	Quantities
<b>CAP</b>	AGRI	EAFRD + MS. Mostly agriculture	€ 35 billion
<b>CFP</b>	MARE	EMFAF + MS. Fisheries	€ 6.1 billion
<b>Cohesion Policy Funds</b>	REGIO	ERDF, CF, ESF, JTF. All sectors	€ 1.2 trillion (€ 7 billion)
ESF+	EMPL	Employment, education, skills. All sectors	€ 99.3 billion
<b>RRF</b>	MS / RECOVER	NextGeneration EU (Grants and loans). All	€ 0.7 trillion (€ 6.7 billion)
<b>TSI</b>	REFORM	Demand driven. All sectors	€ 0.86 billion
<b>InvestEU</b>	ECFIN	EIB Group (EIB+EIF). Access to finance. All	€ 26.2 billion
<b>SMP / COSME</b>	GROW / EISMEA	SMEs. All sectors.	€ 4.2 billion
<b>Horizon Europe</b>	RTD	Research and Innovation. All sectors	€ 95.5 billion (€ 9 billion)
HE Pillar 3	EIC	Innovation including scale up. All sectors	€ 10.1 billion
HE Pillar 3	EIT	EU + Private. R&I. Some sectors. EIT-Food	€ 3 billion (€ 431 million)
<b>LIFE</b>	ENV	Environment. Some sectors	€ 4.43 billion
<b>Digital Europe</b>	CNECT	Digitalisation. Some sectors	€ 7.59 billion
<b>Erasmus+</b>	EAC	Education and training. All sectors	€ 26.2 billion

# Investment & Funding (consultation)

## TOP INVESTMENT NEEDS

**Research, development & innovation**

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**Renewable energy**

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**Decarbonisation**

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**Circularity, efficient recycling & waste management**

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**Transport & logistics infrastructure**

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**Crisis prevention & measures**

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**Digital infrastructure & technology**

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**Skills, training & education**

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**Market development & consumer education**

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**Sustainable agricultural practices (e.g. regenerative agriculture)**

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**Diversification of supply chains & dependency reduction**

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**Working & employment conditions**

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**Modernisation of real estate/facilities**

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# Investment & Funding (consultation)

## TOP BARRIERS

**Limited resources & skills**

**High perceived risks by investors/funding bodies**

**Missing information on funding opportunities**

**Exclusion of agri-food sector from EU taxonomy**

**Strict requirements & burdensome application process**

**Strategic investment focus is not on agri-food**

**Low margins & limited capital**

**EU subsidies that jeopardise production or markets**

**High (initial) costs for new machinery & technologies**

**Short horizons and too high interest rates in financial instruments**

**Information asymmetry among players**

**Limited access to market information**

# Single Market and Infrastructure

## **Workshop 3: New Business models and support to SMEs for a resilient agri-food industrial ecosystem (14 Nov)**

Single market tools:

Single Market Transparency Directive (SMTD)

Single Market Enforcement Taskforce (SMET)

Single Market Emergency Instrument (SMEI)

Food Security Crisis preparedness and response Mechanism (EFSCM)

EU's Digital Single Market Strategy



# Skills

## **Agri-food Pact for Skills partnership**

European Cohesion Funds (ESF+)

European Skills Agenda

European Year of Skills (EYS)

Agri-food Pact for Skills

# International cooperation

## UN Food Systems summit

UN Framework on Climate Change

Ministerial Conference of the WTO

Convention on Biological Diversity

Free Trade Agreements

Collaborations with: FAO, WHO, IFAD, UNEP, WTO, OECD, Codex Alimentarius Commission, World Organisation on Animal Health (WOAH) and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

# Reflections

Ambitious targets that require further efforts on implementation

Map the still remaining gaps for implementation (enablers)

Co-implementation phase with the help of stakeholders

## **Role of the EU Code of Conduct on food business and marketing practices (Stakeholders)**

Role of Sustainable food systems partnership (Member States)

Synergies with other ecosystems

Specific support to SMEs

International angle

# Next steps

Publication of Transition Pathway Q1 2024

Budget is allocated to create a Transition Pathway platform (DG GROW)

3 years – extendable to 6 years

Budget is allocated to support a contractor for development of contents (DG GROW)

3 years – extendable to 6 years

Alignment particularly with the EU Code of Conduct (DG SANTE)

Synergies particularly with the SFS Partnership and EIT-Food (DG RTD)

Synergies with other DGs to take into account (AGRI, ENV, EMPL, MARE...)

Synergies in the International dimension (INTPA, UN FS Summit platform)

# Thank you for your attention

## Questions?

