

## through Policies that Support Multifunctional Family Farms

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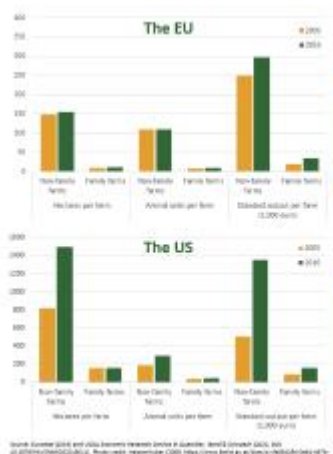
**Abstract:** It is no surprise then that the functionality of family farming is increasingly being discussed in scholarly literature as an important element in promoting the multiple ecological, social, and economic benefits of a sustainable agriculture. This poster reveals the potential for multifunctional family farms to alter or reverse the further development of agriculture towards unsustainable, monofunctional farms, e.g. agri-businesses, and highlights the potential of agroecology as the scientific foundation for multifunctional family farming as a means of achieving sustainable agriculture. The findings build upon a literature review. (Quendler, Ikerd, & Driouech, 2020, DOI 10.1079/PAVSNNR202015011).

### Introduction

There have been recent ambitions to foster sustainable systems within governance.



Family farms are part of the solution in realising a more sustainable future in Europe.

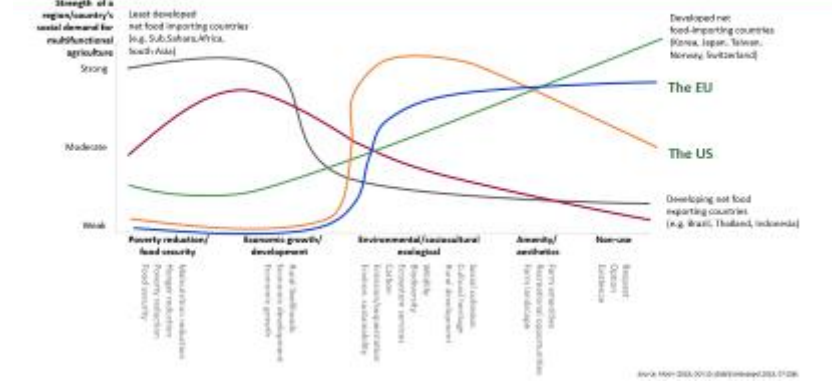


Generally speaking, there has been a steady shift to larger scale operations. Drivers are e.g. globalisation, technology.

The loss of family farms and the increase in industrial farming has raised a plethora of concerns about multifunctional services.

### Results

Multifunctionality is not a fixed function of farms in any one country.

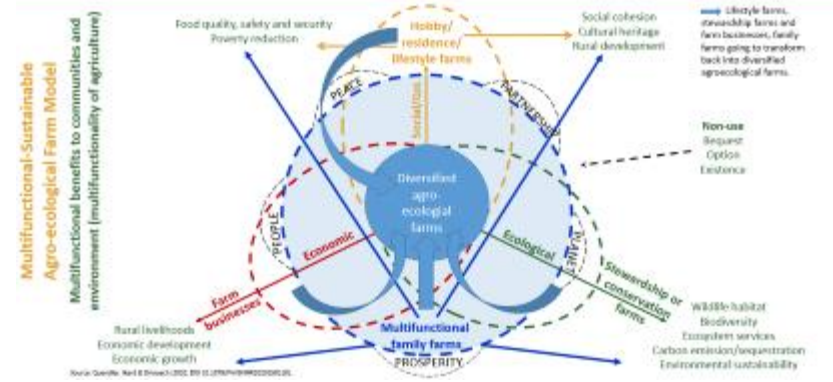


Although multifunctionality has been realised in many ways, multifunctional family farms are 'inherently' multifunctional.



### Conclusion

Multifunctionality is not a one stop definition but rather a potential on the path to diversified agro-ecological farming.



Premises for further research – food for thought.

- Nations that rely more on multifunctional family farms are likely to have more sustainable agricultural systems in general, ceteris paribus.
- Complexity and challenges of multifunctionality and sustainability are better served by developing rules of thumb.
- Agricultural policies and their short-term economic incentives impact the future of farming and the future well-being of humanity.
- Agricultural policies supporting multifunctional family farms are the most logical policies for achieving agricultural sustainability.