



Hoverflies and other predators are attracted to flower borders so helping to control pests.

FAB in policy

To ensure that the positive work of FAB continues after the project ends, both in pilot regions and beyond, the project has developed policy recommendations. These have been detailed in a **European Policy Paper** providing recommendations on how FAB could be supported at the EU Policy level, especially within the new CAP and will also be adapted for the policy context of each region. Innovative digital marketplaces will be developed, which will provide the opportunity to invest in FAB derived ecosystem services.

Digital marketplaces for FAB ecosystem services

The establishment costs for some FAB measures are high and a real barrier for farmers. In recognition of this a logical last step is to enable farmers to access external funds to support their FAB measures through a new type of funding model, whereby citizens or companies can invest in the ecosystem services delivered by the measures. Innovative **digital marketplaces** will be developed, which will provide the opportunity for FAB derived ecosystem services to be traded by farmers.

Digital marketplaces are being developed where citizens or companies can invest in ecosystem services delivered by the FAB measures.



To deliver this project and achieve these objectives we have a team of 15 project partners each with their own area of expertise.



Want to know more about this project?
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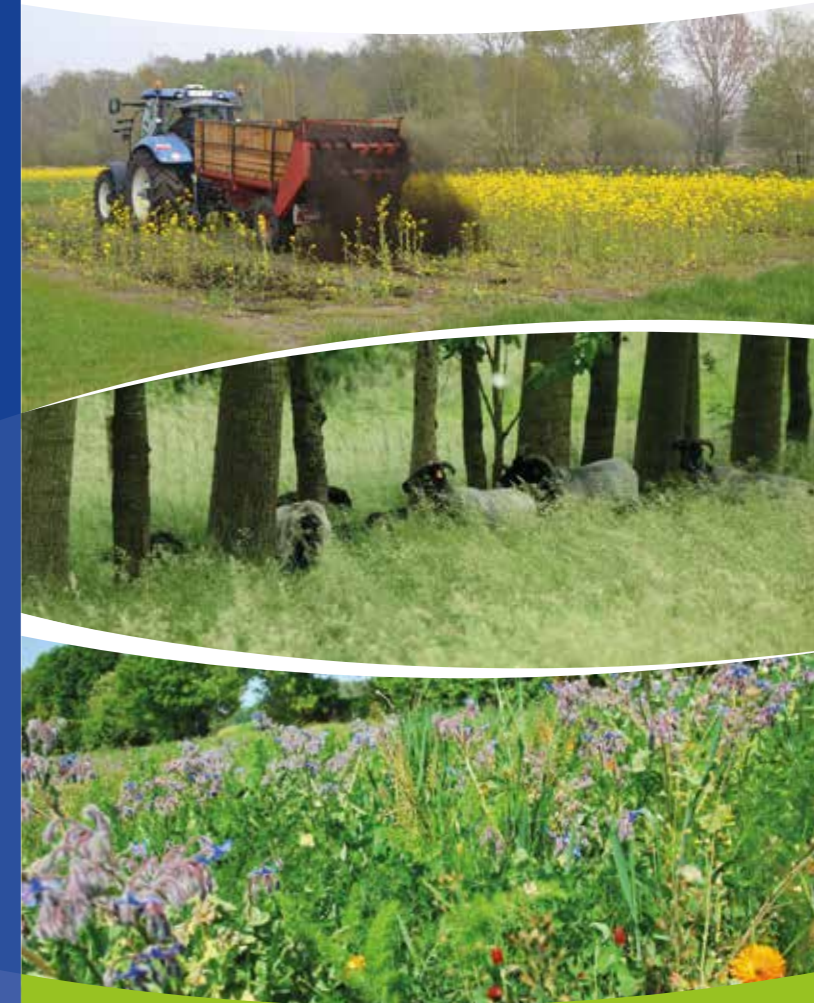
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**Functional AgroBiodiversity:
From farm to policy to landscape**

FABulous Farmers

FABulous Farmers is a European project designed to support farmers in the transition to more agro-ecological practices on their farms. The project aims to reduce reliance on external inputs like chemical fertilisers and plant protection products, by encouraging the use of measures and interventions that increase the farm's **Functional AgroBiodiversity (FAB)**. The project is active in 14 pilot regions in 6 countries (BE, NL, LUX, FR, UK and DE).

Collect & share knowledge

The project has developed an online knowledge base on the online platform WOCAT (World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies) which gathers together 'best practice' findings from FAB measures, based on the needs and interests of the farmers within the pilot areas. Available all around Europe, **WOCAT** will be evaluated and extended according to the results of further implementation of FAB measures across the pilot regions.



The use of FAB measures at a landscape scale can multiply the impact of individual farmer's actions.

Collaboration & exchange between farmers

In each of the 14 pilot regions, farmers have been implementing FAB measures, and sharing their experience with other farmers in regional **FAB learning networks**. These networks, along with the results from FAB monitor fields, FAB field visits and online events, will help build confidence to enable more and more farmers across Europe to adopt FABulous farming methods. This will lead to a more resilient and environmentally friendly European agriculture.

The results from the monitor fields using FAB measures are added to the online database WOCAT.



Farmers share experiences during demonstration and networking events.



What is FAB?

Functional AgroBiodiversity (FAB) are those elements of biodiversity that provide ecosystem services, which support sustainable agricultural productivity, while also delivering benefits to the environment and society as a whole. To promote FAB a variety of FAB measures can be implemented. These measures are targeted to increase specific elements of biodiversity in and around the field to improve pollination, pest management, soil and water quality on the farmland.

The FAB measures are:

- Non-inversion tillage
- Crop rotation
- Mixed crops
- Cover crops
- Organic matter input
- Modifying manure quality
- Agroforestry
- Hedgerow management
- Field margin management
- FAB-supporting action: physical and biological crop protection

Embedding FAB in the landscape

Through facilitation of relevant stakeholder groups (e.g. environmental, farmer, landowner organisations,...) we can increase the uptake of certain FAB measures at a landscape scale, joining up farmed and non-farmed land. To further connect citizens with farmers, FABulous Farmers has organised citizen science projects which have seen citizens assist in monitoring pollination, the presence of insects for natural pest control and soil quality among other activities.

The project is active in 14 pilot regions in 6 countries.

