

# State Aid: European Commission Approves French Scheme to Foster Cooperation in Agricultural Sector

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On 17 October 2023, the European Commission approved a EUR 100 million French aid scheme aimed at promoting cooperation in the agricultural sector.

The scheme will apply to businesses whose cooperation is beneficial to the agricultural sector. Under the scheme, the aid will take the form of direct grants, interest subsidies, recoverable advances and tax advantages. The maximum amount of aid will be capped at 100% of eligible costs. The scheme will apply until 31 December 2029.

The Commission assessed the scheme under EU State aid rules, in particular article 107(3)(c) of the [Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union \(TFEU\)](#), which allows Member States to support development in specific sectors, and the [Guidelines on State aid in the agricultural and forestry sectors and in rural areas \(2022/C 485/01\)](#). The Commission concluded that the scheme is necessary and appropriate for promoting cooperation between the different actors in the agricultural sector, and proportionate, as it will have a limited impact on competition and trade between Member States.

The non-confidential version of the decision will be published under case number SA.108057 in the State aid register.