



Carbon Removal Certification Framework

Valeria Forlin, DG CLIMA.C3

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Starting up carbon farming

Benefits



Increased carbon removals



Additional income for land managers

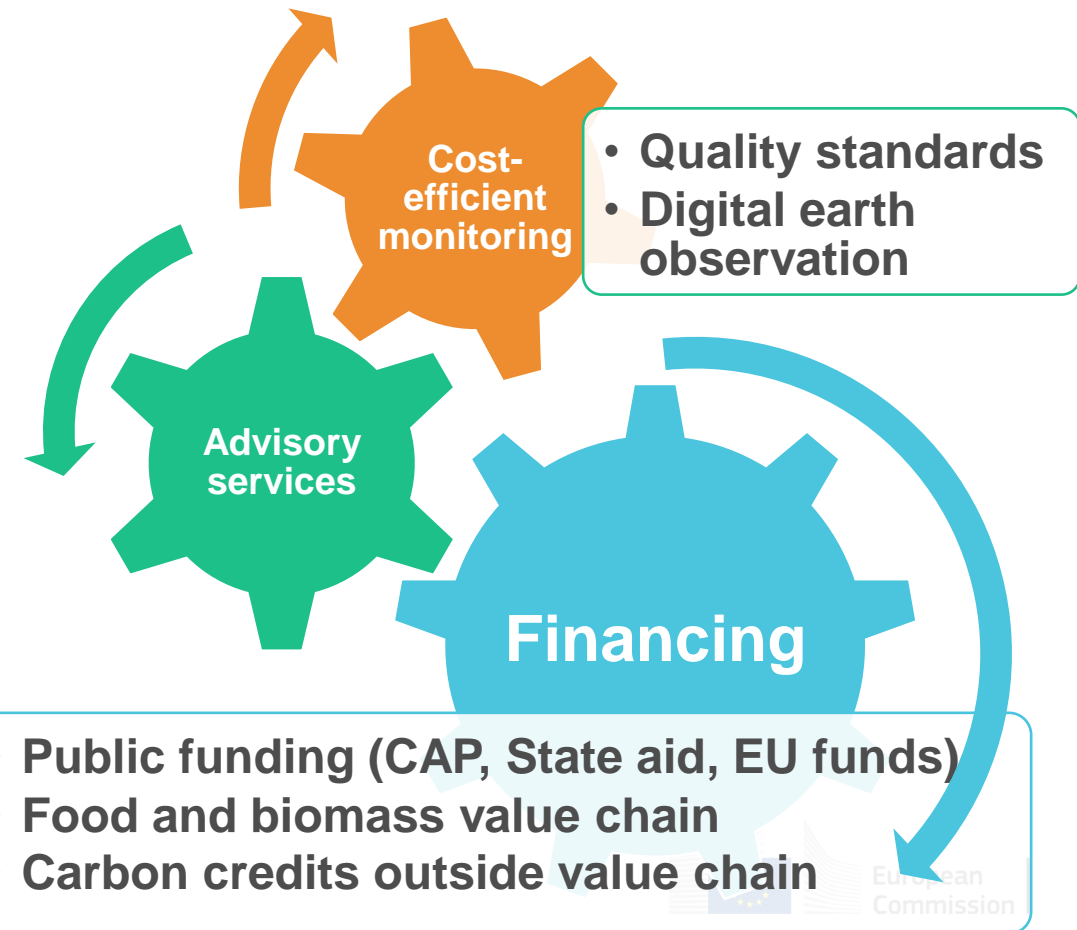


More biodiversity and nature



Increased climate resilience of farm and forest land

Challenges



Overview of the CRCF proposal

QU.A.L.I.TY criteria

- **QU**antification
- **A**dditionality
- **L**ong-term storage
- **S**ustainabil-**ITY**

Certification process/rules

- Third-party verification by certification **bodies**
- Certification **schemes**
- Certification **registries**



Tailored certification methodologies –

Operationalising the quality criteria
with an **Expert Group**



**PERMANENT
STORAGE**



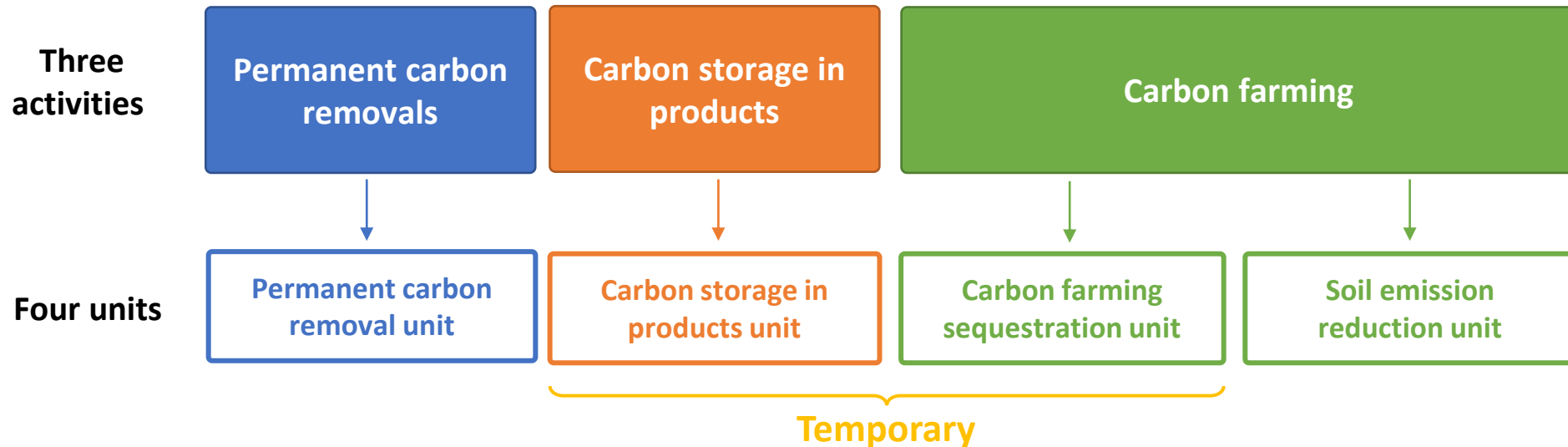
**CARBON
FARMING**



**CARBON
STORAGE IN
LONG-
LASTING
PRODUCTS**

Main outcomes of the co-decision process

- More explicit names for three activities and four types of certified units:



- Introduction of **activity period**, i.e. a period over which the activity generates a net benefit. Distinct from **monitoring period**, i.e. a period over which the soil emission reduction or storage of carbon is monitored.

Main outcomes of the co-decision process

- Creation of a **Union-wide registry** by 2028 (4y after entry into force); new annex with list of minimum information to be included in the registry, including end-use purpose of the certified units
- All certified units shall contribute to the **EU's NDC**; by 2026, COM will assess how to align to Paris Agreement art 6 & best practices on VCMs
- Improved references to **REDIII** when it comes to sustainability of biomass (e.g. for wooden buildings or BECCS)
- Synergies with **Land Parcel Identification System**:
 - art 9(1): MS may include certification information in LPIS;
 - recital 19: operators may use info from LPIS in the context of certification audits)

Relevant provisions for carbon farming



Soil emission reductions

- Emission reductions from more efficient use of fertilisers included in the scope
- Only if the activity overall improves the LULUCF balance (i.e. only fertiliser reductions are not enough)



Livestock emission reductions

- The inclusion of livestock emission reductions will be assessed in a report due by July 2026
- In the meanwhile, COM will develop a pilot certification methodology to inform that assessment



Activity period and monitoring period

- A carbon farming activity must last at least 5 years
- Carbon storage must be monitored during a monitoring period, after which the unit expires

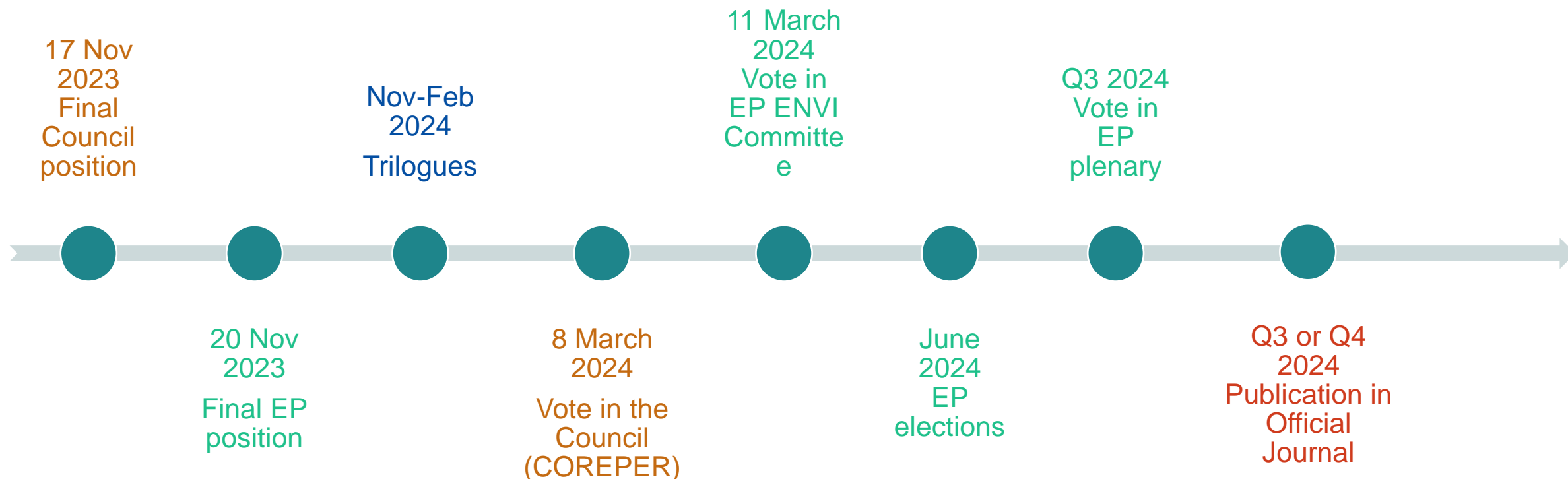


Mandatory co-benefits

- Mandatory co-benefit for protection and restoration of biodiversity & eco-systems, soil health and avoidance of land degradation

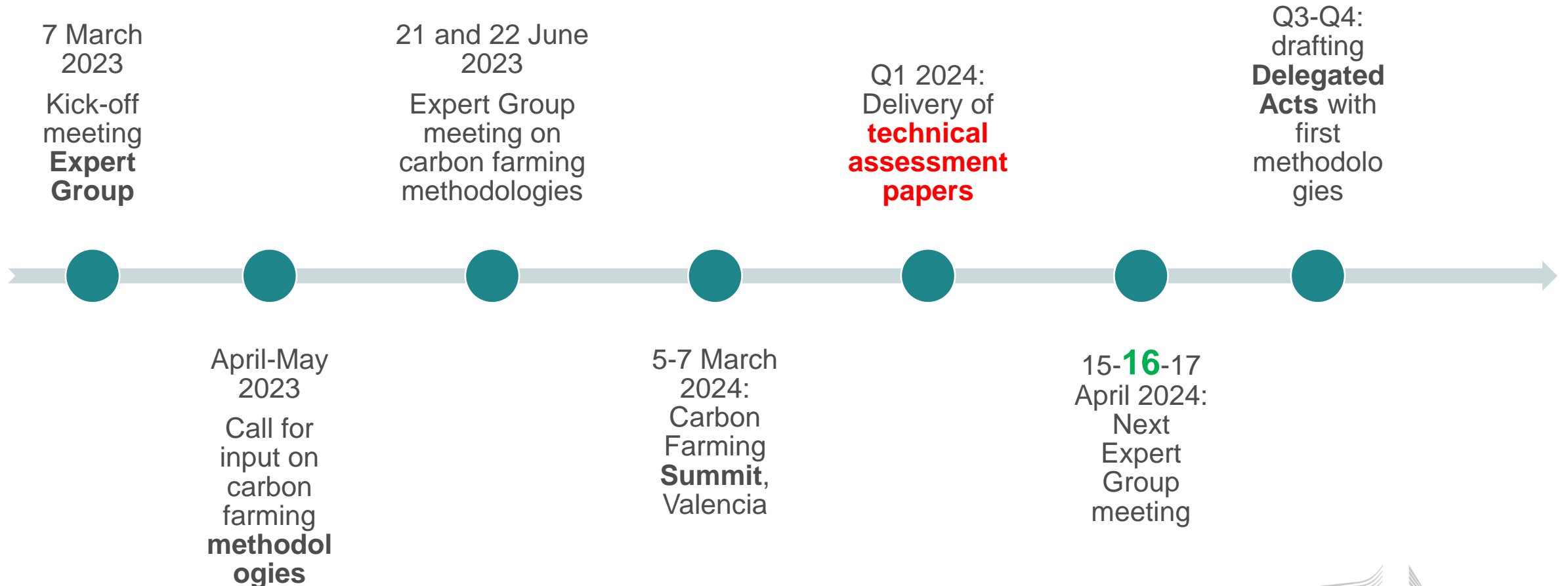
CRCF in co-decision

Council of Ministers
European Parliament
Trilogue



- **2026:** assessment of inclusion of livestock + needs to align to Paris Agreement art 6
- **2027:** Report to EP and Council on the implementation of the Regulation

Implementation of CRCF / carbon farming



Technical assessment papers

- **Objective:** to describe **advantages and disadvantages of potential certification approaches** for the elements of the quality criteria
- The assessments will be the basis to decide on the "**best**" **practices** that should be included in the draft certification methodologies
- **Three carbon farming papers:** Agricultural land management, Forestry, and Peatland
- Structured according to the quality criteria and the elements of Annex I (“Elements of the certification methodologies”)
- Assessment will **build on:**
 - review on existing carbon farming methodologies
 - reports and scientific articles
 - input from relevant research programs
 - input from the Technical Focus Groups (four meetings between Oct 2023 and Jan 2024)
 - peer review by Expert Group (to be shared with EG by end of March and discussed at next EG meeting mid-April)

Towards an EU carbon farming policy post-2030

Communication of 2040 target (COM(2024) 63 final)

- Recommendation to reduce the EU's net greenhouse gas emissions **by 90% by 2040 relative to 1990**

Corporate targets & claims

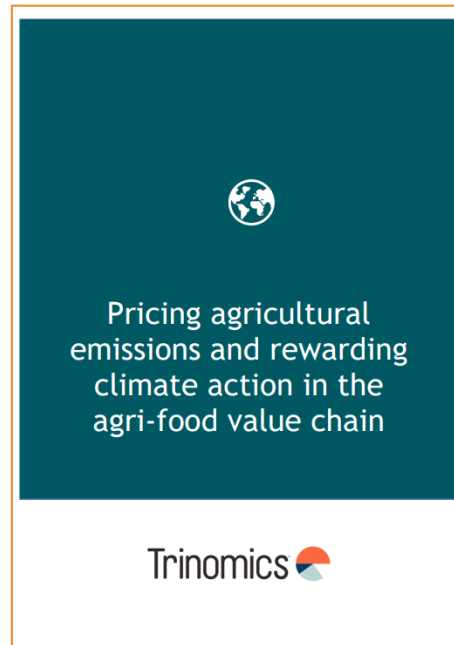
- EU Sustainability Reporting Standards
- COM proposals on Green Claims Directive

Regulatory options for the land sector

- Evaluation of the LULUCF Regulation
- Study on possible options for an agri-food ETS

Post-2030 framework: mitigation across the agri-food value chain through market-based incentives

A new study investigates ways to price GHG emissions from agricultural activities **along the agri-food value chain** and how this can be accompanied by providing farmers and other landowners with **financial incentives for climate action**.



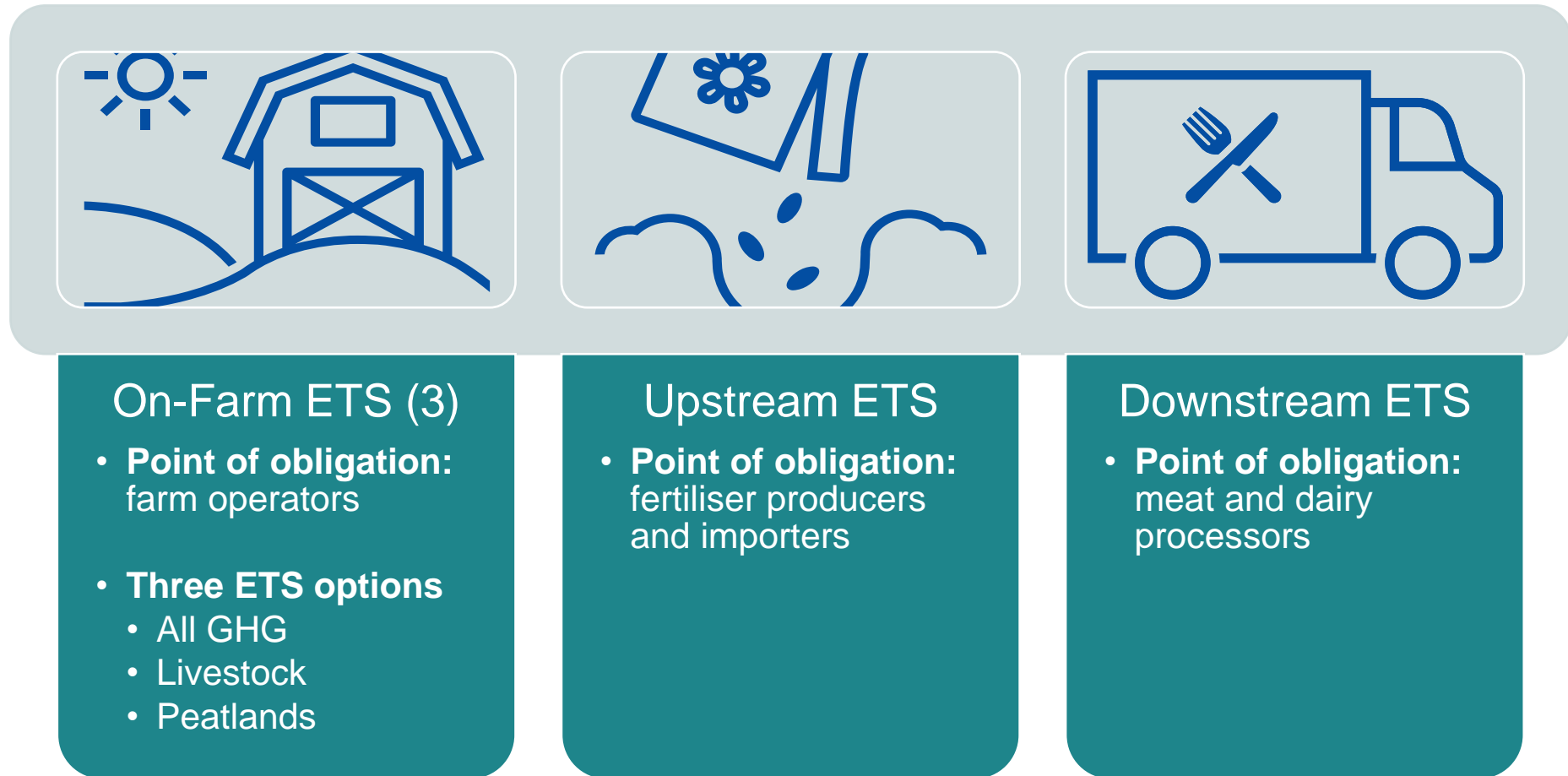
As a follow-up, we intend to organize **several technical workshops** with stakeholders to gather inputs on expected impacts

First workshop pencilled in for **19th or 20th of June**

Find the study at:

https://climate.ec.europa.eu/news-your-voice/news/looking-how-mitigate-emissions-agriculture-2023-11-13_en

Five options for an agri-food ETS



Other policies investigated but not retained for the analysis include CAP payment deductions (not solely a climate policy instrument) and emissions taxes (legally and politically challenging at EU level).