European Commission

Scientific Opinion on

Towards a Sustainable Food System

March 2020

- The **EU food system** provides enough and safe food with wide choice, but **is not sustainable**
- **Challenges** include increasing world population, climate change, diet-related diseases, depletion of natural resources and geo-political shocks
- **'Business as usual' not a viable option** as it will endanger natural resources, our health, the climate and the economy

What is a sustainable food system?

A food system that ensures environmental, social and economic sustainability

Goal: to achieve an inclusive, fair and timely transition to a sustainable food system

Recommendations

Drive a **step-wise, learning-focused** policy transformation on global, EU, national, regional and local levels

Address **power and information asymmetries** and make the **easiest choice** for citizens sustainable

Use an iterative, responsive and adaptive **policy mix**, with **binding measures** as main drivers

Impact

The scientific opinion informs the **Farm to Fork Strategy** of the **European Green Deal**

This is a summary of a scientific opinion by the ***Group of Chief Scientific Advisors***,

an Independent expert group providing high-quality and timely scientific advice to the European Commission, to inform European Union policies and legislation, and informed by SAPEA evidence review reports.

Read the full report here.

https://ec.europa.eu/science-advice

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