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Press Release

Discussing Carbon Farming through ELO leadership paper and Belgium's first carbon farming program.

On September the 2nd, the European Landowners' Organization (ELO) presented its [leadership paper on Carbon Farming](#) to a selected audience of private and public institutions, leading to a policy discussion on how to seize the opportunity and make Carbon Farming a reality in the European market. To illustrate future perspectives, the ELO introduced on the same day the concrete solutions offered by the partnership of the two agencies [Agriland](#) and [Indigo](#).

Indeed, the 2030 Climate Target Plan from the Commission delivered ambitious objectives through its ["fit for 55%" package publication](#), raising emission reduction targets in multiple sectors including **Agriculture, Forestry, Land Use and Land Use Change** (AFOLU). This publication will lead to the creation of dedicated legal instruments that should facilitate the design of efficient and effective policies. In this way, the agricultural and forestry sectors will become the **first net greenhouse gas-free sector by 2035**. It would then generate from 2036 onwards **carbon credits** to balance remaining emissions in other sectors based on a robust carbon credit certification system.

The European Landowners' Organization welcomes the proposed policy choice, in line with its engagement toward sustainable agriculture and biodiversity preservation, while underlining the urgency of its approval and application across the EU. However, to be able to benefit from Carbon Farming, the ELO points out a number of key choices to be respected into **National Strategic plans**. Moreover, the ELO alerts on several **barriers to the private funding** that have yet to be overcome.

Thierry de l'Escaille, Secretary General of the ELO declared: *"Thanks to the hard work at Indigo and Agriland, we can see carbon farming is not only a win-win concept, but a win-win reality. It has an incredible potential to provide farmers, landowners and foresters with additional incomes through results-based payments while reducing carbon emissions and enhancing the environment."*

More comprehensive reactions can be found online:

- [ELO's full statement on Carbon Farming regulation;](#)
- [Indigo and Agriland partnership project release.](#)

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About the ELO: The ELO is the umbrella organization for national rural organizations of businesses managing agricultural, forestry and environmental land all over Europe. www.elo.org