Despite some improvements, the EU agriculture sector has not made major progress in delivering on the EU’s biodiversity commitments to 2020 - a key verdict of the European Commission’s mid-term review of the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2020.

At the same time, the demand for sustainable food amongst European consumers continues to grow year-on-year. The market for organic food was valued at 24 billion euro in 2014 with an average annual growth rate of between 6-7% annually.

This reflects the fact that organic farming systems and agro-ecological practice are shown to create the best conditions for good biodiversity management as well as supporting rural areas and food security.

However, when we look at agriculture policy overall the delivery of public goods including biodiversity is not sufficiently incentivised or rewarded. If the EU is serious about biodiversity we need a transformative CAP that recognises of the value agriculture can deliver in terms of biodiversity as part of an overall sustainability strategy.