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### The investment needs in Europe's agriculture and agri-food industry

Sofia Bjornsson | EAFRD financial instruments for agriculture and rural development 2014-2020, | 31.05.2016 , Madrid

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### I. Who are Copa and Cogeca?

#### Two organisations....



- **Copa** Created in 1958, represents 23 million European farmers and their family members.
- Cogeca Created in 1959, represents 22, 000 European agricultural cooperatives.
- Copa and Cogeca Since 1962, a joint Secretariat one of the biggest and most active lobby organisations in Brussels in the field of agriculture

The Voice of European Farmers and Agri-cooperatives for a Smart, Sustainable and Competitive Agriculture Sector



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## II. Why we need to invest in the agriculture and agri-food sector?

## Why we need to invest in the agriculture and agri-food industry?

- 1. To ensure **sustainable and competitive EU agriculture and agri-food chain sector**
- 2. To support **growth and jobs** for viable rural areas
- 3. To adapt to **new technologies and implement innovative solutions** to ensure a efficient use of resources
- 4. To be a **strong partner** on the world market and to feed the world in 2050



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## III. What are the challenges for the EU agriculture sector?

### **Challenges** for the EU agriculture sector

- Fewer farms and variety of farm size
- > Ageing farm population
- Income gap
- Access to land
- A new mix of production factors: replace labour by machinery



### **Challenges for the EU agriculture sector**

- Access to financing
- > Increase price volatility for agricultural commodities
- High production standards (food safety, animal welfare and environmental)
- Price-cost squeeze (high input prices / low farm gate prices)
- > Unbalanced and unfair functioning of food chain



### Only a competitive, sustainable and smart agriculture sector can face these challenges



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# IV. What are the investments needs in agriculture sector?

## Investment needs in the agriculture and agri-food sector

- Investments in trainings, advise, knowledge exchange to support business development and entreprenurship
- Investments in a climate resilient agriculture water efficiency, soil management, energy efficiency, renewable energy
- Investments to support farmers to increase farm productivity
  - precision farming
  - smart technologies
  - logistics to better use the co- and by-products



## Investment needs in the agriculture and agri-food sector

- Investments to further improve the environmental sustainability of farming – less environmental harmful machineries
- Investments in storage, logistics and infrastructure
  - increase supply quantity and quality
  - better information on the available quantities
- Investments to strengthen farmers and agri-cooperatives' position in the food chain processing and marketing

#### **INNOVATE, INVEST AND COOPERATE**



### Investing in agriculture is investing in the future of EU





