

INTEGRATING SALINISATION MANAGEMENT INTO EU POLICY

CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES



Balancing the pathways of **mitigation** (increasing the efficiency of freshwater use) and **adaptation** (introduction of salt-tolerant crops and management practices) to salinity depending on the **local conditions** and available **management techniques**.



Sharing costs and benefits of salinisation **among stakeholders** through effective economic



Bridging the gap between research and practice with **collaborative networks and partnerships on regional and**



Integrating the policy for saline agriculture into the **existing policy frameworks** to foster synergies and avoid potential conflicts building on the experience of countries with well-developed saline agriculture governance.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **Agenda setting** is a first step that can be taken to include the saline agriculture policy in the existing frameworks.
2. A variety of **local and international stakeholders** should be included in the **co-creation of inclusive policy** for saline agriculture that should address its complex nature and regional differences.
3. Policy for saline agriculture should **link to the existing policy frameworks**.
4. Policy instruments should focus on **equitable cost and benefit sharing** to ensure a smooth transition to saline agriculture, raising **consumer awareness** for salinisation and **stimulating demand** for saline products.
5. Policy should support **long-term orientation** and **regional and international networks** that serve as a platform for **science and policy interface**.

BACKGROUND

The **threat of soil and water salinisation**, which is growing in the last decades in the European Union (EU), has yet not been addressed comprehensively in EU policy. By **setting the agenda and implementing policies focused on saline agriculture** as one of the principal measures for climate action (SDG13), we can pave the way for successfully navigating the nexus challenges. This policy brief explores the **integration of salinisation management into existing policy frameworks, challenges and solutions** related to the saline agriculture nexus as well as **policy recommendations for the future**.

TAKEAWAYS

Developing an integrated policy on saline agriculture could bring multiple benefits such as **avoiding yield losses, safeguarding sustainable income for farming communities, protecting biodiversity and increasing water efficiency**. **Incorporating saline agriculture into future EU policies will help to mitigate the impacts of climate change as well as promote sustainable and resilient agricultural practices.**