



LIFE Carbon Farming: Development and implementation of a result-based funding mechanism for carbon farming in EU mixed crop livestock systems



Anaïs L'Hôte¹, Juliette Ferial¹, Donal O'Brien², Bright Ketadzo²

¹ French Livestock Institute, Paris, France

²Teagasc, Environment Research Centre, Johnstown Castle, Co. Wexford

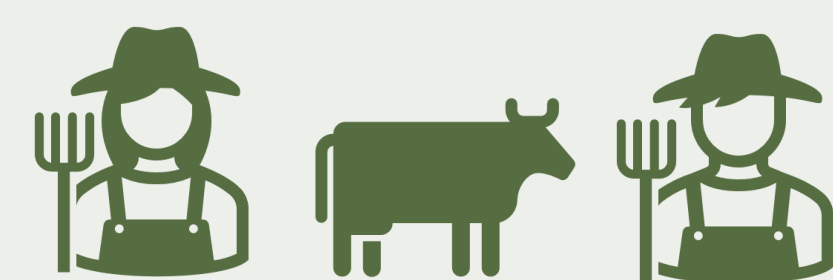
THE PROJECT AND ITS OBJECTIVES



2021 – 2027



40 partners in 6 countries



600 dairy and beef farms involved



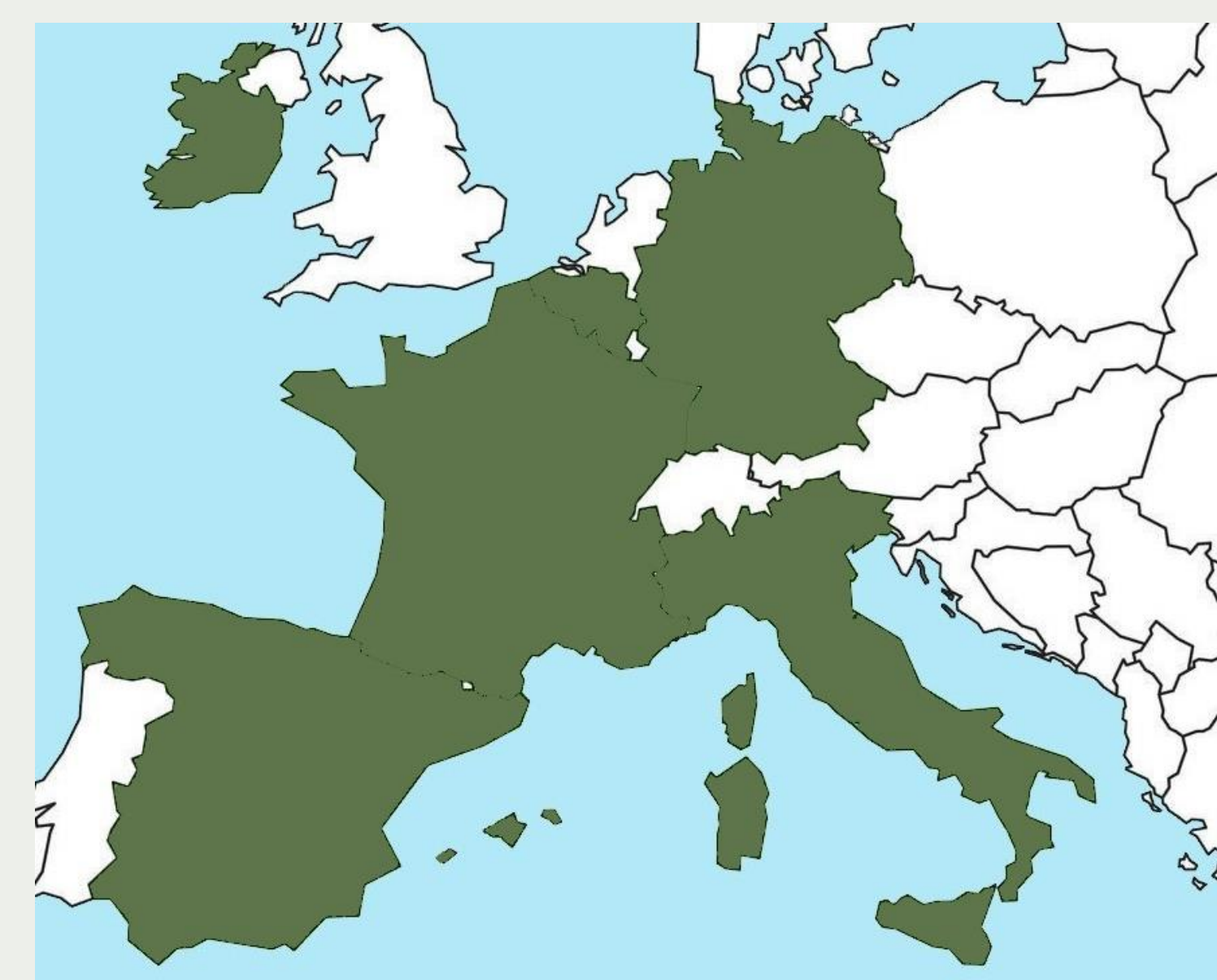
60 advisors trained to apply carbon audit tools and carbon certification



Reduction of 15% in farms carbon footprint

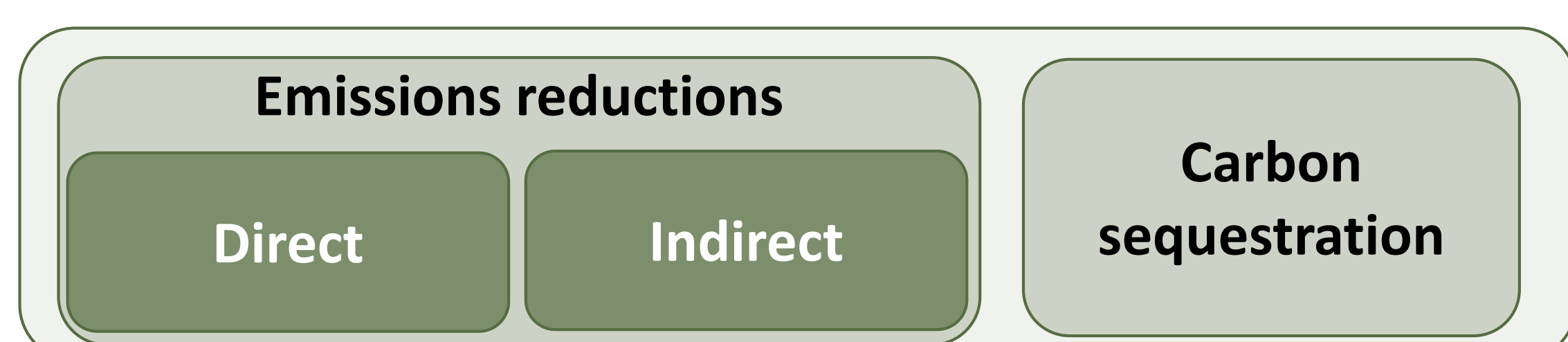


Rewarding farmers for their efforts



A COMMON MRV METHOD

Scope considered and 3 carbon audit tools based on LCA used



Carbon Farming practices implemented

GHG emissions

- Herd management: health conditions, age at 1st calving, etc.
- Herd feeding: grazing, concentrates consumption, forages quality, etc.
- Manure management; storage and spreading of effluents, etc.
- Crops management: fertilisation, legumes seeding, crops rotation, etc.
- Energy consumption: electricity and fuel consumption, etc.

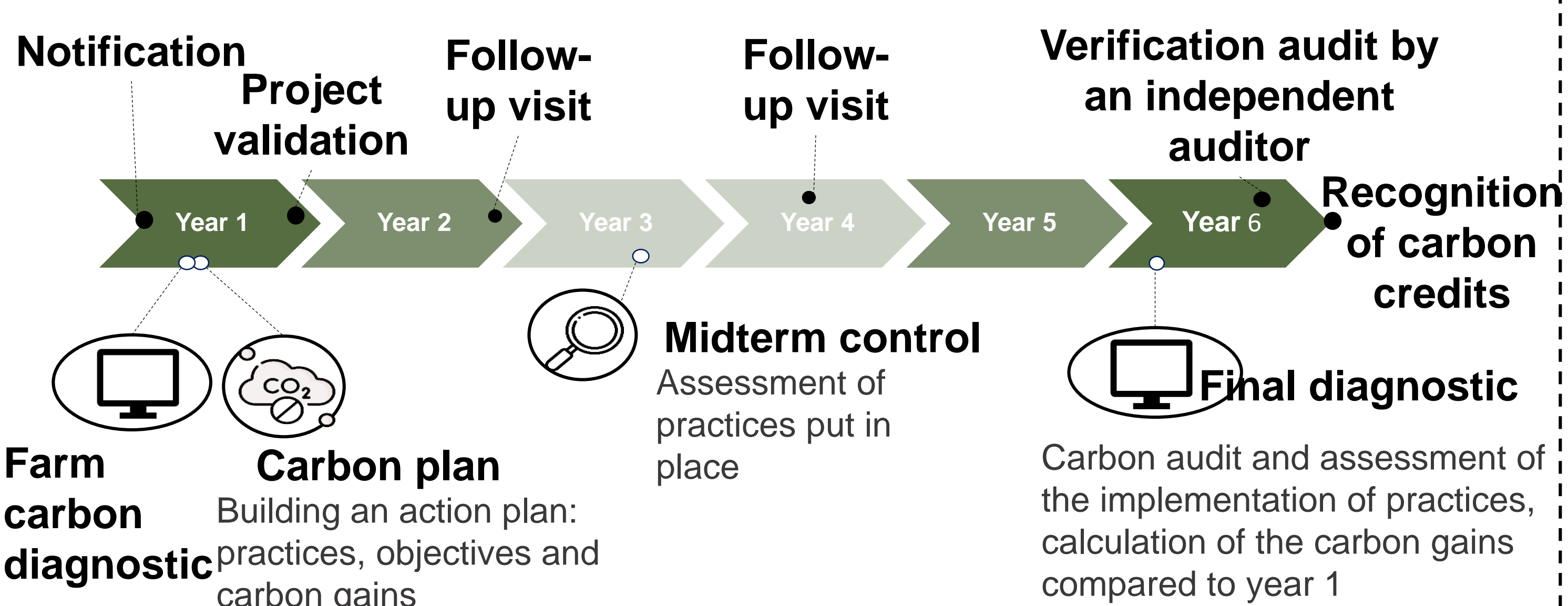
Carbon sequestration

- Cultivated surfaces management: direct seeding, temporary grasslands, etc.
- Management of agroecological elements: permanent grasslands, agroforestry, hedgerows, etc.

Co-benefits



Steps of the farmer's project (duration of 5 years)



SUSTAINABILITY GRID

Developing a whole farm sustainability assessment methodology based on carbon audit tools and a sustainability grid including:

- 10 environmental indicators
- 5 economic indicators
- 8 social indicators

→ These sustainability indicators are assessed on each farm at the beginning and at the end of the project.

ASSESSING IMPLEMENTATION COSTS FOR CARBON FARMING

Implementation costs are expressed in €/t CO₂eq avoided and are composed of:

- Transition costs including:
 - Technical costs assessed thanks to partial budgets method.
 - Risk evaluation if targets are not meet.
 - Training costs and additional work needed to put in place a new practice.
- Administrative costs, i.e. all the costs related to advising farmers, MRV process including certification audit.

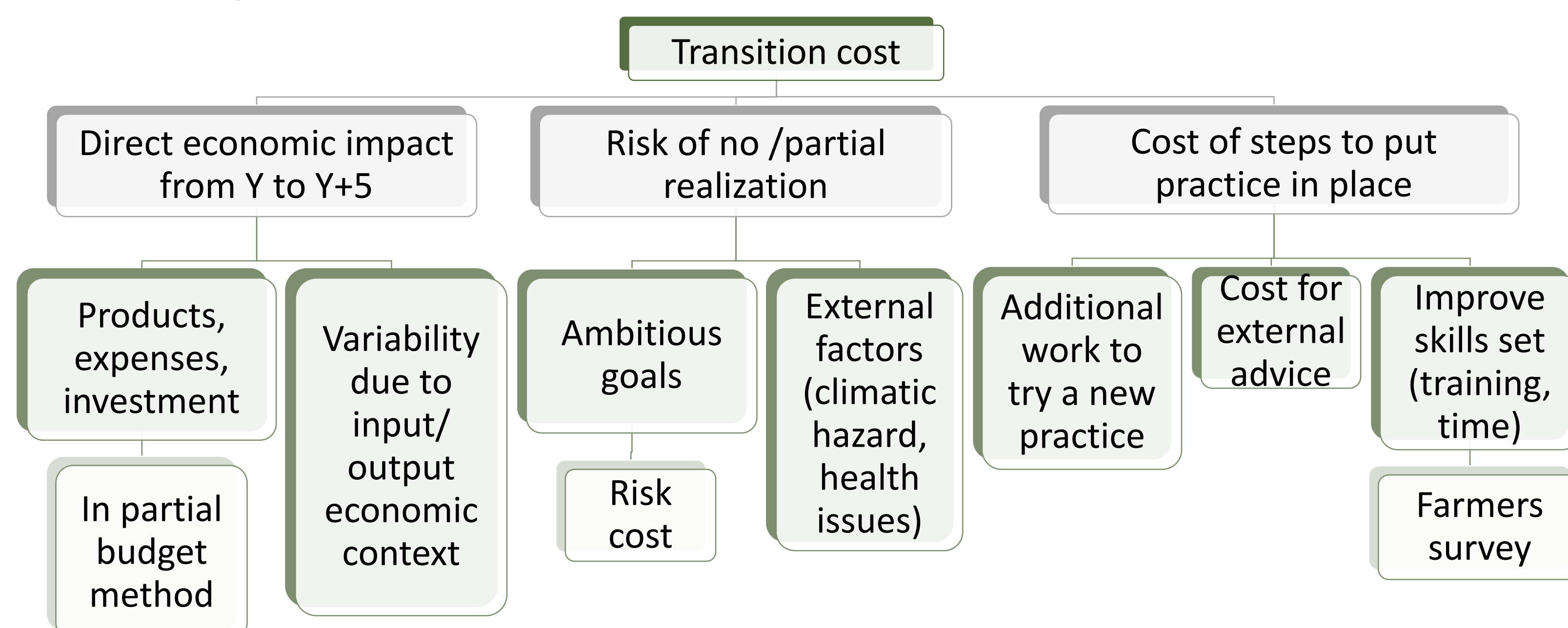


Figure: Detail of transition costs considered in the assessment of implementation costs

FUNDING FARMERS

Several ways for companies to fund farmers

- Offsetting of the residual emissions of a company
- Voluntary contribution to climate change mitigation
- Reduction on scope 3 (Example of Lidl: purchasing of carbon certificates from its own beef suppliers.)

Carbon credit: € 41-43/tCO₂ avoided, inc. €33 for the farmer, €5 for advisory entities, €3 for FCAA, €2 for Carbioz (platform to communicate on farmer's projects)

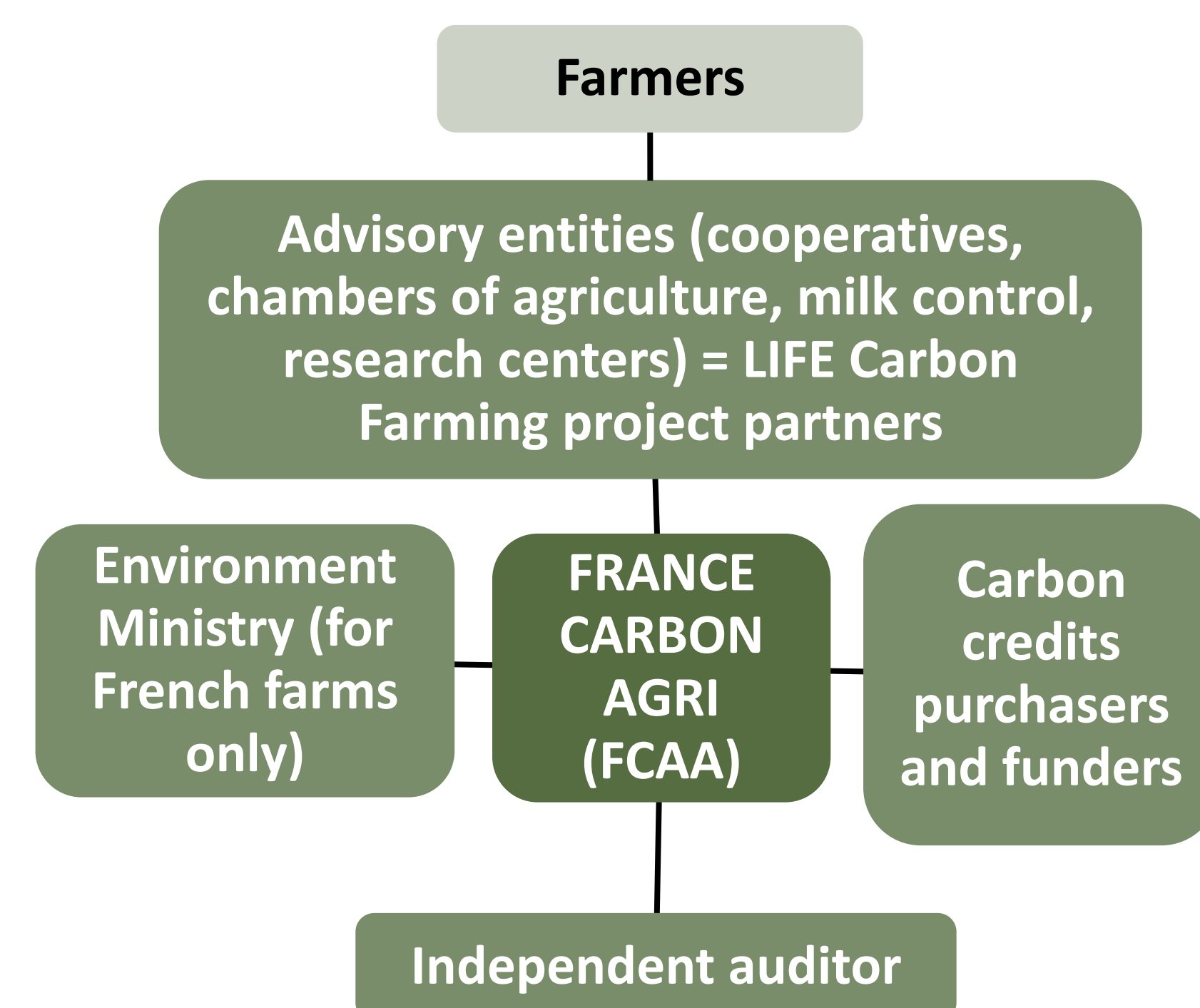


Figure: Funding farmers, making the link between the carbon farming stakeholders