



# ASSEMBLY OF EUROPEAN HORTICULTURAL REGIONS





# About us

- Association founded in 2000, with legal headquarters in Bordeaux (France).
- AREFLH represents the voice of European **fruit and vegetable producing regions** and their **producer organisations** in Europe.
- AREFLH counts **16 regions, 32 APOs/POs**, and **9 associate members** (experts) from **17 European countries**.
- The specificity of AREFLH, which is its main strength, lies in its original structure. It is composed of three colleges: the **College of Regions**, the **College of Producers**, and the **College of Observer Regions, advisors, and experts**. The complementary nature of these three colleges makes it possible to promote joint work and common positions between the regions and producer representatives.



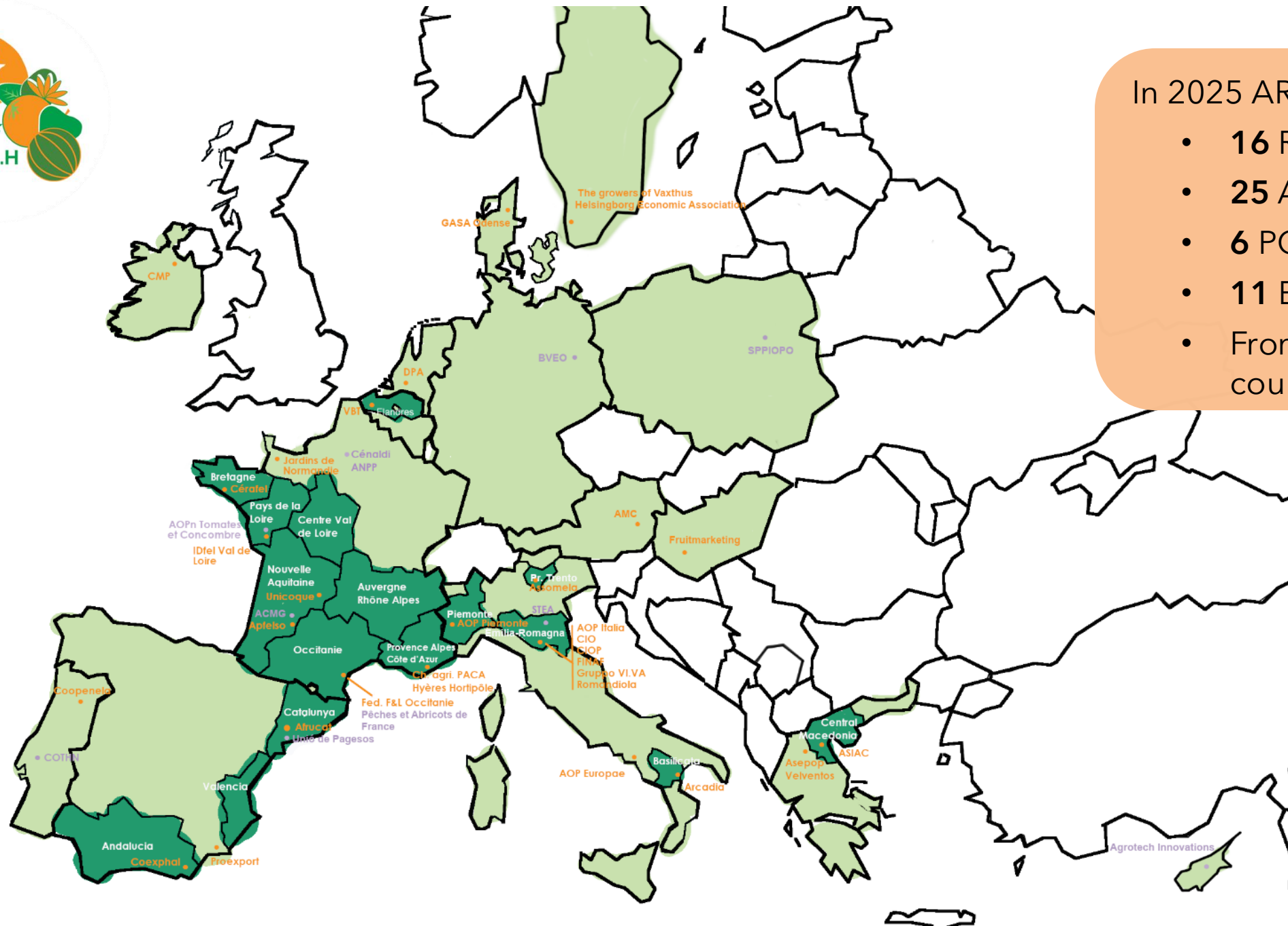
# Our Mission

- Defend **the economic and social interests of the fruit, vegetable, and horticultural** sectors in interactions with the European authorities,
- Promote **exchanges of experience, partnerships, and joint projects** between regions and professional organisations,
- **Propose solutions** for the main issues affecting the future of fruit and vegetable production in Europe.



In 2025 AREFLH represents:

- **16** Regions
- **25** APOs
- **6** POs
- **11** Expert members
- From **17** European countries







2 new members →



1 new country → 14 in total



## Key figures / highlights 2024

### 4 European events



- Conference on water at the Committee of the Regions
- Public Conference of the General Assembly
- Interpera
- AREFLH Annual Forum

### 4 European projects

LowInFood • Novasoil  
Waste4Soil • LivingSoiLL



### 10 Meetings of the market observatories and expert groups

of the European Commission

- Stone fruit
- Tomatoes
- Pip fruit
- Citrus
- Fertilizer
- Food security crisis preparedness
- Agri-food chain



### 12 Civil Dialogue Group Meetings



- CAP and Strategic Plans
- Environment and climate change
- Organic farming
- Quality and promotion
- International Aspects of Agriculture

### 2 Position statements



- Strategic Dialogue on the future of EU agriculture
- Promotion policy





# Work themes & actions in Brussels

## MAIN FILE COVERED IN 2024

- **February 2024 :** Debate on water resilience with the CoR
- **April 2024 :** AREFLH Contribution to the Strategic Dialogue
- **December 2024:** Approval of PPWR
- **January 2025:** AREFLH Contribution to the regulation amending the OCM and SPR regulations
- **February 2025:** Joint letter for a separated CAP Budget in the MFF 2027-2033
- **March 2025:** AREFLH Contribution to the Commission's call on the water resilience strategy
- **April 2025:** Commission's call for contribution on the CAP simplification package



# Work themes & actions in Brussels

## CMO & SPR REGULATIONS

- **10 December 2024:** the Commission publishes its proposal to modify the CMO & SPR regulations
- Discussion in the Council (**January 24**) and COMAGRI (**February 10**)
- **13 February:** CDG meeting on agricultural markets with the active participation of AREFLH
- **Mid-February 2025:** Submission of the AREFLH position paper to DG AGRI (call for contributions) and the MEPs.
- **Mid-February 2025:** Céline Imart is appointed as rapporteuse of the CMO & SPR file
- **19 February 2025:** the Commission publishes its Vision for Agriculture
- **End of February 2025:** Response from DG AGRI to the AREFLH position paper
- **March 2025:** Submission to the National PermReps. Meetings in April and May
- **Expected approval:** 3rd quarter 2025?



# Work themes & actions in Brussels

## CAP SIMPLIFICATION PACKAGE

- **March 2025** : The Commission launches a call for contribution (deadline: 11 April 2025)
- **2nd Quarter 2025** : The Commission will launch a legislative initiative





# Work themes & actions in Brussels

## WATER RESILIENCE STRATEGY

- **February 2025:** AREFLH internal WG on Water Meeting
- **3 March 2025:** AREFLH Contribution to the Commission's Call on Water Resilience
- **3 March 2025:** AREFLH participation in a workshop held by ICF on best practices of Water Use in Agriculture
- **3-7 March 2025:** EU Ocean Days
- **April-May 2025:** the EP will approve its own-initiative report on the water resilience strategy (COMENVI)
- **2nd Quarter 2025:** Commission will release the Water Resilience Strategy



# European projects

## Ongoing projects:

- NOVASOIL
- WASTE4SOIL
- LivingSoiLL





## Innovative Business Models for Soil Health

# European projects

- **What is it?** It is a project funded by the Horizon Europe programme in the framework of the Mission for Soil. The project was financed under the Mission for Soil, starting in **November 2022** and ending in **October 2025**.
- **Objective:** to highlight the benefits of investing in soil health for society and the environment.
- **Consortium:** This brings together more than **15 institutions** and **1 associated partner** from **11 European countries**.





# European projects



Turning food  
waste into  
sustainable  
soil improvers  
for better soil  
health and  
improved food  
systems

- **What is it?** is a project funded under the Horizon Europe programme within the framework of the 'Mission for Soil, starting **June 2023** and ending **May 2027**.
- **Objective:** It envisages the development of **10 technological and methodological** solutions for the recycling of food industry processing residues into local and organic circular soil improvers to improve soil health. And the creation of **7 living labs** in **Europe**, in Greece, Finland, Spain, Poland, Hungaria, Italy and Slovenia, which will study, **8 types of food processing residues** (meat, fish, dairy products, cereals, olive oil, beverages (wine), fruit and vegetables and processed foods).
- **Consortium:** comprises **27 partners** and **1 associate partner** from **9 European countries** and **Switzerland**.







- **What is it?** is a project funded under the Horizon Europe programme within the framework of the 'Mission for Soil, ' starting **June 2024** and ending **November 2028**.
- **Objective:** to create **5 Living Labs** across Europe to enhance soil health through innovative and sustainable soil management practices in 50 experimental sites and **10 lighthouses**.
- **Consortium:** comprises **46 partners** from **6 European countries**.



# Communication



- The website [www.areflh.org](http://www.areflh.org)
- The intranet
- Weekly emails (AREFLH Flashnews) reserved for members of the association
- The monthly newsletter, sent in French and English to members and subscribers
- The Linkedin account
- The monthly videoconference meeting of members
- Tribe, our Customer Relation management programme





**Thanks for your attention**



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