

Bornholm (DK)

The Region

Bornholm is a Danish Island in the Baltic Sea, to the east of Denmark, south of Sweden, northeast of Germany and north of the westernmost part of Poland. The island's topography consists of dramatic rock formations in the north sloping down towards pine and deciduous forests, farmland in the middle and sandy beaches in the south. Farming on Bornholm is dominated by specialized farms. Roughly one third of the farmland is managed by pig farmers, one third by arable farmers and a fifth by dairy farmers.



Objective

The long-term vision for Bornholm is that the farming sector will be climate neutral and climate robust. In the *Contract Innovation Lab Bornholm*, we will look at the contributions from solutions related to land management and optimal contracts for the implementation. One important aspect for a more sustainable management of agricultural landscapes are policies and schemes based on local dialog. The CIL will look at management of agricultural landscapes and the options for locally based implementation of contracts for support using the example of farming permanent grassland.

Methods & Results

The goals for the farming sector on Bornholm were developed/agreed upon during the two first meetings in the Contract Innovation Lab. The first meeting was arranged in the core CIL with farmers (and the project partners representing the Municipality, the advisory service and research), the second meeting was arranged in the broad CIL including farmers and a broad range of local actors such as NGOs, authorities and politicians. The climate goal is for 2050 to align with the goal of the national organisation of farmers. At the first meeting SWOT analysis of different contract types was implemented in a workshop setting with all participants. In the second meeting, with almost 60 participants, we combined presentations in plenum with discussion in break-out groups identifying relevant issues and barriers and enablers.

Contact CIL Bornholm

- University of Copenhagen
Erling Andersen ✉ eran@ign.ku.dk



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Potential Contract Solution #1 (“Dream Contract”)

Carbon Farming

Objective

The main objective is to support a shift in production towards protein crops for human consumption. An accompanying objective is that the farmers maintain or shift to more climate neutral farming practices and maintain and increase carbon stocks in soil and vegetation. The contracts will further focus on farming practices that enhance the robustness of farming to future climate changes.

Measures

- Conservation agriculture
- Reduced or no-tillage systems
- Holistic grazing
- Hedges

Contract Type

- PES / Agri-environment- and climate measures



Contract Features

- Action-based Payments
- Collective support (Producer organisations)

Targeted Public Goods

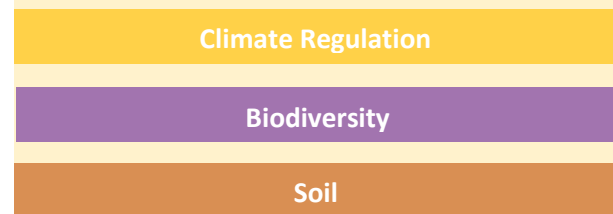


Figure 1. Exploring the potential to increase carbon content in the dream contract of Bornholm.

Actors & Structure

The work on contracts in relation to climate objectives is done in collaboration with a non-recognised producer organisation on protein crops for human consumption. It is explored if the organisation can have administrative responsibilities in relation to the developed contracts.

Contract Duration

Ideal contract period: 5–10 years

Payments

Funding is currently unclear as the farmers in the CIL have rejected the option of funding through trade with carbon certificates. Possible options under consideration are agri-environmental-climate payments under a producer organisation umbrella or inclusion of Conservation Agriculture and reduced tillage systems in a carbon farming eco-scheme in the revised CAP-payments.

Controls & Checks

Due to a shift in objectives and measures in the Contract Innovation Lab, controls and checks are currently not under consideration.

Expected Benefits

Social/Ecological Advantages

- Shift towards a more plant-based diet (human consumption)
- Reduced emissions and increased storage of carbon
- Increasing soil health and biodiversity

Advantages for Farmers

- New market opportunities
- More climate robust farming (soil health, resilience to extreme weather etc.)

Potential Contract Solution #2 (“Dream Contract”)

Grassland Management

Objective

The main objective of the dream contract is to ensure continuous adaptation of the management of the contracted area to support biodiversity in dialog between the farmers and relevant local authorities. The dream contract includes a living management plan developed for the individual contract area identifying the main principles for the management. Control of the contracts are not needed as the continuous dialog between the farmer and the relevant local authorities ensures that the principles for the management are followed.

The dream contract is an add-on to the existing measures on management of permanent grassland. In contrast to the existing measure that is implemented at national level, the dream contract is implemented at the local level taking into account local priorities and local knowledge.

Measures

Conservation grazing and/or other types of grassland management for biodiversity

Actors & Structure

Authorities (Municipality, local body of Nature Agency) will be involved more in the management of the dream contracts than in the current scheme. They will in dialog with the farmers develop and monitor individual management plans and ensure that the management complies with the main principles. The planned contracts are individual, but a forum for exchange of experience is under consideration. Intermediary parties are to be involved but the exact set-up is to be developed.

Contract Duration

The contract duration is not fixed yet, but there is a general interest in longer contracts (10-20 years) among the farmers.

Payments

- Public funding: current agri-environmental schemes
- Payments will be based on both actions and results
- No higher price for agricultural products

Contract Type

- PES / Agri-environment- & climate measures

**Contract Features**

- Action-based payments
- Results-based payments

Targeted Public Goods

Biodiversity

Landscape & Scenery

Controls & Checks

- A combination of practices and results will be monitored, based on individual management plans.
- Monitoring will be carried out 1 or 2 times a year by the farmer and local authorities.
- The control is based on compliance with identified principles for the management of the contracted area.

Expected Benefits

Social/Ecological Advantages

- Maintenance of valuable agricultural landscapes
- Support of Biodiversity-friendly practices
- Some of the areas will include initiatives on public access

Advantages for Farmers

- Less rigid rules and more dialog on management
- Payments from the contracts and grazing of livestock.