Under the 2014-2022 rural development period, Member States are financing measures addressed to the pigmeat sector such as animal welfare or measures from which also the sector benefits, such as investments in physical assets, organic farming, setting-up of producer groups and organisations, or farm and business development. Funds from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development have been mobilised to provide exceptional temporary support to farmers and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) particularly affected by the COVID-19 crisis. In the context of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, the Commission has proposed a similar new exceptional temporary support measure.

As from 2023, the reformed Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) will apply. The pigmeat sector is explicitly covered in the CAP strategic plans of most Member States, with interventions in the form of direct payments (e.g. eco-schemes on animal welfare; antimicrobial resistance; extensive practices); livestock production (e.g. investments; concentration of supply; energy saving; sustainability of transport and storage); and rural development (e.g. environmental, climate-related commitments; investments; risk management; cooperation).

Under the State aid rules, besides measures with a wide scope from which pigmeat producers might have benefited, several Member States have implemented targeted support measures for the sector, such as de minimis aid (liquidity aid, breeding, animal health, aid to associations); aid under the (Covid-19) Temporary Framework¹ (liquidity aid, animal welfare investments) or other State aid measures under the Agricultural block exemption Regulation (ABER) and the Agricultural Guidelines². In addition, Member States may provide additional State aid for eligible undertakings under the Temporary Crisis Framework³.

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² Investments, buy-out, animal health, breeding, animal welfare, fallen stock.
³ Communication from the Commission Temporary Crisis Framework for State Aid measures to support the economy following the aggression against Ukraine by Russia, OJ 24.03.2022, C 131I, p. 1.