

## Survey about views on justice in relation to agricultural change

Dear Participant,

My name is Auvikki de Boon, and I am a PhD student at the University of Reading. Together with my supervisors I am conducting a study about what people think about the justice of changes in agriculture and agricultural policy. This study is part of my PhD project in which I investigate the governance of agricultural change. The results of this study will be used to understand different views on justice in relation to agricultural change to help inform ways to govern this change.

For this study, we are asking for your participation in an anonymous online survey, which will take approximately 15 minutes to complete. You have been randomly selected as a potential participant because you fulfil the criteria of our target group (adult inhabitant of England). The survey contains questions asking about your thoughts regarding agricultural policy measures, the distribution of costs and benefits of change, and the process through which change is brought about. ***Even if you know little about agriculture, your opinions are needed!***

Please keep in mind that participation in this research is voluntary, and there are no known risks associated with your participation. If you decide to participate, you may withdraw your consent and stop participation at any time without penalty. We will not collect your name or any personal identifiers. Below we ask you to fill in a codeword. If you wish to withdraw your consent after you submitted your answers, you can do so by contacting me with your unique codeword no later than 31.01.2022. You do not need to state any reason for your withdrawal. At the end of the research project, the data will be deposited to the University of Reading's Research Data Archive, so that they can be consulted and re-used by others for future research studies. You will be compensated through your panel provider for completing the survey. Your panel provider will be fully responsible for determining pay rates and administering payment.

This study has received ethical clearance by the University of Reading.

**To indicate your consent to participate in this research and to continue on to the survey, please click the "Next" button below.**

If you have any questions about this study, please e-mail us at [REDACTED].  
More information on the University of Reading Research Data Archive can be found here:  
<https://researchdata.reading.ac.uk/>

Thank you in advance for your help with this study!

Sincerely,

Auvikki de Boon, PhD student  
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**Q1. Codeword**

Please type a memorable code word which will be used as your unique identifier:

**Background**

*In this section we first would like to know a little bit more about you.*

**Q2. How old are you?** (Please select from the drop down menu)

**Q3. Which gender do you feel you belong to?** (please select what option applies)

Female
Male
Other, namely:
Prefer not to state

**Q4. In what region do you live?**

Greater London	South west	East Midlands	Yorkshire and the Humber	North East
South East	West Midlands	East of England	North West	Isle of Man
Scotland	Northern Ireland	Wales		



**Q5. Which of the following categories does your current place of residence belong to?**

Urban area (inner city/town)
Semi-urban area (outskirt of a city/suburban area/small town)
Rural area (areas other than towns or cities, such as the countryside, villages or farms)
Other, namely:

**Q6. What is the highest level of education you have completed?**

No formal education
Primary education
Secondary education
Post-secondary, not university
Undergraduate degree
Master's degree
Doctoral degree

**Q7. What is your average annual level of income?**

No more than £17,499
Between £17,500 - £29,999
Between £30,000 - £49,999
£50,000 or more
I am in non-paid employment/ unemployed, namely:
Prefer not to say

**Q7a. I am in non-paid employment, namely: [Follow up question to Q7]**

Retired/Pensioned
Doing housework and not in paid employment
Student
Disabled
Unemployed
Other, namely:

**Q8. If there would be elections tomorrow, which political party would you vote for?**

Conservative Party
Green Party
Labour Party
Liberal Democrats
Reform UK
UK Independence Party
Other, namely:
Prefer not to say

**Q9. What is your religion?**

Atheist
Buddhist
Christian
Hindu
Jewish
Muslim
Sikh
Other, namely:
Prefer not to say

**Q9a. How important or unimportant is your religion to you? [follow up to Q9]**

Very unimportant	Unimportant	Somewhat unimportant	Neutral	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
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**Q10. As what ethnicity do you identify yourself?**

Arab/Arab British
Asian/Asian British
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups
White/White British/White Irish
Other, namely:
Prefer not to state

**Q11. What is your relation to agriculture? (select all that apply)**

I do not have any connection to agriculture.
I work in the agricultural sector.
I own a farm.
I have friends who work in the agricultural sector.
I have family who work in the agricultural sector.
Other, namely:

**Q11a. What kind of farm do you own? [follow up question to Q11]**

Arable/general cropping	Upland livestock	Pigs	Dairy
Horticulture	Lowland livestock	Poultry	Mixed

**Q12. Topics to address [Distributional justice – perception of topics of distributional justice]**

In this section we would like to know your opinion on the importance of several topics that may be impacted by agricultural change.

Please rank the statements below from most important (1) to least important (12) for the justice of agricultural change. You can move the statements to the desired place by clicking and dragging.

<b>[Environmental issues]</b>
Environmental damage is reduced.
Diversity of life on Earth, including plants, animals, fungi, and micro-organisms increases and nature is thriving.
Climate change is minimized.
<b>[Economic]</b>
New jobs created as a result of the change provide good working conditions.
Rural communities are thriving.
Farming is profitable enough for farmers to make a living.
<b>[Food]</b>
Food is sufficiently available for all.
Food is affordable.
Food has good nutritional quality.
<b>[Socio-environmental]</b>
Exposure to environmental pollution is reduced.
Public access to nature is increased.
Opportunities to enjoy nature are increased.

**Q13. Measures to guide change [distributional justice – perception of mechanisms of distributional justice]**

In this section we would like to know your views on various methods that the government could use to guide agricultural change. For the statements below please indicate to what degree you agree or disagree.

To guide agricultural change in a way that is just, the government needs to...

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
<b>[Financial incentives]</b>							
... pay farmers public money to provide public goods (e.g. clean water, thriving wildlife, etc.).							
... create a private market for public goods (e.g. to enable private water companies to pay farmers to improve water quality).							
... provide subsidies or similar financial support to people who can't afford to buy sufficient food.							
... buy out farmers from their farms to reduce the number of agricultural businesses in the country.							

... pay older farmers to stop farming so that younger farmers can take over.							
... pay grants to farmers for innovation and adaptation to the change.							
... financially support farmers and farm workers who lose their job due to the change.							
<b>[Financial disincentives]</b>							
... set penalties on environmentally harmful practices.							
... set taxes on pesticides, fungicides, and herbicides.							
... set consumer taxes on food that has a strong negative environmental impact.							
<b>[advice &amp; guidance]</b>							
... support farmers and farm workers with advice and guidance to use more sustainable practices.							
... provide information to consumers on the environmental impact of specific types of food and food waste.							
... provide training to farmers and farm workers who want to stop farming and move to a different job.							
... provide positive recognition for environmentally friendly farmers (e.g. through sustainability certificates).							
... support farmers and farm workers with training to move to a different job when they lose their job due to the change.							
<b>[Regulations]</b>							
... set strict environmental regulations.							
... ban the use of environmentally harmful substances such as herbicides, pesticides, and fungicides.							
... set legally binding targets for the maximum level of harmful substances in the soil, air, and water.							
... exclude land from agricultural use.							
... remove regulations that protect the internal food-market (e.g. reducing trade barriers).							
... set strict environmental regulations on imported food.							
... create strict regulations for animal welfare.							
... create strict regulations for the preventive use of antibiotics for farm animals.							
... revoke farm licences to reduce the number of farms.							
... set regulations so that negative environmental impacts are compensated by improving the environment elsewhere.							

**Q14. Impacts of change [recognition justice – perception of viewpoint of justice]**

Agricultural change might have an impact on your living conditions, for example how much you are exposed to environmental pollution, how much access you have to nature, or how much you need to pay for your food.. In this section we would like to know how important or unimportant you find the following statements for the justice of agricultural change:

Changes in agriculture...

	Very unimportant	Unimportant	Somewhat unimportant	Neutral	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
<b>[Intrapersonal]</b>							
... do <b>not</b> make my position in life worse than it was before.							

... improve my living circumstances compared to what they were before.							
... do <b>not</b> make my living circumstances worse than they were before.							
<b>[Interpersonal]</b>							
... do <b>not</b> make my own living circumstances worse than those of others.							
... improve my living circumstances in comparison to others.							
... do <b>not</b> affect my living circumstances more negatively than those of others.							

**Q15. Geographical scale [recognitional justice – perception of geographical scale of justice – scale ranging from local to global]**

Changes in agriculture might have local, regional (in England), national (in the UK), or global impacts. Here we would like to know how important or unimportant you find the following statements for the justice of agricultural change:

Potential consequences of the change for..

	Very unimportant	Unimportant	Somewhat unimportant	Neutral	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
<b>[Local]</b>							
... local areas are taken into account.							
<b>[Regional]</b>							
... England are considered.							
<b>[National]</b>							
... the UK as a whole are considered.							
<b>[Global]</b>							
... all countries in the world are taken into account.							

**Q16. Distribution of costs and benefits [distributional justice – perception of principles of distributional justice]**

Now we would like to know your views on how the costs and benefits of agricultural change should be distributed. Examples of potential costs and benefits include reduced exposure to environmental pollution, access to nature, job loss, creation of new jobs, increase in food prices, investment in environmental protection, etc. These can thus include both monetary and non-monetary aspects.

For the statements below, please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree.

Change in agriculture is just if..

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
<b>[Equality]</b>							
... everyone carries the same amount of costs to create the change, regardless of their circumstances.							
... everyone receives the same amount of benefits from the change, regardless of their circumstances.							
... it distributes the costs and benefits of the change so that everyone carries the same costs and benefits.							
<b>[Equity &amp; need]</b>							

... the costs of the change are distributed so that people contribute according to their means.							
... the benefits of the change are distributed so that those who were worse off in society before are as well off as others after the change.							
... support to adapt to the change is only provided to those who need it.							
<b>[Entitlement]</b>							
... it provides more benefits to those who have historically benefitted from agriculture than to others.							
... those who have historically carried least of the cost of agriculture carry least of the costs of the change.							
... it distributes the costs and benefits of the change similarly as to how the costs and benefits of agriculture are currently distributed.							
<b>[Merit]</b>							
... those who put more effort into the change receive more of the benefits of the change.							
... those who put in least effort to bring about the change carry most of the costs of the change.							
... it distributes the costs and benefits of the change based on the efforts that people undertake to create the change.							

**Q17a. Stakeholder inclusion [recognitional justice – perception of subject of justice]**

*In this section we are interested to know whose interests you think should be taken into account in the design of agricultural change. Below we list different kinds of stakeholders who may have an interest in agricultural change or who may be affected by the change.*

In order for agricultural change to be just, to what extent should the interests of the following stakeholders and the way they may be affected by the change be taken into account?

	Not at all	Very little	Little	To a moderate extent	High	Very high	Highest priority
<b>[Agriculture, Forestry, &amp; Landowner Interests]</b>							
Farmers							
Land-owners							
Foresters							
Agricultural educational institutions							
Commoners (people who have the right to let their livestock graze on common/shared land)							
Stakeholders focussing on social wellbeing of farmers							
Stakeholders focussing on food availability, affordability, and nutritional quality							
<b>[Environmental &amp; Future Generation's Interests]</b>							
Environmental organisations							
Stakeholders focussing on animal welfare							
Future generations							
Farm-animals							
Wild-animals							
Nature							
<b>[Social Interests]</b>							
Local authorities (e.g. borough councils, county councils, district councils)							
General society							

Stakeholders focussing on historical heritage							
Stakeholders focussing on human health							
Stakeholders focussing on recreation (e.g. access to land for walking or quality of water for swimming)							
Stakeholders focussing on interests of rural life							
<b>[Economic Interests]</b>							
Supermarkets							
Agricultural consultants							
Trade organisations							
Fertiliser and seed/crop industry							
Stakeholders focussing on food processing and packaging							
<b>[Other]</b>							
Other, namely:							

**Q17b. Societal inclusion [recognitional justice – social inclusion]**

Similarly, specific groups in society may also be affected by agricultural change.

In order for agricultural change to be just, to what extent should the interests of the following societal groups and the way they may be affected by the change be taken into account?

	Not at all	Very little	Little	To a moderate extent	High	Very high	Highest priority
<b>[Sexes]</b>							
Women							
Men							
<b>[Minorities]</b>							
Transgender							
Ethnic minorities							
Religious minorities							
<b>[Children &amp; Disabled People]</b>							
Children/Youth							
Disabled people							
<b>[Other]</b>							
Other, namely:							

**Q18. Stakeholder involvement [procedural justice – perception of degree of involvement]**

Here we are interested in your opinion on how much the government should include stakeholders in the process of guiding agricultural change. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements:

For agricultural change to be just, the government needs to ...

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
<b>[Informing]</b>							
... inform stakeholders about the decisions government is taking.							
<b>[Consulting]</b>							
... invite stakeholders to express their views on government decisions before the decisions are taken.							
<b>[Involving]</b>							
...invite stakeholders to give advice on what decisions the government should take.							
<b>[Collaborating]</b>							
... involve stakeholders in the decision-making and implementation of decisions.							



[Cooperating]								
...actively include stakeholders in setting the goals for change.								
[Partnerships]								
...make decisions jointly with the stakeholders.								

**Q19. Knowledge types [recognitional justice – perception of knowledge type]**

Here we like to know your view on what type of knowledge the government should take into account when making decisions on the goals of agricultural change and the ways in which to achieve those goals. In order for the change to be just, please indicate how much or little the government should take these types of knowledge into consideration.

	Not at all	Very little	Little	Moderate	High	Very high	Highest priority
[Scientific]							
Knowledge that is generated through the use of scientific methods.							
[Local/Traditional]							
Knowledge based on everyday experience, adapted to the local culture and environment.							
[Other]							
Other, namely:							

**Q20. Influence in the process [procedural justice – perception of principles of procedural justice]**

In this section we want to know your views about what type of people should have most influence in the process of designing agricultural change. For each of the statements below please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree.

An agricultural change process is just when...

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
[Equality]							
... everyone is involved in the same way, regardless of how much they will be affected by the change.							
... everyone's views are taken into account in the same way.							
... everyone has the same influence over decision-making.							
[Equity & need]							
... those stakeholders who do not have sufficient resources to take part receive support to participate.							
... the views of stakeholders who will be most affected by the change are taken into account most.							
... those stakeholders who have more at stake in the change receive most influence on decision-making.							
[Entitlement]							
...the views of those who have historically been influential in agriculture are taken into account most.							
...those who have historically been most influential in agriculture have most influence on decision-making.							
... those who have historically been most influential in agriculture receive most opportunities to be involved.							
[Merit]							
... experts on agriculture have most influence in deciding the direction of change.							
... the views of experts on agriculture are taken into account most.							

...experts on agriculture have most influence on decision-making.							
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**Q21. Justice of agricultural change**

Finally, how important or unimportant is it to you that change in agriculture and agricultural policy is just?

Very unimportant	Unimportant	Somewhat unimportant	Neutral	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
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**Ending**

**Q22.** Thank you very much for your participation!

We are aware that it has taken time for you to answer our questions. You may also have thought that some of the questions were difficult to answer or may have a question of your own. We are therefore grateful for your feedback on the survey. Thank you.

Thank you for your time spent taking this survey; we value your opinion. We have received your response.