



Thematic Group on Landscape Features and Biodiversity

First meeting | 13 October 2022

Agenda

The farmed landscape has a large role to play in conserving and restoring biodiversity levels across Europe. Continued ecosystem degradation has led to the [European Green Deal](#) calling for sustainable food systems in the [Farm to Fork Strategy](#) and enhanced protection of natural resources in agricultural landscapes in the [Biodiversity Strategy 2030](#). The latter sets the target for 10% of agricultural land to incorporate landscape features, or non-productive areas which provide ecosystem services and support biodiversity. The proposed [Nature Restoration Regulation](#) also targets the maintenance and creation of landscape features, such as 'buffer strips, rotational or non-rotational fallow land, hedgerows, individual or groups of trees, tree rows, field margins, patches, ditches, streams, small wetlands, terraces, cairns, stone walls, small ponds and cultural features'.

The CAP Strategic Plans will be a key tool to promote improved maintenance, restoration and creation of landscape features in agricultural landscapes through conditionality (Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition (GAEC) 8) and additional funding within eco-schemes under Pillar 1 and EAFRD-funded agri-environment-climate measures under Pillar 2 targeting various landscape features.


The meeting will focus on sharing examples of European good practices and promising approaches to encourage landscape features, discussing how these can be better supported using various interventions under the CAP and what the key enablers and barriers are to doing this.

Aims of the meeting

- To explore how greater maintenance, restoration and creation of landscape features can be achieved via the CAP through the identification of the key enabling conditions that must be in place.
- To identify ways in which the range of CAP interventions can be used to support different types of landscape features and what other support is required to promote more diversity and higher-quality landscape features for biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- Share experiences and lessons learnt from Member States' previous programming period supporting landscape features and discuss how these may inform approaches under the CSPs.





Timing 	13 October 2022 Agenda Items
8.30	<i>Registration – virtual meeting room opens</i>
9.00 – 9.20	Opening – welcome, objectives and scope of the TG
9.20 – 9.40	Getting to know each other
9.40 – 10.20	Importance of landscape features and how to promote them <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gregorio Davila Diaz, <i>DG AGRI</i> – What is the role of the CAP in helping to maintain, create, enhance and restore LF • Balint Czucz, <i>Joint Research Centre</i> – Status quo of LF across the EU and monitoring capabilities through LUCAS • Q&A
10.20 – 10.45	MS examples of how CAP has been used or is proposed to be used to maintain, restore and create landscape features [wildlife corridors / diversity / high-quality] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jure Čuš, <i>Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Slovenia</i> • Maria Ladinig, <i>Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management, AT</i> • Pamela Boyle, <i>Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, IE</i>
10.45 – 11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.00 – 12.30	Plenary Discussion: Sharing of approaches and additional examples of CAP interventions Increasing the quality and quantity of landscape features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group discussions on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do we increase the coverage of LF in the farmed countryside? 2. How to overcome challenges and make best use of the CAP to deliver LF and biodiversity benefits? - Feedback in plenary
12.30 – 12.50	Activities between TG meetings – discussion on what TG members would find useful Focus of next meeting
12.50 – 13.00	Concluding Remarks and Next Steps

