

SAFEHABITUS European Policy Seminar

“Mental health and well-being of farmers¹”

Date: 25 January 2024, 14.00-17.30

Venue: Room **JAN 6Q1** (József ANTALL building), **European Parliament**, Brussels.

Draft agenda

INTRODUCTION

14:00

1. **Welcome & introduction, David Meredith, TEAGASC (SAFEHABITUS project coordinator)**
Moderation - Alun Jones, CIHEAM (SAFEHABITUS WP6 Policy and Governance Lead)
2. **Maria Walsh MEP (EMPL Committee) and Petri Sarvamaa MEP (AGRI Committee)**

A. RESEARCH - Setting the scene on farming and the psychosocial challenges and opportunities

14:20

3. **Working conditions in European agriculture – Agnes Parent-Thirion, Senior Research Manager Working Life, Eurofound (tbc).**
4. **Work-related psycho-social risk factors and mental health in agriculture – preliminary findings of the EU-OSHA study – Michaela Seifert, EU-OSHA.**
5. **Farmers’ psychosocial work environment and mental health – an international overview – Peter Lundquist, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.**
6. **SAFEHABITUS futures work on farmer mental health and well-being – Majda Černič Istenič, SafeHabitus WP4 Lead on enhancing the attractiveness of farming.**
7. **Discussion and questions**

B. PRACTICE – Practical experiences in managing psychosocial issues in farming

8. **Philippe Tran Tan Hai, Responsible for Prevention, CCMSA, France on CCMSA activities to prevent farmer suicide.**
9. **“Make the moove” - on farmer mental health, John Keane, Macra na Feirme President and Co-founder of “Make the moove”, Ireland.**
10. **Campaign to support Farmers in their mental health - Els Verté, Director from Farmers at a Crossroads, Flanders, Belgium.**
11. **Support the farmer project – Päivi Wallin, Director, MELA Farmers' Social Insurance Institution, Finland.**
12. **Discussion and questions**

¹ This Seminar will focus mainly on the mental health and well-being of farmers. Farm workers, also an important group with psychosocial challenges, will be covered in a dedicated Webinar tailored to their specific needs.

15.40-
16.00

Coffee break

C. POLICY – Policy tools to improve mental health and psychosocial issues in farming

Moderation: Natasche Foote, Euractiv.

National:

13. Martin Heydon, Minister of State at Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine & TD, Ireland (tbc) – Policy tools put in place in Ireland to champion **farm safety** and farmer well-being - framing future actions on farmer mental health

14. Henri CABANEL, French national Senator on the French Senate report on prevention, identification and support for farmers in distress, Rapport d'information du Sénat français, 2021.

15. Sarah Öztürk, SVLFG Farmer Insurance System, Germany on the role of European statutory insurance schemes in managing stress and mental health in farming (German and ENASP activities)

EU:

16. Maria Iglesia, Acting Director for Working conditions and social dialogue, DG EMPL - Mental health at work within the **EU-OSH Strategy** (& EU-OSHA planned activities).

17. Elena Schubert, Unit for Social Sustainability, DG AGRI – The **social dimension of the CAP** and tools to improve farmer well-being.

Policy discussion

18. Initiated by EU Agriculture Social Partners and stakeholders (**GEOPA President – Joseph Lechner, EFFAT General Secretary – Kristjan Bragason and CEJA President Peter Meedendorp**).

- with the participation of **Maria Walsh MEP** and **Petri Sarvamaa MEP**.

19. Round table discussion – Q and A

20. Conclusions

17.30

End of workshop