

## 2nd Ad-hoc expert group meeting

# AGENDA

Update 6 June 2024

12 June 2024 | Online MS Teams meeting

Innovation and Knowledge exchange | EIP-AGRI



The main role of the ad-hoc expert group meeting is to help the EU CAP Network identify key challenges, questions or needs to tackle related to innovation, knowledge exchange and EIP-AGRI, from a specific geographical / regional perspective, and provide input to prepare the call texts of Focus Groups (FG) in **three thematic areas**:

- Theme 1: New plant protein sources / production of protein or leguminous crops under climate change
- Theme 2: Local plant genetic resources in view of climate change and biodiversity loss
- Theme 3: Alternative strategies for sustainable livestock systems

## A short introduction to the three upcoming Focus Groups

The **Focus Group on 'New plant protein sources / production of protein or leguminous crops under climate change'** will address the SO2 of the CAP. The innovative solutions to developing new or improved legume crops in the EU and the development of legume production using innovative technologies would help to diversify cropping systems, to reduce European reliance on imported plant protein and would create significant value in rural regions. The FG would also aim at new sources of proteins to ensure nutritional quality while preserving environmental and economic sustainability. The benefits of cultivating protein crops will be explored in relationship with the impact on soil health and the environment, and on climate change mitigation, and it would provide some solutions of adaptation to climate change. Thus, this FG will also contribute to the SO4 and SO5 of the CAP. The FG will take the results of previous events into account and built upon.

The **Focus Group on 'Local plant genetic resources in view of climate change and biodiversity loss'** addresses the SO6 of the CAP, to promote the use of locally adapted and under-utilised crops and varieties. The FG will explore the needs and challenges of local farmers regarding preservation and use of local varieties and gather insights on the potential impact on biodiversity in view of climate change. The latter will also link this networking activity to the SO4 of the CAP. The FG will take the results of previous events into account and built upon.

The **Focus Group on 'Alternative strategies for sustainable livestock systems'** will address the SO2 of the CAP, and will deal with competitiveness and resilience in sustainable livestock systems from the entire value chain, including the production of animal feed from alternative protein sources, to animal breeding, grazing and fodder systems, energy solutions, digital tools at farm level or labour management. At the same time, the FG should seek for sustainable solutions in enhancing the carbon balance, improving the nutrient cycle and ensuring animal welfare, reducing livestock related emissions including animal health questions, like sustainable parasite control, always in view of the climate change adaptation challenge. The latter will also link this networking activity to the SO4 and SO9 of the CAP. The FG will take the results of previous events into account and built upon.



## Expected outcomes and guiding questions relevant to each of the three themes:

### 1. Outcome 1. The background and major challenges

that farmers, foresters and rural businesses are facing when it comes to adopting knowledge and innovation in their practices and the aims of the Focus Group in contributing to knowledge and innovation exchange.

#### Guiding discussions for outcome 1

- Discuss what is the European and national context relevant to the theme.
- Bring and discuss what the major challenges are at European and national or local level that farmers, foresters and rural businesses are facing. By ranking, define the ones to be included into the concept note of the FG.
- Discuss what is a larger scope and alternatives in this theme and by discussion define a narrower scope that the FG should focus on to dive deeper in.

### 2. Outcome 2. A main question

that the Focus Group should respond to in its activities

#### Guiding discussions for outcome 2

- Brainstorm to suggest alternative questions and answers that the FG should seek to provide.
- Discuss what unites the suggested question & answer alternatives and define the key answer(s) that would satisfy the FG at the end.
- Provide the draft main question suggested for further editing.

### 3. Outcome 3. A set of main tasks

planned for the Focus Group, including sharing best practices and success stories, identifying challenges, barriers and opportunities, research needs from practice, innovative ideas, etc.

#### Guiding discussions for outcome 3

- Brainstorm to suggest some keywords (or pairs of keywords) from the Outcome 3 description (above) and other ideas, for creating the basis for the main tasks of the FG.
- Discuss and define, by ranking, the 3-5 priority keywords (or pairs of keywords) for the tasks to be included into the concept note of the FG.



**4. Outcome 4. A draft concept note (some building blocks)**  
for each Focus Group. The selected theme can form the basis for the future call for Focus Group experts or for networking activities.

#### Guiding discussions for outcome 4

- Brainstorm to suggest EIP-AGRI Operational Group projects that experts are aware of, that are relevant to the theme and that can support the FG concept or provide a relevant meeting place with sites to visit.
- Brainstorm to suggest Horizon Europe, Life or other important projects that experts are aware of, that are relevant to the theme and that can support the FG concept note.
- Provide other suggestions for references that could be useful for the upcoming FG.

Timing	Agenda item
08.50 – 09.00	Checking in to the online meeting platform
09.00 – 09.30	<b>Opening session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening words – <i>DG AGRI</i></li> <li>• Introduction to the EIP-AGRI concept and to the purpose of the ad-hoc expert group – <i>DG AGRI</i></li> <li>• Introduction to the Support Facility 'Innovation and Knowledge Exchange   EIP-AGRI' – <i>EIP-AGRI Support Facility</i></li> </ul>
09.30 – 09.35	<b>Introduction to the breakout sessions</b>
09.35 – 11.00	<b>Three parallel breakout sessions for all three thematic areas:</b> Introduction round for the expert group members. Discussing expected outcome 1
11.00 – 11.15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.15 – 12.15	<b>Three parallel breakout sessions for all three thematic areas:</b> Discussing expected outcomes 2, 3 and 4
12.15 – 12.45	<b>Final plenary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of outcomes from the three thematic areas – <i>EIP-AGRI Support Facility facilitators</i></li> <li>• Q&amp;A session</li> </ul>
12.45 – 13.00	What's next and closing – <i>EIP-AGRI Support Facility and DG AGRI</i>

