

Thematic Group on Enhancing Biodiversity on Farmland for Improved Resilience

AGENDA

2nd TG meeting

13 November 2024, 10:00 – 16:00

EU CAP Network

**Avenue des Arts 9/bis
1210 Brussels**



Introduction

Food production and farming practices can have both positive and negative impacts on biodiversity. The interactions between farming and biodiversity therefore play a critical role for the resilience of food production and sustainable resource management. This can be the case through supporting the pollination of crops and the control of pests and diseases, contributing to productive soils, nutrient and carbon cycles, water quality as well as improving the resilience of farming systems to climate change through helping mitigate the effects of droughts and floods. However, biodiversity continues to decline, particularly on farmland.

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is the main source of funding to support the management and restoration of biodiversity in rural areas and the CAP Strategic Plans (CSPs) are an important vehicle for achieving the requirements of the recently agreed Nature Restoration Law in Member States (legally binding requirement to restore at least 20% of the EU's land by 2030 and all ecosystems in need of restoration by 2050). However, despite the fact that incentives have been in place for farmers to improve biodiversity on farmland for many decades, this has not been sufficient to achieve the scale of improvements required.

The second TG meeting will build on the priority topics discussed during the informal activities in October. Participants develop concrete recommendations on how to improve the design of CSP interventions and encourage their uptake to achieve improved biodiversity outcomes at scale

Aims of the second TG meeting:

- Share good practice examples of engaging farmers for biodiversity action.
- Identify the factors that need to be in place for effective design and implementation of interventions to improve biodiversity outcomes on farmland.
- Develop recommendations on how to improve biodiversity schemes on farmland at scale (e.g. biodiversity action beyond the 'single farm' and landscape-scale approaches, involving multiple farms; using collective approaches and other forms of cooperation).



Timing	Agenda item
09:30 – 10:00	<i>Registration & welcome coffee</i>
10.00 – 10.30	Introduction and warm-up activity, EU CAP Network
10.30 – 10.50	<p>Reporting back from the informal sessions between Thematic Group meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Practical scheme design for engaging farmers and encouraging landscape scale approaches, <i>Attila Nagy (Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture)</i> - Improving the understanding of economic and environmental benefits of biodiversity action, <i>Ole Ostermann (Agroecology Europe)</i> <p>Q&A and Group Discussion, Moderated by EU CAP Network</p>
10:50 – 11:15	<p>Delivering for biodiversity – Inspirations for coordinated action, <i>Kristi Kiitsak (European Commission, DG AGRI), Michele Nori (European Commission, DG AGRI) & Vujadin Kovacevic (European Commission, DG ENV)</i></p> <p>Questions & Clarifications, Moderated by EU CAP Network</p> <p>Introduction to the first interactive session, EU CAP Network</p>
11:15 – 12:30	<p>First interactive session: Key enabling factors required for designing and implementing interventions improving biodiversity outcomes on farmland at scale</p> <p>Parallel group discussions, Moderated by EU CAP Network</p>
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Networking lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:00	<p>Harvesting from the first interactive session</p> <p>Questions & Clarifications, Moderated by EU CAP Network</p> <p>Introduction to the second interactive session, EU CAP Network</p>
14:00 – 15:45	<p>Second interactive session: The way forward – Recommendations for enabling the design of biodiversity schemes on farmland at scale</p> <p>Parallel group discussions, Moderated by EU CAP Network</p> <p>Conclusions from the group sessions and prioritisation of key policy recommendations</p> <p><i>Moderated by EU CAP Network</i></p>
15:45 – 16:00	<p>Main takeaways of the Thematic Group and next steps</p> <p><i>Moderated by EU CAP Network</i></p>

