

EU CAP Network Workshop

Farm Sustainability Data Network (FSDN)

Final agenda

12 February 2025

L42 Business Center
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1040 Brussels



Introduction and aims

The Farm Sustainability Data Network (FSDN) is a new initiative launched by the European Commission to improve the collection and use of farm-level sustainability data across the EU. It builds upon the pre-existing Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN) that has been the basis of economic and accounting information on EU farms for 60 years and aims to include more comprehensive data on environmental, social, and economic sustainability of farms. The FSDN will collect new information on several sustainability indicators, such as greenhouse gas emissions, nutrients, biodiversity, water management, labour, and market integration¹. By capturing this more detailed data, the FSDN will support evidence-based policy decisions, contribute to the future EU benchmarking system, and help farmers adopt more sustainable practices aligning with their own goals and EU strategies including the Green Deal.

The FSDN will play a crucial role in monitoring and assessing the progress of the CAP towards sustainability goals. The FSDN is expected to provide valuable insights for national CAP Strategic Plans, offering the potential to tailor measures to the specific needs and sustainability challenges of each Member State's (MSs) farming sector. This network will be a key resource for both policymakers and farmers, promoting transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement in EU agriculture.

The transition from FADN to FSDN poses several challenges. Given that the participation is still voluntary, there is a critical need to bring farmers themselves on board, including by addressing concerns about the effort needed to compile the required information. It is also vital to harvest the opportunity derived from increased data sharing, harmonise data collection across MSs, and to ensure data accuracy and comparability. However, the broader data set promises to provide a more complete picture of the sustainability performance of EU farms.

The EU CAP Network, together with the European Commission (DG AGRI), is organising a one-day workshop in Brussels addressing FADN/FSDN liaison agencies, CAP managing authorities, FADN/FSDN data collectors, advisors, farmers and other stakeholders to support the transition from FADN to FSDN.

The aims of the workshop are to:

- Bring together the community of FADN/FSDN liaison agencies and the CAP managers and evaluators to find common interests and synergies.
- Provide an update on the purpose and key aspects of the transition from FADN to FSDN.
- Improve awareness and understanding of CAP managers and evaluators, FADN/FSDN liaison agencies, data collectors, advisors, farmers and other stakeholders on the new data collection requirements.
- Provide a platform to exchange challenges and good experiences to provide comprehensive data on farm sustainability and opportunities.

¹ [Regulation - EU - 2023/2674 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)



| Timing | Agenda Item |
|---------------|--|
| 8:30 – 9:00 | Registration |
| 9:00 – 9:10 | Welcome and introduction <i>David Lamb, EU CAP Network</i> |
| 9:10 – 9:40 | Framing presentation on the new Farm Sustainability Data Network (FSDN) <i>Andrea Furlan, Unit Analysis & Outlook, DG AGRI</i> Q&A |
| 9:40 – 10:30 | Positive experiences with FSDN Member State examples on good experiences with the transition to Farm Sustainability Data Network (FSDN) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Experiences from Ireland, Trevor Donnellan, Teagasc</i> • <i>Experiences from Italy, Sonia Marongiu, CREA</i> Q&A |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | Coffee break |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | Evaluation perspective on FSDN Examples on good experiences with current use of FADN data and foreseen use of FSDN information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Experiences from Sweden, Gordana Manevska Tasevska, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences</i> • <i>Experiences from Belgium-Flanders, Linn Dumez, Flemish Agency of Agriculture and Fisheries</i> Q&A |
| 11:30 – 12:30 | Interactive session – Round 1 Parallel group discussions <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>New possibilities related to improved data sharing</i> 2. <i>Use of FADN/FSDN information for CAP plans management and evaluation</i> |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | Lunch |
| 13:30 – 13:45 | Short input highlighting the morning's inputs and introduction to the interactive session round 2 |



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| <p>13:45 – 14:45</p> | <p>Interactive session – Round 2</p> <p>Parallel group discussions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Farmers’ motivation (managing administration, benefits of participation in FSDN including benchmarking, other incentives to farmers)</i> 2. <i>Effective communication and awareness raising about FSDN</i> |
| <p>14:45 – 15:30</p> | <p>Panel discussion</p> <p>Reflections and key considerations</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>MA – Eric Markus, Swedish Board of Agriculture, Sweden</i> 2. <i>Liaison body – Aladar Belec, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Slovenia</i> 3. <i>DG AGRI – Sophie Helaine, Head of Unit Policy Performance, DG AGRI</i> 4. <i>Farmers organisation - Heinz Möddel, German Farmers Association, Germany</i> |
| <p>15:30 – 16:00</p> | <p>Next steps and concluding remarks</p> <p><i>Bence Toth, Deputy Head of Unit Analysis & Outlook, DG AGRI</i></p> |

