

Thematic Group (TG) on Effective Approaches for Simplification within the CAP

DRAFT AGENDA
2nd TG meeting

12 June 2025, 09:00 – 16:00

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



Introduction

Simplification has been an ongoing exercise across the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) over recent programming periods. [The rules governing support for CAP Strategic Plans](#) (CSPs) in this programming period require Member States to take appropriate measures to reduce the administrative burden and ensure simplification in the implementation of the CAP when pursuing the CAP objectives. Following widespread farmer protests in early 2024, the European Commission opened a consultation process which led to a [Simplification package](#) of short- and medium-term measures. Since then, the momentum for simplification has continued with the European Commission emphasising the importance of ensuring existing rules are fit-for-purpose, are focused on reducing administrative burdens and simplifying legislation, including it in its [vision for agriculture and food](#).

Simplification is defined as the minimisation of costs that are not strictly necessary for the achievement of the objectives of the CAP, and the adoption of measures that reduce the administrative burden for the administration and beneficiaries. Simplification implies that additional administrative costs without added value for achieving CAP objectives should be avoided. Core elements of simplification may relate to different aspects of CAP design and implementation, including governance mechanisms, application processes, implementation (e.g. shifting more towards outcome focused schemes), reporting requirements, control requirements, use of digital tools and information flows.

In the second TG meeting, we will take stock of challenges faced by beneficiaries and administrations when implementing CSPs (in relation to e.g. CAP framework / governance and the enabling environment). Solutions developed by the TG so far will be reflected and ways of scaling up explored.

Aims of the second TG meeting

- Review key insights gathered from the activities of the TG to date.
- Develop and share approaches on how to overcome complexity or administrative burden in main focus areas not discussed during the 1st TG meeting.
- Reflect on solution developed and explore potential for scaling up best practices.



Timing	Agenda item
08:30 – 09:00	<i>Registration, Welcome Coffee</i>
09:00 – 09:30	Welcome & setting the frame for the 2nd meeting of the TG “Effective Approaches for Simplification within the CAP”, EU CAP Network
09:30 – 10:30	<p>From challenge to solution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations of ideas and best practices developed since 1st TG meeting, <i>TG members (TBC)</i> • Inspiring examples for making simplification work in practice, <i>TG members (TBC)</i> <p>Q&A and discussion, facilitated by EU CAP Network</p>
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10:45 – 11:10	<p>Input: Update on 2nd Simplification package from DG AGRI (<i>TBC</i>)</p> <p>Q&A, moderated by EU CAP Network</p>
11:10 – 12:30	<p>Interactive session: Taking stock of challenges in relation to different aspects of CAP design and implementation and exploring possible responses to address them through simplification.</p> <p>Focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>CAP framework / governance</i> • <i>Enabling environment (e.g. communication, skills, advisory services)</i> <p>Breakout groups – Open discussion facilitated by EU CAP Network</p>
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Networking Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:30	<p>Interactive session (continued): Possible ways of scaling up solutions developed.</p> <p>Breakout groups – Open discussion facilitated by EU CAP Network</p>
14:30 – 14:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
14:45 – 15:45	<p>Reflections on solutions developed</p> <p><i>Moderated by EU CAP Network</i></p>
15:45 – 16:00	Next steps and end of meeting.

