

# Draft Agenda Workshop

## The Use of Simplified Cost Options (SCOs) in the CAP

20 November 2025

**Comet Louise**  
Place Stéphanie 20,  
1050 Brussels



Funded by  
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## Background

To reduce the administrative burden and simplify the process associated with the reimbursement of costs to beneficiaries for investments and other activities, the use of Simplified Cost Options (SCOs) is supported among others under Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 and its [Common Provisions Regulation](#) guidelines, and encouraged under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) as an alternative to traditional reimbursement mechanisms which require proof of actual, itemised expenditure.

Under Regulation (EU) 2021/2115, SCOs can be used to fund activities under a range of CAP interventions, including investments, training activities, EIP-AGRI and LEADER and sectoral interventions. The different types of SCOs used under the CAP include lump sums, flat rates and standard scales of unit costs.

However, although it has been possible to use SCOs within the CAP for many years, their use is not widespread. This may be due to various issues surrounding the development and operation of SCOs, particularly relating to the methodologies used as well as the control and audit of SCOs. Some of the issues faced by Member States include the setting of fair payment rates, risks of over and under compensation, and having the checks in place to ensure that the project's objectives are achieved and the funds are used appropriately.

In this context, there is an appetite for greater exchange and sharing of experiences between Member State authorities, beneficiaries, auditors and other stakeholders about how SCOs are currently used, with a view to encouraging greater use of them in the future.

The objectives of this workshop are to:

- Share experiences of standard, novel and innovative approaches in the use of SCOs, including, 'off the shelf' and 'tailor-made' SCOs.
- Exchange insights on the use of SCOs, focusing on how any problems faced have been overcome.
- Discuss what needs to be put in place to encourage and increase in the use of SCOs in Member States.



Timing	Agenda item
08.30 – 09.00	Registration
09.00 – 10.30	<b>Opening Plenary</b>  Welcome and introduction to the day (EU CAP Network)  Setting the Scene - insights & examples: European Commission, Member State & Stakeholder perspectives  Q&A  Introduction to group working sessions
10.30 – 11.00	<b>Coffee Break</b>
11.00 – 12.30	<b>Parallel group work sessions</b>  Topics to be covered (including all SCO types and methodologies): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Design of SCOs</li> <li>- Implementation of SCOs</li> <li>- Role of audit/controls</li> </ul> Feedback
12.30 – 13.30	<i>Lunch</i>
13.30 – 14.30	<b>Panel Discussion</b>  Challenges and appetite for increasing the use of SCOs
14.30 - 14.40	<b>Coffee Break</b>
14.40 – 15.40	<b>Future prospects for SCOs in the CAP</b>  Introduction  Parallel group work sessions: Developing practical next steps for SCOs
15.40 – 16.00	<b>Closing Plenary</b>  Feedback from group work Reflections & next steps

