



## 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Forum on Best Practices in the Agri-Food Supply Chain Highlights report

### Highlights report

The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Forum focussed on a discussion on the transition to a sustainable food system, explored opportunities to further promote cooperation along the agri-food supply chain, shared approaches to strengthening the role of the producer in the organic value chain and saw an exchange of experiences, ideas and views on how to support and improve market transparency in the EU's food supply chain, to the benefit of both agricultural producers and consumers.

### Opening messages and introduction to the day



**Flavio Conti** (CAPI CP) introduced the event, setting out the agenda of the day.



**Pierre Bascou** (DG AGRI) welcomed Forum participants and explained the event's aim of sharing best practices in cooperation between agri-food sector stakeholders.

Building capacity through networking and sharing ideas in this field were flagged as useful tools for maintaining momentum during the transformation to sustainable EU agri-food systems.



**Tommaso Codazzi** (Communication & Logistics of the EU CAP Network) presented the EU CAP Network, explaining his team's role in the communication, presenting the new identity of the EU CAP Network and describing its functions related to CAP implementation, evaluation, and innovation and knowledge exchange.

### Collective actions on sustainability in the agri-food supply chains

#### Overview of CAP Implementation Contact Point Thematic Work



**Alistair Prior** and **Elena García Garrido** (CAPI CP), presented the thematic work on supply chains that the CAPI CP (formerly European Network for Rural Development Contact Point) has been working on over the past year. The presentation offered an overview of the thematic groups on [sustainability agreements](#) and [organic supply chains](#), and success stories of cooperation in the agri-food supply chain.



**Niccolo Ciulli** (Eurocommerce), presented the German animal welfare initiative 'Initiative Tierwohl', an example of how the EU agri-food sector can work together to put sustainability into practice.

#### Event information

**Date:** 10 November 2022

**Location:** Brussels, Belgium

**Organisers:** CAP Implementation Contact Point (CAPI CP) and European Commission – DG AGRI

**Participants:** 72 participants from 21 EU Member States, including Managing Authorities (MAs), National Rural Networks (NRNs), European organisations, EU farmers and agri-cooperatives representatives, one investment bank, the European Commission, national/regional stakeholder organisations and researchers.

**Outcomes:** 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the "Forum on Best Practices in the Agri-Food Supply Chain" led to an exchange of views, ideas and concrete experiences about enhancing cooperation between primary producers, improving their position in the food supply chain, and increasing market transparency, in order to contribute to increased economic, social and environmental sustainability.

**Web page:** [2nd meeting of the Forum on Best Practices in the Agri-Food Supply Chain](#)



## Improving sustainability standards through cooperation



More best practices in agri-food cooperation to strengthen farmers' market positions and benefit all supply chain stakeholders were showcased during the Forum's working group sessions. Perspectives from a Producer Organisation ([Marisa Ruiz, El Ciruelo](#)), market transparency expert ([Evgeny Pesotsky, NTT Data](#)), multinational retail group ([Tiina Engelmark, Dole Nordic](#)) and CSP managing authority ([Gerber van Vliet, Ministry of Agriculture of Luxembourg](#)) were presented and explored, to catalyse exchanges on how cooperation can be deployed and supported to result in better sustainability outcomes.

## How can market transparency support sustainability within agri-food supply chain



[Fabien Santini](#) (DG AGRI) highlighted that the agri-food sector relies on robust information to help it make sound business decisions about sustainability.



[Koen Van Troos](#) (Fairtrade) gave a presentation on how Fairtrade International adds to market transparency and ensures 'fair' producer returns.



[Garlich von Essen](#) (Euroseeds) highlighted the role of farm inputs in the agri-food supply chain and the challenges involved in determining the market information required for mutually beneficial market transparency.

## How can we improve the position of farmers within the organic agri-food supply chain



[Henri Delanghe](#) (DG AGRI) explained the cooperative measures supporting farmers' positions in organic agri-food supply chains. He highlighted some of the 23 actions of the EU's Action Plan for the Development of Organic Production, observing that sharing costs within group certification, short supply chains, open data platforms, advisory services and research are all opportunities for strengthening the organic supply chain and the position of producers within it.

## Good examples of cooperation in organic farming



A panel comprised of [Maria Krieger \(Bioland\)](#), [Amélie Steu \(IFOAM\)](#), [Jan Willem van der Schans \(Researcher\)](#) and [Felix Schmidling \(Franken Gemüse\)](#) was moderated by David Lamb (CAPI CP). The panellists from organic farming bodies and research discussed various practical examples of cooperation in organic farming and the benefits that can be derived from it.

## Conclusions



In his closing remarks, [Oliver Sitar \(DG AGRI\)](#) echoed the utility of sharing good practices, as well as the other ideas and experiences profiled by the Forum. These were heralded for helping the EU to accelerate its transition to a sustainable food system by enhancing cooperation within the chain, increasing market transparency, and improving the position of farmers, particularly those in organic supply chains.