Strategic Framework of the EU CAP Network

December 2024

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Introduction

In the 2023-2027 CAP programming period the scope of networking is extended to cover the whole range of CAP interventions (direct payments, sectoral interventions, rural development interventions), including cross-cutting components such as innovation, digitalisation and AKIS.

The EU CAP Network and the National CAP Networks replaced the previous European Network for Rural Development (including the Evaluation Helpdesk) and the EIP-AGRI Network, at EU level, and the National Rural Networks, respectively. The work of the current EU CAP Network is supported by four units:

- the CAP Implementation Contact Point
- the Innovation & Knowledge exchange | EIP-AGRI Support Facility
- the European Evaluation Helpdesk for the CAP and
- the Communication & Events Support Unit.

As outlined in Article 126 of the Regulation (EU) 2115/2021 of the European Parliament and of the Council [1], the EU CAP Network should contribute to the following networking objectives:

1) Increase the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of CAP Strategic Plans and, where relevant, in their design;

2) Accompany the Member States' administrations in the implementation of CAP Strategic Plans and the transition to a performance-based delivery model;

3) Contribute to improving the quality of implementation of CAP Strategic Plans

4) Contribute to the information of the public and potential beneficiaries on the CAP and funding opportunities;

5) Foster innovation in agriculture and rural development and support peer-to-peer learning and the inclusion of, and the interaction between, all stakeholders in the knowledge-exchange and knowledge-building process;

6) Contribute to monitoring and evaluation capacity and activities and

7) Contribute to the dissemination of CAP Strategic Plans results.

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[1] Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 December 2021 establishing rules on support for strategic plans to be drawn up by Member States under the common agricultural policy (CAP Strategic Plans) and financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1305/2013 and (EU) No 1307/2013. *OJ L 435, 6.12.2021, p. 1–186.* ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/2115/oj

This Strategic Framework is intended to serve as a basis for monitoring and assessing the contribution of the activities of the EU CAP Network against the networking objectives.

Its purpose is to:

- Provide a unified and commonly understood frame for the operation of the EU CAP Network;

- Guide and ensure coordination between the support units of the EU CAP Network in the further elaboration of their activities;

- Support the bodies governing the EU CAP Network (see section 1 below) to align the priorities of the support units; and

- Set the basis for monitoring and evaluating the activities of the EU CAP Network.

The document starts with an outline of the organisational structure of the EU CAP Network (Section 1), followed by the analysis of the networking objectives and the development of Factors of Success as a means for operationalising the objectives and enabling their assessment, while emphasising the oneness of the EU CAP Network (Section 2). Section 3 discusses the intervention logic of the EU CAP Network, illustrating how each support unit contributes to each Factor of Success and Networking Objective. Section 4 brings all the components together by building on the intervention logic and assigning output and result indicators to each Factor of Success, leading to the development of a coherent and comprehensive Strategic Framework for the EU CAP Network (Section 4).

1. Governance of the EU CAP Network

The structure of the EU CAP Network governance is established by the Commission Implementing Regulation Decision (EU) 2022/1864. This structure is articulated in three levels:

Strategic level: an inclusive Assembly with 194 members, including National CAP Networks, Managing Authorities and Paying Agencies, Union-wide organisations, Local Action Groups, farm advisory services and agricultural research institutes (Article 3 of the Decision (EU) 2022/1864).

Operational level: a Steering Group with 22 members, including members from the Assembly, and members of the permanent sub-groups and expert groups (Article 9 of the Decision (EU) 2022/1864).

Thematic work: the Assembly set up 3 permanent sub-groups (Article 5 of the Decision (EU) 2022/1864) on:

- CAP Strategic Plans (SoCSP) (87 members)
- Innovation and knowledge exchange (SoIKE) (90 members)
- LEADER and territorial development (SoLTD) (85 members)

1. The EU CAP Network Assembly

The tasks of the Assembly, as described in Article 3 of the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/1864 [2] include to:

- Promote exchange and networking among public and private entities active in agriculture and rural development, in innovation related to specific objectives of the CAP and in monitoring and evaluation in agriculture and rural development;
- Ensure coordination between the thematic strands of the EU CAP Network;
- Provide the Strategic Framework and guidance for the activities of the EU CAP Network, including the thematic strands;
- Ensure appropriate monitoring and assessment of the activities of the EU CAP Network with regard to the objectives set out in Article 126(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 and the tasks listed in Article 126(4) of that Regulation; and
- Propose to the Director-General for Agriculture and Rural Development ('the Director-General') the members of the Steering Group.

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[2] Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/1864 of 5 October 2022 setting out the organisational structure and operation of the European CAP network and repealing Implementing Decision 2014/825/EU. *OJ L 259, 6.10.2022, p. 189–195.* ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2022/1864/oj

2. The EU CAP Network Steering Group

The tasks of the Steering Group, as described in Article 8 of the Decision (EU) 2022/1864 include:

- Preparing and following-up the activities of the EU CAP Network, in accordance with the Strategic Framework provided by the Assembly;
- Coordinating the thematic strands in accordance with the framework provided by the Assembly and following-up its implementation;
- Assessing on an on-going basis the effectiveness and efficiency of the activities of the EU CAP Network;
- Ensuring the coordination of the work of the Assembly with that of other expert groups and committees established in the context of the civil dialogue on the CAP as well as in the context of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and the Council [3]; and
- Reporting to the Assembly as regards its activities.

3. The EU CAP Network thematic permanent sub-groups

The Assembly set up 3 permanent sub-groups on specific thematic strands related to the objectives and the tasks of the EU CAP Network.

The Subgroup on CAP Strategic Plans (SoCSP) offers a platform to:

- Contribute to improving the quality of the implementation of the CAP Strategic Plans;
- Identify common issues and opportunities in the implementation of various CAP Strategic Plan interventions and needs for EU CAP Network support (capacity building events and other means of support);
- Foster exchange of knowledge and good practices in the implementation of the CAP Strategic Plans;
- Provide input for the work programme of the EU CAP Network, in particular of the CAP Implementation Contact Point; and
- Follow up the support provided by the EU CAP Network.

The Subgroup on Innovation and Knowledge Exchange (SoIKE) offers a platform to:

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[3] Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund and financial rules for those and for the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy. *OJ L 231, 30.6.2021, p. 159–706.* ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/1060/oj

- Identify common issues, good practices, and opportunities for peer-to-peer learning, related to training and advice, and to innovation and knowledge exchange | EIP-AGRI;
- Support the implementation of the Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) strategic approach, and facilitate networking and exchanges between AKIS actors, including transnational initiatives of Operational Group projects; and
- Provide input for the work programme of the EU CAP Network, in particular of the Support Facility for Innovation and Knowledge Exchange | EIP-AGRI.

The LEADER and territorial development Subgroup (SoLTD) offers a platform to:

- Contribute to improving the quality of the implementation of LEADER and other interventions that support rural areas within the CAP Strategic Plans;
- Facilitate peer-to-peer capacity building concerning stakeholders' participation in the implementation of LEADER and transnational cooperation (TNC);
- Identify common LEADER implementation issues and opportunities, and identify good transferable practices at different levels (EU, national, local) in LEADER implementation as well as needs for EU CAP Network support;
- Identify good practices and issues in the implementation of the multi-funded CLLD strategies;
- Provide input for the work programme of the EU CAP Network, in particular the CAP Implementation Contact Point (CAPI CP); and
- Follow up the support provided by the EU CAP Network.

2. Setting the basis

This section sets the basis for the development of the EU CAP Network by analysing each Networking Objective to identify the Factors of Success that will allow the operationalisation of and enable the assessment of the contribution of the activities of the support units towards these objectives. The factors of success explain how the contribution of the EU CAP Network activities towards the Networking Objectives can be approached, by specifying what must be assessed and by setting the rationale for the use of specific metrics (output, result indicators).

The guiding principles for developing the framework can be summarised in the following points:

The Strategic Framework must manifest the oneness of the EU CAP Network. This is achieved by formulating the Factors of Success without any specific reference to the different support units, based on the rationale that all network support units contribute to the involvement of stakeholders and the improvement of the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the CAP Strategic Plans, including through the introduction of innovation and the exchange of knowledge. In that context, the term "CAP Strategic Plans implementation" encompasses all aspects of implementation, promotion of innovation and knowledge exchange, monitoring and evaluation as well as communication and dissemination of the CAP Strategic Plans' results.

The Strategic Framework must allow the clear identification of the contribution of the activities of each EU CAP Network support unit towards the Networking Objectives. This is achieved through the activities and the output indicators which capture the immediate outcomes of each activity, allowing the visibility and measurement of each network support unit's contribution.

On the basis of these guiding principles, each Networking Objective is analysed in order to formulate the specific factors that may ensure successful achievement.

The **first Networking Objective** is to increase the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of CAP Strategic Plans and, where relevant, in their design. It must be kept in mind that, as explained above, the objective is understood through the prism of the oneness of the EU CAP Network and includes the involvement of all stakeholders.

The achievement of the objective presupposes that, first of all, the different stakeholders are analysed and their needs are assessed and taken on board, shaping the activities of the EU CAP Network. It must also be ensured that the stakeholders that are involved in the implementation of the CAP Strategic Plans reflect the diversity

of interests and are engaged in a meaningful way that corresponds to their relevance and ensures active participation. Finally, in order to further increase the involvement, the skills and capacities of stakeholders, including new ones, must be constantly analysed and improved.

Based on these, the following Factors of Success can be formulated:

- Stakeholders and their needs are regularly mapped, analysed and fed into the work of the EU CAP Network.

- The skills and capacities of stakeholders that enable their active involvement are improved due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.

- The diversity, including the number, variety and relevance of stakeholders involved in the implementation and/or the design of the CAP Strategic Plans is high due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.

- Stakeholders are increasingly and inclusively engaged in the EU CAP Network activities in a meaningful manner, ensuring active participation.

The **second networking objective** is to accompany the Member States' administrations in the implementation of CAP Strategic Plans and the transition to a performance-based delivery model. This requires that Member States' administrations are provided with the necessary information and build their capacities to improve the implementation and apply the performance-based delivery model. But, at the same time, the new delivery model requires enhanced coordination between the administrative bodies and the development of new governance structures that bring together actors tasked with the delivery of both European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) support.

Therefore, the following Factors of Success are proposed:

- Member States administrations receive sufficient information and are provided with sufficient opportunities to analyse and exchange on successful examples of CAP Strategic Plans implementation and the application of the performance-based delivery model due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.

- The EU CAP Network supports the new CAP Strategic Plans governance structures, processes, and exchanges, including between Member States and the European Commission, in contributing to CAP Strategic Plans implementation and transitioning to the performance-based delivery model.

The **third networking objective** expects the EU CAP Network to contribute to improving the quality of implementation of CAP Strategic Plans. The achievement of this objective calls for a systematic screening of CAP Strategic Plans implementation and identification of potential for improvements in the design and delivery of the

interventions, the promotion of innovation and knowledge exchange, the monitoring and evaluation and the communication and dissemination.

Identifying and promoting existing practices is not sufficient to fully deploy the potential to optimise the implementation of the CAP Strategic Plans. Emerging and evolving trends in research and (new) practices, not limited to agriculture and rural development or even the EU, must be constantly explored, analysed and disseminated.

In that context, the following Factors of Success can be formulated:

- Analytical work on CAP Strategic Plans implementation and potential for improvements is carried out and is disseminated through EU CAP Network activities.

- Emerging and evolving agricultural and rural development trends are systematically collected, analysed and shared due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.

The **fourth networking objective** is to contribute to the information of the public and potential beneficiaries on the CAP and funding opportunities. Although, this objective shall be addressed in particular through the National CAP Networks (Article 124.3 of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115) there is also role for the EU CAP Network that can be summarised in the following Factor of Success:

- Relevant content, including examples of National CAP Networks activities and success stories, is collected, analysed and disseminated on all EU CAP Network channels.

The **fifth networking objective** stresses the fostering of innovation in agriculture and rural development and supports peer-to-peer learning and the inclusion of, and the interaction between all stakeholders in the knowledge-exchange and knowledge-building process. Building on the interactive innovation model, the achievement of this objective requires the identification of the needs for research from practitioners and creating appropriate spaces and channels where these needs can be communicated and addressed by other relevant stakeholders. Moreover, the successful examples of innovation and research approaches must be highlighted and shared with all relevant stakeholders.

In that sense, the corresponding Factors of Success must include:

- Research needs from practice are collected from relevant EU CAP Network stakeholders.

- EU CAP Network activities and channels create spaces where stakeholders may meet other stakeholders relevant to their activities.

- Examples of successful innovation and research approaches in agriculture and rural development are methodically and systemically transferred and shared with peers and other EU CAP Network stakeholders.

The **sixth networking objective** is about contributing to monitoring and evaluation capacity and activities. A successful pursuit of this objective starts from building adequate monitoring and evaluation capacity for relevant stakeholders, tailored to their needs, which will, eventually, lead to improved quality of monitoring and evaluation activities.

The proposed Factors of Success include:

- CAP Strategic Plans stakeholders' capacities in monitoring and evaluation have increased due to the EU CAP Network activities.

- The quality of CAP Strategic Plans monitoring and evaluation has improved due to the EU CAP Network activities.

The **final networking objective** is to contribute to the dissemination of CAP Strategic Plans results. The achievement of the objective presupposes that the dissemination of results reaches an increasing audience, in a way tailored to meet the needs of the different stakeholders. Beyond such a dissemination, the EU CAP Network must remain responsive to any additional demand coming from the stakeholders and adapt its response to these requests. Finally, in order to further expand the reach of the dissemination, a multiplier role must be promoted among the National CAP Networks and other CAP Strategic Plans stakeholders.

Therefore, the following Factors of Success can be proposed:

- CAP Strategic Plans results are shared with an increasing and engaged audience, adapting the channels used to the needs of stakeholders, due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.

- The EU CAP Network actively assesses and remains responsive to CAP Strategic Plan stakeholders' demand for dissemination of results.

- The EU CAP Network fosters further dissemination of CAP Strategic Plans results through the activities of National CAP Networks and other stakeholders.

The Networking Objectives and the corresponding factors of success are summarised in the following Table.

Table 1. Networking objectives and corresponding factors of success

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success
Increase the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of CAP Strategic Plans and, where relevant, in their design.	Stakeholders and their needs are regularly mapped, analysed and fed into the work of the EU CAP Network.
	The skills and capacities of stakeholders that enable their active involvement are improved due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.
	The diversity, including the number, variety and relevance of stakeholders involved in the implementation and/or the design of the CAP Strategic Plans is high due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.
	Stakeholders are increasingly and inclusively engaged in the EU CAP Network activities in a meaningful manner, ensuring active participation.
Accompany the Member States' administrations in the implementation of CAP Strategic Plans and the transition to a performance-based delivery model.	MS administrations receive sufficient information and are provided with sufficient opportunities to analyse and exchange on successful examples of CAP Strategic Plans implementation and the application of the performance-based delivery model due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.
	The EU CAP Network supports the new CAP Strategic Plans governance structures, processes, and exchanges, including between the MS and EC, in contributing to CAP Strategic Plans implementation and transitioning to the performance-based delivery model.
Contribute to improving the quality of implementation of CAP Strategic Plans.	Analytical work on CAP Strategic Plans implementation and potential for improvements is carried out and is disseminated through EU CAP Network activities.
	Emerging and evolving agricultural and rural development trends are systematically collected, analysed and shared due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.
Contribute to the information of the public and potential beneficiaries on the CAP and funding opportunities.	Relevant content, including examples of National CAP Networks activities and success stories, is collected, analysed and disseminated on all EU CAP Network channels.
Foster innovation in agriculture and rural development and support peer-to-peer learning and the inclusion of, and the interaction between, all stakeholders in the knowledge-exchange and knowledge-building process.	Research needs from practice are collected from relevant EU CAP Network stakeholders.
	Examples of successful innovation and research approaches to CAP Strategic Plans implementation are methodically and systemically transferred and shared with peers and other CAP Network stakeholders.
	EU CAP Network activities and channels create spaces where stakeholders may meet other stakeholders relevant to their activities.

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success
Contribute to monitoring and evaluation capacity and activities.	CAP Strategic Plans stakeholders' capacities in monitoring and evaluation have increased due to EU CAP Network activities.
	Quality of CAP Strategic Plans monitoring and evaluation has improved due to EU CAP Network activities.
Contribute to the dissemination of CAP Strategic Plans results.	CAP Strategic Plans results are shared with an increasing and engaged audience, adapting the channels used to the needs of stakeholders, due to the EU CAP Network activities.
	EU CAP Network actively assesses and remains responsive to CAP Strategic Plan stakeholders' demand for dissemination of results.
	National CAP Networks and CAP Strategic Plans stakeholders further disseminate EU CAP Network's information on CAP Strategic Plans results.

3. Intervention logic of the EU CAP Network

In the previous section, Factors of Success contributing to the Networking Objectives were outlined and described. Having the Factors of Success defined, this section will dive deeper into how each Factor of Success can be accommodated. More specifically, how EU CAP Network support activities contribute to each Factor of Success. The links between Networking Objectives and Factors of Success and EU CAP Network support activities are summarised in Table 2. Hyperlinks to the EU CAP Network website have been added to the description of the various activities to ensure clarity

Table 2. The intervention logic of the EU CAP Network

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities
1. Increase the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of CAP Strategic Plans and, where relevant, in their design.	**1.1** Stakeholders and their needs are regularly mapped, analysed and fed into the work of the EU CAP Network.	• Common Network Statistics report (CNS) • Annual Communications survey
	1.2 The diversity, including the number, variety and relevance of stakeholders involved in the implementation and/or the design of the CAP Strategic Plans is high due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.	• Social media • Publications • Website updates • LAG Directory • LEADER Partner search tool • EU CAP Network Contacts Database

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities
	1.3 Stakeholders are increasingly and inclusively engaged in the EU CAP Network activities in a meaningful manner, ensuring active participation.	- Thematic Groups (TGs) - Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) - Focus Groups (FGs) - Multiple cross-visits (MCVs) - Field trips (FVs) - Brokerage activities (BAs) - Workshops - Good practice workshops (GPW) - Seminars - Geographic cluster meetings - Thematic cluster meetings - EvalPLATFORM meetings (exchange channel for Managing Authorities) - Calls to action for relevant initiatives and through Newsletters

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities
	1.4 The skills and capacities of stakeholders that enable their active involvement are improved due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.	Capacity building through • Focus Groups (FGs) • Thematic Groups (TGs) • Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) • Good Practice Workshops (GPWs) • Multiple cross-visits (MCVs) • Brokerage activities (BAs) • TNC factsheets • LEADER Partner search tool
2. Accompany the Member States' administrations in the implementation of CAP Strategic Plans and the transition to a performance-based delivery model.	**2.1** MS administrations receive sufficient information and are provided with sufficient opportunities to analyse and exchange on successful examples of CAP Strategic Plans implementation and the application of the performance-based delivery model due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.	• Responses to stakeholder questions • Guidelines • Capacity building events in Member States or groups of Member States (in MS language) (CBSs). • Focus Groups (FGs) • Thematic Groups (TGs) • Networking missions and attendance at external events

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities

	2.2 The EU CAP Network supports the new CAP Strategic Plans governance structures, processes, and exchanges, including between the MS and EC, in contributing to CAP Strategic Plans implementation and transitioning to the performance-based delivery model.	• Governance meetings
		   ○ Assembly
		   ○ Steering Group
		   ○ SoCSP
		   ○ SoLTD
		   ○ SoIKE
		   ○ GREXE meetings
		• National CAP Networks (NN) meetings
		• Geographic cluster meetings
		• Thematic cluster meetings
		• Member State peer-peer learning (CBEs)
		• Dedicated information on website including:
		   ○ CSP summaries
		   ○ Monitoring indicator summaries
		   ○ Reviews of evaluation plans

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities
3. Contribute to improving the quality of implementation of CAP Strategic Plans.	**3.1** Analytical work on CAP Strategic Plans implementation and potential for improvements is carried out and is disseminated through EU CAP Network activities.	• Analytical work • CSP mapping, analysis and summaries • Synthesis of CSP ex-ante evaluations • Synthesis of RPDs' ex-post evaluations • Catalogue of CAP interventions and farm practice labelling
	3.2 Emerging and evolving agricultural and rural development trends are systematically collected, analysed and shared due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.	• Good practice examples • Thematic groups • SoCSP • SoLTD • SoIKE • GREXE meetings • Publications • Newsletters • AIR summary reports • CSP summaries

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities
4. Contribute to the information of the public and potential beneficiaries on the CAP and funding opportunities.	**4.1** Relevant content, including examples of National CAP Networks activities and success stories, is collected, analysed and disseminated on all EU CAP Network channels.	• Social media posting /exchanges • Newsletters • Publications • Website text • ARIA Awards competition and Ceremony • EIP-AGRI Innovation Awards competition and ceremony • EU CAP Network support unit missions to Member States
5. Foster innovation in agriculture and rural development and support	**5.1** Research needs from practice are collected from relevant EU CAP Network stakeholders.	• Research needs from practice

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities
peer-to-peer learning and the inclusion of, and the interaction between, all stakeholders in the knowledge-exchange and knowledge-building process.	**5.2** Examples of successful innovation and research approaches to CAP Strategic Plans implementation are methodically and systemically transferred and shared with peers and other CAP Network stakeholders.	• Focus Groups • Workshops • Seminars • Conferences • Good practice examples • Collection and analysis of innovation-related evaluation activities in MS • EIP-AGRI Newsletter • Briefings • Social Media posts

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities
	5.3 EU CAP Network activities and channels create spaces where stakeholders may meet other stakeholders relevant to their activities.	• Focus Groups • Thematic Groups • Good Practice Workshops • Workshops • Seminars • Conferences • Ad-hoc expert group meetings • Brokerage activities • Field trips • Cross-visits • Capacity building events in Member States or groups of Member States (in MS language) (CBEs) • EvalPLATFORM meetings (exchange channel for Managing Authorities) (EPMs) • Missions to Member States by EU CAP Network support units

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities
6. Contribute to monitoring and evaluation capacity and activities.	**6.1** CAP Strategic Plans stakeholders' capacities in monitoring and evaluation have increased due to EU CAP Network activities.	• Guidelines • Learning Portals • Answer evaluation related questions • Good Practice Workshops • Capacity building events in Member States or groups of Member States (in MS language) • Capacity building for the EC • High quality content distributed on relevant channels (website, CAP Evaluation news, social media)
	6.2 Quality of CAP Strategic Plans monitoring and evaluation has improved due to EU CAP Network activities.	• Synthesis of evaluation plans and monitor their implementation • Identification, storage and review of MS evaluations • In-depth appraisals of MS evaluations • Synthesis of CSP ex-ante evaluations • Synthesis of ex-post RDP evaluations

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities
7. Contribute to the dissemination of CAP Strategic Plans results.	**7.1** CAP Strategic Plans results are shared with an increasing and engaged audience, adapting the channels used to the needs of stakeholders, due to the EU CAP Network activities.	Publish: • MS evaluations • Up to date Glossary • CSP amendments, tracked in CAP catalogue • Newsletter • High quality content distributed on relevant channels (website, mass mailing, social media)
	7.2 EU CAP Network actively assesses and remains responsive to the CAP Strategic Plans stakeholders' demand for dissemination of results.	• Monitoring and responding to stakeholders' requests • Dissemination of initiatives and call-to-actions for wider dissemination through EU CAP Network channels
	7.3 National CAP Networks and CAP Strategic Plans stakeholders further disseminate EU CAP Network's information on CAP Strategic Plans results.	• Common Networking Statistics

4. The EU CAP Network Strategic Framework

In this final section, the complete Strategic Framework is presented, which includes:

- the Networking Objectives set out in Article 126 of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115;

- the Factors of Success to achieve these objectives;

- the activities of the EU CAP Network contributing to each Factor of Success and Networking Objective; and

- the output and result indicators that can be used to monitor and evaluate the work of the EU CAP Network.

The output indicators are based on quantitative information collected through the activities of the EU CAP Network and dedicated surveys, and support the monitoring of the functioning of each support unit and the Network as a whole.

Result indicators are more qualitative in nature, capture the satisfaction of the stakeholders with the activities of the Network, and support both the monitoring and, eventually, the evaluation of the EU CAP Network's activities towards the objectives.

In order to simplify the presentation of the Strategic Framework, some indicators in Table 3 are grouped under meaningful categories, which are further detailed in Annex 1.

Data on indicators will be collected every 6 months to allow comparison and compilation between the different support units contractual arrangements.

It must be noted that, as explained in the Introduction, the Strategic Framework is a tool that sets the basis for the monitoring and evaluation of the EU CAP Network and must not be confused with the documentation that is used for control purposes, and which is clearly defined in the contractual arrangements of each support unit.

Table 3. The EU CAP Network Strategic Framework

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities	Output Indicators	Result indicators
1. Increase the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of CAP Strategic Plans and, where relevant, in their design.	**1.1** Stakeholders and their needs are regularly mapped, analysed and fed into the work of the EU CAP Network.	• Common Network Statistics report (CNS) • Annual Communications survey	• Number of Networks contributing to CNS report • Number of communications surveys carried out	• Comments and suggestions received in the Annual Communication survey (if relevant)
	1.2 The diversity, including the number, variety and relevance of stakeholders involved in the implementation and/or the design of the CAP Strategic Plans is high due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.	• Social media • Publications • Website updates • LAG Directory • LEADER Partner search tool • EU CAP Network Contacts Database	• Agreed social media output indicators (see Annex 1) • Agreed publications output indicators (see Annex 1) • Agreed website output indicators (see Annex 1) • Number of LAGs in Directory • Number of LAGs updating their profile • Number of TNC cooperation offers uploaded to the website	• Agreed social media result indicators (see Annex 1) • Agreed publications result indicators (see Annex 1) • Agreed website output result (see Annex 1)

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities	Output Indicators	Result indicators
			• Number of stakeholders by type (in EU CAP Network common database)	
	1.3 Stakeholders are increasingly and inclusively engaged in the EU CAP Network activities in a meaningful manner, ensuring active participation.	• Thematic Groups (TGs) • Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) • Focus Groups (FGs) • Multiple cross-visits (MCVs) • Field trips (FTs) • Brokerage activities (BAs) • Workshops • Good practice workshops (GPWs) • Seminars • Geographic cluster meetings • Thematic cluster meetings • EvalPLATFORM meetings (exchange channel for Managing Authorities)	• Agreed event output indicators related to TGs, TWGs, FGs, MCVs, FTs BAs, Workshops, GPWs, Seminars, EvalPLATFORM meetings (see Annex1) • Number of cross-visits • Number of geographic cluster meetings • Number of thematic cluster meetings • Agreed social media output indicators (particularly engagement) (see Annex1) • Agreed website output indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed newsletter output indicators (see Annex1)	• Agreed event result indicators related to TGs, TWGs, FGs, MCVs, FTs BAs, Workshops, GPWs, Seminars, EvalPLATFORM meetings (see Annex1) • Agreed social media result indicators (particularly engagement) (see Annex1) • Agreed website result indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed newsletter result indicators (see Annex1)

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities	Output Indicators	Result indicators
		• Calls to action for relevant initiatives and through Newsletters		
	1.4 The skills and capacities of stakeholders that enable their active involvement are improved due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.	Capacity building through • Focus Groups (FGs) • Thematic Groups (TGs) • Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) • Good Practice Workshops (GPWs) • Multiple cross-visits (MCVs) • Brokerage activities (BAs) • TNC factsheets • LEADER Partner search tool	• Agreed event output indicators related to FGs, TGs, TWGs, GPWs MCVs and BAs (see Annex 1) • Number of TNC factsheets created • Number of TNC cooperation offers uploaded to the website • Agreed publications output indicators (see Annex 1)	• Agreed event result indicators related to FGs, TGs, TWGs, GPWs MCVs and BAs (see Annex 1) • Agreed publications result indicators (see Annex 1) • Annual Comms Survey
2. Accompany the Member States' administrations in the implementation	**2.1** Member State administrations receive sufficient information and are provided with sufficient opportunities to analyse and	• Responses to stakeholder questions • Guidelines • Capacity building events in Member States or groups	• Number of implementation-related queries answered • Number of innovation-related queries answered	• Agreed event result indicators related to CBEs, FGs and TGs (see Annex 1)

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities	Output Indicators	Result indicators
of CAP Strategic Plans and the transition to a performance-based delivery model.	exchange on successful examples of CAP Strategic Plans implementation and the application of the performance-based delivery model due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.	of Member States (in MS language) (CBSs). • Focus Groups (FGs) • Thematic Groups (TGs) • Networking missions and attendance at external events	• Number of evaluation-related queries answered • Agreed publications output indicators (see Annex 1) • Agreed event output indicators related CBEs, FGs and TGs (see Annex 1) • Number of networking missions and attendance at external events	• Agreed publications result indicators (see Annex 1)

	2.2 The EU CAP Network supports the new CAP Strategic Plans governance structures, processes, and exchanges, including between the MS and EC, in contributing to CAP Strategic Plans implementation and transitioning to the performance-based delivery model.	• Governance meetings
		   ○ Assembly
		   ○ Steering Group
		   ○ SoCSP
		   ○ SoLTD
		   ○ SoIKE
		   ○ GREXE meetings
		• National CAP Networks (NN) meetings
			• Agreed event output indicators related to Governance and NN meetings and CBEs (see Annex 1)
			• Number of geographical cluster meetings
			• Number of thematic cluster meetings
			• Number of CSP summaries developed
				• Agreed event result indicators related to Governance and NN meetings and CBEs (see Annex 1)
				• Stakeholders' satisfaction with evaluation plans publications

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities	Output Indicators	Result indicators

		• Member State peer-peer learning (CBEs)
		
		• Geographic cluster meetings
		
		• Thematic cluster meetings
		
		• Dedicated information on website including:
		
		   ○ CSP summaries
		
		   ○ Monitoring indicator summaries
		
		   ○ Reviews of evaluation plans
			• Number of Monitoring indicator summaries developed
			
			• Number of evaluation plans reviewed	

3. Contribute to improving the quality of implementation of CAP Strategic Plans.	**3.1** Analytical work on CAP Strategic Plans implementation and potential for improvements is carried out and is disseminated through EU CAP Network activities.	• Analytical work • CSP mapping, analysis and summaries • Synthesis of CSP ex-ante evaluations • Synthesis of RPDs' ex-post evaluations	• Number of analytical studies • Number of CSP summaries created • Number of analytical studies carried out by specific objective.	

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities	Output Indicators	Result indicators
		• Catalogue of CAP interventions and farm practice labelling		
	3.2 Emerging and evolving agricultural and rural development trends are systematically collected, analysed and shared due to the activities of the EU CAP Network.	• Good practice examples • Thematic Groups (TGs) • SoCSP • SoLTD • SoIKE • GREXE meetings • Publications • Newsletters • AIR summary reports • CSP summaries	• Number of Good Practice examples • Number of Good Practice examples by Measure/SO • Number of Good Practice examples by MS • Agreed event output indicators related to TGs and Governance meetings (see Annex 1) • Agreed publications output indicators (see Annex 1) • Agreed newsletter output indicators (see Annex 1) • Number of AIR summary reports published • Number of CSP summaries developed	• Agreed event result indicators related to TGs and Governance meetings (see Annex 1) • Agreed publications result indicators (see Annex 1) • Agreed newsletter result indicators (see Annex 1)

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities	Output Indicators	Result indicators
4. Contribute to the information of the public and potential beneficiaries on the CAP and funding opportunities.	**4.1** Relevant content, including examples of National CAP Networks activities and success stories, is collected, analysed and disseminated on all EU CAP Network channels.	• Social media posting /exchanges • Newsletters • Publications • Website text • ARIA Awards competition and Ceremony • EIP-AGRI Innovation Awards competition and ceremony • Networking missions and attendance at external events	• Agreed social media output indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed newsletters output indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed publications output indicators (see Annex 1) • Agreed website output indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed indicators for competitions and award ceremonies (see Annex 1) • Number of networking missions and attendance at external events	• Agreed social media result indicators (see Annex 1) • Agreed newsletter result indicators (see Annex 1) • Agreed publications result indicators (see Annex 1) • Agreed website result indicators (see Annex 1)
5. Foster innovation in agriculture and rural development and support peer-to-peer learning and the inclusion of, and the interaction between, all	**5.1** Research needs from practice are collected from relevant EU CAP Network stakeholders.	• Research needs from practice	• Number of research needs identified	
	5.2 Examples of successful innovation and research approaches to CAP Strategic Plans	• Focus Groups (FGs) • Workshops • Seminars	• Agreed innovation-related event output indicators related to FGs, Workshops,	• Agreed innovation-related event result indicators related to FGs, Workshops,

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities	Output Indicators	Result indicators
stakeholders in the knowledge-exchange and knowledge-building process.	implementation are methodically and systemically transferred and shared with peers and other CAP Network stakeholders.	- Conferences - Good practice examples - Collection and analysis of innovation-related evaluation activities in MS - EIP AGRI Newsletter - Briefings - Social Media posts	Seminars and Conferences (see Annex 1) - Number of innovation-related Good Practice examples - Number of innovation-related evaluation activities in MS collected, reviewed and stored. - Agreed publications output indicators for EIP AGRI Newsletter and Briefings (see Annex 1) - Agreed social media output indicators (see Annex 1)	Seminars and Conferences (see Annex 1 - Agreed publications result indicators for EIP AGRI Newsletter and Briefings (see Annex 1) - Agreed social media result indicators (see Annex 1)
	5.3 EU CAP Network activities and channels create spaces where stakeholders may meet other stakeholders relevant to their activities.	- Focus Groups (FGs) - Thematic Groups (TGs) - Good Practice Workshops (GPWs) - Workshops - Seminars - Conferences	Agreed event output indicators related to FGs, TGs, GPWs, Workshops, Seminars, Conferences, ad-hoc expert group meetings, BAs, FTs, CVs, CBEs (see Annex1)	Agreed event output indicators related to FGs, TGs, GPWs, Workshops, Seminars, Conferences, ad-hoc expert group meetings, BAs, FTs, CVs, CBEs (see Annex1)

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities	Output Indicators	Result indicators
		• Ad-hoc expert group meetings • Brokerage activities (BAs) • Field trips (FTs) • Cross-visits (CVs) • Capacity building events in Member States or groups of Member States (in MS language) (CBEs) • EvalPLATFORM meetings (exchange channel for Managing Authorities) (EPMs) • Missions to Member States by EU CAP Network support units • Social media posting	• Number of Missions to Member States by EU CAP Network support units	• Agreed result indicators for social media (see Annex 1) • Relevant comments (if any) from the annual communication survey
6. Contribute to monitoring and evaluation capacity and activities.	**6.1** CAP Strategic Plans stakeholders' capacities in monitoring and evaluation have increased due to EU	• Guidelines • Learning Portals • Answer evaluation related questions	• Number of evaluation learning portals published • Number of evaluation-related queries answered	• Number of learning portals page views. • Agreed event result indicators related to GPWs and CBEs related to

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities	Output Indicators	Result indicators
	CAP Network activities.	• [Good Practice Workshops (GPWs)](#) • [Capacity building events in Member States or groups of Member States (in MS language) (CBEs)](#) • Capacity building for the EC • High quality content distributed on relevant channels (website, CAP Evaluation news, social media)	• Agreed event output indicators related to GPWs and CBEs (see Annex 1) • Agreed website output indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed CAP Evaluation News output indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed social media output indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed evaluation related publications output indicators (see Annex1)	increase in knowledge (see Annex 1) • Agreed website result indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed CAP Evaluation News result indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed social media result indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed evaluation related publications result indicators (see Annex1)
	6.2 Quality of CAP Strategic Plans monitoring and evaluation has improved due to EU CAP Network activities.	• [Synthesis of evaluation plans and monitor their implementation](#) • [Identification, storage and review of MS evaluations](#) • [In-depth appraisals of MS evaluations](#)	• Number of evaluation plans reviewed • Number of evaluations collected, reviewed and stored • Number of in-depth appraisals carried out	

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities	Output Indicators	Result indicators
		• Synthesis of CSP ex-ante evaluations • Synthesis of ex-post RDP evaluations	• Number of Evaluation Experts Insights published	
7. Contribute to the dissemination of CAP Strategic Plans results.	**7.1** CAP Strategic Plans results are shared with an increasing and engaged audience, adapting the channels used to the needs of stakeholders, due to the EU CAP Network activities.	Publish: • MS evaluations • Up to date Glossary • CSP amendments, tracked in CAP catalogue • Newsletter • High quality content distributed on relevant channels (website, social media)	• Number of MS evaluations published on EU CAP Network website • Number of glossary terms added • Number of CSP amendments tracked in the CAP catalogue of interventions. • Number of evaluation findings extracted • Agreed newsletter output indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed website output indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed social media output indicators (see Annex1)	• Agreed newsletter result indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed website result indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed social media result indicators (see Annex1)

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities	Output Indicators	Result indicators
	7.2 EU CAP Network actively assesses and remains responsive to the CAP Strategic Plans stakeholders demand for dissemination of results	• Monitoring and responding to stakeholders' requests • Dissemination of initiatives and call-to-actions for wider dissemination through EU CAP Network channels	• Number of stakeholder requests received • Number of stakeholder requests responded to • Agreed newsletter output indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed website output indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed social media output indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed publications output indicators (see Annex1)	• Relevant comments from the annual communication survey • Agreed newsletter result indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed website result indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed social media result indicators (see Annex1) • Agreed publications result indicators (see Annex1)

Networking Objectives	Factors of Success	EU CAP Network Support Activities	Output Indicators	Result indicators
	7.3 National CAP Networks and CAP Strategic Plans stakeholders further disseminate EU CAP Network's information on CAP Strategic Plans results.	• [Common Networking Statistics](#)	• Number of events organised by National Networks (NNs): • Number of visits to the webpages of the NNs: • Number of followers on NN's social media channels: • Number of elaborated projects reported by NNs: • Number of active thematic groups running by NNs	

Annex 1. Detailed lists of indicators output and result indicators

Full set of indicators for events relate to the following activities:

- Ad-hoc expert groups meetings

- Brokerage activities

- Capacity building events organised in Member States, by type (single MS or peer-to-peer learning events)

- Capacity building events for the EC

- Conferences

- Cross-visits

- EvalPLATFORM meetings

- Field Trips

- Focus Groups

- Good practice workshops

- Seminars

- Thematic Groups

- Thematic Working Groups

- Workshops

Event output indicators:

- Total number of participants by event type (excluding DG AGRI and Support Units)

- Total number of participants by event type and stakeholder type

- Total number of applications to join an event, by type of event (this includes Expressions of Interest etc)

- Total number of participants attending an EU CAP Network event for the first time in the year

Event result indicators:

- Average rating for the overall content of the event

- Average rating for overall opportunities for networking

- Average rating for usefulness of outcomes of the event for your work

- Average rating for the increase in knowledge of participants of the event

- Average rating for the logistical organisation of the event

Governance events output indicators:

- Total number of members attending Governance meeting

- Total number of members attending Governance meeting as % of the membership

Governance event result indicators:

- Average rating for the overall content of the event

- Average rating for overall opportunities for networking

- Average rating for usefulness of outcomes of the event for your work

Website output indicators

- Number of visitors to the website

- Number of views per website page:

- Number of accesses to the website from each social media channel

- Number of accesses to the website from the newsletters

- Number of pages of content uploaded to website

- Number of pages on the website

- Number of updates to the website

Website result indicator

- Overall satisfaction rate for the website

Social Media output indicators by platform – Facebook, LinkedIn and X

- Number of social media posts

- Social media engagement rates

- Number of social media impressions

- Number of social media followers

Social media result indictor

- Overall satisfaction rate for social media

Publications output indicators by publication type

- Number of Briefings

- Number of Brochures

- Number of Case Studies

- Number of Evaluation Expert Insights

- Number of Event Reports

- Number of Factsheets

- Number of Guidelines and tools

- Number of Magazines

- Number of Member State Evaluations

- Number of Monitoring Data Summaries

- Number of Newsletters

- Number of Other Publications

- Number of Policy Insights

- Number of Press Articles

- Number of Reports

- Number of Videos and videoclips

- Number of Working Documents

- Number of publications in English by publication type

- Number of publications in German by publication type

- Number of publications in French by publication type

- Number of publication views/downloads by publication type

Publications result indicators

- Overall satisfaction rate for Publications

- Average satisfaction rate for Publications by type (where available)

Newsletter output indicators for each NL

- Number of EU CAP Network Newsletter - EN
- Number of EU CAP Network Newsletter - DE
- Number of EU CAP Network Newsletter - FR
- Number of Innovation & knowledge exchange | EIP-AGRI Newsletter - EN
- Number of Innovation & knowledge exchange | EIP-AGRI Newsletter - DE
- Number of Innovation & knowledge exchange | EIP-AGRI Newsletter - FR
- Number of LEADER Newsletter - EN
- Number of LEADER Newsletter - DE
- Number of LEADER Newsletter - FR
- Number of CAP Evaluation News

- Number of newsletters sent
- Newsletter open rate
- Number of newsletter subscribers
- Number of newsletter clicks

Newsletter result indicators

- Overall satisfaction rate for Newsletters
- Average satisfaction rate for Newsletters by product

Communication Surveys output indicators

- Number of people contacted for the communication survey
- Number of people who responded to the communication survey
- Number of additional comments collected

Award ceremony output indicators

- Number of competitions and award ceremonies
- Number of competitions and award ceremonies for implementation projects
- Number of competitions and award ceremonies for innovative projects

- Number of projects entries for the competition for implementation projects
- Number of projects entries for the competition for innovative projects
- Number of votes in the public vote for implementation award ceremony
- Number of votes in the public vote for innovation award ceremony
- Length of time of public vote campaign for implementation award ceremony
- Length of time of public vote campaign for innovation award ceremony