

Thematic Group on Economic Vulnerability of Farming

AGENDA 1st TG meeting

22 January 2025, 09:00 – 13:00

Online



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the European Union

Introduction

Farming faces significant economic challenges, with issues such as price volatility, rising input costs, and increasing competition from global markets, all contributing to a complex environment for European farmers. Additionally, the increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events are already negatively impacting agricultural production. These challenges are particularly acute for smaller farms and farmers in economically disadvantaged or geographically challenging regions.

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) provides several mechanisms for risk prevention and risk management with a focus on supporting farmers to build up resilience by mitigating the impacts of crises and being able to better respond to these challenges, including through direct payments, productive and non-productive investments, and risk management tools.

This Thematic Group will explore various issues associated with the economic vulnerability of farming, including risk management. Members will also consider how challenges can be overcome by farm businesses, e.g. through new ways of working, the application of risk management tools, and the use of income support tools. The group will also consider how the CAP currently addresses, or could better address, economic vulnerabilities.

Aims of the first TG meeting:

- Discuss what we mean by the economic vulnerability of farming and identify the drivers of vulnerability.
- Discuss how farm-based businesses are capitalising on the possibilities for overcoming the challenges associated with farming's vulnerability.
- Begin to consider the effectiveness of current CAP interventions/frameworks to address economic vulnerabilities.



Timing	Agenda item
8.30 - 09.00	Registration – virtual meeting room opens
9.00 - 9.05	Welcome & agenda for the day
9.05 - 9.20	Icebreaker & first exchanges in small groups
9.20 - 10.15	Introduction to Economic Vulnerability of Farming Presentations: • ‘Overview of economic vulnerability of farming’ - Carina Folkeson, EU CAP Network • ‘CAP instruments targeting economic vulnerability of farming’ - Gijs Schilthuis, Director, DG AGRI, European Commission • ‘Risk Management as a tool for working with economic vulnerability’ - Linda Silina, LLKC, Latvia Q&A Moderated by EU CAP Network
10.15 - 10.25	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10.25 - 11.25	Introduction to Parallel Group Sessions Parallel group sessions: Identifying current and emerging economic vulnerabilities of farming.
11.25 - 11.35	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.35 - 12.35	Parallel group sessions: Exploring responses to the challenges presented by economic vulnerability.
12.35 - 13.00	Feedback & Next Steps - Reflections on group discussions & next steps for the thematic group.

