

## SAFEHABITUS European Policy Seminar

### “Mental health and well-being of farmers<sup>1</sup>”

Date: 25 January 2024, 14.00-17.30

Venue: Room **JAN 6Q1** (József ANTALL building), **European Parliament**, Brussels.

#### Draft agenda

#### INTRODUCTION

14:00

1. **Welcome & introduction, David Meredith, TEAGASC (SAFEHABITUS project coordinator)**  
*Moderation - Alun Jones, CIHEAM (SAFEHABITUS WP6 Policy and Governance Lead)*
2. **Maria Walsh MEP (EMPL Committee) and Petri Sarvamaa MEP (AGRI Committee)**

#### A. RESEARCH - Setting the scene on farming and the psychosocial challenges and opportunities

14:20

3. **Working conditions in European agriculture – Agnes Parent-Thirion, Senior Research Manager Working Life, Eurofound (tbc).**
4. **Work-related psycho-social risk factors and mental health in agriculture – preliminary findings of the EU-OSHA study – Michaela Seifert, EU-OSHA.**
5. **Farmers’ psychosocial work environment and mental health – an international overview – Peter Lundquist, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.**
6. **SAFEHABITUS futures work on farmer mental health and well-being – Majda Černič Istenič, SafeHabitus WP4 Lead on enhancing the attractiveness of farming.**
7. **Discussion and questions**

#### B. PRACTICE – Practical experiences in managing psychosocial issues in farming

8. **Philippe Tran Tan Hai, Responsible for Prevention, CCMSA, France on CCMSA activities to prevent farmer suicide.**
9. **“Make the moove” - on farmer mental health, John Keane, Macra na Feirme President and Co-founder of “Make the moove”, Ireland.**
10. **Campaign to support Farmers in their mental health - Els Verté, Director from Farmers at a Crossroads, Flanders, Belgium.**
11. **Support the farmer project – Päivi Wallin, Director, MELA Farmers' Social Insurance Institution, Finland.**
12. **Discussion and questions**

<sup>1</sup> This Seminar will focus mainly on the mental health and well-being of farmers. Farm workers, also an important group with psychosocial challenges, will be covered in a dedicated Webinar tailored to their specific needs.

15.40-  
16.00

Coffee break

### C. POLICY – Policy tools to improve mental health and psychosocial issues in farming

**Moderation: Natasche Foote, Euractiv.**

#### National:

**13. Martin Heydon, Minister of State at Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine & TD, Ireland** (tbc) – Policy tools put in place in Ireland to champion **farm safety** and farmer well-being - framing future actions on farmer mental health

**14. Henri CABANEL, French national Senator** on the French Senate report on prevention, identification and support for farmers in distress, Rapport d'information du Sénat français, 2021.

**15. Sarah Öztürk, SVLFG Farmer Insurance System, Germany** on the role of European statutory insurance schemes in managing stress and mental health in farming (German and ENASP activities)

#### EU:

**16. Maria Iglesia, Acting Director for Working conditions and social dialogue, DG EMPL** - Mental health at work within the **EU-OSH Strategy** (& EU-OSHA planned activities).

**17. Elena Schubert, Unit for Social Sustainability, DG AGRI** – The **social dimension of the CAP** and tools to improve farmer well-being.

#### Policy discussion

18. Initiated by EU Agriculture Social Partners and stakeholders (**GEOPA President – Joseph Lechner, EFFAT General Secretary – Kristjan Bragason and CEJA President Peter Meedendorp**).

- with the participation of **Maria Walsh MEP** and **Petri Sarvamaa MEP**.

**19. Round table discussion** – Q and A

#### 20. Conclusions

17.30

End of workshop