

Draft programme

Impacts of Climate Change on occupational health and safety in agriculture

Workshop organised by EFFAT and CIHEAM Zaragoza under the SafeHabitus project in partnership with the European Economic and Social Committee

Date: 24th June 2026 (09.00 —13.00)

Location: **European Economic and Social Committee, VMA22**

Rue Van Maerlant 2, 1040 Bruxelles

Policy Workshop (PW) in English. Webcast via Zoom.

Register here: [registration link available soon]



Objectives of the workshop

SafeHabitus Policy Workshops aim to synthesize the latest and most relevant scientific research and practical insights from a wide variety of stakeholders. Through this workshop, we aim to facilitate debate and share perspectives among those actors and European policymakers directly involved in managing the impact of climate change on occupational safety and health and on income in agriculture. By gathering the latest evidence, we seek to provide policymakers with the knowledge and evidence needed to improve working conditions for workers, self-employed farmers and family members working in the sector.

We will draw on selected European and international examples and provide agriculture and occupational health and safety stakeholders with the opportunity to exchange knowledge and perspectives on how working conditions in farming can be improved for all farmers and farm workers.

The seminar is divided into three distinct parts; an overview of research and data on the impact of CC on working conditions and OSH; a number of examples of good practices in managing the CC OSH related challenges; and finally, a policy round table on mechanisms and policy tools which could be developed at the EU level.

Programme

09.00 – 09.10	INTRODUCTION Welcome and introduction - David Meredith, TEAGASC (SafeHabitus project coordinator) - Stoyan Tchoukanov, President of NAT Section, EESC Seminar moderation: Alun Jones, CIHEAM Zaragoza (SafeHabitus policy lead)
09.10 – 10.00	HOW CLIMATE CHANGE IS CHANGING THE WAY WE WORK – Overview of OSH existing mechanisms at EU and international level Chair – Group 1 Employers, EESC - tbc - Salvatore Barilla, Newcastle University (SafeHabitus project). - Manal Azzi, International Labour Organisation (ILO) – TBC - Matthias Fritz, DG EMPL (online) - Pierre Berastegui, European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) Q and A and discussion.
10.00 – 10.20	EU OSH FRAMEWORK FOR THE CHALLENGES POSED BY CLIMATE CHANGE Chair – Group 2, Workers, EESC - tbc - Input by Sergio Salas Nicás, ISTAS - Fundación 1º de Mayo and member of the WP Climate change and OSH in the Advisory Committee on Safety and Health. Q and A and discussion.
10.20 – 10.40	Break
10.40 – 11.20	SOCIAL PARTNERS' RESPONSE TO HEAT-RELATED STRESS AT WORK Chair – Group 3 (farmers and civil society), EESC Presentation by: - EFFAT-EFBWW-EPSU-ETUI Model Directive and Policy Brief – Marouane Laabbas el Guennouni, ETUI researcher - Representative of GEOPA/ European Employers' Institute – TBC Q and A and discussion.

11.20 – 11.50	COMPENSATION OF INCOME LOSS DUE TO CLIMATE CHANGE – Lessons learnt from other sectors Chair – Marion Picot, CEJA (secretary general) <i>State programmes:</i> Ignacio Martín, Labour inspector in the Spanish Labour Inspection service (ITSS) on the recently introduced climate leave in Spain <i>Social Dialogue:</i> Robert Yates, roofer and co-negotiator on behalf of IG BAU of the summer allowance in the roofing industry
11:50 – 12:50	EU POLICY PANEL Chair – Alun Jones, CIHEAM Zaragoza (SafeHabitus Policy Lead) - Maria Ohisalo, MEP (Verts/ALE) on EP own-initiative Opinion on work and heat - Claudia Merlino, GEOPA - Fabrizio De Pascale, EFFAT Chair of the Agriculture Board - MEP Shadow rapporteur of EP Opinion - TBC Short 4-minute statement followed by Q and A and discussion around pre-defined key questions.
12.50 – 13.00	CLOSING SESSION Chair - David Meredith, TEAGASC (SafeHabitus project coordinator) - Synopsis of key policy issues and next steps – Ivan Ivanov (EFFAT) and Sergi Queralt (GEOPA) - Closing remarks – David Meredith



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