

## 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

14:00	<b>INTRODUCTION</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Welcome &amp; introduction, David Meredith, TEAGASC (SAFEHABITUS project coordinator) <i>Moderation - Alun Jones, CIHEAM (SAFEHABITUS WP6 Policy and Governance Lead)</i></li><li>2. Maria Walsh MEP (EMPL Committee) and Petri Sarvamaa MEP (AGRI Committee)</li></ol>
14:20	<b>A. RESEARCH - Setting the scene on farming and the psychosocial challenges and opportunities</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. Work-related psycho-social risk factors and mental health in agriculture – preliminary findings of the EU-OSHA study – Michaela Seifert, EU-OSHA.</li><li>4. Farmers’ psychosocial work environment and mental health – an international overview - Peter Lundqvist, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.</li><li>5. SAFEHABITUS futures work on farmer mental health and well-being – Majda Černič Istenič, SafeHabitus WP4 Lead on enhancing the attractiveness of farming.</li><li>6. Discussion and questions</li></ol>
	<b>B. PRACTICE – Practical experiences in managing psychosocial issues in farming</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>7. Philippe Tran Tan Hai, Responsible for Prevention, CCMSA, France on CCMSA activities to prevent farmer suicide.</li><li>8. “<u>Make the moove</u>” - on farmer mental health, John Keane, Macra na Feirme and Co-founder of “<u>Make the moove</u>”, <u>Ireland</u>.</li><li>9. Farmers at a crossroads <u>campaign</u> - Els Verté, Director from Farmers at a Crossroads, Flanders, <u>Belgium</u>.</li><li>10. Support the farmer project – Päivi Wallin, Director, MELA Farmers' Social Insurance Institution, Finland.</li><li>11. Discussion and questions</li></ol>

<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: Natasha Foote, EU agriculture journalist.**

#### National:

**12. 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

**13. 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.

**14. 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:

**15. 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).

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

#### Policy discussion

17. Initiated by EU Agriculture Social Partners and stakeholders (**GEOPA President – Joseph Lechner, EFFAT General Secretary – Kristjan Bragason and CEJA Vice President Katharina Schobersberger**) with the participation of:

- **Maria Walsh MEP**
- **EESC members:** Kerli Ats (Estonian Farmers' Federation) and Florian Marin (Federation of Free Trade Union in Romania).

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

#### 19. Conclusions

17.30

End of workshop