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Thematic Group on Nurturing Skills for a Thriving and Sustainable Agricultural Sector

Dear colleague,

You are invited to express your interest in being a member of the new [EU CAP Network Thematic Group \(TG\) on Nurturing skills for a thriving and sustainable agricultural sector](#), facilitated by the [CAP Implementation Contact Point](#).

This TG will allow you to **explore needs and opportunities related to agricultural skills development and their updating**, with a focus on the agricultural workforce and on the (new) skills needed to strengthen farmers' involvement in the food-supply chain.

The TG aims to raise awareness of skills-related needs and opportunities in agriculture, looking specifically at both employees and self-employed workers. It also aims to highlight the importance and benefits of investing in the development and update of agricultural skills. Finally, the TG will identify specific skill gaps and explore the potential of the CAP and other funds (at EU, national and regional level) to foster collaboration to promote sustainable development and economic growth in rural communities. More details are available on the [TG page](#) on the EU CAP Network website.

The Thematic Group (TG) will consist of two meetings. The first meeting will be held online on **9 October 2023**. The second meeting will be held on **16 January 2024**, either online or in person (location would be confirmed in the late autumn of 2023). The number of places in the TG is limited. If selected, and in fairness to all applicants, we require your firm commitment to participating in both meetings and engaging in TG activities in-between meetings (up to two short, informal online discussions).

Express your interest

by 4 September 2023

Necessary

Experience and/or knowledge of priority skill needs for farmers and for those employed in agriculture, on where skills can be accessed and who are the providers; Capacity and willingness to engage, network and exchange effectively with peers, at national, regional and local levels; Ability to communicate clearly in English without interpretation; and Commitment to participate in two meetings of the Thematic Group and the activities in-between.

Desirable

Commitment to share best practices with other members during the TG activities; and Commitment to share TG outputs with other colleagues or networks outside of the TG.

Please note that when selecting the Thematic Group members from the expressions of interest, the CAP Implementation Contact Point will – to the extent possible - also consider the need to ensure a balance of participants from EU Member States, sectors and topics, gender and age. Successful applicants will receive a confirmation of participation as soon as possible and by mid-September 2023 at the latest.

The meetings will be held in English with no interpretation.

If you have any question, please contact us at: thematicgroup1@eucapnetwork.eu.

Thank you for your interest,

CAP Implementation Contact Point

Please note that expressions of interest are currently open for two other Thematic Groups facilitated by the CAP Implementation Contact Point. Click on [this link](#) and follow us on social media at @EUCAPNetwork for updates.