

MANDATE AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

for

Ad-hoc national expert group meetings

Context

The Support Facility 'Innovation & Knowledge exchange | EIP-AGRI' (EIP-AGRI SF) is establishing a pool of national voluntary experts across the EU member states with the support of the National Contact Points for Horizon Europe, National Rural Networks/National CAP Networks

The main role of these national voluntary experts is to help the EIP-AGRI SF identify key challenges/questions to tackle in given thematic areas from their national/regional perspectives and provide their input to prepare the call text of the Focus Groups or EU CAP Network events in given thematic areas.

The selected national experts will be invited to an Ad-hoc national expert group meeting to be held online or as a physical meeting. The meeting will usually have a plenary session and breakout sessions by themes. The objectives and expected outcomes of this meeting are defined below.

Selected national experts for the Ad-hoc national expert group meeting interested in applying to the Focus Groups or other activities should apply separately following the Focus Groups' or events' application process.

Mandate

The Ad-hoc national expert group aims to bring specific expert inputs to the preparatory phase of a Focus Group or a networking event on the given theme(s).

Outcomes for each theme

- **The background and major challenges** that the farmers, foresters and rural businesses are facing when it comes to the adoption of knowledge and innovation in their practices and the aims of the Focus Group or a networking event in contributing to knowledge and innovation exchange
- A **main question** that the Focus Group should respond to in its activities



- A set of **main tasks** planned for the Focus Group or networking event, including sharing best practices and success stories, identifying challenges, barriers and opportunities, research needs from practice, innovative ideas, etc.
- **A draft concept note** for each Focus Group or event in the selected theme that can be the basis for the future call for Focus Group experts or networking event activities.

A first ad-hoc expert meeting is planned to contribute to the preparatory work of three new Focus Groups on 19 June 2023 online.

For the first expert meeting, the following three themes for Focus Groups are selected for discussion:

Theme 1: Regenerative agriculture for soil health

Theme 2: Cultures associations, including milpa and protein crops

Theme 3: Competitive and resilient mountain areas

