

# EU CAP Network Catch-up

September 2024

We're sending this EU CAP Network Catch-up to recap what happened during September 2024, and to inform you about upcoming events and activities!

## ARIA 2024: 'Empowering young people'

The CP team have greatly enjoyed reading all the interesting and varied submissions for this year's ARIA awards – thank you so much for the great efforts put in by all the project promoters and Networks. What a tough task it has been to whittle down the 103 projects from 21 Member States to a shortlist of 24!

The shortlist has been communicated to the respective NNs and they are asked **to keep this information confidential until the popular vote is launched at the end of October.**

Invitations will be sent very shortly to the project promoters for the [Awards Ceremony](#) being held in Brussels on 4 December. This year the projects can be supported at the ceremony by up to two representatives of their NN, these invitations will also follow shortly. Please help us by **ensuring you and your projects register as soon as possible.**

If you have any questions on the materials needed for shortlisted projects, please email [aria@eucapnetwork.eu](mailto:aria@eucapnetwork.eu).

Make sure to use the hashtag #ARIAwards24 when communicating about ARIA. Communication resources and visuals are available in the [Communication kit](#).

## LAG Directory

The [LEADER LAG Directory](#) currently features 1 166 Local Action Groups from 19 Member States. It is being updated on an ongoing basis as we receive information from Member State Managing Authorities. LAGs can now be searched for by the key themes, linked to their Local Development Strategies (LDS), that will be the focus of their work.

This is the first phase of the LAG Directory, the next stages will be to include more information on individual LAG profiles and a partner search tool.



## Transnational cooperation (TNC) opportunities for LAGs

You can check the new TNC opportunities in a shared folder [here!](#) We have several new offers this month. We will update this folder with TNC opportunities monthly, until the cooperation partner search tool for LAGs is available on the EU CAP Network website.

If you search for a partner for a transnational cooperation project, please fill [this form](#) and send it to [leader@eucapnetwork.eu](mailto:leader@eucapnetwork.eu).

## Pending Operational Groups for EIP-AGRI project database

The [EIP-AGRI project database](#) currently features 3 024 Operational Groups from across Europe. Users can browse by topics, keywords, country or use a free text search. It is very important that Operational Group projects and their results are disseminated to help inspire and support others. One of the best tools to achieve this is through this database. So, if there are pending projects in your country that still need to be uploaded or approved in the SFC, may we please ask you to make sure they are approved as soon as possible. Thank you!

## Updates on Thematic Work

### 1) [Enhancing Biodiversity on Farmland for Improved Resilience](#)

This Thematic Group will give members the opportunity to share experiences on the changes in the design, implementation and uptake of initiatives on biodiversity on farmland at scale (i.e. beyond single farms) to improve resilience.

The [1<sup>st</sup> meeting](#) took place on 23 September. You can find outcomes, pictures and presentations on the [event page](#). The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting will take place on 13 November.

### 2) [Gen Z: Leading Generational Renewal in Farming](#)

This Thematic Group will enable members to assess the necessary changes in both policy and practice to foster greater engagement of young people in agriculture and discuss their role in shaping rural areas.

The [1<sup>st</sup> meeting](#) will take place on 23 October and the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting will take place on 11 December.

## Update on Focus Groups

- 1) EU CAP Network Focus Group: "Production of protein crops under climate change". 20-21 November 2024 (first meeting). Call closed 16 September.



- 2) EU CAP Network Focus Group: “Alternative solutions for sustainable livestock product differentiation”. 20-21 November 2024 (first meeting). Call closed 16 September.
- 3) EU CAP Network Focus Group: Local perennial plant genetic resources in view of climate change and biodiversity loss”. 27-28 November 2024 (first meeting). Call closed 16 September.

## Upcoming EU CAP Network workshop on National Networking

Following the first EU CAP Network workshop ‘National Networking for Innovation in 2023, the EU CAP Network is organising its next workshop dedicated to national networking for innovation in the last week of January 2025.

The overall aim of the workshop remains similar to the one in 2023: to create opportunities for peer-to-peer learning and inspirational exchange on experiences, approaches, and good practice in networking for innovation and knowledge exchange between the National Networks as well as other stakeholders. This workshop will in particular also strengthen existing and building new collaborations between different stakeholders. The main target audience for the workshop will be the CAP National Networks, Managing Authorities, AKIS Coordination Bodies and Paying Agencies.

## Upcoming events

- [4th meeting of the Forum on Best Practices in the Agri-Food Supply Chain](#) – 9 October 2024 in Brussels.
- [3rd meeting of the EU CAP Network Steering Group](#) – 17 October in Brussels.
- [4th meeting of the Subgroup on CAP Strategic Plans](#) – 6 November in Brussels.
- [Good Practice Workshop: Assessing simplification of the CAP for beneficiaries and administrations](#) – 7- 8 November.
- [7th meeting of the Subgroup on Innovation and Knowledge Exchange \(SolKE\)](#) – 12 November – online.
- [ARIA 2024 Awards Ceremony](#) – 4 December 2024 in Brussels.
- [3rd meeting of the EU CAP Network’s Assembly](#) – 5 December 2024 in Brussels.
- EU CAP Network workshop dedicated to National Networking for innovation – January 2025
- EU CAP Network seminar on ‘Robotics and Artificial Intelligence (AI) in farming and forestry’ – 19-20 February 2025 – call not open yet

Further information on Innovation and Knowledge exchange events throughout 2024/2025 is available in the [September newsletter](#).



## New online resources

### EU CAP Network

- The public version of the EU CAP Network's [Annual Work Programme](#) for 2024/2025 is now available on the EU CAP Network website and can also be downloaded as a PDF.
- A new edition of the [EU CAP Network Newsletter](#) has been published. To subscribe, click [here](#).
- The [Year 4 EU CAP Network Annual Work Programme](#) is now available on the website and to download

### Implementation

- Briefing - [Supporting farmers' mental health: action-oriented recommendations](#).
- Briefing - [Good initiatives and elements of replicability to support the mental health of farmers and farming communities](#)
- Briefing - [Analytical work: supporting the maintenance, restoration, or establishment of agroforestry systems](#)
- Policy Insights - [Best practices in the agri-food supply chain](#)
- There is new information in the updated [Facts and Figures section](#) of the [CAP Implementation page](#) including:
  - Factsheets - [CAP Strategic Plan Factsheet: Belgium Wallonia](#)
  - Factsheets - [CAP Strategic Plan Factsheet: Belgium Flanders](#)
  - Factsheets - [CAP Strategic Plan Factsheet: Bulgaria](#).
  - Factsheets - [CAP Strategic Plan Factsheet: Austria](#).
  - Factsheets - [CAP Strategic Plan Factsheet: Germany](#).

### Innovation

- Brochure on Circular water solutions - A [new EU CAP Network brochure](#) has been published highlighting solutions for sustainable and circular water management.
- Report - [1st EU CAP Network workshop 'National networking for innovation'](#)
- Report - [EU CAP Network Seminar 'Skills and lifelong learning for agricultural advisory and training service providers'](#)
- Report - [EU CAP Network Focus Group 'Competitive and resilient mountain areas'](#)
- Factsheet - [EU CAP Network Focus Group 'Competitive and resilient mountain areas'](#)

### Evaluation

- CAP Evaluation News – September 2024 - [Assessing the outcomes of the EIP-AGRI Operational Group projects](#)
- Report - [Overview of Member States' evaluation plans for CAP Strategic Plans \(2023-2027\)](#)



- Report - [Study on outcomes achieved by EIP-AGRI Operational Group projects under the CAP](#)
- New evaluation portal - [Evaluation of LEADER and LEADER added value](#)
- New evaluation portal - [Assessing CAP income support instruments](#)



Be sure to follow **@eucapnetwork** on X, Facebook and LinkedIn to be updated on all the activities and available resources from the EU CAP Network!

Do you know about our online [Stakeholders' kit](#)? It's a free-to-use collection of sources and materials to enable you to best communicate about the activities and initiatives of the EU CAP Network, as well as instructions on how to spread the word about your own actions more easily.

We are planning to send the EU CAP Network Catch-up PDF every month. Please feel free to forward it to your colleagues or anyone in your network who you think would find it useful. If you would not like to receive these monthly updates, please write to us at [nn-meetings@eucapnetwork.eu](mailto:nn-meetings@eucapnetwork.eu).

