



Third annual EU conference on EAFRD financial instruments for agriculture and rural development in 2014-2020

Paris, Tuesday, 10 October 2017

Programme





Background of the conference

The European Commission, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), supported by the European Investment Bank (*fi-compass*), welcomes you to the **Third annual EU conference on financial instruments under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)**, 10 October 2017 in Paris.

The conference will be opened by **Mr Phil Hogan, Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development**. He will be joined by **Mr Pim van Ballekom, Vice-President of the European Investment Bank (EIB)**, **Mr Pier Luigi Gilibert, Chief Executive of the European Investment Fund (EIF)**, **Ms Carole Delga, President of the Occitanie region, France**, and by **Ms Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle, Director-General for the Economic and Environmental Performance of Enterprises, Ministry for Agriculture, France**.

Following the high-level opening statements, further distinguished speakers will present key topics related to the design and implementation of financial instruments under the EAFRD in five sessions.

In this conference, participants will get an overview on:

- how EAFRD financial instruments have progressed so far in different EU Member States and regions,
- what support options are available for agriculture and rural development, based on the example of France,
- how the EAFRD can be better used to improve growth and productivity, sharing experiences on the use of EAFRD for financial instruments in France,
- in which way other EU Member States are using or planning to use EAFRD financial instruments for agriculture and rural development and why,
- EU Member States' perspectives on the development of their agricultural and agri-food economies through EAFRD financial instruments.

Participants will hear concrete examples of the design and implementation of financial instruments in agriculture and rural development supported by the EAFRD. They will also learn from experiences of the banking sector as well as the European Investment Bank Group (EIB Group) in realising financial instruments on the ground.

This must-attend conference follows the previous annual *fi-compass* conferences dedicated to EAFRD financial instruments that took place in [Dublin](#) (2015) and [Brussels](#) (2016) as well as a series of six macro-regional conferences that took place in [Vienna](#) (2015), [Riga](#) (2015), [Madrid](#) (2016), [Rome](#) (2016), [Warsaw](#) (2016) and [Tallinn](#) (2017).



Mr Phil Hogan,
European Commissioner for
Agriculture and Rural Development



Audience

The target audience for this seminar are:

- Agricultural and rural development representatives of EU Member States and regions,
- EAFRD managing authorities,
- Farm unions, forestry associations, chambers of agriculture and trade, agri-food sector associations, and other representatives of the agricultural, agribusiness and forestry sector,
- Financial institutions directly involved in the design, implementation and promotion of financial instruments established under EAFRD rural development programmes or other EU funding sources, as well as their associations,
- Local or (macro-)regionally operating bodies implementing or considering implementing financial instruments,
- Business angels, business associations having rural entrepreneurs as their members.



Also welcome will be:

- Other European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) managing authorities and bodies managing or implementing financial instruments under other ESI Funds,
- Financial intermediaries such as banks or specialised agencies,
- Capital investors,
- Representatives of Local Action Groups, and, if capacity allows,
- Final recipients and other stakeholders, including academics, supporting financial instruments implementation.

Costs

Registration is free. Participants are expected to finance their own travel and accommodation costs. In case of unforeseen circumstances such as force majeure or low participant numbers, the event might be moved to a different date or cancelled. In this case, registered participants will be informed immediately via email. The reimbursement of travel and accommodation expenses or work hours lost will not be possible.



Objectives

The conference will:

- present recent developments and progress made in EU Member States regarding the design and implementation of financial instruments under the EAFRD,
- stimulate exchange and discussion on advantages, features, and the general suitability of financial instruments in delivering Rural Development Programme (RDP) objectives,
- inform stakeholders about the *fi-compass* advisory platform support to Member States and managing authorities and about further support available from cooperation between the European Commission and EIB Group for agriculture and rural development.

Venue

Paris Marriott Champs Elysees Hotel

70 Av. des Champs-Élysées, 75008 Paris, France

> [How to get there](#)

Language

Simultaneous translation to/from FR, EN, DE, IT and ES will be ensured for speakers and participants.

Registration

Please register online via www.fi-compass.eu.

The deadline for registration is **Friday, 6 October 2017**.

Places for up to 300 participants are available.

On-site registration is not possible.

[Click here to register to this event](#)

After registering online through the www.fi-compass.eu website, registrants will receive an automatic email acknowledging receipt of their registration. This message is not a confirmation of participation. Within two weeks after application the registrants will be informed by a separate email whether or not they can attend the conference. The decision will be based on available seats, targeted audience and balanced representation of Member States and organisations. When entering the venue, participants need to have their valid national identification document (ID) at hand. Participants who registered but will not be able to attend the conference are kindly asked to inform the organisers at: events@fi-compass.eu.



Agenda

Paris, 10 October 2017 (Tuesday)

Venue: Paris Marriott Champs Elysees Hotel, 70 Av. des Champs-Élysées, 75008 Paris, France

Moderator: Ms Katrina Sichel, *fi-compass* expert

07:30 Doors open, registration and coffee

09:00 **Welcomes and introductions**

Opening statement from

Mr Phil Hogan, European Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development

Host welcome and policy statements from

Ms Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle, Director-General for the Economic and Environmental Performance of Enterprises, Ministry for Agriculture, France

Ms Carole Delga, President, Occitanie region, France

Introductory opening statements from

Mr Pim van Ballekom, Vice-President, European Investment Bank

Mr Pier Luigi Gilibert, Chief Executive, European Investment Fund

10:15 **Farm unions' views on access to capital for agriculture and farm investment needs in the EU**

Mr Jean-Louis Cazaubon, Vice-chair of the COPA-COGECA Working Party on Rural Development

Mr Dominique Fayel, Board member, Fédération Nationale des Syndicats d'Exploitants Agricoles (FNSEA)

Followed by Q&A

10:45 Coffee and networking

11:30 **EAFRD financial instruments in France**

EAFRD Guarantee Fund in the Occitanie region, France

Mr Stéphane Molinier, Chief Executive Officer, Occitanie region, France

Ms Cindy Schultz, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Agri-Food and Forestry, Occitanie region, France

Mr Nicolas Mestres, Head of Unit, Agricultural Market, Banque Populaire du Sud, France

Occitanie's Farm business entrepreneurs – success stories video

Starting with EAFRD financial instruments

Ms Camille Massol, Project Manager, Directorate of Agriculture, Agro-food and Sea, Nouvelle-Aquitaine region, France

Followed by Q&A and a discussion

13:00 Lunch

14:00 **Experiences of EAFRD managing authorities in preparing or using financial instruments**

Financial instruments within the EAFRD in Estonia – case study video

Multi-regional EAFRD Guarantee Fund in Italy

Prof. Gianluca Nardone, Head of Managing Authority of the Regional Rural Development

Programme Puglia, Puglia region, Italy

(continued overleaf)



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Preparing for EAFRD financial instruments: lessons learned and policy vision

Ms Adela Stefan, Head of Coordination and Evaluation Unit, Managing Authority for the National Rural Development Programme, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Romania

Mr Krešimir Ivančić, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Croatia

Mr Konstantinos Apostolopoulos, Head of Evaluation and Institutional Support Unit, Ministry of Agriculture, Greece

Followed by Q&A and discussions

15:30 Coffee and networking

15:50 EFSI for agriculture and rural development

Mr Benjamin Angel, Director Treasury and Financial Operations, DG Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission

Combination of EAFRD resources with EFSI and other sources of finance: opportunities offered by the EIB Group

Mr Simon Barnes, Director of Advisory Services Department, European Investment Bank

Mr Hubert Cottogni, Director of Mandate Management, European Investment Fund

Followed by Q&A and discussions

16:45 Financing agriculture in France

Mr Jean-Christophe Roubin, Director of Agriculture, Crédit Agricole

Mr Michel Cottet, General Director, SIAGI, France

Followed by Q&A and discussions

17:30 Closing remarks

Ms Josefine Loriz-Hoffmann, Director, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission



FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS



The proceedings of the fi-compass conference in Paris will be graphically recorded

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