

EURAGRI and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and
Water Management (BML AT)

Joint Workshop

***The European Commission's Strategic Dialogue and Vision for
Agriculture and Food***

Stakeholder Perspectives on Achieving the Vision

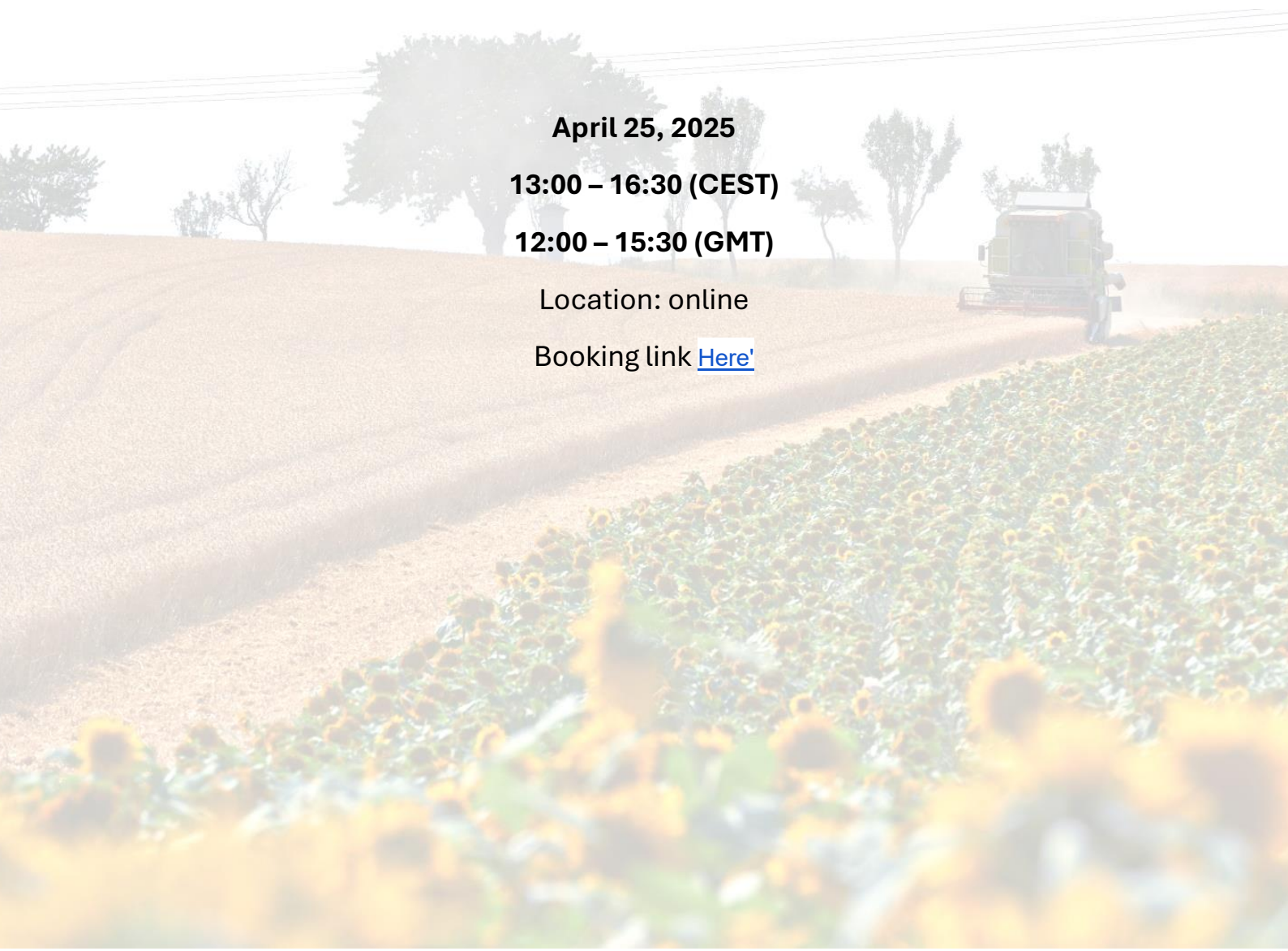
April 25, 2025

13:00 – 16:30 (CEST)

12:00 – 15:30 (GMT)

Location: online

Booking link [Here'](#)



Background

Following the publication of the EU's Strategic Dialogue on the Future of Agriculture, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen emphasised that the report provides a strong foundation for shaping a new vision for food and farming in Europe. It presents a consensus-driven set of concrete recommendations, outlining practical pathways toward resilient rural areas and sustainable food systems that are economically viable for farmers and the food chain, environmentally responsible, and socially fair for current and future generations.

These recommendations have directly influenced the European Commission's work, guiding its Vision for Agriculture and Food, published on February 19, 2025. However, translating this vision into reality requires navigating complex trade-offs. Achieving meaningful progress will demand collaborative solutions, open dialogue, and decisive yet inclusive choices on alternative pathways. Science must serve as an honest broker, offering evidence-based insights, while policy must adopt a holistic approach to food systems. Crucially, farmers must be at the centre of this process, ensuring their needs, realities, and expertise shape the way forward.

Our upcoming workshop will explore these critical issues. Two distinguished speakers will provide key insights into the Strategic Dialogue's recommendations and the Commission's vision for the sector. Research, policy, and farming experts will share their perspectives on turning ambition into action.



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Programme

- 13:00. **Welcome and Introductions.**
- Dr Bernhard Bichler (Director for Research, Innovation and Corporate Services, BML AT) and Prof Uno Svedin, EURAGRI President.
- 13:10. **Introduction Session 1.**
- Chair: Prof Uno Svedin, EURAGRI President.
- 13:15. **Reflection on the Strategic Dialogue process and outcomes – Lessons for Achieving the Vision for Agriculture and Food.**
- Prof Peter Strohschneider, Chairman of the Strategic Dialogue.
- 13:40. **The European Commission's Vision for Agriculture and Food and the implications for the new CAP.**
- Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle, Director of DG AGRI's Strategy and Policy Analysis Directorate 14:05.
- Discussion**
- 14:25. **Break**
- 14:40. **Introduction to Session 2.**
- Chair: Dr Bernhard Bichler, Director for Research, Innovation and Corporate Services, BML AT.
- 14:45. **A Researcher Perspective on Achieving the Vision.**
- Prof Marianne Penker, BOKU University Vienna and SAPEA.
- 15:05. **A Farmer's Perspective on Achieving the Vision.**
- Thomas Duffy, Irish Family Farmer.
- 15:25. **A Policy and Administrative Perspective - From vision to action: Cornerstones for successfully implementing the CAP post-2027.**
- Thomas Neudorfer, Director for Agri-Environment Mountain Farmers and Less-Favoured Areas, Organic Farming, BML AT.
- 15:45. **Break**
- 15:50. **Discussion led by Co-Chairs, Dr Bernhard Bichler and Prof Uno Svedin.**
- A Ten-minute Initial Reflection and Discussion Opener.**
- Prof Gianluca Brunori, University of Pisa.
- 16:20. **Co-Chairs closing words.**

Peter Strohschneider is Professor emeritus for German Medieval Studies at the University of Munich. From 2006 to 2011, he served as Chairman of the Wissenschaftsrat and was President of the German Research Foundation from 2013 to 2019. Since 2020, he has chaired the Commission on the Future of Agriculture. He has worked in the fields of science administration and policy. Peter was appointed as chair of the Strategic Dialogue on the Future of EU Agriculture, based on his longstanding experience.



Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle is the Director of the Strategy and Policy Analysis Directorate in DG AGRI. She has over 30 years of experience in various high-level roles within European institutions and the French Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. She has used her strong scientific and technical expertise to design and implement public agricultural and food policies at national, European and international levels. Catherine led the support team in assisting Professor Strohschneider's work on the Strategic Dialogue and plays a crucial role in preparing for the future CAP.



Thomas Duffy is an Irish dairy farmer in County Cavan, Ireland. He is a former vice-president of the European Council of Young Farmers. He previously served as president of Macra Na Feirme, the young Irish farmers' association. He has studied sustainable agriculture and environmental management and works on the family farm in partnership with his parents. Thomas's expertise in both agriculture and environmental science gives him a unique perspective on environmental issues.



Thomas Neudorfer is the Director of Agri-Environment Mountain Farmers and Less-Favoured Areas, Organic Farming. Neudorfer grew up on a dairy farm and holds an academic background in Agrico-Economy. He has extensive experience in the areas of agricultural policy and environmental management, focusing on the promotion of sustainable farming practices and to maintain farming in less-favoured areas.



Marianne Penker is a Professor for Rural Sociology and Rural Development at the Institute of Sustainable Economic Development at BOKU Vienna. As a sustainability scientist, she is committed to interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research that supports transformative solutions in rural areas of Europe and beyond. For the EU Commission, she co-authored the SAPEA report on sustainable food systems and presented the key findings to the EU Parliament. Her work has transformed the way people perceive agri-food governance and the integration of diverse academic and stakeholder knowledge.



Gianluca Brunori is a Professor of Food Policy at the Department of Agriculture, Food, and Environment at the University of Pisa and a researcher with over 30 years of experience in research projects at international, EU, national, regional, and local levels. His research focuses on sustainable rural development and the sustainability of food systems, as well as the related innovation processes. By now, this work has resulted in over 90 scientific publications, more than 15 book chapters, several books and other academic contributions.

