The number of farms in Europe fell by 20% between 2007 and 2013 alone, dropping from 13.6 million to 10.8 million in those six years according to the latest official statistics from Eurostat. This reduction in the number of farms is accompanied by significant job losses.

Between 2007 and 2013, the total agricultural workforce in the EU-28 fell by 2.3 million annual work units, which equates to a 19.8% reduction. Insufficient generational renewal is also a growing problem in Europe, as 30% of farm managers are over 65 year old.

The European Parliament have recently adopted a report urging the EU institutions to rethink the objectives of the CAP so as to establish it once again as a public policy for the benefit of all, which meets the needs of society and addresses employment challenges.

This conference has a double objective:

- To launch a political momentum for debating all aspects of the future CAP from local and regional perspective
- To prepare an outlook opinion of the NAT commission on the future of the CAP after 2020
9.30 – 9.45  **Opening and welcome address**

Anthony BUCHANAN (UK/EA), Vice-Chair of the NAT Commission of the CoR
Guillaume CROS (FR/PES), CoR Rapporteur on "the future of CAP after 2020"

9.45 – 10.30  **European institutions positions**

Eric ANDRIEU (FR/SD), rapporteur on "How can the CAP improve job creation in rural areas?" in the European Parliament
Flavio COTURNI, European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development
Roderick GALDES, Maltese Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture and president of the Council
Brendan BURNS, Chair of the NAT Section of the EESC

10.30 – 11.15  **Discussion**

11.15 – 12.00  **Experts and professionals views**

Professor Allan BUCKWELL, the Director of the latest report on CAP of the Rural Investment Support for Europe (RISE) Foundation, [CAP - thinking out of the box](#)
John POWELL and Bernd SCHUH: Presentation of the preparatory study of the Andrieu report on jobs and growth
Fabrizio GARBARINO, [European Coordination Via Campesina](#)
Alan JAGOE, Chair of the [European Council of Young Farmers](#)

12.00 – 12.45  **Discussion**

12.45 -13.00  **Closing**

Guillaume CROS (FR/PES), CoR Rapporteur on "the future of CAP after 2020"