

## **SS3. Agriculture's Role in Addressing Contemporary Challenges in Rural Development**

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Reflecting on the transformative events of systemic changes in Central and Eastern Europe, EU accessions, financial crises, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and the urgent environmental challenges, it becomes evident that agriculture plays a pivotal role in navigating these complexities.

This session on agriculture within the broader context of rural development aims to explore the intersection of rural landscapes, food systems, and sustainable practices. We invite researchers, scholars, and practitioners to contribute their insights into how agriculture can address and adapt to contemporary challenges.

Contributions are welcomed on a range of topics, including resilient food systems, the interplay of rural-urban connections, innovative farming practices, community engagement, and effective policy and governance. By delving into these key areas, this session aims to foster a comprehensive understanding of the role agriculture plays in shaping the rural landscapes of the past, present, and future.