



The SafeHabitus Communities of Practice:

Krakow, Poland – June 2025 – The SafeHabitus project hosted the 3rd SafeHabitus Summer School. This three-day event served as a collaborative platform for all SafeHabitus project partners and Communities of Practice to foster the exchange innovative ideas, and to learn from each other and other international stakeholders. A significant highlight of this year's edition was the SafeHabitus and International Social Security Association (ISSA) Joint Colloquium on "The Prevention's Role in Advancing Social Sustainability in Agriculture".

This two-day colloquium gathered international stakeholders, including occupational safety and health (OSH) experts, researchers, and national institutions. These dialogues explored comprehensive preventive strategies vital for the occupational, economic, and social well-being in farming, with a strong emphasis on critical aspects of physical and mental health support for farmers and farm workers.

"Prevention is the foundation of sustainable agriculture," said Dr David Meredith, SafeHabitus Project Leader, during the opening panel. "Through our research, we see that national and EU incentives enabling farmers to invest in safer equipment and facilities don't just prevent injuries and fatalities - they make farming more attractive to the next generation. SafeHabitus demonstrates how targeted prevention strategies can transform both safety outcomes and the future of agricultural communities."

Furthermore, the Summer School hosted the Transnational Communities of Practice (CoP) meeting. The 11 SafeHabitus CoPs engaged in collaborative workshops, identifying and mapping good practices crucial to the project's core objectives: physical and mental health, machinery safety, livestock farm safety, and the common well-being of all farmers and farm workers. The outcomes of the workshops will directly inform the development of a research tool supporting the development of good practices in farm safety and health across the sector.

Dr Jarkko Leppälä, Transnational Community of Practice Leader, explained the importance of cooperation for improving farm health and safety across the project countries: "In the SafeHabitus project, we identified similar farm occupational safety and health (OSH) challenges across CoP countries. Key issues include managing major safety risks, safe tractor use, addressing psychosocial risks, understanding animal behaviour, and proper PPE use. While policies, working conditions and safety culture vary across countries the project aims to identify common solutions taking into account each country's priority needs."

More information:

- [SafeHabitus Summer School 2024 | SafeHabitus](#)
- [Community of Practice | SafeHabitus](#)

About the Joint Colloquium:

The event is organised by the International Section of the ISSA on Prevention in Agriculture, in cooperation with SafeHabitus, Agricultural University in Krakow, Poland, Kasa Rolniczego Ubezpieczenia Społecznego (KRUS), Państwowa Inspekcja Pracy (PIP), and the Central Institute for Labour Protection - National Research Institute (CIOP-PIB).

About SafeHabitus:

[SafeHabitus](#) project is a four-year project coordinated by TEAGASC Ireland, funded by the European Union as part of the Horizon Europe Programme, grant agreement number 101084270. This multi-actor project aims to strengthen Farm Health and Safety Knowledge Innovation Systems (FHS KIS) and support the EU transition to social sustainability in farming.

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