

PROGRESS Workshop on Agricultural Insurance and Climate Adaptation in the EU's Eastern Partnership Countries

Agenda

5-6 October 2026

Venue: OECD Premises in Boulogne
46, Quai Alphonse Le Gallo
92100 Boulogne-Billancourt
France

*Organised back-to-back with the PROGRESS Regional Co-ordination Committee meeting
(5 October 2026 at the same venue)*

For online participation, please register for the workshop [here](#)

Background:

The agricultural sector, including in the European Union's Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine), is already facing growing pressure to adapt as climate risks are projected to increase in the coming decades. Without adequate adaptation, productivity losses in agriculture could undermine food security, exacerbate poverty and threaten political stability. A range of policy interventions —such as public subsidies, blended finance mechanisms, and insurance schemes— have been introduced to catalyse greater financial flows into climate-resilient agriculture.

Building on earlier analysis carried out by the OECD on existing financial instruments for climate adaptation and resilience in agriculture in the EaP countries, agricultural insurance has emerged as one of the key entry points for strengthening climate adaptation finance in these countries.

Initial analysis showed that although agricultural insurance schemes exist in the region, their uptake remains limited and their contribution to climate-resilient investment is constrained. Existing schemes tend to function as stand-alone instruments, with inadequate integration into broader agricultural finance systems, including credit, subsidies, and advisory services. This fragmentation limits the effectiveness of insurance both as a risk transfer mechanism and as an enabler of climate-resilient investment.

Agricultural risk is not currently managed in a sufficiently layered and coordinated way, where different instruments address different types of risk and investment needs. As a result, insurance is often expected to cover functions beyond its optimal role, while complementary financial and policy instruments remain insufficiently aligned.

International experience also shows that agricultural insurance alone cannot drive resilient and environmentally sustainable farming practices and investments. In order to make insurance work for reducing climate-related risk agricultural insurance needs to be meaningfully integrated into more holistic country strategies and financial programmes for adapting to climate change.

In addition, like all climate adaptation policies and tools, insurance schemes must be based on evidence. Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessments (CRVA) can potentially inform the design of such measures. Within the PROGRESS project, the OECD is undertaking a CRVA of selected horticultural products in Ukraine to support Ukraine's national climate change policy framework.

In response to the calls from the EaP countries, the OECD has launched in-depth analysis on adjustments required to improve agricultural insurance and its coherence with other financial and policy instruments, to better support climate adaptation investments in agriculture.

Meeting Objectives:

The meeting, organised by the OECD in conjunction with the PROGRESS' Regional Co-ordination Committee, will be held on 5 and 6 October 2026 at the OECD premises in Paris, and aims to:

- Present preliminary findings from the OECD's ongoing work on agricultural insurance for climate adaptation in Armenia, Moldova and Ukraine;
- Share international experience and lessons learnt from other regions of the world on aligning agricultural insurance, climate risk management and climate-resilient agricultural investment;
- Discuss approaches to mobilising public and private finance to support climate adaptation and resilience in agriculture;
- Exchange views on emerging priorities, challenges and policy approaches for strengthening agricultural insurance and climate adaptation finance in the Eastern Partnership countries.

Armenia, Moldova and Ukraine will serve as case study countries for this analysis. The findings will be presented and discussed during the meeting, and participants' feedback will inform the finalisation of the country studies and support the development of country roadmaps for aligning agricultural insurance schemes with climate adaptation objectives.

In addition to the dissemination of analytical findings and international good practices to strengthen agricultural resilience, the event will also contribute to the mobilisation of expertise and stakeholder engagement needed to advance reforms in agricultural insurance and climate adaptation in the EaP region.

Participants:

The meeting will convene government officials, including those working on agricultural insurance and climate change policies in the EaP countries, international organisations and financial institutions, academics and consultants active in the field as well as PROGRESS Partners (OECD, GIZ, REC Caucasus, EBA Moldova, IEF Ukraine).

The meeting will be held in a hybrid form with a preference for in-person participation and will be conducted in English.

AGENDA

Time (CEST)

5 October 2026, Monday

14:30 – 14:45

Welcome and Introduction

- Mr. **Krzysztof Michalak**, Senior Programme Manager, OECD Environment Directorate (Moderator)
- Ms. **Léa Bigot**, Senior Advisor, Division for Cooperation with Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Africa and Middle East, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

14:45 – 15:15

The State of Global Agricultural Insurance under a Changing Climate

Extreme weather is driving up crop and livestock losses worldwide and straining the very insurance markets farmers rely on to recover. The Environmental Defense Fund's new global report, [The State of Global Agricultural Insurance Under a Changing Climate](#), examines agricultural insurance programmes and market trends and explores pathways toward strengthening agricultural insurance systems to protect farmers, their business partners and our global food supply. Key findings and regional perspectives from the report will be presented and discussed during the session.

- Ms. **Erin Leonard**, Project Manager, Climate-Smart Agriculture, Environmental Defense Fund (online)

Related publications

- [The State of Global Agricultural Insurance Under a Changing Climate](#)
- [Agricultural Finance Institutions are Building Resilience Through Climate and Sustainability Action](#)

15:15 – 15:45

Improving Agricultural Insurance for Climate Adaptation: Lessons from Decades of Research in the Global South

Drawing on decades of international development research, this session examines what has worked, and what has not, in using insurance to protect farmer incomes and enable climate-resilient investment. After outlining core lessons on insurance's benefits, persistent coverage gaps and the importance of product design, the presentation turns to a growing frontier: linking insurance with credit to unlock climate adaptation investment among smallholder farmers. Examples include an alternative data-based, plot-level credit scoring tool paired with photo-based insurance for

smallholder farmers in India; a new initiative combining credit-insurance products with incentives for climate-smart agriculture adoption; and lessons on financial institution demand for de-risking agricultural loans.

- Ms. **Berber Kramer**, Senior Research Fellow, International Food Policy Research Institute

Related publications

- [Agricultural Insurance: Policies and Programs for Reducing Farmer Risk](#)
- [Is Agricultural Insurance Fulfilling Its Promise for the Developing World? A Review of Recent Evidence | Annual Reviews](#)
- [CGIAR Research on Agricultural Insurance: Past Achievements and Future Research Priorities](#)

15:45 – 16:15

Insurance and Risk Management Tools for Agriculture in the EU

Drawing on the first EU-wide quantification of current and future climate-related financial risks to agriculture, this session will present an assessment of agricultural climate risks through the risk metrics used in global insurance and risk capital markets. The analysis, published by the European Commission and the European Investment Bank, provides a forward-looking assessment of financial risks to agriculture under current conditions and towards 2050. It also examines the performance of existing agricultural insurance systems and wider public pre-arranged financing mechanisms in covering these risks, identifies the resulting protection gap and sets out actionable recommendations to strengthen financial resilience. The session will highlight the key findings of the assessment and discuss how these recommendations are being taken forward in the current implementation phase.

- Mr. **Rowan Douglas**, Honorary Practice Fellow, Centre for Climate Finance and Investment, Imperial College London
- Ms. **Ana Gonzalez Pelaez**, Senior Advisor, RiskLayer

Related publications:

- [Insurance and Risk Management Tools for Agriculture in the EU](#)

16:15 – 16:45

Coffee break

16:45 – 17:15

Macroeconomic Consequences for Policymakers of Underinsurance in the Crop Sector

Worsening climate and nature shocks to the crop sector translate into risk for the macroeconomy through multiple channels, such as food price inflation, supply chain disruption and financial market instability. Governments are increasingly required to provide emergency financial support in the face of these shocks and this creates unbudgeted contingent liabilities. Crop insurance is a promising yet underutilised risk

management mechanism that can be used to shift fiscal risk off the public balance sheet and promote adaptation in the crop sector.

- Ms. **Wallis Greenslade**, Policy Fellow, London School of Economics / Centre for Economic Transition Expertise
- Ms. **Daisy Jameson**, Senior Policy Fellow, London School of Economics / Centre for Economic Transition Expertise

Related publications

- [Rooted in Resilience: Crop Insurance as a Fiscal Tool for Climate Adaptation and Nature Restoration in the EU Agri-Food System](#)
- [The Insurance-Bank Nexus: The Climate Protection Gap as a Source of Risk for the Financial System](#)
- [Rethinking Crop Insurance for a Resilient Agri-Food System in a Hotter Europe](#)
- [Deluge Revives Concerns About European Food Price Rises](#)

17:15 – 17:45

Governments Leading Agricultural Insurance Systems for Climate Adaptation: Good International Practices and Global Experiences

Drawing on global experiences from 14 country case studies, including China, the United States and India, the presentation highlights a common factor underpinning the scale-up of agricultural insurance initiatives: the role of governments in shifting the agenda from market development towards systems transformation, anchored in nationally defined public objectives and supported by coordinated action across public and private actors. Such a coordinated effort can elevate the discussion from a primarily technical agenda to a broader political and strategic engagement, encouraging countries to articulate a clear vision for how agricultural insurance can contribute to wider development priorities, embedded into wider systems such as agricultural risk management, agricultural finance and climate adaptation.

- Mr. **Edgar Aguilar**, Value Chain Resilience Specialist, UNDP Insurance and Risk Finance Facility

Related publications

- [Government Pathways to Transform Agricultural Insurance](#)
- [Building Resilient Agricultural Finance and Insurance Markets in Ethiopia: The Rural Finance Service Unit](#)
- [Agricultural Insurance Deep Dive](#)
- [How Public Development Banks Can Use Insurance to De-Risk Agricultural Lending](#)

17:45 – 18:00

Wrap-up and Outlook for Day 2

- Mr. **Krzysztof Michalak**, OECD Environment Directorate

18:00 – 20:00

Reception at the OECD premises

6 October 2026, Tuesday

09:30 – 09:45

Summary of Day 1

- Mr. **Krzysztof Michalak**, OECD Environment Directorate (Moderator)

09:45 – 11:15

Country Analysis: Armenia

Agriculture in Armenia is highly exposed to climate-related risks such as frost, hail and drought, which affect farmers' production, incomes and their ability to invest in resilience. Agricultural insurance has developed since 2020 with the support of state premium subsidies, but it still covers around 5% of planted area, is concentrated in a small number of crops and regions and operates in parallel with agricultural lending rather than alongside it. Linking the two could widen the insured base, improve the quality of the risk pool, and give both farmers and lenders a reason to invest in more resilient practices and technologies. This session will present a draft mechanism linking agricultural credit and insurance in Armenia and discuss the incentives, regulatory conditions and sequencing needed for it to work, including how premium subsidies, loan conditions and risk-reduction measures can be aligned to support climate adaptation.

- Introductory presentation (20 min)
 - Mr. **Vahagn Voskanyan**, OECD Consultant (online)
- Panel discussion of invited experts (50 min):
 - Ms. **Ligia Ghazaryan**, Executive Director, Agricultural Insurance National Agency
 - Ms. **Nvard Shahmuradyan**, Agricultural Insurance Expert and Director, Baleny Agroconsulting LLC (online)
 - Ms. **Ani Sargsyan**, Deputy CEO / Chief Financial Officer of "Farm Credit Armenia" Universal Credit Organization (online)
 - Mr. **Andriy Zaripov**, Project Lead, EU Sustainable Finance Project, Climate Risk Management and Paris Alignment Project, International Finance Corporation
- Open discussion (20 min)

11:15 – 11:45

Coffee break

11:45 – 13:15

Country Analysis: Moldova

Agriculture is a cornerstone of Moldova's economy, yet the sector remains highly vulnerable to weather and climate-related shocks, with economic losses among the highest in Europe. Supported by a 70% premium subsidy, agricultural insurance has expanded in recent years and is increasingly recognised as an important component

of the country's agricultural risk management framework. At present, climate adaptation factors remain insufficiently incorporated into insurers' underwriting decisions and commercial banks' credit risk assessments. As Moldova continues to modernise its agricultural risk management system and align with European approaches, this session will explore opportunities to reform and strengthen the existing agricultural insurance framework to ensure that it is effective, sustainable and compatible with evolving EU requirements.

- Introductory presentation (20 min)
 - Mr. **Hans Kordik**, Team Leader, German-Moldovan Agricultural Policy Dialogue (online)
- Panel discussion of invited experts (50 min):
 - Ms. **Ana Coutinho**, Head of Service, Climate Change, Environmental Measures and Risk Management Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry of Moldova (online)
 - Ms. **Svetlana Lupascu**, Executive Director, Union of Insurers of Moldova
 - Mr. **Vladimir Erhan**, Deputy Head, Credit Department, Eurocredit Bank (online)
 - Mr. **Jean Cordier**, Agricultural Insurance Expert, Professor Emeritus, Institut Agro Rennes, France
- Open discussion (20 min)

Related publications

- [Risk Management Framework for Moldovan Agriculture: Experiences of EU Member States for Insurable Climatic and Sanitary Risks: Drawing Lessons for the Republic of Moldova](#)

13:15 – 14:30

Lunch break

14:30 – 16:00

Country Analysis: Ukraine

Climate change is creating growing challenges for Ukraine's agricultural sector, underscoring the need for insurance solutions that better protect farmers and encourage investment in resilience. This session will review the current state of agricultural insurance in Ukraine, including the legal and regulatory framework, market infrastructure, available products, the renewed system of government premium support introduced in 2026, and the role of insurance in agricultural finance. It will also explore practical experience with insurance-linked financing and discuss priorities for further market development from the perspectives of government, insurers, financial institutions and development partners. The discussion will consider how agricultural insurance can better support climate adaptation and climate-resilient investment in Ukraine.

- Introductory presentation (20 min)

- Ms. **Nataliia Gerasymenko**, OECD Consultant
- Panel discussion of invited experts (50 min)
 - Mr. **Bagrat Akhidzhanov**, Director of the Directorate for Agrarian Development, Ministry of Economy and Environment of Ukraine
 - Mr. **Ivan Golovenko**, Agricultural Insurance Lead, MF Strategy (online)
 - Mr. **Yevhen Savchuk**, Head of Agribusiness Support and Development Division, JSC "CREDIT AGRICOLE UKRAINE" (online)
 - Ms. **Irina Schuman**, Lead Agriculture Economist, Agriculture and Food Global Practice, Europe and Central Asia, World Bank Group Vienna Office (online)
- Open discussion (20 min)

16:00 – 16:30

Coffee break

16:30 – 17:00

Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment: A Tool for Adaptation Planning in Ukraine

A Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA) evaluates current and projected climate hazards, the vulnerability of people, ecosystems and economic sectors to those hazards, and their capacity to adapt. CRVAs support adaptation planning by identifying priority risks and informing adaptation measures, resilient infrastructure design, and climate risk management, including insurance solutions. This session will present the draft findings of an ongoing CRVA of apples, strawberries, raspberries and walnuts in Ukraine, conducted under the PROGRESS project to support Ukraine's climate adaptation planning.

- Ms. **Svitlana Krakovska**, Expert on Applied Climatology, Egis Consulting (online)
- Open discussion (10 min)

17:00 – 17:15

Summary, Next Steps and Closing Remarks

- Mr. **Krzysztof Michalak**, OECD Environment Directorate
- Ms. **Martina Kolb**, PROGRESS Project Director, GIZ

About PROGRESS:

The project “Promoting Green Deal Readiness in the Eastern Partnership Countries” (PROGRESS) is implemented on behalf of the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the Federal Government of Germany. Within the Federal Government, the IKI is anchored in the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMUKN). The selected project is also the responsibility of the Federal Foreign Office (AA). PROGRESS is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, as the lead agency, in partnership with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Regional Environmental Centre for the Caucasus (RECC), the European Business Association (EBA) Moldova and the Institute for Economics and Forecasting of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (IEF).

PROGRESS aims to support the EaP countries with achieving long-term mitigation, adaptation and sustainable development consistent with the EU Green Deal objectives and 1.5°C pathways of the Paris Agreement with a focus on horticulture. Another project objective is promoting the competitiveness and trade opportunities of the agricultural sector from the EaP countries on the EU market. PROGRESS lasts during 2024-2028 and has a total budget of EUR 20 million.

The OECD leads implementation of two out of the Project’s five Outputs: Output I on evidence-based national policies and frameworks for climate change adaptation and resilience in agriculture, and Output IV on access to and mobilisation of green finance in agriculture.