

Rural Vision Week

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European Network for
Rural Development

Rural Vision Week



Funded by the



- Over 550 stakeholders online
- EC Vice President, two Commissioners and Portugal's Agriculture Minister
- European Parliament, Committee of the Regions and European Economic and Social Committee
- 30+ international keynote speakers, panelists and contributors (OECD, USA etc)
- 23 Marketplace host organisations (NRNs, H2020 etc)
- 11 rural stakeholder fringe event hosts
- 20 rural stakeholder testimonials from 17 Member States
- National and other rural networks

Programme

- Five day virtual programme
- Two high level plenary sessions
- Two working plenary sessions
- Webstream of plenary sessions
- Eight thematic workshops
- 11 'Fringe' events
- 20 rural video testimonials
- Marketplace and matchmaking
- Rural Inspiration Awards event
- Dedicated YouTube channel and webpage

Plus 'Welcome to our rural & TG'

Package:

19 Member States

1 EU association

166 contributions

3000 participants

Thematic Group:

17 Member States

50 participants

Examples of strategies &
what can be done



A vision which responds to rural diversity - built around common strands

- **Change the narrative about rural areas** to stress their distinctive contribution to the wellbeing of the whole of society.
- **Align and adapt policies** to help the narrative become reality.
- **Shape policy** through bottom-up **inclusive processes**, build ownership and buy-in.
- **Empower** local people to manage transition with **enabling conditions** at the right scale – **capacity building**, support for innovation, simplification...
- Mobilise **targeted investments from all funds** in infrastructure and services – digital = priority - also green, social, circular, bioeconomy, energy, food, mobility...
- Use **cooperation to build connections** - rural to rural, rural to urban, between sectors, between levels. **Break rural isolation**, promote open communities

With a concrete framework for action

- Develop a **holistic EU approach** to the design and implementation of rural policies at all levels.
- Translate this into **integrated action plans/strategies with concrete objectives**, targets and milestones, tangible initiatives and tracking of results at different levels.
- Go **beyond rural proofing** to establish **clear mechanisms for policy coordination** with defined leadership, responsibilities and budgets (e.g. rural engagement with the European Semester, the Conference of Europe....)
- Build the **knowledge base and necessary data** (Rural Observatory)
- **Enable and empower local action** (hubs, innovative community spaces, partnerships, knowledge transfer, invigorated CLLD, Smart Villages, youth..)

Thank you