



## Policy Action Lab

# Taking action to tackle rural depopulation

29 June 2023

Venue: Martin's Hotel, Bd Charlemagne 80, 1000 Bruxelles

## AGENDA

Time	Activity
	<b>Opening session and launching the Rural Revitalisation Platform</b> Opening remarks by Colin Scicluna, Head of Cabinet of Dubravka Šuica, European Commission Vice-President for Democracy and Demography  Introduction to the event by the Rural Pact Support Office
<b>09.30 – 10.45</b>	Presentation of the Rural Revitalisation Platform by Marie Lambert, Programme Assistant, European Commission Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development  <i>Stakeholders' panel: "How can stakeholders make the most of the Platform to combat rural depopulation"</i>
<b>10.45 – 11.15</b>	<b>Networking coffee</b>
	<b>Taking action: Policy design, coordination and integration</b> <i>Learning from the experiences of policy design, coordination and integration:</i> - The national strategy for rural depopulation in <b>Spain</b> , by Juana López Pagan, Director-General on Policies against Depopulation, Ministry for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge  - Integrating different policies and actors around rural depopulation in <b>Finland</b> , by Auli Sihvola and Maria McPartlin, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry - Lessons learnt from the national strategy for <b>Italy's</b> inner areas, by Francesco Mantino, Research Centre for Agricultural Policies and Bioeconomy  <i>Discussion: drawing recommendations and practical advice for improving the design and implementation of more focused and integrated policies.</i>
<b>11.15 – 12.45</b>	
<b>12.45 – 14.00</b>	<b>Lunch break (buffet)</b>
	<b>Taking action: Local empowerment, capacity building and innovation</b> <i>Learning from experiences on enabling policies for building capacity, creating linkages and fostering innovation in communities facing population decline.</i> <i>Discussion in working groups based on examples covering the following themes:</i> (1) <b>Improving rural quality of life: territorial marketing and affordable services</b> , including presentations by:
<b>14.00 – 15.30</b>	



- *Blandine Camus, Euromontana*
- *João Almeida, Rural Move (PT)*

**(2) Boosting incomes through sustainable businesses, including presentations by:**

- *Tom Jones, European Rural Community Alliance*
- *Elisabet Acedo Labat, Biblioteca Eduardo Pérez de la Fanosa (ES)*
- *Kate Carmody, Hemp Cooperative Ireland*

**(3) Testing and piloting new approaches to tackle rural depopulation, including presentations by:**

- *Ryszard Kamiński, Kujawsko-Pomorski Agricultural Advisory Centre in Minikowo (PL)*
- *Christiana Gardikioti, The Meraki People (GR)*

*Drawing recommendations on current and future policy approaches to enable this local action.*

**15.30 – 16.00**

**Networking coffee**

**Closing session: Recommendations and action points to revitalise rural areas now and in the future**

*Key messages from discussions*

*Final stakeholders' panel*

**16.00 – 17.30**

Contributions by :

- Marc Bournisien de Valmont (OECD)
- Serafin Pazos Vidal (AEIDL)

Closing comments by Mario Milouchev, Director for CAP Strategic Plans II, Rural Areas and EU CAP Network, European Commission Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development