



What is the Rural Pact and where do digital skills fit in the rural vision?

Alexia Rouby (EC DG AGRI)

Rural Pact good practice webinar

"Strengthening digital skills of rural people to benefit from the digital era"

08/06/2023



#RuralPact



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the European Union

The long-term vision for EU's rural areas

Vice-president of EC
Demography & Democracy
Dubravka Šuica



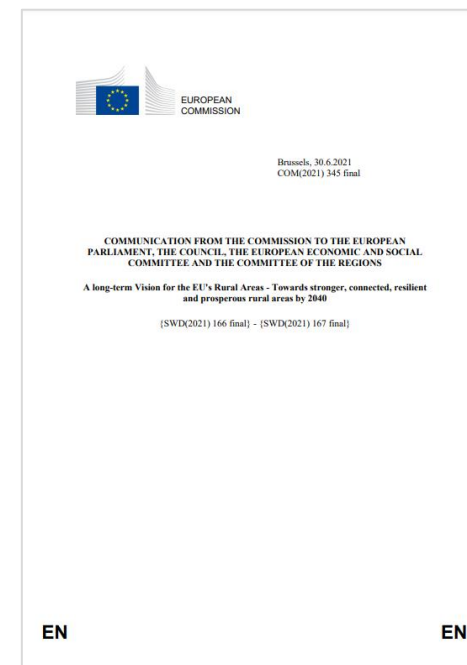
Communication from the EC
(June 2021)



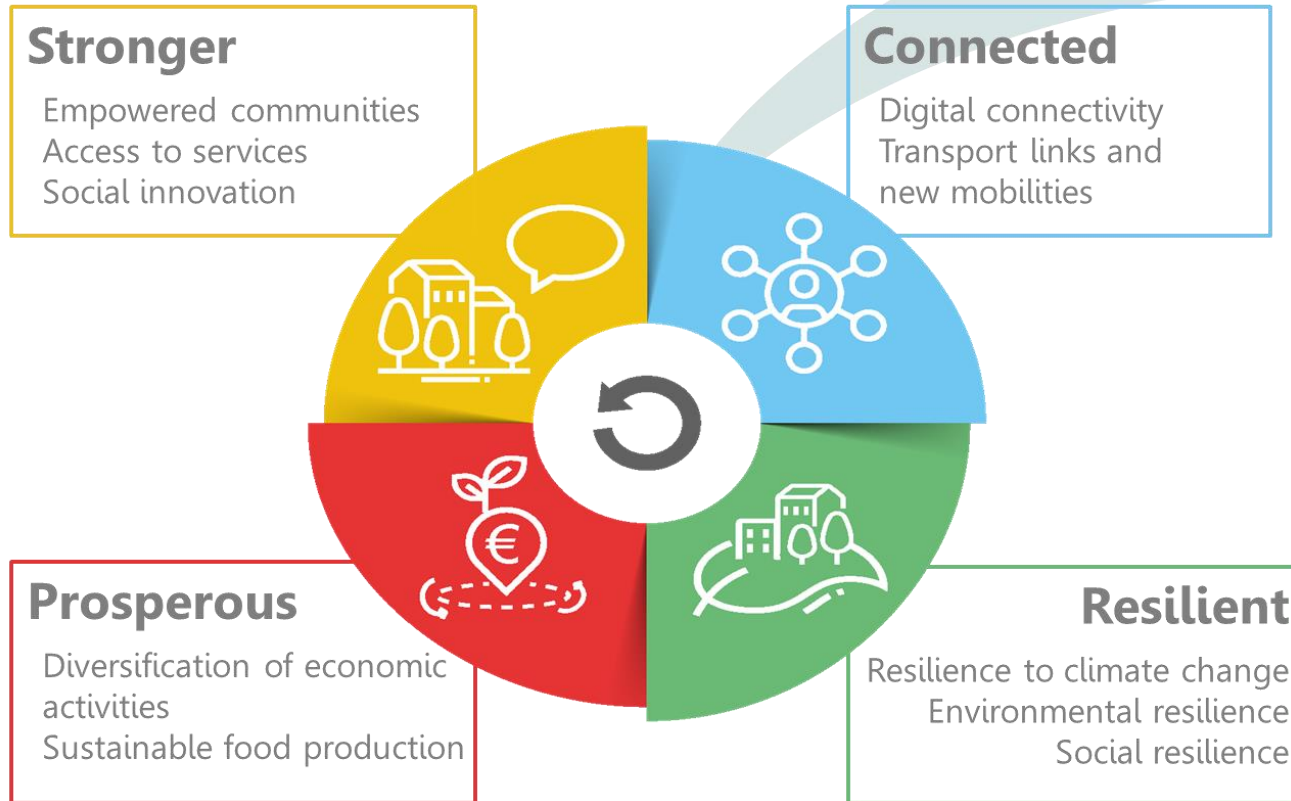
Commissioner (Agriculture)
Janusz Wojciechowski



Commissioner (Cohesion and reforms)
Elisa Ferreira



The rural vision by 2040



Shared goals for 2040



Rural action plan (EC) & Rural Pact (everyone)



The long-term vision for the EU's rural areas



LONG-TERM VISION FOR RURAL AREAS

10 SHARED GOALS FOR 2040

1. **Attractive spaces**, developed in harmonious **territorial development**
2. Engaged in **multi-level** and **place-based governance**
3. Providers of **food security**, economic **opportunities**, goods and **services** for wider society
4. Dynamic communities focusing on **well-being**
5. **Inclusive communities**
6. Flourishing sources of **nature**
7. Fully benefiting from **digital innovation**
8. **Entrepreneurial, innovative** and **skilled** people
9. Lively places equipped with efficient, accessible and affordable **public and private services**
10. Places of **diversity**

« **Goal 7:** Fully benefiting from **digital innovation**, with equal access to emerging technologies, **widespread digital literacy**, and opportunities to **acquire more advanced skills** »

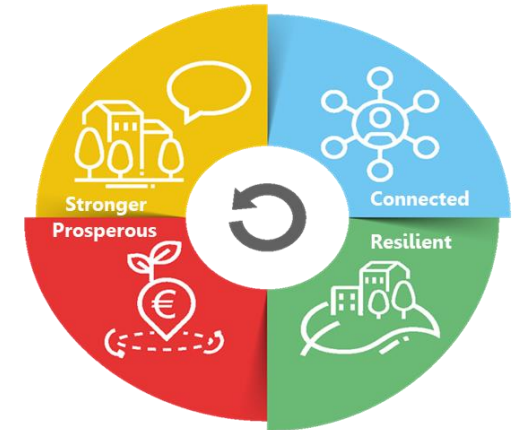
The long-term vision for the EU's rural areas



LONG-TERM VISION FOR RURAL AREAS

10 SHARED GOALS FOR 2040

EU RURAL ACTION PLAN



9 Flagship initiatives

-  **1. Rural revitalisation platform**
-  **2. Research and innovation** for rural communities
-  **3.** Sustainable multimodal **mobility** best practices for rural areas
-  **4. Rural digital futures** 
-  **5.** Support rural municipalities in **energy transition** and fighting climate change
-  **6.** Climate action in peatland through **carbon farming**
-  **7. EU mission** : a soil deal for Europe
-  **8. Social resilience** and **women** in rural areas
-  **9. Entrepreneurship** and **social economy** in rural areas

Rural Digital Futures

- Connectivity/infrastructures
- Technologies for rural services
- **Digital skills**
- Rural in digital index

The long-term vision for the EU's rural areas

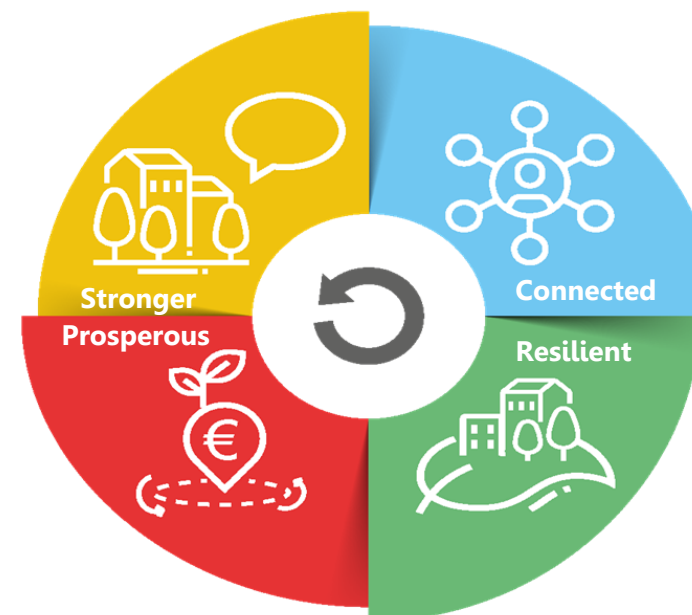
LONG-TERM VISION FOR RURAL AREAS

10 SHARED GOALS FOR 2040

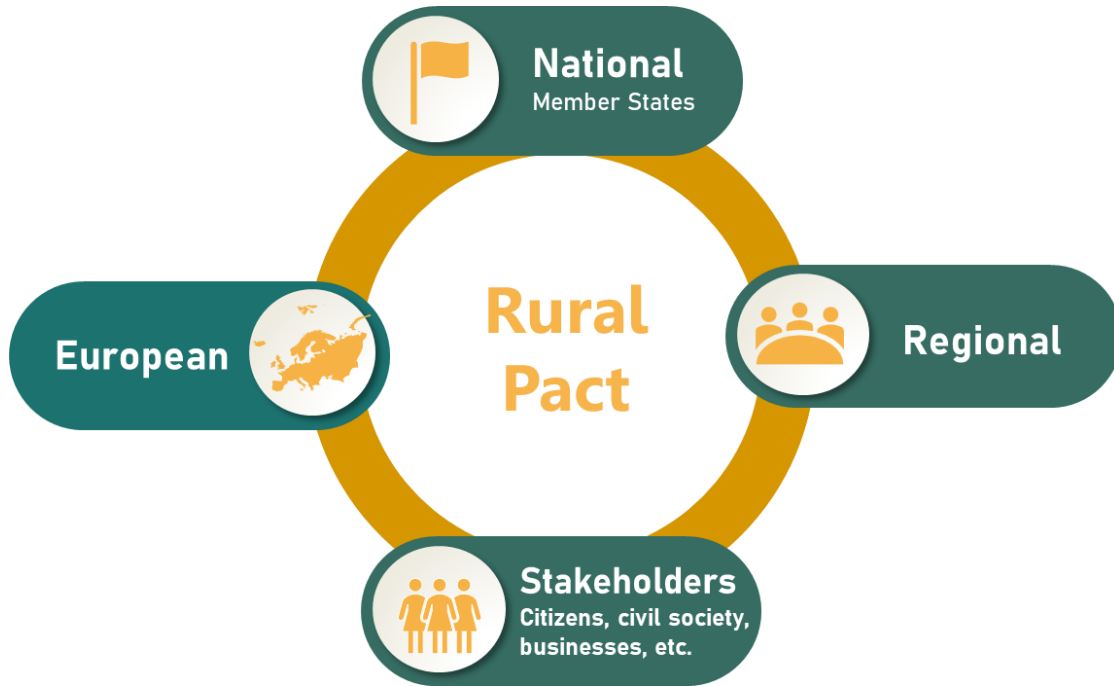
EU RURAL ACTION PLAN

6
Horizontal
actions

1. Rural Observatory
2. Functional Rural Areas
3. Improved Statistics
4. Rural Proofing
5. Toolkit on EU funding
6. **Rural Pact** ←



The Rural Pact



What is the Rural Pact ?

The Rural Pact is a formal space and framework to boost **cooperation** between national, regional and local governments, civil society organisations, businesses, academics and citizens to act towards the shared goals of the rural vision.

#RuralPact



Participatory process

Rural Pact

Proposals from the Rural Pact preparatory group for the Rural Pact conference on 15-16 June 2022

Introduction

With the adoption of the Communication on a Long-term Vision for the EU's rural areas, the European Commission committed to setting-up a Rural Pact. This Pact will contribute to reaching the shared goals of the Long-term Vision for the EU's rural areas but also fits into the EU's broader commitment of implementing the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals and ensuring balanced territorial development.

Following the launch of the Rural Pact Community, in December 2021, over 1000 individuals and organisations have endorsed the shared goals of the rural vision and want to work towards their achievement. This draft is the next step in the Rural Pact process. Drafted by EU institutions and rural stakeholders¹, it outlines the main features of the Rural Pact. Rural Pact Community members were invited to express their views on this proposal in May through a survey. Their feedback was taken on board for the final proposal which was presented at the Rural Pact conference on 15 and 16 June 2022.

Objectives

The Rural Action Plan, which was adopted with the Long-term Vision for the EU's rural areas, represents the European Commission's commitment to acting for rural areas. One of its actions is to propose a Rural Pact, which aims to strengthen multi-level governance for the EU's rural areas. This means that the Pact will engage the European, national, regional and local level, all of which have a key role to play in the future of rural areas, to work together.

The activities of the Rural Pact could be classified as contributing to three broad objectives:

¹ Presidency of the Council of the EU, the European Committee of the Regions, the European Economic and Social Committee, ELARD, PREPARE and ERCA from the European Rural Parliament, as well as the European Parliament and the European network for Rural Development as observers.

Proposal endorsed
Rural Pact Conference (15-16 June 2022)

The Rural Pact - Objectives



Amplify the voice of rural areas and bring them up in policy agendas



Networking, collaboration & mutual learning



Commitments to act



Join the Rural Pact Community! <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/RuralPact>



Rural Pact Proposal: https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-07/rural-pact-proposal_en.pdf

The Rural Pact Community Members

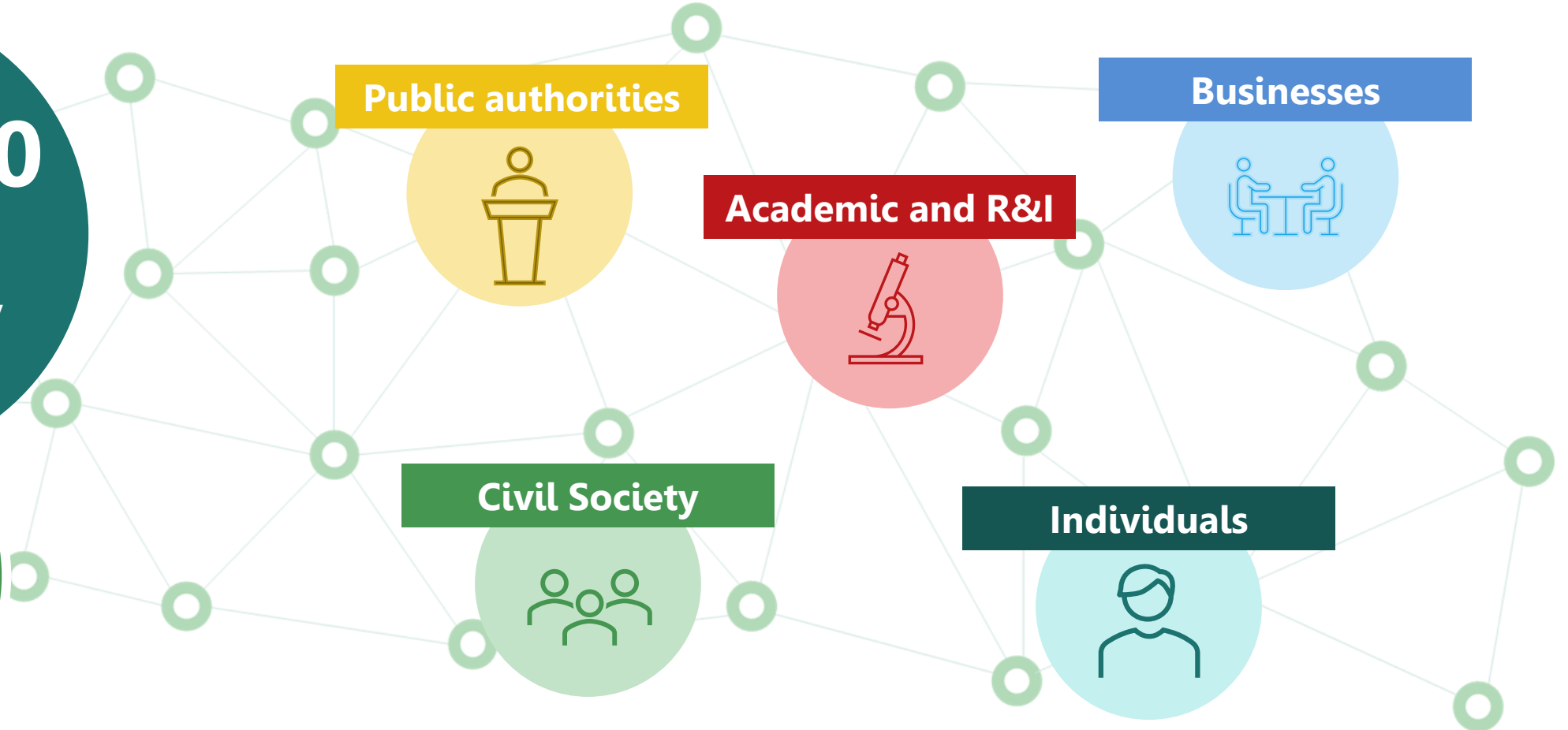


+1850

Rural Pact
Community
Members by
May 2023

+115

Commitments to
act



Participating in the Pact = Committing to act for one or more of its objectives



Join the Rural Pact Community! <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/RuralPact>

#RuralPact



THANK YOU

Rural Pact Community – Join us
<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/RuralPact>



<https://rural-vision.europa.eu/>

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