

Rural Pact Conference

15-16 June 2022



From Rural Pact to Village pact

None of the big challenges of our time can be solved without the active participation of citizens!

With the tool of Village Pacts, the Rural Pact can build a bridge between the challenges of the Long-Term Vision and local communities.



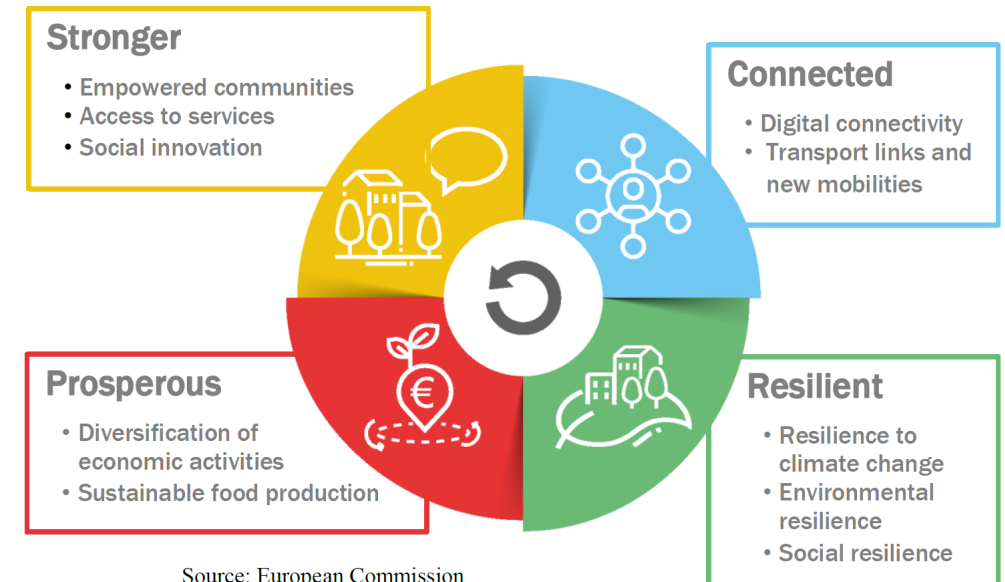


Stronger: empowered communities

Empowered vibrant rural communities; enabling all individuals to take active part in policy and decision-making processes, involving a broad range of stakeholders and networks as well as all levels of governance.

Community empowerment refers to the process of enabling communities to increase control over their lives. It implies community ownership and action that explicitly aims at social and political change = Social innovation.

Graph 1: Main drivers shaping the future of rural areas for 2040 and the four complementary areas for action



Source: European Commission



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A Compass for Local Empowerment

Four elements

Legal regulation, support and budget for community empowerment

1. Inclusion and participation

2. Capacity of local organisations

Empowered Communities

3. Access to information and services

4. Professionalism of empowering actors

Village Pact



Village Pact community planning

- Empowerment means people having power and control over their own lives, and people get the support they need.
- Village Pact Community Planning is a process which helps public agencies to work together and with the community to plan and deliver better services which make a real difference to people's lives.
- In countries like Scotland and the Netherlands broad experience has been gained with Village Pacts. Initially much emphasis was placed on the role of government. Now there is an increasingly stronger role for the community itself to shape quality of life in collaboration with the government and partners.
- Smart Villages and LAG/CLLD can be integrated in Village Pacts (vice versa).



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ERCA connects Europe to the local level

- How can the local stakeholders contribute and bring added value to the Rural Pact?
- The Rural Pact must integrate and support networks of National Rural Movements like the European Rural Community Alliance.
- The 14 National Rural Movements working together in ERCA build a pan-European bridge to thousands of villages, where people take their own destiny in hand.



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Keep in touch

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Thank you

