

Rural Pact Conference

15-16 June 2022



Introduction of R&I ecosystems in rural areas



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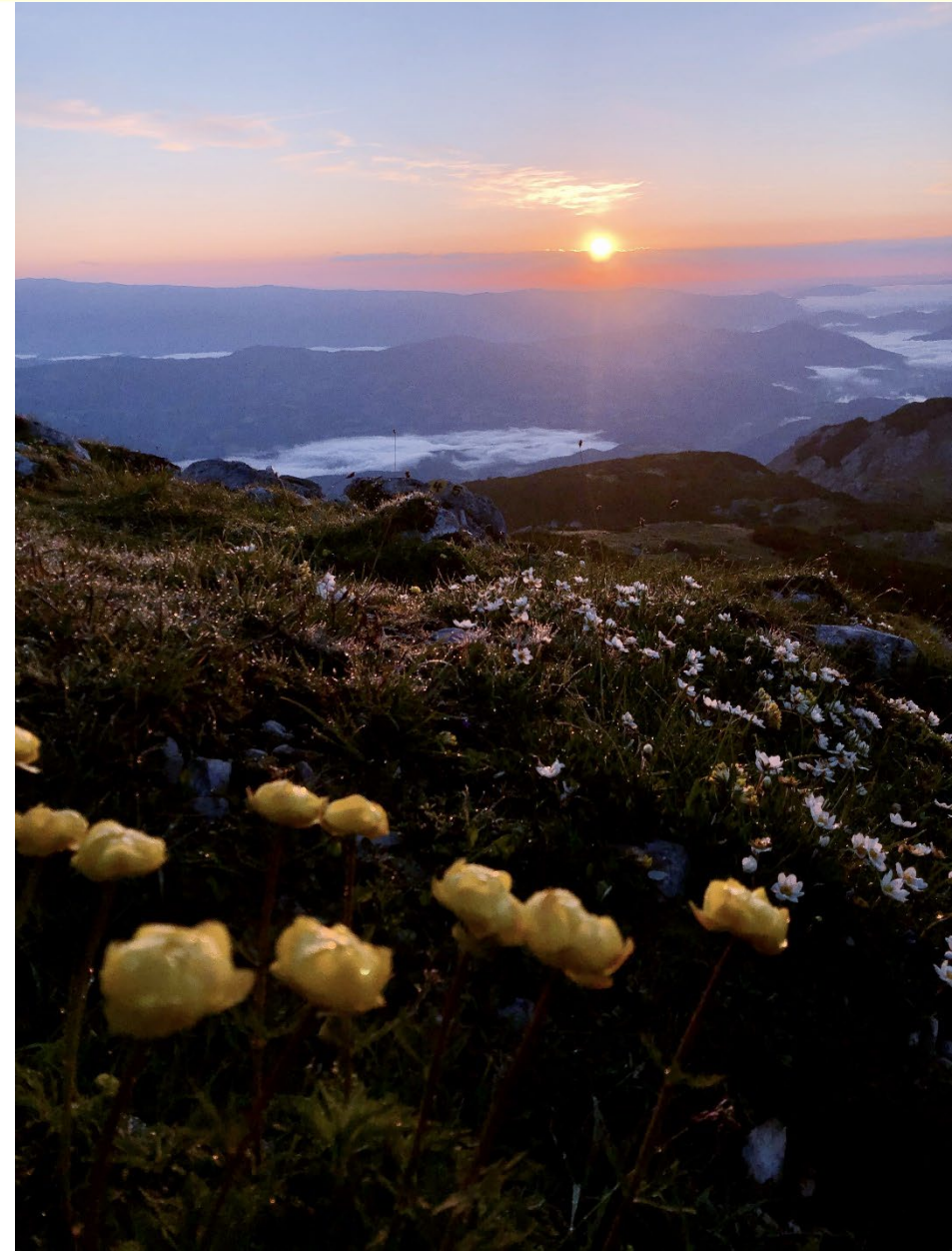
Rural centered research

- sustainable and inclusive rural development
- community resilience
- services differentiation
- participatory planning options
- impacts monitoring

share knowledge and good practices

allow cascade funding

enlarge the scope of initiatives mainly addressing cities



Innovation in rural areas

Techological (TRL)
/ Social (SRL)

Rooted in local cultural and natural heritage
/ Creating new culture

Supporting local resources
/ Integrating new skills and abilities



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R&I ecosystems in rural areas



Innovation
happens in
places



No defined
perimeter of the
«innovation
ecosystem»



Specific *local
conditions*
enable
ecosystems to
flourish



Need to build
cooperation
networks
beyond
administrative
boundaries



Multi-stakeholder collaboration

Policy
Research
Entrepreneurs
Community and civil society

- Develop System Thinking
- Nurture Collaboration
- Promote capacity building
- Develop a sense of belonging



@RURITAGE Ruritania serious game

Barriers

- Governemental
- Organisational
- Lack of personal skills (human capital)
- Lack of infrastructure
- Multiple actors with multiple (contrasting) interests
- Financial



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Enabling conditions

Human Capital

- increase people's knowledge, skills and motivation
- Attract people (salary?)
- Leave no one behind
- Fill the digital divide between urban and rural areas

Social Capital

- Adopt a participatory governance model: boost cooperation between institutions, communities, businesses, trade unions, schools, and voluntary organisations
- Develop integrated policies
- Promote formal and informal partnerships



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Enabling conditions

Cultural Capital

- exploit digital interaction and promote small-scale open- air events
- ensure a variety of cultural participation thanks to citizens' proximity

Natural Capital

- boost the development of a new form of slow tourism
- raise awareness on the links between human and ecosystems' health
- invest in green infrastructure and slow mobility infrastructure
- rediscover local food production



Enabling conditions

Financial Capital

- invest to develop comprehensive regeneration plans
- improve the long-term competitiveness of rural territories

Built Capital

- improve transport and mobility and digital infrastructures
- promote rural areas as multifunctional places to live in beyond the traditional agricultural-related jobs
- integrate urban inhabitants interested in moving to rural areas
- properly plan future sustainable development of rural areas, while avoiding unplanned gentrification issues



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Thank you

