

GOOD PRACTICE WEBINAR

30 November 2023

AGENDA

Enhancing access to health services in rural areas

Tentative Timing	Agenda items
09.00 – 9.15	Welcome and introduction to the day <ul style="list-style-type: none">> Rural Pact Support Office> The Rural Pact and the place of health in the rural vision. <i>Alexia Rouby (DG AGRI)</i>
09.15 – 09.45	Setting the scene: EU and international initiatives to improve the access to health services in rural areas <p>Plenary session: DG SANTE, EURIPA (European Rural and Isolated Practitioners Association), World Health Organisation</p> <p>Q&A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">> Addressing medical deserts under the Third Health programme and other policy and funding mechanisms to improve accessibility of healthcare in rural areas. <i>Katarzyna Ptak-Bufkens (DG SANTE)</i>> A Blueprint for rural practice in Europe. <i>John Wynn Jones (European Rural and Isolated Practitioners Association, EURIPA)</i>> Going global: Rural proofing for policies for health equity. <i>Theadora Swift Koller (World Health Organization)</i>
09.45 – 10.45	Learning from inspirational projects and practices <p>Presentation of examples and approaches that improve access to health services in rural areas & panel discussion with supporting EU initiatives representatives and local practitioners to extract main challenges and lessons learnt</p>
10.45 – 11.00	Virtual break and transition to break-out rooms sessions
11.00 – 12.00	Learning from inspirational projects and practices <p>Parallel break-out discussions addressing practical questions or target groups to take stock of main concerns, exchange experiences and to draw solutions, ideas for action and recommendations. <i>Topics (TBC):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">> Development, attraction, recruitment, and retention of health workers in rural areas, including through "rural pipelines", and addressing retirement and replacement of health workers.> Innovative ways to deliver general and specialist health services, adapted to the specificities of rural practice, including community-based approaches, multidisciplinary healthcare teams, rotating specialists, mobile services and telemedicine/digital health.



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- > Links with research and academia and adequate data systems on the health of rural populations.
- > Contribution of the health sector to the local economy and labour market.
- > Another topic based on the Expression of Interest

12.00 – 12.15

Virtual Coffee

12.15 – 12.45

Reporting back from breakout sessions, final plenary discussion

12:45 – 13.00

Closing remarks

* Further details, including project examples and names of speakers, will be provided shortly.