



GOOD PRACTICE WEBINAR

AGENDA



Rural communities tackling climate change

20 March 2024

Timing	Agenda items
09.00 – 9.15	<p>Welcome and introduction to the day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">> Outline of the event objectives and agenda Pascale Van Doren, Rural Pact Support Office> The Rural Pact and the place of tackling climate change in the rural vision Silvia Nanni, European Commission, DG AGRI
9.15 – 09.50	<p>Setting the scene: EU initiatives to foster the fight against climate change in rural areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">> Climate Chance Europe 2024 Wallonia Summit - Liège Declaration of the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union Céline Tellier, Walloon Minister for Environment Nature, Animal Welfare and Rural Renovation (video intervention)> Supporting community-led action to build resilience against the impacts of climate change in rural areas – European Climate Pact Laura Maanavilja, European Commission, DG CLIMA> The Just Transition Platform and the Cohesion for Transitions - JTP and C4T Angela Olcina Sala, European Commission, DG REGIO> Renewable Energy production and potential in EU Rural Areas - Study Carolina Perpiña Castillo, European Commission, Expert of the Joint Research Centre> Addressing linkages between building, housing, climate and social inclusion in rural areas – New European Bauhaus Solène Gautron, European Commission, Joint Research Centre <p>Questions & Answers</p>
09.50 – 11.00	<p>Learning from inspirational projects and practices</p> <p>Presentation of examples and approaches that help mitigate or adapt to climate change in rural areas & panel discussion with supporting EU initiatives representatives and local practitioners to extract main challenges and lessons learnt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">> Community-led development for Climate Justice - The People's Transition Kieran Harrahill, Think Tank for Action on Social Change – Tasc (Ireland)> Holistic regeneration of a rural valley in Central Germany - Talvolk Thomas Meier, Ecovillage Schloss Tonndorf (Germany)> Accelerating transformative climate change adaptation for higher resilience in European Mountain Regions – MountResilience (Horizon Europe) Marie Laurent, Euromontana> Strengthening the adaptability of the region's nature-based livelihoods and the entire economic structure - MountResilience (Horizon Europe) Lotta Eriksson, Regional Council of Lapland (Finland)



- > **Co-creation of strategic actions to adapt local areas and economies to climate change** - [eCOadapt50](#) (LIFE project)
Guillem Bagaria, Associació d'Iniciatives Rurals de Catalunya (Catalonia, Spain)
 - > **Model Regions in Austria: empowering regions for climate mitigation and adaptation** - [KLAR!](#) Climate Change Adaptation Model Regions for Austria & 124 Klima- und Energie-Modellregionen ([KEM](#))
Michaela Niederhofer, Climate and Energy Fund (Austria)
 - > **Tackling depopulation challenges to improve environmental resilience in rural areas** - [Down to Earth](#) (Interreg Europe project)
Jorge M. Blanco Ballón, Galician Rural Development Agency (Spain)
- Questions & Answers

11.00 – 11.15

Virtual coffee break & transition to breakout sessions

11.15 – 12.15

Moving forward in addressing the climate change at local level

Parallel break-out discussions addressing practical questions of target groups to take stock of main concerns, exchange experiences and to draw solutions, ideas for action and recommendations.

- > **Group 1:** Awareness-raising of rural communities to identify and address climate challenges
 - **Farm to Fork Academy for Green Western Balkans – Our shared European Future** - [Farm to Fork Academy](#) (EuropeAid)
Lira Hakani, Albanian Network for Rural Development (Albania)
 - **Climate Pact tools for citizen engagement** - [European Climate Pact](#)
Betsy Vivegnis, European Commission, DG CLIMA
- > **Group 2:** Building and implementing community-led initiatives as drivers for climate change capacity building by rural stakeholders
 - **Communities For Climate: Local action to respond to climate change** - [C4C](#)
Shannon Pfohman, European Association for Innovation in Local Development - AEIDL
 - **Support and advise Local Action Groups in Spain to face the climate emergency in the territories** - [GALxCLima programme](#)
Raquel Pastor, Red2Red (Spain)
 - **Supporting the adoption of sustainable and cooperative business models in rural areas** - [Brilian project](#) (Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking)
Maria Dolores Mainar Toledo, CIRCE Technological Center
- > **Group 3:** Evidence-based local development policies in alignment with the European Green Deal and the LTVRA objectives
 - **Vulnerability of territories and eco-climate crisis**
Federica Burini, University of Bergamo (Italy)
 - **Rural Sustainability Transitions through Integration of Knowledge for improved policy processes** - [RUSTIK](#) (Horizon Europe)
Petri Kahila, University of Eastern Finland (Finland)

12.15 – 12.30

Virtual coffee

12.30 – 12.50

Reporting back from break-out sessions, plenary discussion

12.50 – 13.00

Closing Remarks