

The Rural Pact

In brief



What is the Rural Pact?

The Rural Pact is a framework for cooperation and exchange on rural matters between actors at European, national, regional and local levels willing to work together to achieve the 10 shared goals of the EU's rural vision.

It is one of the horizontal actions launched with the Communication on the long-term vision for the EU's rural areas in 2021.

The Pact pursues the following objectives:



Amplifying rural voices and bringing them higher on the political agenda.



Structuring and enabling networking, collaboration & mutual learning.



Encouraging and monitoring voluntary commitments to act for the rural vision.

Who can take part in the Rural Pact?

- > Public authorities
- > Civil society organisations
- > Academic and research and innovation organisations
- > Businesses and entrepreneurs
- > Individuals

Why take part in the Rural Pact?

- > To use the political momentum created by the EU rural vision and build a critical mass to boost political will to drive improvements in EU rural areas.
- > To voice your ideas and contribute to building the right policy framework and tools for rural areas.
- > To get inspired, to inspire and learn from others by connecting and exchanging with peers from across Europe.
- > To get informed about the latest news, events, funding opportunities, good practices and publications.

How to take part in the Rural Pact?

- > Join the Rural Pact community platform
- > Join a Community Group to connect and exchange on a specific topic.
- > Take action! Propose a specific and time-bound action in support of rural areas - everyone can contribute and no action is too small.
- > Connect with peers.
- > Participate in the Rural Pact activities and use and share the tools and information available.

How can EU Member States contribute to the Rural Pact?

The Rural Pact can be translated into action at national level by putting together the following ingredients:

1. Structures and mechanisms to engage with rural stakeholders
2. A designated government member and dedicated services to deal with rural issues across policies
3. Capacity-building and networking support for a broad array of actors and stakeholders
4. A forward-looking vision, implemented through a holistic strategy/action plan
5. Effective rural proofing and adequate data systems
6. Appropriate governance systems to facilitate coordination
7. Mechanisms to coordinate the allocation of funding and ensure synergies

How is the Rural Pact supported?

The EU-funded Rural Pact Support Office coordinates, encourages and implements Rural Pact activities, including: events; animation of the Pact; good practices; dissemination of information; and monitoring commitments of the members.

Get in touch at info@rural-pact.eu.

How is the Rural Pact governed?

The Rural Pact Coordination Group (RPCG) is the governance body steering the Rural Pact. It is composed of up to 30 members, including representatives of EU institutions and bodies, European Rural Parliament and European non-governmental or civil society organisations.

The RPCG meets twice a year and is chaired by Radim Sršeň (Member of the European Committee of the Regions and Deputy Minister of Regional Development of the Czech Republic) and Edina Ocsko (Managing Director of the E40 group).

The Rural Pact

In figures

One EU-wide community

2 450+ Rural Pact members from **30+** countries

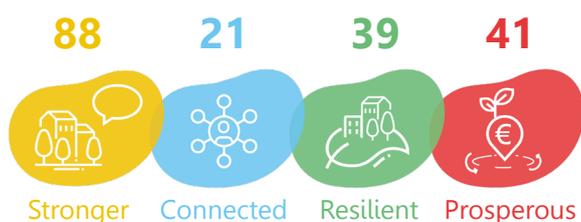
- > assisted by **1** Support Office
- > steered by **1** Rural Pact Coordination Group with **30** members
- > engaging through policy & networking events, including: **2** Rural Pact Conferences; **1** High-level Policy Forum; **2** Policy Labs; **6** Good Practice Webinars
- > represented at **35** stakeholder events
- > connected with **20** networks

A community taking action!

121 Commitments to act through



Number of commitments contributing to Rural Vision objectives



With a clear ambition



Amplify rural voices through

- > Rural Pact Conferences & Policy Forum
- > Policy Action Labs, high-level conferences and fora
- > **1** Policy briefing in **24** languages



Enable networking through

- > **1** online community platform
- > Policy Action Labs & Good Practice Webinars
- > **1** magazine in **3** languages



Encourage commitments to act

- > **121** commitments to act towards the Rural Vision goals
- > **70%** expressed by organisations – **30%** by individuals

Connected and informed through an online Community Platform...

- > with **660+** registered members
- > working at the international (**16%**), European (**28%**), national (**19%**), regional (**18%**) and local (**18%**) levels
- > compiling:
 - » **160** news (**75%** relevant for rural revitalisation)
 - » **120** events (**50%** relevant for rural revitalisation)
 - » **50** good practices (**75%** relevant for rural revitalisation)
 - » **8** community groups and **9** publications
- > attracting **1 500** monthly web visitors and followed by around **3 000+** people & organisations on social media
- > with automated translation in all EU official languages

* This infographic contains the most recent data available to the RPSO as of 15 Apr 2024.