

RPCG meeting

5th meeting of the Rural Pact Coordination Group (RPCG)

4 June 2025

Room: JDE 51 (5th floor)

Committee of the Regions, Rue Belliard, 99/101, 1040 - Brussels

Agenda

| Timing | Agenda items |
|---------------|---|
| 09.30 – 09.45 | Welcome and introduction to the day Radim Sršen, RPCG Chair and Edina Ocsko, Vice-Chair |
| 09.45 – 11.00 | Policy and interinstitutional landscape for rural areas and communities Moderation: Radim Sršen, RPCG Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Latest European Commission policy developments and next steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicola de Michelis, Director, DG REGIO • Mario Milouchev, Director, DG AGRI > Overall priorities of the Polish Presidency for rural areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magdalena Krawczak-Rybczyk, Head of Unit, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development > European Parliament – INI report on ‘Strengthening the role of rural areas through cohesion policy’ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denis Nesci, Member of the European Parliament, COMREGI > Open the floor: Reactions from RPCG members > Wrap up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radim Sršen, RPCG Chair |
| 11.00 – 11.30 | Coffee break |

11.30 – 12.45 **Maximising the impact of the Declaration: key past and future actions from RPCG members and RPSO**

Moderation: Edina Ocsko, Vice-Chair RPCG

> **RPCG members' contribution to the dissemination and impact of the Declaration**

Overview of actions proposed and implemented by RPCG members

- **Radim Sršen**, RPCG Chair and Edina Ocsko, Vice-Chair
- Presentations from RPCG members

> **RPSO contribution to the dissemination of the Declaration**

Roadmap of past and future actions

- **Veneta Paneva**, Communications Officer, Rural Pact Support Office

> **Open the floor on RPCG members' actions planned to further disseminate the Declaration**

Questions

- What are the lessons learnt from the actions to disseminate the Declaration?
- Which additional actions you, as a member of the RPCG, intend to take to reinforce the voice of rural areas and the Rural Pact?
- Is there any additional support RPSO can provide to maximise the impact of your actions?

> **Wrap up**

Moderation: Edina Ocsko, Vice-Chair RPCG

12.45 – 14.00

Lunch Break

14.00 – 15.15 **Strengthening the Rural Pact at the national and regional level**

Moderation: Radim Sršen, RPCG Chair

> **National Rural Pact of Czechia**

- **Radim Sršen**, RPCG Chair

> **Integrated Action Plans to Combat Depopulation in Rural Areas of Spain**

- **Cristian García Alonso**, Vice-Deputy Director-General of Coordination and Initiatives against Depopulation, MITECO (Spain)

> **The Flemish Rural Pact**

- **Kevin Grauwels**, Head of Unit, and **Stephanie Van Opstal**, Policy Officer, Flemish Land Agency (Belgium)

> **Overview of RPSO actions aiming at strengthening the Rural Pact**

- **Pascale Van Doren**, Team Leader, Rural Pact Support Office

> **Open the floor for an exchange with the RPCG members**

Questions

- How can we strengthen the implementation of the Rural Pact at national and regional levels (inspiration from the ingredients developed in the publication '[Making Rural Pact happen in Member States](#)')?
- What strategies and actions are necessary to boost political will and commitments to move ahead with the Pact at national and regional level?

> **Wrap up**

Radim Sršen, RPCG Chair

15.15 – 15.30

Coffee break

15.30 – 15.50

Future relevant activities under the Rural Pact

Moderation: Radim Sršen, RPCG Chair

> **Update on the Rural Pact Conference**

- **Enrique Nieto**, Deputy Team Leader, Rural Pact Support Office

> **Sharing information about relevant activities and events from RPCG members**

15.50 – 16.00

Closure of the meeting

> **Synthesis of next actions of the RPCG and reflections on strengthening the Rural Pact**

- **Radim Sršen**, RPCG Chair & **Edina Ocsko**, RPCG Vice-Chair