

# Rural proofing: looking at policies through the rural lens

12 June 2025

Webinar - Online

Draft agenda

Timing (CET)	Agenda items
09.30 – 10.00	<p><b>Welcome and introduction to the day</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; <b>Welcoming words &amp; overview of rural proofing at EU level</b>  <b>Mario Milouchev</b>, Deputy Director-General, EC Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission</li> <li>&gt; <b>Work of the Polish presidency of the Council of the EU on rural proofing (tbc)</b>  Representative of Polish presidency of the Council of the EU</li> <li>&gt; <b>Introduction to the day</b>  <b>Urszula Budzich-Tabor</b>, Rural Pact Support Office</li> </ul>
10.00 – 11.00	<p><b>Setting the scene: How can rural proofing improve policies?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; <b>The role of rural proofing to improve policies</b>  <b>Betty-Ann Bryce</b>, OECD</li> <li>&gt; <b>Rural proofing as a key element of an integrated rural strategy developed with EU technical support: example from the Netherlands</b>  <b>Irene van Luijken</b>, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature (The Netherlands)</li> <li>&gt; <b>Panel discussion</b>  Exchange among public authorities' representatives of Member States/regions at different stages of progress on rural proofing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ireland</li> <li>• Finland</li> <li>• Spain (tbc)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Moderator: Rural Pact Support Office</p>
11.00 – 11.15	<b>Virtual coffee break</b>

11.15 – 12.30

### A strategic approach to rural proofing (Round 1)

Group discussions | Interactive session presenting examples from Member States & regions, followed by discussion in groups on:

- **What** should be rural proofed in priority?
- **Which** governance and structures are needed for rural proofing?
- **When** to rural proof policies?
- **What** is expected as a result of the rural proofing process?

12.30 – 13.30

### Lunch Break

13.30 – 14.45

### Putting rural proofing into practice (Round 2)

Group discussions | Presentation of useful tools and approaches developed by European projects or initiatives (such as RUSTIK and GRANULAR, tbc) , followed by a group discussion on:

- **Who** should be involved in rural proofing?
- **How** should the process be organised?
- **How** to address data limitations?

14.45 – 15.00

### Virtual coffee break

15.00 – 15.45

### Co-creating conclusions and proposals

- > Report back of outcomes from group discussions
- > Keynote listener: Jane Atterton, Scotland's Rural College
- > Final discussion

16.15 – 16.30

### Closing remarks

- > **Next steps**  
**Enrique Nieto**, Rural Pact Support Office
- > **Closing words**  
**Antonia Gámez Moreno**, Head of Unit, EC Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission

