



## High-level Rural Policy Forum

# Europe's Rural Future - Responding to rural priorities through integrated national and regional strategies and LEADER

03 & 04 November 2026

Naas, County Kildare, Ireland

Draft agenda



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the European Union

Tentative Timing (GMT)	Draft agenda items
<b>02 November 2026</b>	
From 18:00 (tbc)	<b>Shuttle buses from Dublin Airport to the town of Naas</b>
<b>03 November 2026 – Integrated rural strategies at national and regional levels</b>	
09:30 – 10:30	<b>Registration and welcome coffee</b>
10:30 – 11:15	<b>Welcome and high-level opening interventions</b>
11:15 – 12:30	<b>Keynote speakers on integrated rural policies as engines for the future of rural areas</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Enhancing policies for competitive, resilient and sustainable rural areas through integrated national rural strategies</li> <li>&gt; Designing a comprehensive policy response to address rural needs and opportunities in the future NRPPs</li> <li>&gt; Experiences from Member States designing and implementing integrated, national and regional rural strategies</li> </ul>
12:30 – 14:00	<b>Lunch</b>
14:00 – 15:15	<b>Panel Debate: How can whole-of-government policy approaches help foster rural attractiveness under future National and Regional Partnership Plans (NRPPs)?</b>
15:15 – 15:45	<b>Coffee break</b>
15:45 – 17:30	<b>Group discussions: Ensuring effective design of integrated rural strategies at national and regional levels</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; <b>Group 1: A forward looking rural vision implemented through a whole-of-government strategy and rural proofing</b></li> <li>&gt; <b>Group 2: Mechanisms to coordinate action and funding across governance levels to deliver innovative, place-based solutions</b></li> <li>&gt; <b>Group 3: Structures to engage rural communities and civil society with decision makers and build capacities</b></li> </ul>
17:30 – 17:45	<b>Transition to plenary</b>
17:45 – 18:30	<b>Conclusions from Day 1</b>
18:30 – 20:30	<b>Networking dinner</b>
21:00	<b>Shuttle buses from the venue to the town of Naas</b>

## 04 November 2026 – LEADER/CLLD

08:00	<b>Shuttle buses from the town of Naas to the venue</b>
08:30 – 09:00	<b>Registration and welcome coffee</b>
09:00 – 09:30	<b>Opening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; <b>Introduction of the agenda of the day</b></li><li>&gt; <b>From Cork 1.0 to today: Navigating integrated rural development with a focus on LEADER/CLLD</b></li></ul>
09:30 – 10:45	<b>LEADER: A European success story delivering value for rural communities and Europe</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; <b>Keynote Speaker: Impact and added value of LEADER in Ireland</b></li><li>&gt; <b>Stakeholder Panel:</b> Local stakeholder stories outlining their experience with LEADER and the impact in their territories</li></ul>
10:45 – 12:00	<b>LEADER/CLLD in the future</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; <b>Keynote Speaker: LEADER/CLLD in the post-2027 EU policy</b></li><li>&gt; <b>Stakeholder Panel:</b> Exchanging views about the future of LEADER/CLLD</li></ul>
12:00 – 13:30	<b>Lunch (combined with the LEADER showcase)</b>
13:30 – 14:15	<b>Panel Debate - Infusing the National-Regional Partnership Plan with strategic rural policy approaches: Conclusions from the Forum and next steps</b>
14:15 – 14:30	<b>Conference close</b>
15:00	<b>Shuttle buses to Dublin Airport</b>

**Ní neart go cur le chéile**

Strength with unity

