The “Pacte des ruralités” (Rural Pact) of Grand Est Region

The Region prepares the future of its rural territories



Meeting: Rural Pact in my country: Flanders

21st October 2026

La Région Grand Est

Rural Areas at the Heart of the Grand Est Region’s Action

Adopted by the Regional Council in April 2024, the Rural Pact responds to a **clear ambition**:

Support and enhance the vitality, creativity and attractiveness of rural areas

Strengthen their capacity to develop projects that serve the well-being of all the inhabitants

+ 89%
Of the regional territory is rural

100
measures

800
Millions €



PACTE POUR LES RURALITÉS | La Région Grand Est

A Rural Pact based on inhabitants inputs

A collaborative consultation process during autumn-winter 2023-2024 before the definition of the policy:

- **9 thematic meetings all over the region (twice Belgium)**
- **40 workshops**

As a result, agreement on key priority areas to work on:

- **Economy**
- **Agriculture**
- **Biodiversity**
- **Tourism**
- **Mobility**
- **Access to services**
- **Energies**
- **Housing**
- **Associative commitment**

Rural Areas at the Heart of the Grand Est Region’s Action

1 Preserving and enhancing quality of life

Reducing inequalities in access to healthcare, empowering residents to age well in rural areas, supporting community, sporting and cultural life, and strengthening the administrative capacity of small local authorities.

2 Boosting economic attractiveness

Facilitating the establishment of businesses to enable residents to live and work locally, promoting rural tourism destinations, and supporting agriculture, the economic and social backbone of the countryside.

3 Consolidate our leading role in the ecological transition

Preserve ordinary natural habitats, encourage energy efficiency, and restore ecological connectivity.

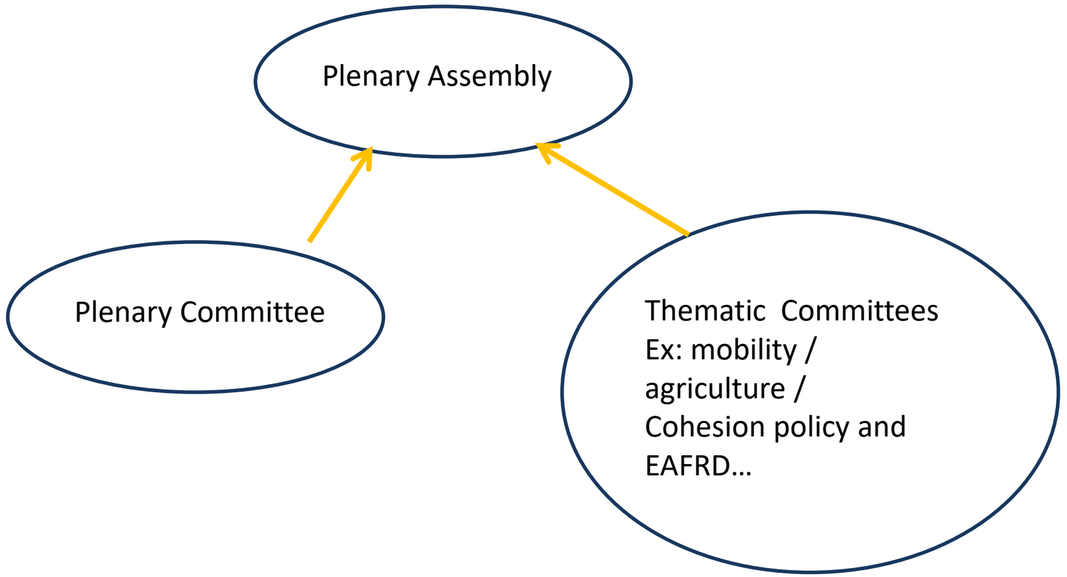
4 Connect regions

Revitalise small railway lines serving sparsely populated areas, and develop on-demand transport to ensure safe daily journeys.

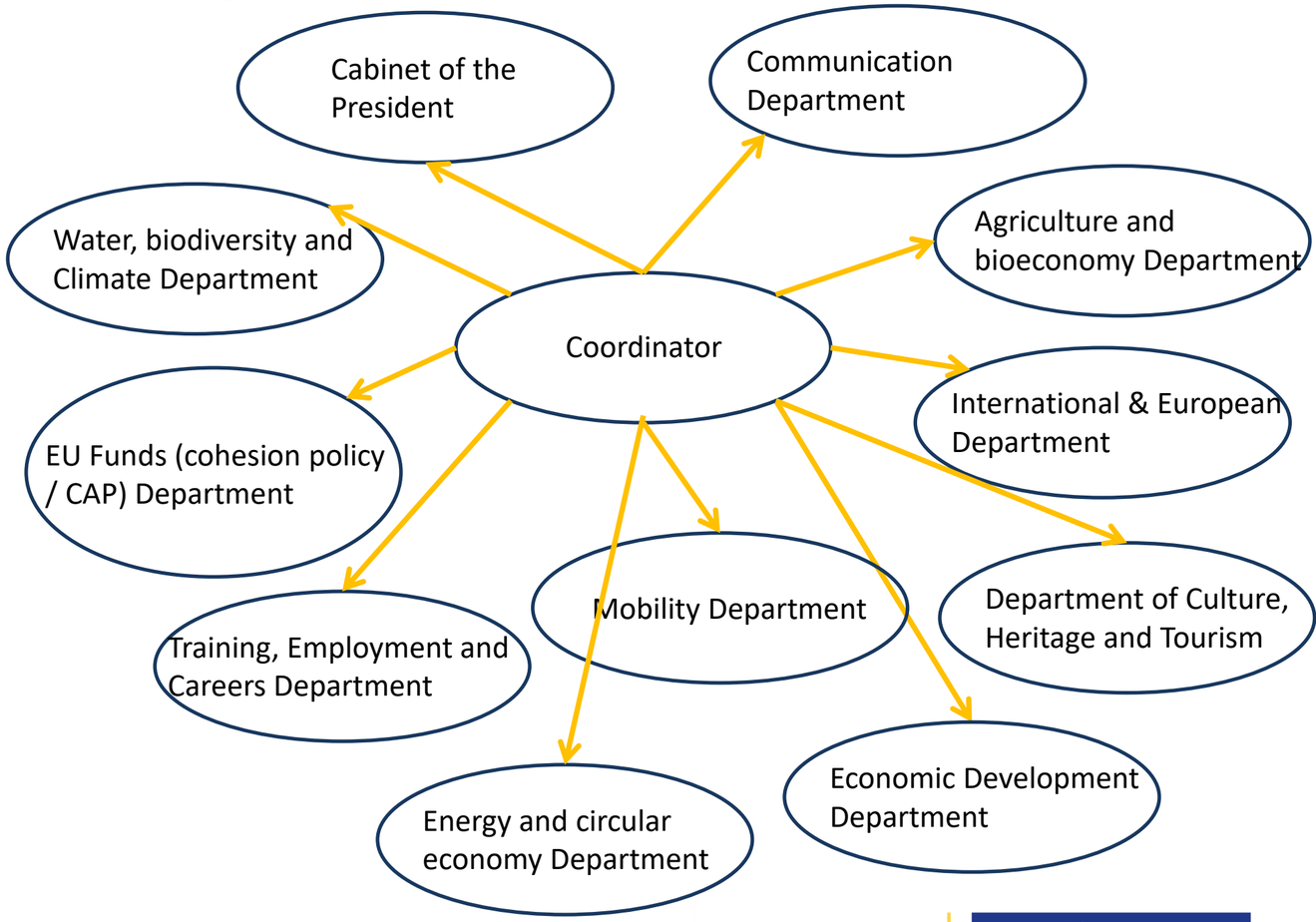


Governance of the Rural Pact

A strong commitment of the **President of the Region**
An involvement **of all elected people**, including **a VP for rural and mountain areas**

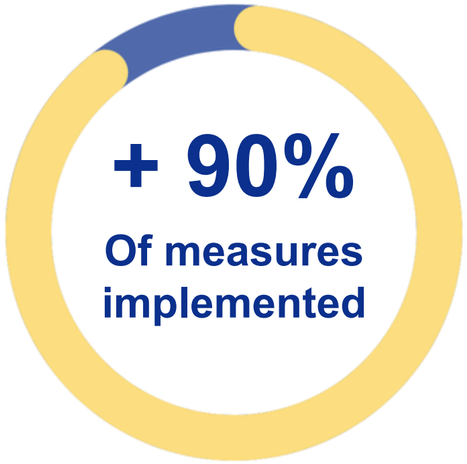


An horizontal approach, **coordinated by one person**, dealing with all the different thematic departments



PACTE POUR LES RURALITÉS | La Région Grand Est

2 Years of Actions in Figures



3 000 already taken
To improve quality of life

2 000 businesses,
Craftsmen, traders and farmers supported

+ de 15 000 students
Benefit from the 1€ / month per to live & sleep at school

62%
Regional aid targeted at municipalities with fewer than 1500 inhabitants

51%
Funding prioritises the least densely populated areas

PACTE POUR LES RURALITÉS | La Région Grand Est

LES 3 MESURES PHARES

1 Rural Boost (Coup de pouce rural)

This scheme supports small works and equipment acquisition that directly improve residents' daily lives. In just over a year, **1,290 projects** have been funded, already benefiting 28% of municipalities with fewer than 1,500 inhabitants.

For mayors



2 Rural Momentum

677 local associations have been supported to organise events, activities, and entertainment that foster social connections and cohesion. Following the success of the first call for projects, the initiative will be renewed in 2027.

Open in 2027



3 Sports Campaign

The initiative has modernised **130 sports facilities** and introduced 50 new activities in rural areas. The Grand Est Region plans to renew the scheme with a stronger focus on mixed-gender participation and social inclusion through sport.

For mayors

Open in 2027



Facilitating Daily Life

Nearly 3,000 projects aimed at improving living conditions and quality of life

Implementation of an experiment for salaried doctors in the most fragile areas
Six health centres, each with multidisciplinary teams, will be created, with a target of 15,000 medical acts per year per facility

500 projects to help municipalities better manage their natural resources and energy consumption

Around **100 training places** for municipal secretaries each year

128 modernisation projects for premises and shopfront improvements



Rehabilitation of the Lion d'Or, the oldest café in the Marne Departement, in Saint-Rémy-en-Bouzemont-Saint-Genest-et-Isson
The Grand Est Region has committed nearly €260,000 to renovation works

PACTE POUR LES RURALITÉS
La Région Grand Est

Investing in Local Employment

A network of 60 demonstration farms, with €2.5 million committed to modernise farms (adaptation to CC)

€304 million invested in daily mobility, essential for accessing employment, committed to maintaining small rail services and modernising secondary lines

Nearly **4,000 training places in 2 years to train job seekers** in home care for the elderly and disabled

301 rural businesses accompanied in their digital transition

399 projects to modernise equipment or production methods in rural areas supported

More people supported in accessing employment through **vehicle loans**



Supporting Youth

Over 15,000 students benefit from the €1/month boarding night

Nearly **250 volunteers** have completed missions of 6 to 12 months
285 new missions are being offered, in partnership with four associations in 2026

130 sports facilities have been renovated, covering over 110,000 m² of installations, diversifying activities and concretely improving quality of life for young people and families



Thank you for your attention

PACTE POUR
LES RURALITÉS

La Région
Grand Est