The Rural Pact building blocks











- Informal group steering the Rural Pact process
- > Three-year mandate









Rural Pact Coordination Composition

Public authorities



- Committee of the Regions (NAT and COTER)
- Trio of presidencies of the Council
- CEMR
- METREX

Civil Society



(NAT and ECO)

European Rural

ERCA, PREPARE)

EUROMONTANA

dévelopment

ECOLISE

European economic

and social committee

Networks steering the

Parliament (ELARD,

Businesses



RURAL TOUR SME United **DIESIS Network**

Individuals



European **Parliament** (COMAGRI & COMREGI)

Academic and R&I



- Rural NEET Youth Network
- European Rural development Network
- Natural Resource Institute Finland
- Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (Rural **UOC Network)**
- University College Dublin

#RuralPact

Smart Village Network

Ruralité environnement

Rural Youth Europe



Declaration on the future of rural areas and rural development policy in the EU – main messages



Rural Pact Coordination Group (Dec 2024)

The <u>Declaration</u> calls for a strong shift in future policies to ensure the sustainability and resilience of EU's rural areas in the long run, suggesting:

- Increased and streamlined funding for rural areas through a compulsory minimum allocation to rural areas from all post-2027 EU funds and a better resourcing of community-led, place-based approaches, such as LEADER/CLLD and Smart Villages;
- > Holistic approach and enhanced coordination among relevant bodies at all governance levels needed !!!, compulsory implementation of the Rural Pact model, including multi-fund, multi-policy and multi-stakeholder coordination, and guidance and training for the implementation of 'rural proofing';
- > Capacity building for local actors, including on access to funding, tailored interventions reflecting the diversity of rural areas and their particular needs, and extended use of data to inform evidence- and result-based future policies.



Declaration on the future of rural areas and rural development policy in the EU - Structure



Rural Pact Coordination Group (Dec 2024)

- > Strategic proposal for the post-2027 rural policy framework
- > Collective response to the questions in the EC report on 'the EU rural vision: key achievements and ways forward'
- Available in 24 EU languages



Calls for **specific policy responses** to challenges and opportunities in rural areas



Local Development in CZ: CLLD











LAGs are important actors in building **resilient**, **competitive**, **and sustainable communities**—communities with wellbeing—and through their activities, they contribute to balancing living conditions *everywhere* in the Czech Republic (which is in line with the goals of **cohesion policy** and is key to **regional development** in the Czech Republic).

LAGs are key actors in implementing **social inclusion agendas** in small municipalities and remote areas, and they serve as **knowledge-based entities and Innovation brokers**. It is important to strengthen both the horizontal and the vertical flow of information and scaling of Innovations.

Local Development in CZ: CLLD









The **multi-sectoral** nature of LAGs and their **synergistic effects** lead to **greater efficiency** in the use of resources—which is especially important given that funding will be more limited.

This is made possible thanks to the **multi-fund financing of CLLD**—continuation in the 2028+ programming period is **essential**, as it represents good practice for the EU. (*Czech Republic as a flagship in multifund CLLD is fully ready to share the good practice, advocate, and cooperate on the preparations.)*

Moreover, the **integrated approach** should become a **fundamental** principle, automatically applied in the implementation of cohesion policy.

Konference CLLD - www.esfcr.cz