

#### **BLOG**

#### How will rural areas be in the future?

To understand the rural areas and the phenomena that affect their development, it is necessary to look at the major trends in progress and the scenarios that they open for the next 20-30 years. As part of the SHERPA project, a review of a sample of foresight and scenario studies was conducted at European and global levels. The document identifies the high-level megatrends and trends affecting rural areas, and assesses the most relevant drivers and impacts.

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#### SHERPA NEWS

### The EU Multi-Actor Platform kicks off

The EU Multi-Actor Platform (MAP) is SHERPA's rural interface established at the European level aiming to engage a mix of key actors from the three target communities (science, society and policy). The EU MAP provides space for debating issues and priorities for the future development of rural areas and formulate



Group took place online on 15 July 2020.

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# SHERPA Rural Science-Society-Policy Interfaces



### Toolbox for stakeholder engagement

One of the challenges of multi-actor platforms projects is how to effectively engage interested stakeholders and actors to ensure a good overview of perspectives and experiences. The SHERPA project has sought to address this by developing a toolbox of useful material that can help engage with multiple rural stakeholders and harness meaningful contributions for the future rural policy.

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## France: Public debate on CAP highlights climate and environmental priorities

The National Committee of Public Debate (CNDP), appointed by the French Ministry of Agriculture to lead the public debates on the CAP Strategic Plan, has published a progress report. Analysis of the first round of consultations provided valuable insights from what French citizens think about the future of agriculture, food and the CAP.

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### A tool to evaluate the development of the MAPs

The Multi-Actor Platform Zielone Sąsiedztwo in Poland met for the first time in July to start discussions on the long-term vision for rural areas. During the event, participants debated on the challenges and opportunities for the next 20 years in the Mazowieckie voivodeship; a desirable future for 2040; and obstacles in reaching such a vision.

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## Polish MAP discusses the long-term vision for rural areas

The Multi-Actor Platform Zielone Sąsiedztwo in Poland met for the first time in July to start discussions on the long-term vision for rural areas. Participants debated on the challenges and opportunities for the next 20 years in the Mazowieckie voivodeship, and a desirable future for 2040.

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#### **EUROPEAN NEWS**



Have your say! Roadmap for a long-term vision for rural areas

#### Rural areas a part of Europe's recovery

On 7 July 2020, a high-level webinar took place at the initiative of the President of the Renew Europe group in the European Parliament, to exchange and present their vision of a rural Europe as well as highlighting potential directions for contributing to a sustainable and prosperous rural development.

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roadmap for the adoption of a 'Communication on the Long-term vision for rural areas', foreseen for 2021. The consultation is open for feedback until 9 September 2020.

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## Food Supply Chains and COVID-19: Impacts and Policy Lessons

The current health crisis has placed unprecedented stresses on food supply chains, with bottlenecks in farm labour, processing, transport and logistics, as well as momentous shifts in demand. The OECD has published a document providing guidance for policy response to COVID-19 impact on the food supply chains.

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### Opportunities for rural areas in times of COVID-19

The OECD published a policy note on the implications of coronavirus crisis for rural development. The document analyses economic effects of the health crisis in rural regions, identifying the opportunities and challenges derived from it, and proposing recommendations for governments to leverage those opportunities.

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Food Supply Chains and COVID-19: Impacts and Policy Lessons



## Consultation on the evaluation of EU farm policy

In July 2020, the European Commission launched the public consultation on EU farm policy – evaluation of its impact on



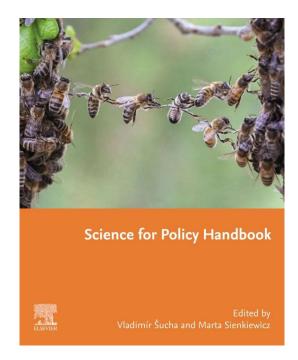
2020. The feedback received will contribute to an upcoming Commission staff working document on the evaluation of the CAP impact on natural resources.

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#### Using science for policymaking

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission, has recently published a book sharing all the knowledge gathered throughout the years on how to bring science to the attention of policy-makers. In addition to the handbook, further materials have been made available, such as a list of top 10 tips for researchers and a training course material on how to achieve policy impact.

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#### **Thematic Group**

#Rural2040

Long term rural vision



#### ENRD Thematic Group on Long-term vision for rural areas

The ENRD is launching a new Thematic Group aiming to contribute to the 'Long-term vision for rural areas' that is being developed by the European Commission. The group will gather informed and engaged stakeholders from different parts of Europe. The call for experts to become a member of the new Thematic Group is open until 28 August 2020.

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### Rural Digitalisation Forum: first meeting

The Rural Digitalisation Forum (RDF) is a platform, set-up within the DESIRA project, bringing together a wide range of stakeholders working on digitalisation of rural areas. The first meeting of the RDF will be online on 10 September 2020. Participants will be able to share their experiences, ideas and recommendations regarding digitalisation in agriculture, forestry and rural areas.

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## Impact of COVID-19 on young people on rural areas

Ruralization is planning to host a webinar on 15 September 2020 on the impact of COVID-19 on young people in rural and urban areas. The webinar will discuss the positive and negative effects of the pandemic and differences between urban and rural areas, sharing resilience stories and examples of young people from both rural and urban areas.

Read more

#### **EVENTS**

10 Sept. 2020 First meeting of the Rural Digitisation
online Forum

15 Sept. 2020 Impact of COVID-19 on young people from rural areas

22-24 Sept. 2020 European Research and Innovation Days

24-25 Sept. 2020 Agriculture and Food Summit 2020

15-16 Oct. 2020 Farm to Fork Conference – Building sustainable food systems together

05-22 Oct. 2020 online

European Week of Regions and Cities

30 Nov. - 01 Dec. 2020 Brussels, Belgium

SHERPA Annual Conference

Don't miss any updates! Click on the icons below and follow the project online! #ruralinterfaces #SHERPA2020











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