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# SHERPA- Rural interfaces

## Newsletter 13 - February 2022



## SHERPA Tools

Check out the SHERPA tool on EU Programming and stay up to date with the CAP Strategic Plans developments. The tool offers an overview of the stages at which each country is currently and a series of available documents related to the CAP Strategic Plans.

[Read more](#)

## SHERPA NEWS



### SHERPA Conference 2022

On 31 January and 1 February 2022, the second edition of the SHERPA Conference took place online. The event gathered over 100 participants and more than 30 speakers to discuss how the Long-Term Vision for Rural Areas could be achieved on the ground. SHERPA MAPs had a frontal stage sharing their insights with participants, alongside other Horizon 2020 projects. All presentations are available online. A report will be published soon.

[Read more](#)

MAPs' Position Papers

During 2021, the SHERPA MAPs have worked on the relevant aspects for the development of rural areas: 1) alternative rural futures; 2) change in production and diversification of the rural economy; and 3) climate change and environmental sustainability. The 18 documents have put forward local, regional and national insights from across 17 EU countries. These will feed into the SHERPA Position Papers to be published in March 2022.

[Read more](#)



## New Multi-Actor Platforms

The 20 new MAPs have joined SHERPA for the second phase of the project. The new platforms are being established across Europe and will be working on topics such as social economy, digitalisation, land use management or sustainable value chains, among others. The MAPs will support the exchanges of ideas, for co-learning and co-creating knowledge, by engaging researchers, civil society and policy-makers. SHERPA project is implementing a total of 40 MAPs across the EU countries.

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## MAPS IN FOCUS



### New Estonian MAP joins SHERPA

In the second phase of the project, 20 new MAPs have been established within the project. The Estonian platform will be



### EU MAP discusses foresight exercise results

On 19 January 2022, members of the SHERPA EU Multi-Actor Platform discussed the key points raised



post to find out more of the context of the platform and Estonian rural areas.

[Read more](#)

by all SHERPA MAPs and their work contributed to the SHERPA Position Paper.

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## EUROPEAN NEWS

### CAP Strategic Plans published

DG AGRI has published the plans of the 22 EU countries that made them publicly available. The Commission has now six months to approve the plans ahead of their implementation in January 2023. Member States had to submit their national CAP Strategic Plans before 31 December 2021. Currently three Member States have still to submit their Strategic Plans to the European Commission.

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### European digital rights for all

On 26 January 2022, the European Commission put forward a declaration of rights and principles for everyone in the EU. It gives a clear reference point of the EU digital transformation and provides a guide for policy-makers and companies when dealing with new technologies. Among the priorities mentioned, broadband access for all citizens including in rural and remote areas is highlighted.

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### Rural Pact for a sustainable rural-urban development

On 9 February 2022, the Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment (NAT) section of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) held a webinar to explore insights for the implementation of the Rural Pact towards a sustainable rural/urban development. The EESC believes that all institutions need to be

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## Fostering rural innovation in rural areas

On 20 January 2022, the Interreg-funded project, CERUSI (Central European Rural Social Innovation) held an online event on how to foster social innovation in rural areas. The project launched a network of actors who share a common vision to improve social innovation ecosystems in rural areas throughout Central Europe. Social innovations and social entrepreneurship need a strong network, locally and transnationally

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## OTHER H2020 PROJECTS



DESIRA: experts' article on rural digitalisation



MOVING: EU MAP webinar highlights published

and impacts of digitalisation in rural areas from the viewpoint of experts". This work is based on 30 cross-disciplinary experts' interviews covering the digitalisation of rural areas, agriculture, and forestry.

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## GRANULAR: new project funded by Horizon Europe

Giving Rural Actors Novel data and re-Useable tools to Lead public Action in Rural areas (GRANULAR) will generate new insights to characterise rural diversity based on a multi-actor & interdisciplinary approach.

[Read more](#)

and innovation on 16 December 2021. A short report highlighting key messages from the event has now been published online, including presentations and recordings of the sessions.

[Read more](#)



## RURITAGE: new policy recommendations

The project recently published policy recommendations for the Integration of Cultural and Natural Heritage (CNH) within Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation with a particular attention to rural regions.

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## EVENTS

7-8 Mar. 2022

Plœuc-L'Hermitage,  
France

European LEADER Seminar

15 Mar. 2022

Brussels, Belgium

Forum for the Future of Agriculture

17-18 Mar. 2022

Torup, Denmark

Smart Rural 21 | The strength of society in developing resilient rural communities



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