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SHERPA Final Conference

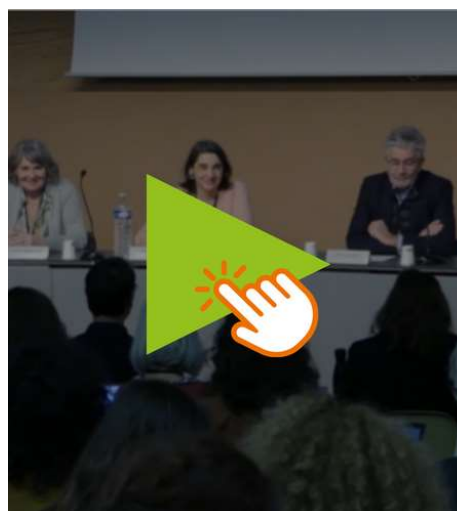
Save the date for the SHERPA Final Conference! The event will take place on 1 and 2 June at the European Committee of the Regions in Brussels, Belgium.

[Read more](#)

SHERPA NEWS

SHERPA Conference 2023

On 31 January and 1 February 2023, SHERPA held its third Annual Conference in Montpellier (France), the first face-to-face conference after the pandemic. The event gathered around 100 participants to share ideas on how rural actors can get involved in the Long Term Vision for Rural Areas and reflect upon the sustainability of SHERPA Multi-Actor Platforms (MAPs). All presentations and the highlights report of the event are available online.

[Check it out!](#)



SHERPA has published a new Discussion Paper on “Empowering rural areas in multi-level governance processes”. The document provides a synthesis of key European policies and scientific evidence on the topic of multi-level governance in rural areas. In the coming months, SHERPA MAPs will use this paper to steer its discussions.

[Learn more](#)

MAPS IN FOCUS



EU MAP discusses climate change and value chains

On 16 January 2023, members of the SHERPA EU Multi-Actor Platform discussed its recommendations for rural areas on climate change and land use, and on resilient and sustainable value chains. The topic was addressed in 2022 by some of the SHERPA MAPs.

[Read more](#)

Digitalisation as a catalyst for change in rural Finland

In this third phase of the project, the SHERPA MAP in Finland has focused its work on digitalisation. Read the blog post to learn about the main challenges, needs and recommendations on how to better tap into the potential of digitalisation for the benefit of rural areas.

[Read more](#)

EUROPEAN NEWS

Rural areas, more than other regions, suffer from departure of youth, ageing and depopulation. All these trends widen hampers the urban-rural divide and territorial disparities in Europe. To tackle this issue, the European Commission has launched the Talent Booster Mechanism to train, retain and attract people, especially in rural areas.

[Learn more](#)

The EU Startup Village Forum to revitalise the rural economy

On February 28, the Joint Research Centre together with the European Commission organised a new edition of the European Startup Village Forum. The event focused on the key elements and enabling conditions for the creation of Startup Villages in rural areas. The Startup Village Mapping Tool was also launched. The aim is to collect all Startup Villages across rural areas in Europe.

[Read more](#)

HARNESSING TALENT IN EUROPE'S REGIONS



Innovation award for women farmers: Apply now!

The seventh edition of the Innovation Award for Women Farmers has been launched by Copa-Cogeca! With 2022-23 being the year where Vision for Rural Areas will be at the forefront, this year's topic is "Women Farmers at the forefront of Rural Areas". It is an opportunity to showcase the innovative solutions implemented by women towards rural development. Apply by 31 March 2023.

[Read more](#)

European Startup Village Forum



CAP: Strategic Plans, stakeholder survey, thematic groups and more!

With the beginning of the new year, the CAP Strategic Plans have officially started to run. Different activities related to the CAP have been launched by the European Commission, such as new thematic groups on CAP implementation, evaluation guidelines to assess how AKIS contributes to the CAP, success stories from Local Action Groups and LEADER experiences, and more.

[Discover it!](#)

Since 1990s, the Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) was applied in the European Union to foster place-based and bottom-up development. More than thirty years has passed since and what have we learnt from implementing CLLD in Europe? Read this blog post and learn about the added value of the CLLD approach at the Italian-Austrian border.

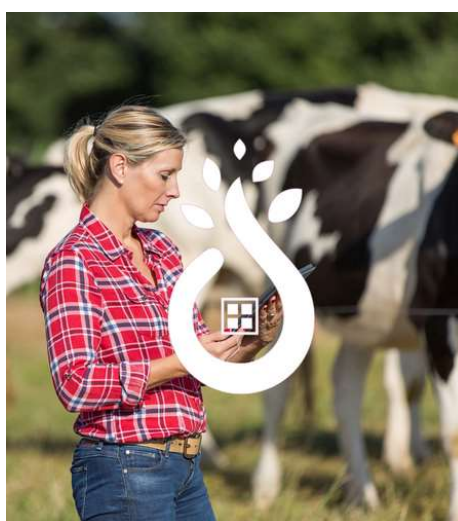
[Read more](#)

OTHER H2020 PROJECTS



DESIRA: Foresight exercise on rural digitalisation

On 19 January 2023, DESIRA facilitated a foresight exercise on rural digitalisation in collaboration with the Joint Research Centre and DG AGRI. The purpose was to explore how digitalisation can help shape rural areas' responses to future needs.

[Read more](#)

Ruralization MOOC: new chances for rural areas

The EU-funded Ruralization project has launched a new MOOC on how to study the dynamics and trends in rural regions and how to create concepts, plans, and initiatives to improve rural development, with a particular focus on youth.

[Learn more](#)

The MOVING project teams have prepared a package of 23 short videos providing an overview of the vulnerability of mountain value chains in European countries.

Discover the threats and the adaptation capacity to climate of these value chains!

[Check out!](#)

GRANULAR partners met physically for the first time in Montpellier to held the General Assembly. The project team started testing their ideas on the ground by meeting local stakeholders involved in the development of local public policies.

[Read more](#)

EVENTS

26-27 April 2023

Brussels, Belgium

DESIRA Final Conference

3-4 May 2023

Sweden

Rural Pact Conference- Sharing experiences and learning for the future

2-7 May 2023

Sweden

Swedish Rural Week

31 May-1 June 2023

Brussels, Belgium

EU Agricultural Research and Innovation Conference

1-2 June 2023

Brussels, Belgium

SHERPA Final Conference

3-11 June 2023

Brussels, Belgium

EU Green Week

20-22 June 2023

Brussels, Belgium

European Sustainable Energy Week

26-29 June 2023

Groningen, Netherlands

3rd European Rural Geographies Conference

28 June-3 July 2023

Romania

Smart Village Forum

3-7 July 2023

Rennes, France

European Society for Rural Sociology Congress: Crises & future of rural areas

9-12 Oct. 2023

Brussels, Belgium

European Week of Regions and Cities



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