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European Committee of the Regions



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SESSION 2: Contribution to the wider policy framework





Pitches on four rural priorities





Our option for today: rural acceleration

Recommendation: Use LTVRA building blocks to structure CAP Strategic Plans around four rural priorities



- National level framework
- Local level implementation
- Each country should design strategies per building block with:
- A needs assessment
- Interventions to address identified needs
- Goals and targets



Stronger Rural Areas

- Support to empower communities and access to services to facilitate:
 - social innovation
 - spatial planning
 - youth involvement





Why You Should Support Stronger Rural SHERPA View

- The depopulation trend in rural areas creates challenges and pressurises public services (e.g. health, social care for the elderly; childcare for young families) and reduces the proportion of economically active population
- Many skilled (young) rural innovators are waiting for an enabling environment to develop their innovations and contribute to closing the service gap in rural areas
- Stimulate new jobs via LTVRA flagship of Research and Innovation for rural communities (e.g. innovation hubs linked to investment in natural capital) and make rural areas attractive to professionals to settle with career prospects for entire family
- Increasing land competition in rural areas (e.g. energy transition) requires empowered and organised rural population for smart decision making on land-use planning
- Make the most of valuable social networks built by LAGs over the last 30 years through LEADER/CLLD to strengthen the social dimension of rural areas

G Youths think differently about work, the environment, community, etc., they no longer see these from the perspective of traditional industrial society

Suomi MAP, Finland

Why You Should Support Stronger Rural My View

Let's invest to attract young, skilled and empowered rural innovators