

# Long-term Implications of Digital Transition for Farmers & Rural Communities

Civil Dialogue Group – CAP Strategic Plans & Horizontal matters

DG AGRI – DG JRC

20 June 2023

# Policy context

*A green and digital transition framed by:*

➤ European Green Deal & Farm to Fork



Make sure Europeans get healthy, affordable and sustainable food



Tackle climate change



Protect the environment and preserve biodiversity



Fair economic return in the food chain



Increase organic farming

➤ Europe Fit for Digital Age



Energy networks



Precision farming



Mobility and transport



Smart buildings



Green data spaces



The power of data

# Policy context

## *Challenges*

- Food security
- Climate change & Environment
- Farmers livelihood
- Consumer preferences
- Demographic changes

## *Digitalisation*

- ✓ Improve effectiveness and efficiency
- ✓ ↓ environmental & climate footprint
- ✓ Societal objectives (jobs, skills)
- ✓ Increase resilience



- ➡ Need for **fair green & digital transitions**
- ➡ Right future policy framework: understand long-term implications of the digital transition for farmers and rural communities

# Foresight study

## Long-term Implications of Digital Transition for Farmers and Rural Communities



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### ***Aim***

→ explore how digitalisation policies and strategies can contribute to the resilience of the agricultural sector and rural areas in light of potential disruptive and transformative changes

### ***Objective***

- ✓ explore disruptive, transformative futures and create a desired vision for digital transition
- ✓ stress-test digitalisation policy options
- ✓ develop a resilience toolkit to help users create or improve digitalisation strategies

# Foresight study timeline

## Long-term Implications of Digital Transition for Farmers and Rural Communities



# Transformative Futures: illustrative scenarios - JRC

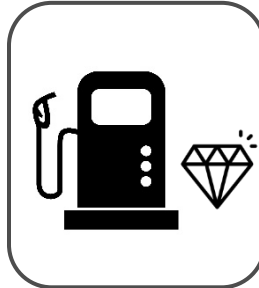
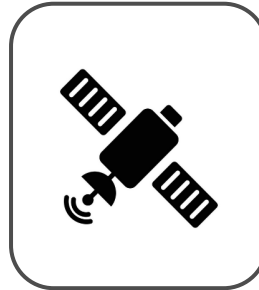
## Storms

*Protect what you can*



## Struggling Synergies

*Imperfect consensus*



## End Game

*A Competing World*



## Opposing views

*Bi-polar priorities*





# New roles for people & technology: examples

## Adaptive farmer



digital native; multitasking; efficiency  
(environmental); entrepreneur

## Augmented reality nature teacher/guide

Keith, male, 52



School teacher with a degree in  
sustainable development and  
future-oriented education; conducts  
virtual field trips to wilderness areas for  
students and digital tourists; based in a  
remote wildlife-rich area.

# Digitalisation roles

- Coping with shocks – how can digital technologies support resilience
  - Shielded by technology vs transformed by technology
- Wisdom – how can digital technologies contribute to good judgment
  - Black box vs collective intelligence
- Autonomy and interdependence – tech for relatedness
  - Automation and robotisation vs supportive networks
- Community – tech for togetherness
  - Transaction platforms vs active communities
- Good systems – tech for systemic transformation
  - Efficiency innovations vs system innovations
- Navigating storms – tech for long-term turbulence



# Vision framework

## Purpose



- Green transition
- Resilience
- Digital citizenship
- Wellbeing

## Values



- Trust
- Fairness & equality
- Power
- Sovereignty
- Care

## Principles



- Collaboration & sharing
- Accessibility
- Sustainability
- People-centred design

# Digitalisation strategies toolkit

- **Goal:** facilitate strategic conversations on the implications of digitalisation
- **Target group:** EU, national & local authorities in charge of digital strategies
- **Potential uses:**
  - Build their own country/region specific desired vision of digitalisation
  - Formulate/improve digitalisation strategy
  - Test policies in the context of the vision

# Milestones

- ➡ Presentation of foresight project in Civil Dialogue Group
  - 24 October 2022
  - 20 June 2023
- ➡ DG AGRI conference on digital transformation → **8 December 2023**
  - presentation of foresight report and toolkit
  - exchange on role of data and digitalisation for agriculture & rural areas
- ➡ Development of vision/strategy on digitalisation

# Questions?

Please send any comments or questions to [AGRI-A@ec.europa.eu](mailto:AGRI-A@ec.europa.eu)

# Thank you



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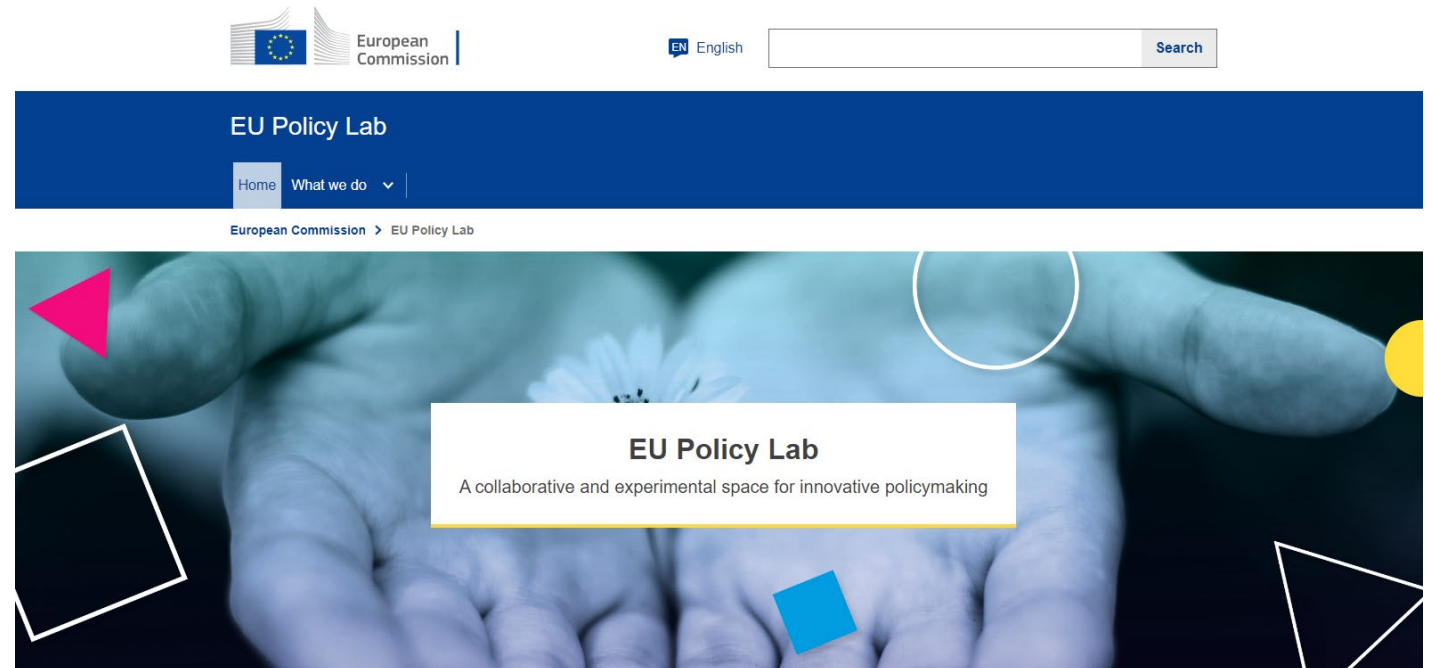
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