

Empowering Rural Areas: The Role of Rural Investments in Accelerating Climate Resilience

A Workshop of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and

Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI)

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 | 9:00 - 11:00 EST / 15:00 - 17:00 CET

Introduction
DG AGRI: Mihail Dumitru, Deputy Director General, Rural Development, DG AGRI
USDA: TBD
Session 1: Rural Policy in the United States and European Union
Overview of the Long-Term Vision for the EU's rural areas (LTVRA)
- Silvia Nanni , DG AGRI
➤ USDA Rural Development Priorities – Overview (and brief history) of RD's initiatives aimed at helping rural communities prosper, including infrastructure, housing, business development, and community programs
- Sarah Dietch, Chief of Staff for Rural Development, USDA
Session 2: Decarbonization and Climate Resilience at the Rural Level
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➤ The Role of Infrastructure and Community Investments in Advancing Climate Resilience — Exploration of select, small-scale programs that aid decarbonization and climate-smart agriculture efforts, including energy generation/efficiency, precision agriculture, water management, and fertilizer production.
 Clare Sierawski, Senior Energy Counselor, Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development, USDA
 EU climate policy framework and the contribution of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) – Overview on the policy framework and CAP funding opportunities for climate resilience relevant investments and actions in rural areas, including practical examples such smart villages. Gregorio Davila Diaz, Environmental Sustainability, DG AGRI Nicola di Virgilio, Climate Adaptation and Carbon Farming, DG AGRI

10:30 EST	Q&A discussion and identification of possible issues of common interest for further
/16:30CET	joint work and coordination
10:05 EST	Conclusion
/16:55 CET	USDA: TBD
	AGRI: TBD