

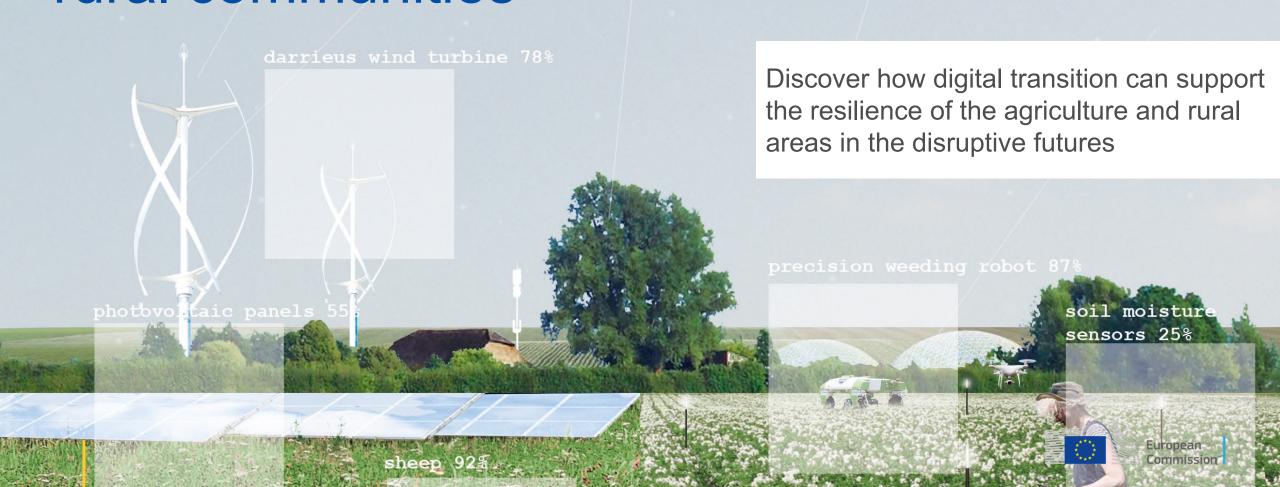
Digital transition:

Long-term implications for EU farmers & rural communities

Jolita Butkeviciene JRC Director for Innovation in Science and Policymaking 8 December 2023



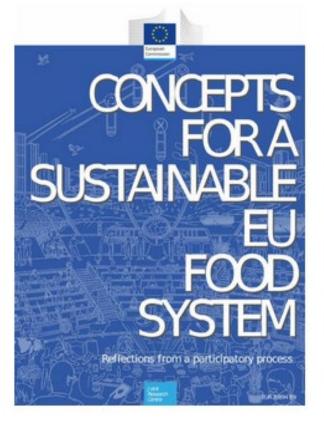
Digital transition: Long-term implications for EU farmers & rural communities



Building on previous JRC projects



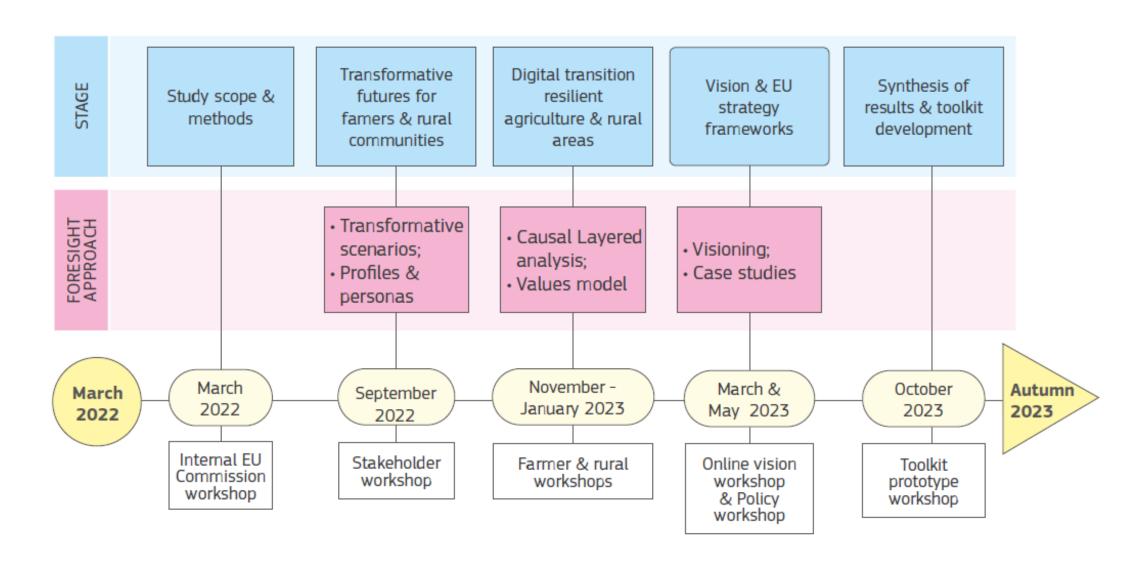








Overview of the foresight process



Workshops

Transformative futures workshop, Brussels, 2022





Rural workshop, Ghent 2023

Farmer workshop, Vilnius, 2022

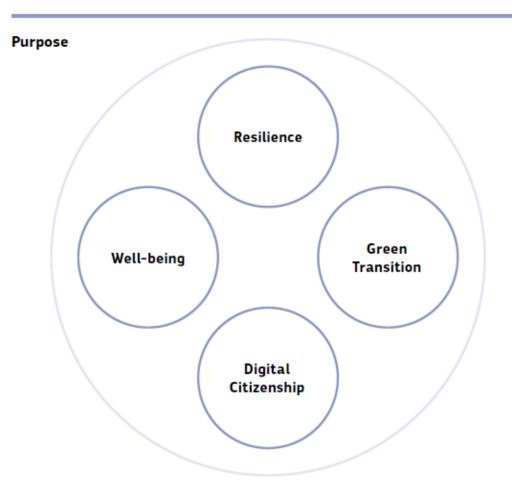




Toolkit test workshop, Brussels, 2023



Purpose of the digital transition



Resilience

The ability to cope with shocks and bounce forward towards systemic transformation. Digitalisation should increase economic, social, environmental, and geopolitical resilience.

Green Transition

The fundamental shift in production and consumption patterns needed to live within planetary boundaries. Digitalisation could ensure better systems management that increases efficiency and productivity.

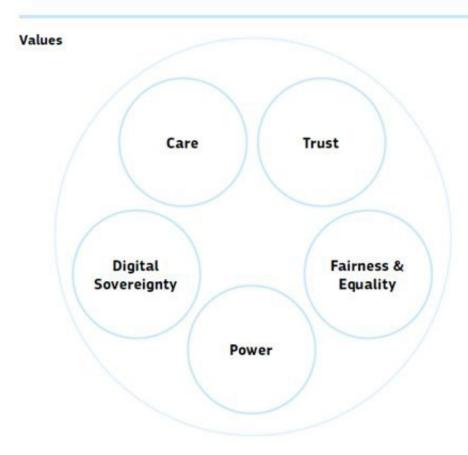
Digital Citizenship

The ability to participate actively in society with the help of digital technology. Key aspects are digital rights and privacy, access, literacy, engagement, empowerment, and the right to not go digital and still thrive.

Well-being

Quality of life and opportunities to contribute meaningfully to the world. Digitalisation should contribute farmers' and rural communities' well-being by improving work conditions, access to services and infrastructure, and strengthening social ties.

Values



Trust

Confidence, reliability and mutual faith in the digital systems, technologies, organisations, and processes. Digital infrastructures and services should be safe by design, transparent, neutral and cybersecure, and respect users' privacy and data security.

Fairness & Equality

Encompasses fair pricing, payment terms, and relationships in the supply chain. Fairness is also about the equal distribution of benefits of digital technologies and access to digital technologies.

Power

The ability to influence and shape processes, decisions, and outcomes related to digital technologies and their implementation. It includes empowering farmers and rural communities to have a voice, agency, and control over their own digital transition.

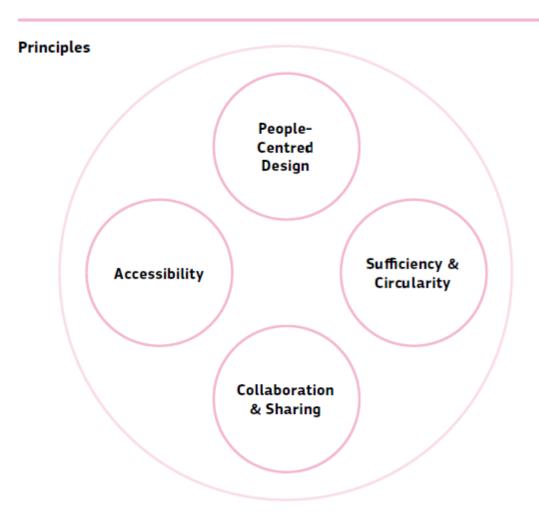
Digital Sovereignty

Implies reducing dependency on companies or platforms that gather large amounts of data, leading to the accumulation of power and knowledge, often outside rural and farming communities or even national jurisdiction.

Care

Nurturing and protecting the well-being of farmers, rural communities, and the commons. Care implies an active consideration of possible negative outcomes and inequalities of digitalisation.

Principles



Collaboration & Sharing

Involves farmers, rural communities, the private sector, governments, and tech companies working together. This can be achieved through forming networks, sharing knowledge, data, practices, tools, and infrastructure, as well as promoting cross-border networking and collaboration.

Accessibility

Ensuring accessibility and affordability of digital technologies and services to all farmers and rural communities, regardless of their location, income, or the size of their operation.

People-Centred Design

Factoring the needs and preferences of farmers and rural communities in the development of digital tools and services through an iterative process of user feedback and design.

Sufficiency & Circularity

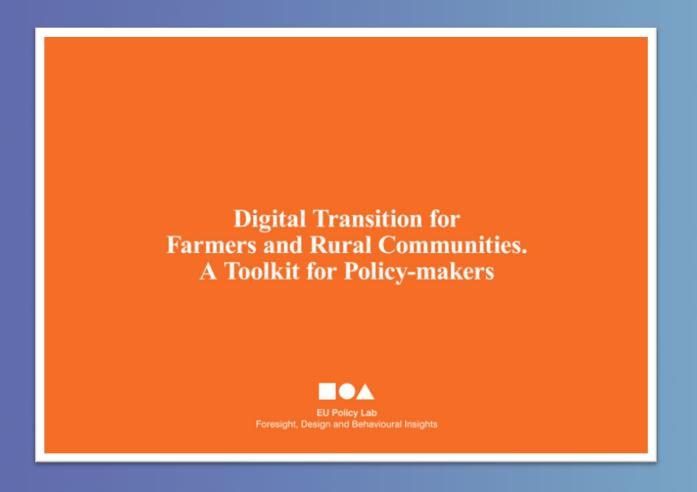
Ensuring that digital technologies are environmentally, socially and economically sustainable, durable, open for modification, recyclable, and are used frugally.

Key enablers for implementation

- Capacity building for digital skills and knowledge
- An effective digital ecosystem and data governance
- Infrastructure and connectivity
- An adequate funding and investment



Toolkit for policy-makers







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