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Rural opportunities

Breakout session 6



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Agenda

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| 13:00 – 13:10 | Welcome | } Part I |
| 13:10 – 13:20 | Keynote speech | |
| 13:20 – 13:30 | Presentation | |
| 13:30 – 14:30 | Panel discussion | |
| 14:30 – 15:30 | Co-creative discussion | } Part II |



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Keynote speech



*Dr. Emilia Schmitt
University of Cordoba,
Scientific coordinator of the H2020
project MOVING*

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Rural Opportunities: insights from MOVING H2020 project



Dr. Emilia Schmitt - moving.coord@uco.es

Special thanks to MOVING partners and stakeholders without whom this presentation would not be possible

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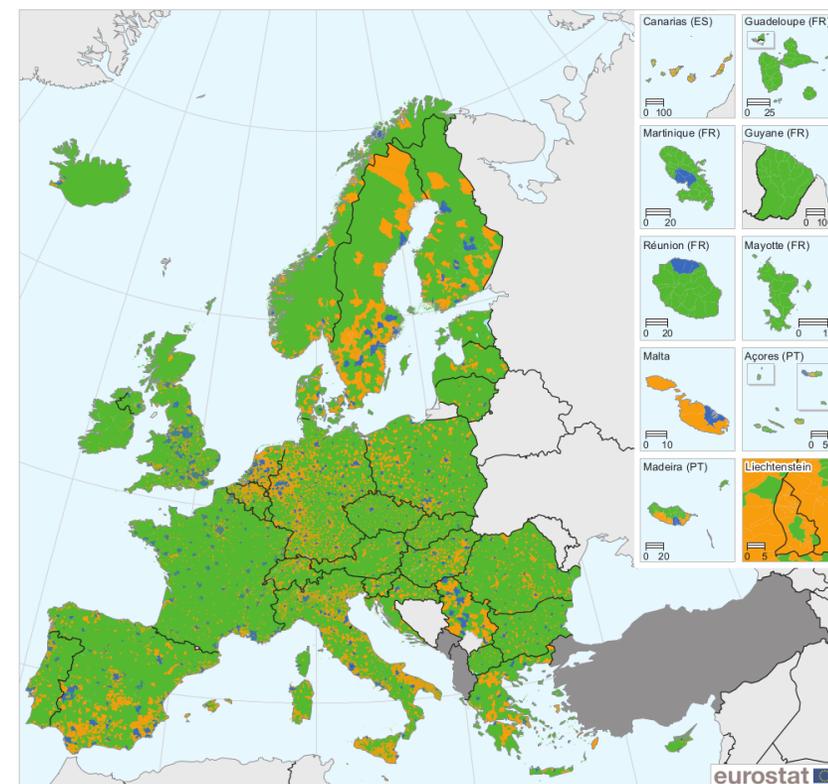
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About rural areas in Europe

- 76,4% of land
- 24,1% of population (and older)
- Lower levels of tertiary education, digital skills and daily access to the internet
- Less (un-)employment, lower GDP per capita
- More difficult access to (health) services
- More space, better access to houses, more nature
- VERY DIVERSE SETTINGS

Degree of urbanisation for local administrative units (LAU)



Administrative boundaries: © EuroGeographics © UN-FAO © Turkstat
Cartography: Eurostat — GISCO, 05/2018

- **Cities**
(Densely populated areas: at least 50 % of the population lives in urban centres)
- **Towns and suburbs**
(Intermediate density areas: less than 50 % of the population lives in rural grid cells and less than 50 % of the population lives in urban centres)
- **Rural areas**
(Thinly populated areas: more than 50 % of the population lives in rural grid cells)
- **Data not available**

0 200 400 600 800 km

Note: based on population grid from 2011 and LAU 2016.

Source: Eurostat, JRC and European Commission Directorate-General for Regional Policy

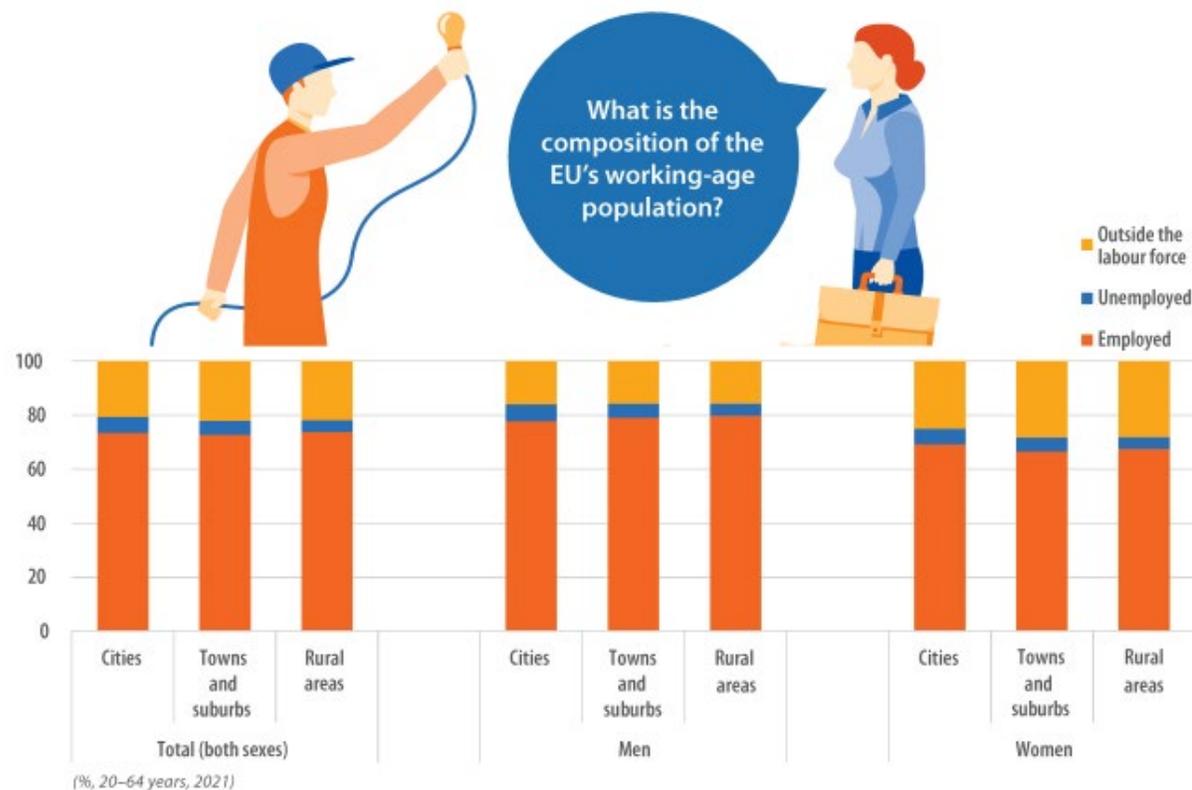
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About rural areas in Europe



About rural areas in Europe



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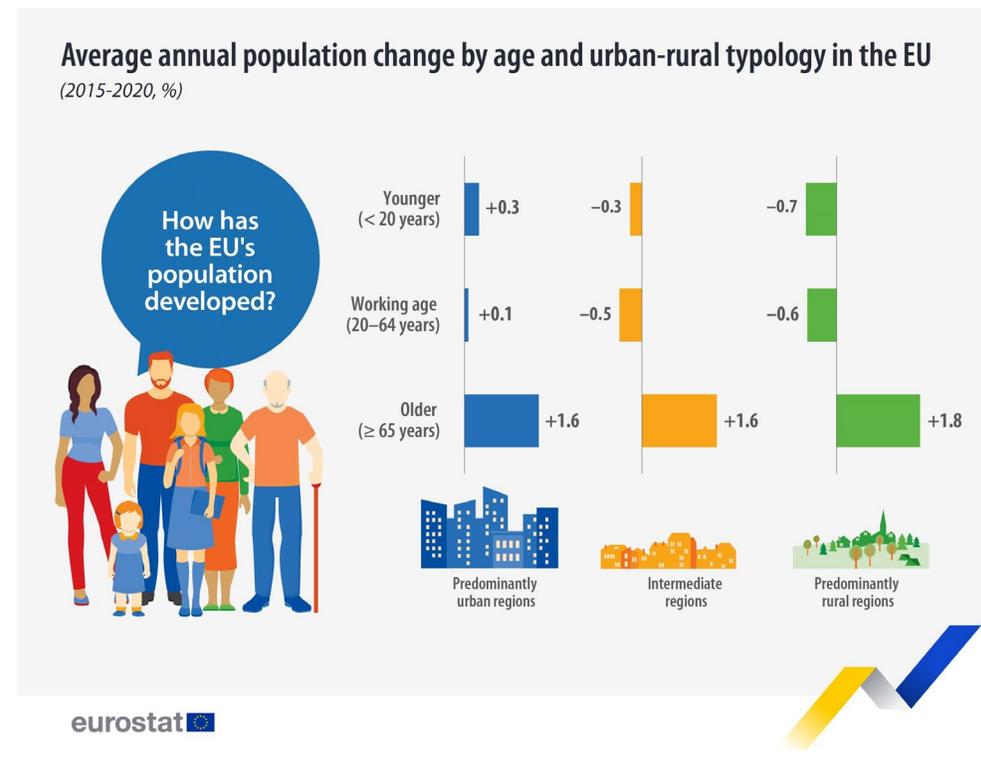


Positive and negative trends

- From west-east divide to center-periphery divide



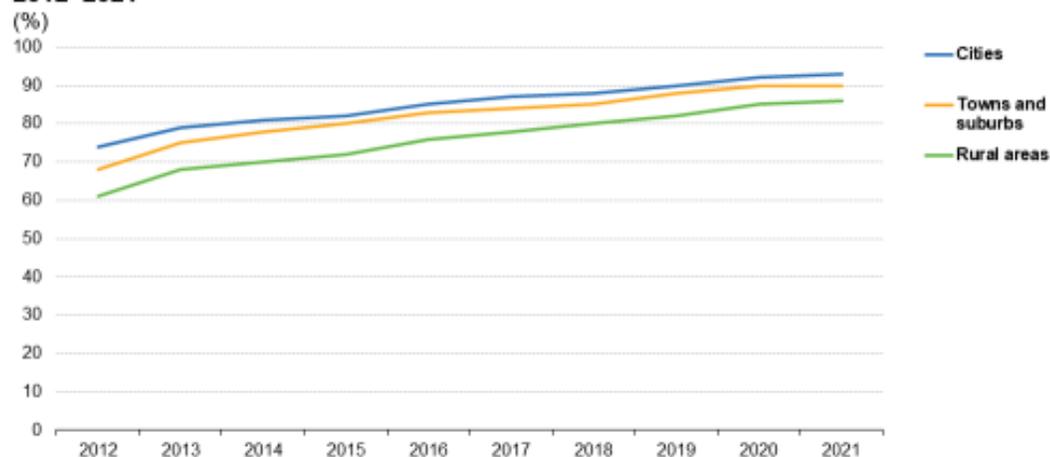
Figure from ESPON



Positive and negative trends

- Future of connected towns and suburbs, with more space for nature

Households with broadband internet by degree of urbanisation, EU, 2012–2021



Note: 2020, estimates. 2021: break in series.
Source: Eurostat (online data code: isoc_ci_it_h)

eurostat

The new EU-wide Biodiversity Strategy will:

- Establish protected areas for at least:



30%
of land in
Europe



30%
of sea in
Europe

With stricter protection of remaining EU primary and old-growth forests legally binding nature restoration targets in 2021.

- Restore degraded ecosystems at land and sea across the whole of Europe by:



Increasing organic farming and biodiversity-rich landscape features on agricultural land



Halting and reversing the decline of pollinators



Restoring at least 25 000 km of EU rivers to a free-flowing state



Reducing the use and risk of pesticides by 50% by 2030



Planting 3 billion trees by 2030

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Positive and negative trends

- Youth dreams about living in rural areas

Figure from Project Ruralization (2021)

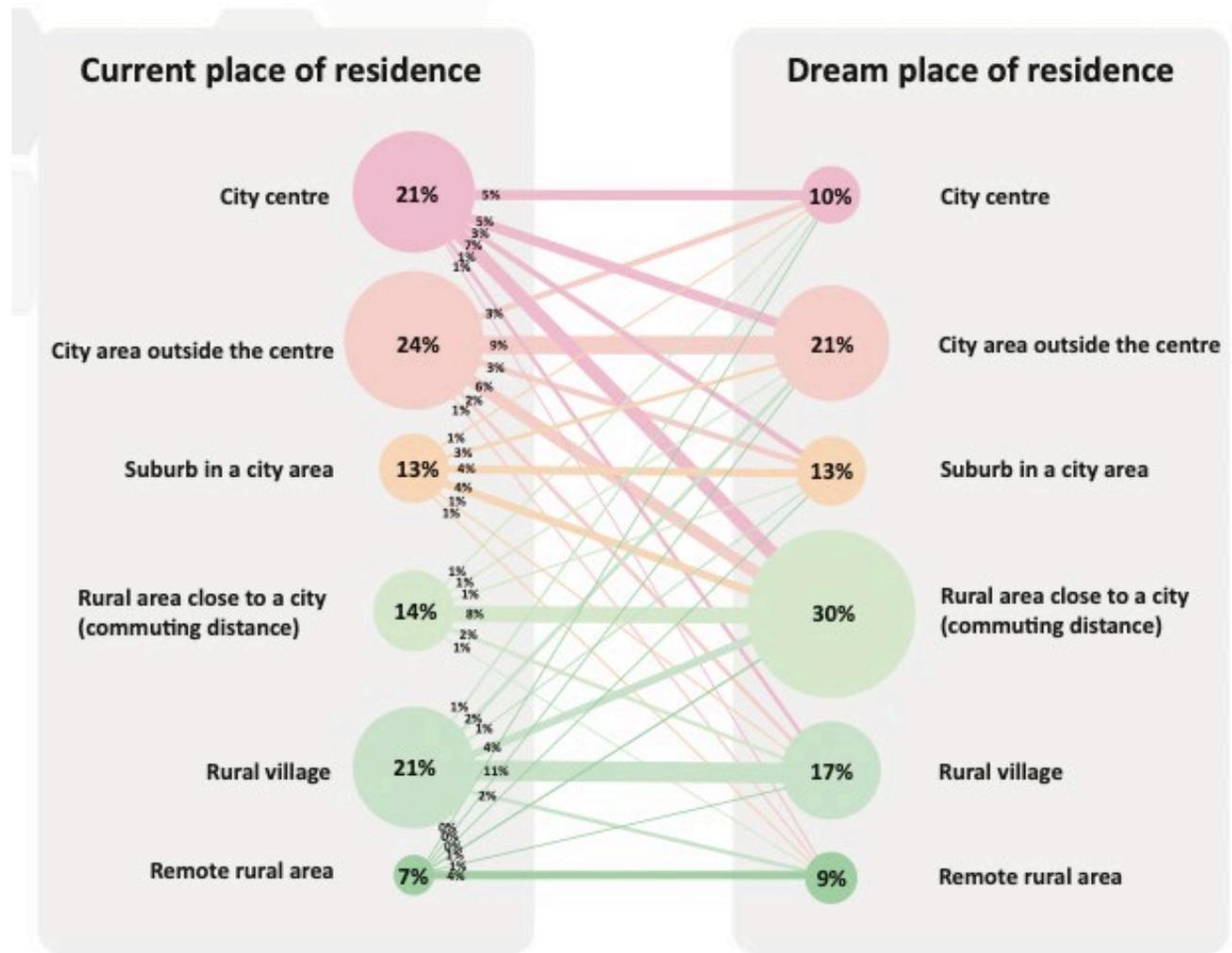


Figure 6: Respondents by type of the current place of residence and dream place of residence, % of all respondents

Transition from...



Shrinking
Process Type



Economic Restructuring

loss of agricultural workforce accompanied by other agricultural trends



Shrinking
Process Type



Locational Disadvantage

"negative" locational characteristics (isolation, sparsity, lack of smart and sustainable use of natural resources, etc.)



Shrinking
Process Type



Peripherisation

consequence of macro-scale processes related to economic activity and globalisation



Shrinking
Process Type



Disruptive Events

impact of historical events or transitions on regions with weak economic structure



Stronger
Empowered communities
Access to services
Social innovation

Connected
Digital connectivity
Transport links and new mobilities



Prosperous
Diversification of economic activities
Sustainable food production

Resilient
Resilience to climate change
Environmental resilience
Social resilience

Figure from ESPON

What is MOVING H2020 project?

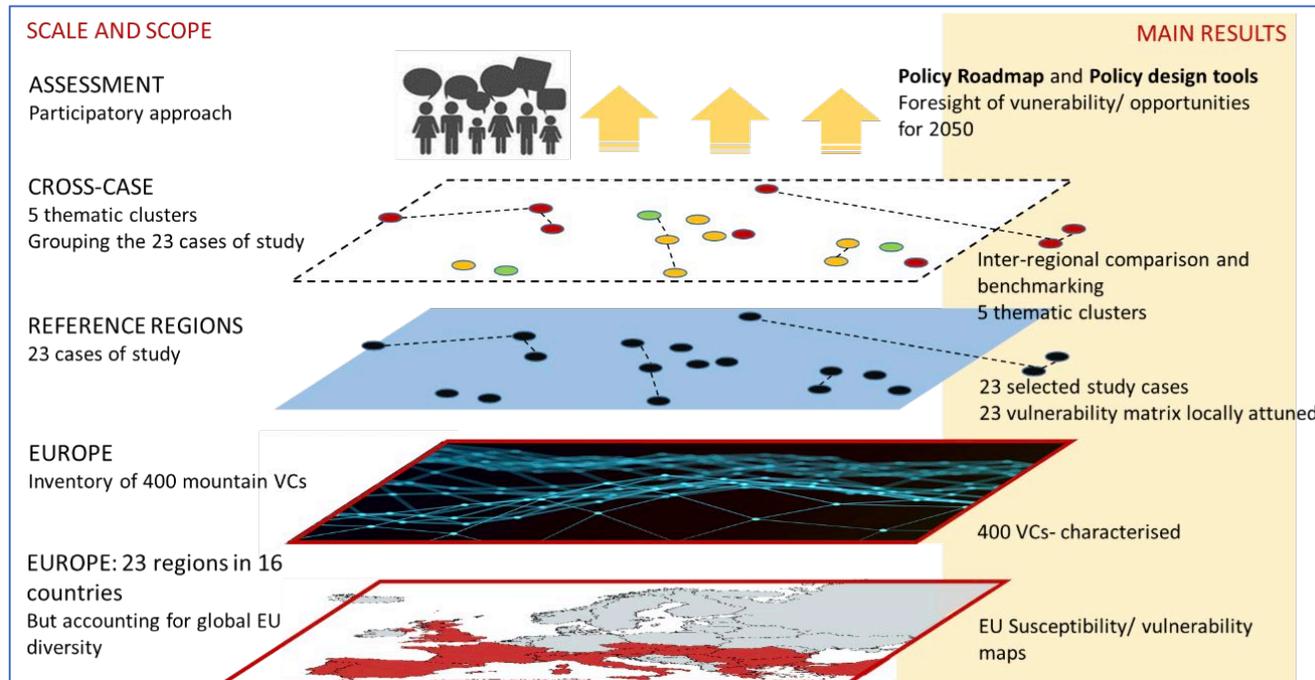
- MOVING (MOuntain Valorisation through INterconnectedness and Green growth)
- four-year project (2020-2024)
- coordinated by Prof. MM Delgado-Serrano, University of Córdoba, Spain

To **build capacities and co-develop** - in a bottom-up participatory process with value chain actors, stakeholders and policy makers - relevant **policy frameworks** across Europe for the establishment of new or **upgraded/upscaled Value Chains** that contribute to **resilience and sustainability of mountain areas**.

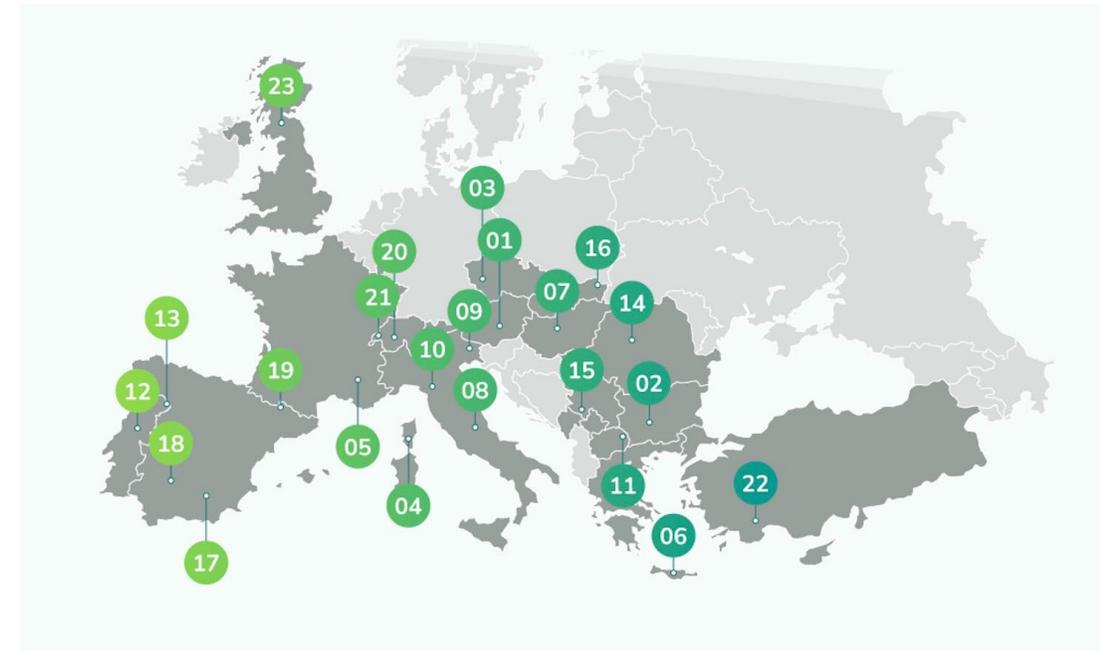


Activities in MOVING

Multi actor and multi-scale Science-Citizen-Policy Interface



- 23 partners, 16 countries
- 500+ actors involved



A few results in MOVING: portrait of rural opportunities

Inventory of mountain value chains

- 291 from 454 « innovative »
- Reframing of innovation for mountain areas
- Social and product innovations based on diversity and origin
- Connected to natural and social capital



In-depth case studies

- (re-) emerging products and processes
- Emergence from informal economy
- protected denominations
- (re-)Circular economy
- crucial role of women and youth
- Synergies between sectors



Vulnerability and adaptive capacity

- Drivers of vulnerability identified
- 160 adaptive mechanisms at regional level
- 340 adaptation measures from the value chains' perspective

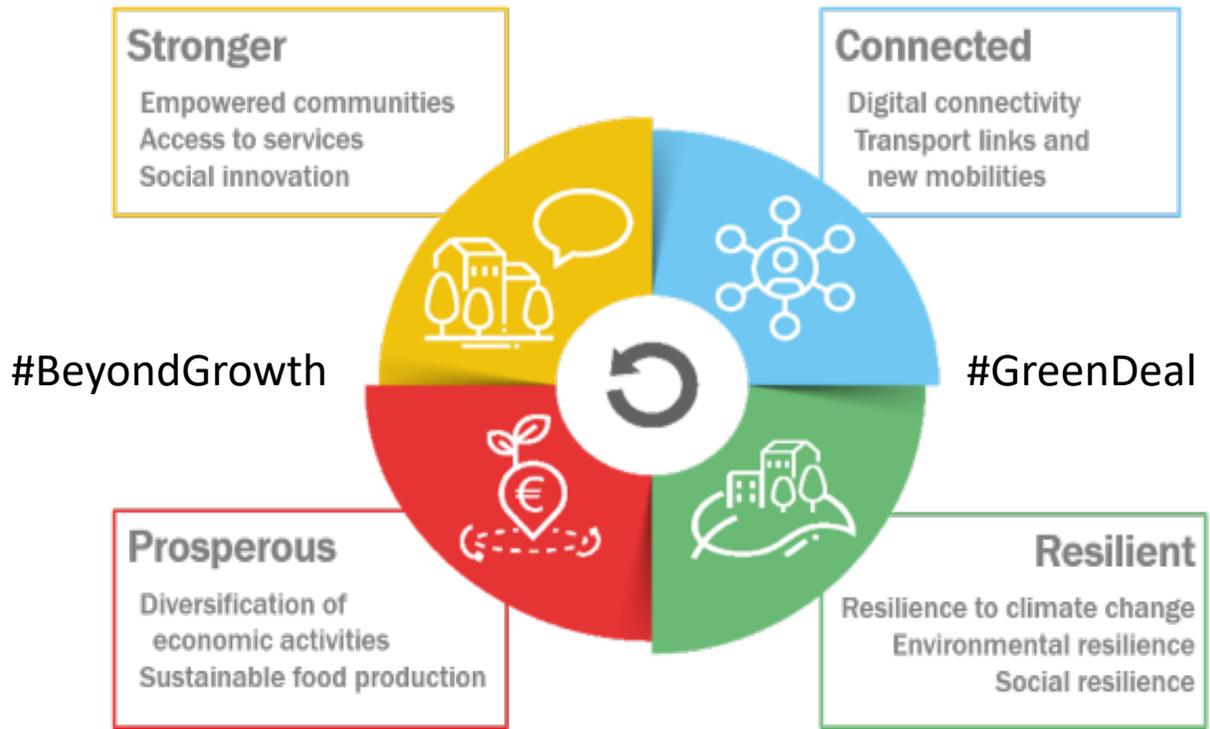
Other examples of contributions from MOVING to LTVRA

- Forums and workshops
- Two summer schools
- Youth engagement activities
- Repertoire of strategic options
- Foresight exercises
- Facilitation of cross-regional exchanges
- participatory building of a policy roadmap
- Survey on Mountain quality term
- PDO schemes



Opportunities in, for and from rural areas

Re-enabling



Re-connecting



Re-valoring



Re-wilding



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Overview of European R&I activities to support rural areas and communities



Arianna Pasa

*Research Programme Officer,
Research and innovation unit
European Commission, DG Agriculture and
rural development*

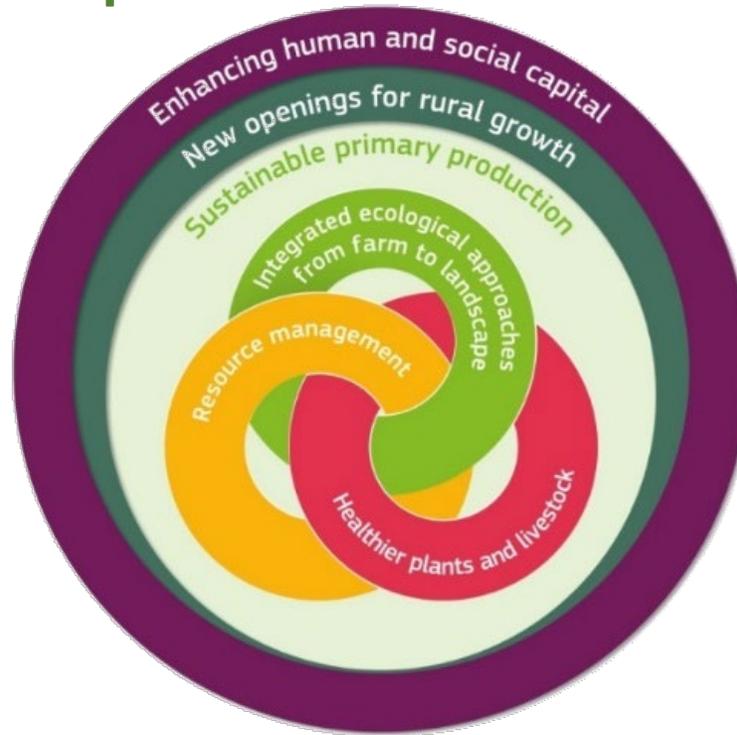
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Strategic approach to agricultural R&I - 2018



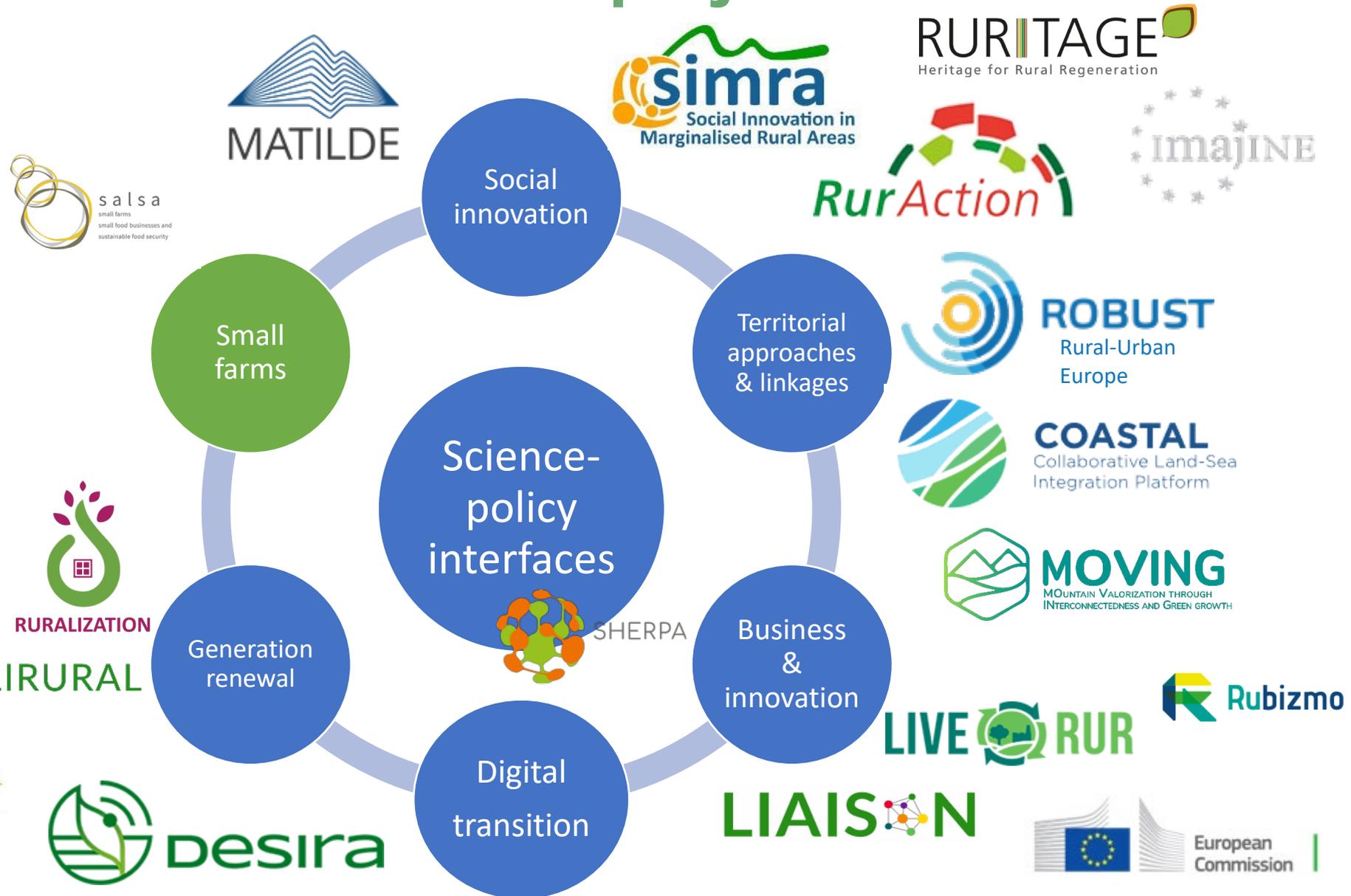
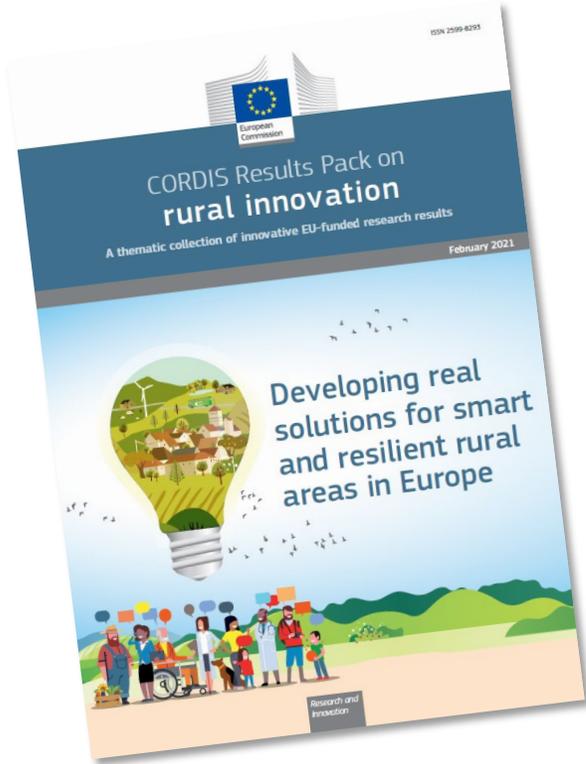
Five strategic priorities



Enhancing rural innovation -
modernising rural
areas and policies

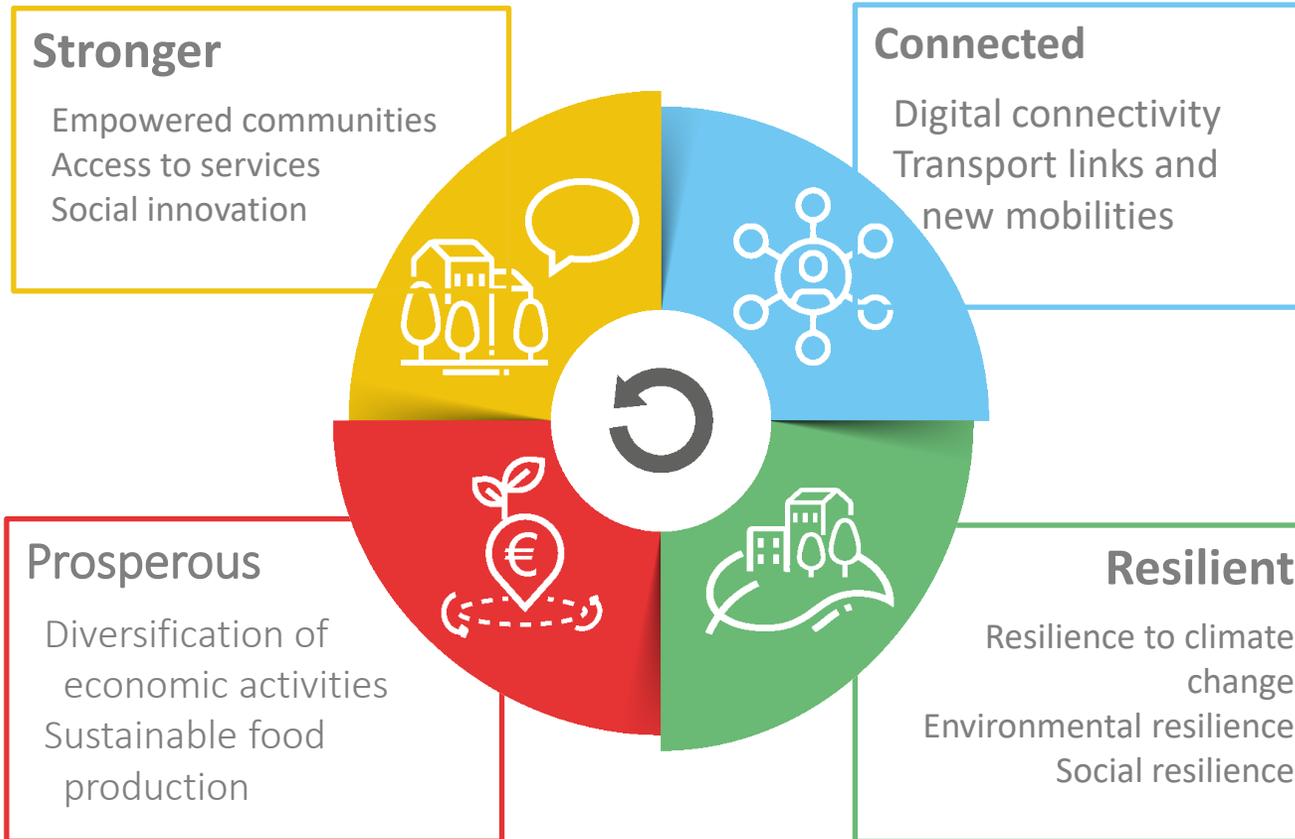
PAST

Some Horizon 2020 rural projects



PRESENT

Policy framework R&I is contributing to the implementation of the Long-term Vision for EU's rural areas



Rural Action Plan flagships:

- ✓ Rural revitalisation platform
- ✓ **Research and innovation** for rural communities
- ✓ **Sustainable multimodal mobility** best practices for rural areas
- ✓ Rural **digital futures**
- ✓ Support rural municipalities in **energy** transition and fighting climate change
- ✓ Climate action in **peatland** through **carbon farming**
- ✓ EU mission: **A soil deal for Europe**
- ✓ **Social resilience** and **Women in rural areas**
- ✓ **Entrepreneurship** and **social economy** in rural areas.

Policy framework – R&I is contributing to advance the CAP objectives



Horizon Europe - from expected impacts to destinations



Strategic Plan 2021-2024

Work Programme 2021-2022 Work Programme 2023-2024

Impact 1 Climate neutrality and adaptation to climate change

• **Destination 5:** Land, oceans and water for climate action

Impact 2 Preservation and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems

• **Destination 1:** Biodiversity and ecosystem services

Impact 3 Sustainable and circular management of natural resources; tackling pollution; bioeconomy

• **Destination 3:** Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors
• **Destination 4:** Clean environment and zero pollution

Impact 4 Food and nutrition security for all from sustainable food systems from farm to fork

• **Destination 2:** Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption

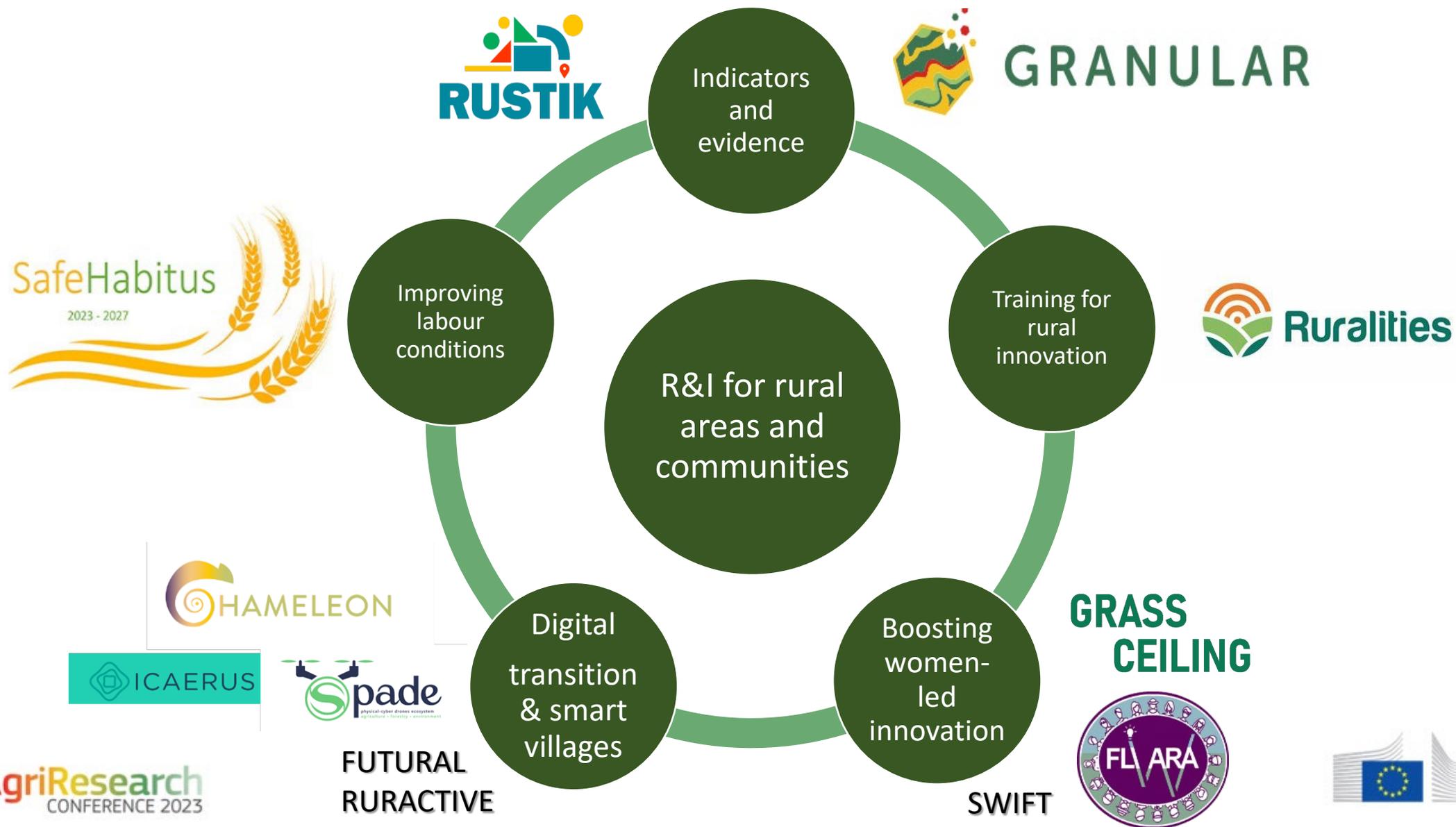
Impact 5 Balanced development of rural, coastal and urban areas

• **Destination 6: Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities**

Impact 6 Innovative governance models enabling sustainability, environmental observation

• **Destination 7: Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal**

Horizon Europe rural projects under cluster 6



Work Programme 2023 - 2024

(52M € - 6 topics – 9 expected projects)

Communities

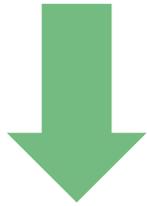
	R&I priorities 2023/2024	Type of Action	Budget	Projects
2023	✓ Enhancing social inclusion in rural areas: focus on people in a vulnerable situation and social economy	RIA	10	2 
	✓ Improving rural future through better territorial governance and rural-urban synergies	RIA	11	1 
	✓ International benchmarking of rural and territorial policies and delivery mechanisms	CSA	3	1     Rural observatory
2024	✓ Innovating for climate-neutral rural communities by 2050 (two-stage)	IA	10	2  
	✓ Societal perceptions and benefits of rural life and jobs : will COVID generate a long-lasting shift?	RIA	6	1    
	✓ New business and production models for farmers and rural communities (two-stage)	RIA	12	2  



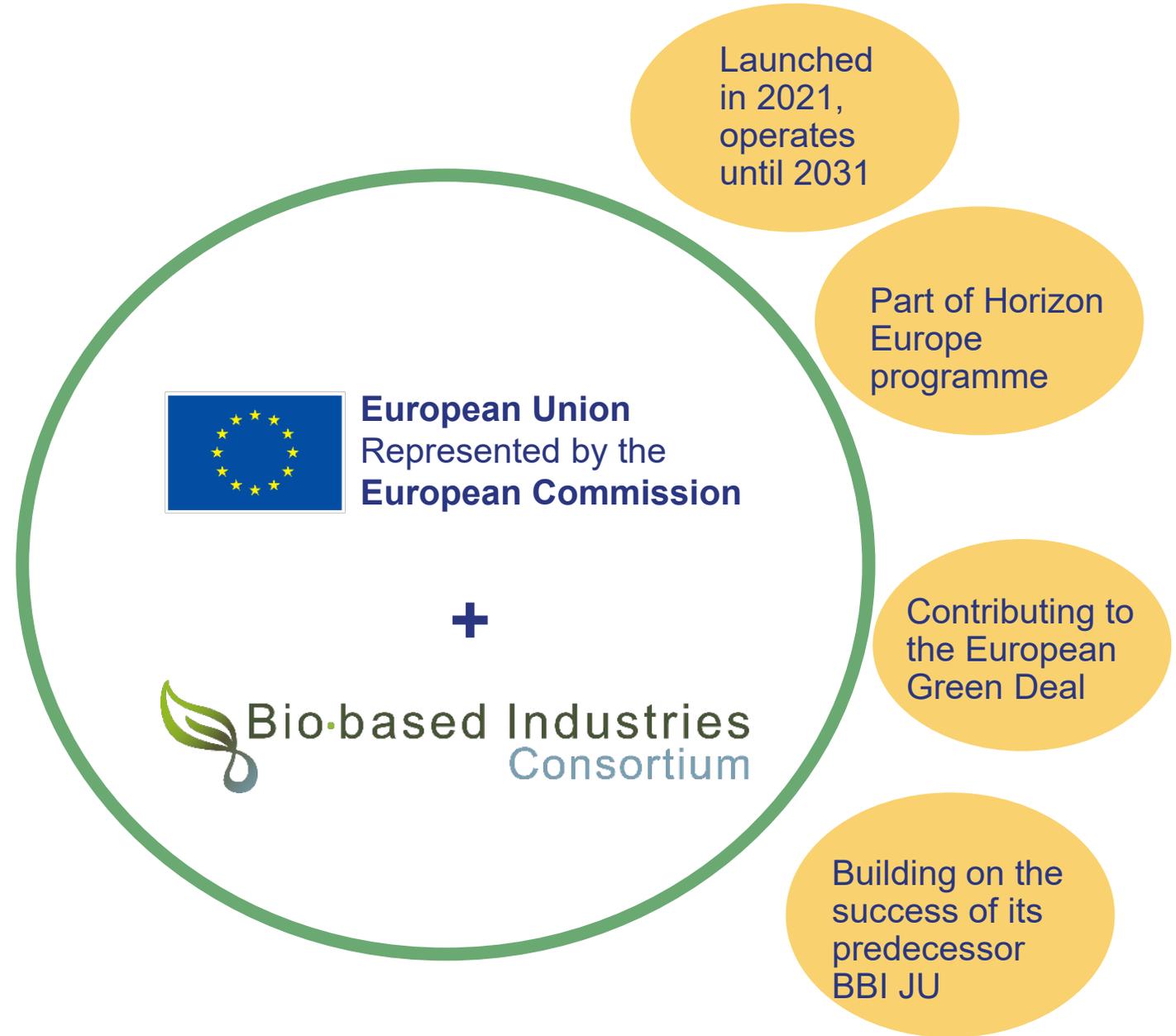
Deadlines	Call(s)
Just closed Deadline: 12 April 2023	HORIZON-CL6- 2023 -COMMUNITIES-01
Opening: 17 Oct 2023 Deadline: 22 Feb 2024	HORIZON-CL6- 2024 -COMMUNITIES-01
Opening: 17 Oct 2023 Deadline(s): 22 Feb 2024 (First Stage), 17 Sep 2024 (Second Stage)	HORIZON-CL6- 2024 -COMMUNITIES-02 (two stage)

Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking

€2 billion public-private initiative



Advancing a competitive bioeconomy for a sustainable future

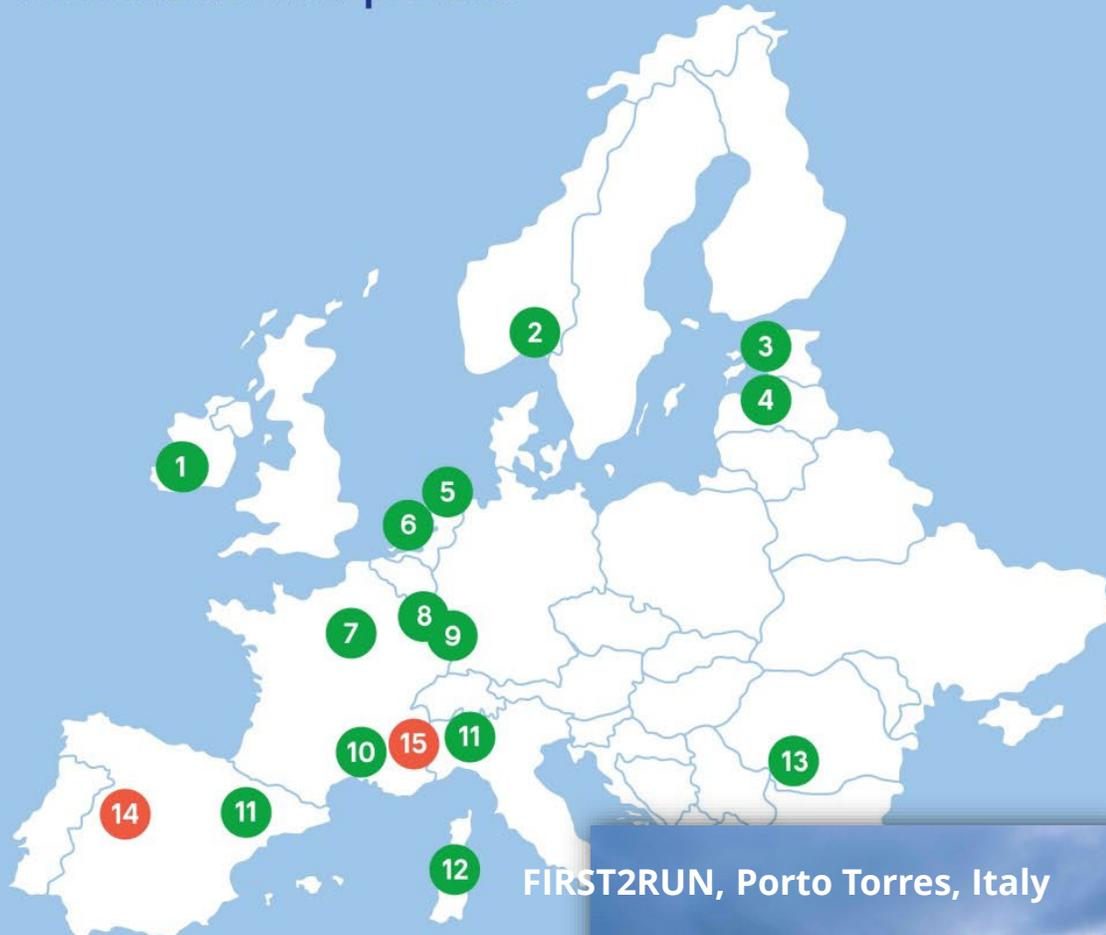


- ✓ **CBE is funding projects** (following an open call for proposals) to deliver bio-based solutions – materials and products - made from waste and biomass in an innovative, sustainable and circular way.
- ✓ **Among the CBE priorities:** secure a sustainable supply of biomass while at the same time creates new opportunities in rural areas delivering jobs, economic growth and development.
- ✓ **Several funded projects such us:** Flagship First2Run (biorefinery sourced by non-food oil crops grown in marginal lands); B-FERST (Fertilisers demo plant supporting sustainable agricultural practices)



CBE JU flagship projects

Feedstock & final product



FIRST2RUN, Porto Torres, Italy



● Flagship biorefinery

● Call 2022

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 AgriChemWhey
Dairy sidestreams
↳ Lactid adic, minerals for food and fertilisers</p> | <p>2 EXILVA
Cellulose
↳ MFC - MicroFibrillated Cellulose</p> |
| <p>3 SWEETWOODS
Lignin & hardwood residues
↳ High-quality C5/C6 sugars & dried lignin</p> | <p>4 VIOBOND
Forest-based
↳ Bio-based resins</p> |
| <p>5 PLENITUDE
Residues of cereal crops
↳ Mycoproteins</p> | <p>6 PEference
Crop residues
↳ FDCA for bioplastics</p> |
| <p>7 FARMYNG
Mealworms & agri-food sidestreams
↳ Proteins for animal feed & organic fertiliser</p> | <p>8 AFTERBIOCHEM
Sidestreams from sugar beet
↳ Flavourings, fragrances, hygiene products, pharmaceuticals, antimicrobials & polymers</p> |
| <p>9 ReSolute
Sidestreams from pulp & paper industry
↳ Biodegradable, harmless & bio-based solvent: Cyrene</p> | <p>10 SCALE
Microalgae
↳ Nutritional ingredients for food, feed and cosmetics</p> |
| <p>11 CIRCULAR BIOCARBON
Municipal solid waste
↳ High-value products from fertilisers to 5G technology</p> | <p>12 FIRST2RUN
Underutilised oil crops
↳ Building blocks for polyester production & vegetable oils</p> |
| <p>13 LIGNOFLAG
Crop residues
↳ 2G bioethanol biofuel - building block</p> | <p>14 SUSTAINEXT
Crops & agro-industrial side-streams
↳ Ingredients for food, feed, cosmetics & fertilisers</p> |
| <p>15 SYLPLANT
Agri-based & wood based
↳ Alternative protein sources for food & feed ingredients</p> | |

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Panel discussion



Spyros Fountas



*Marta Guadalupe
Rivera Ferre*



Petri Kahila



*Wallis Vandebrock
Goelen*

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Co-creative discussion



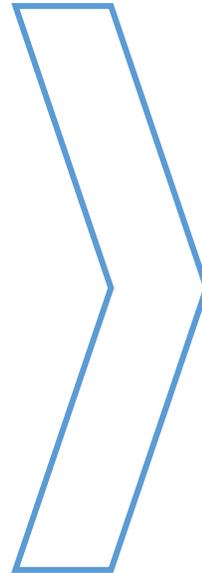
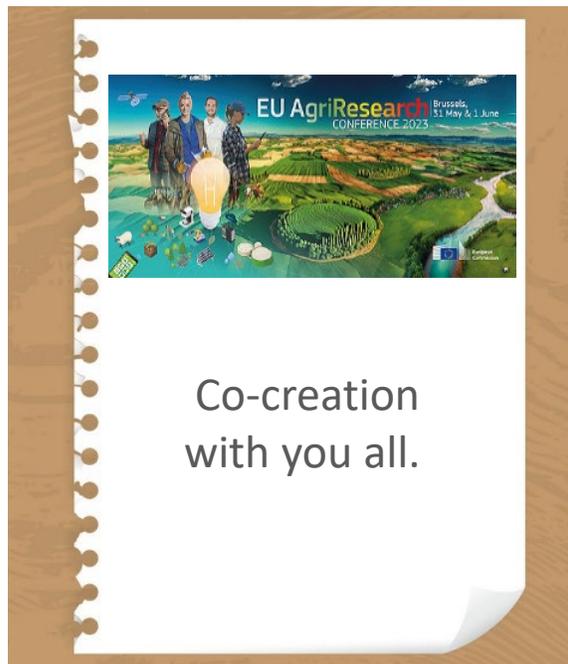
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Participants, have your say!

Your ideas are essential for Horizon Europe and beyond

HE Cluster 6 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment and the Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe'



Strategic Plan 25-27

Work Programme(s)
2025 to 2027

Next EU R&I Programme and CAP
after 2027

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Let's co-create replies to two questions



1: **What** are the research and innovation **needs** to address the challenges of rural areas and communities?

2: **How** should those **needs** be **delivered** through research and innovation?

Meaning of 'what'

- **What** are the research and innovation **needs or gaps** to address the challenges of rural areas and communities?
- What are the questions that research and innovation should address to support rural areas and communities?

Please, when replying write your name, email address and profession behind the post-it

Meaning of 'how'

How should those needs be delivered through research and innovation?

Consider in your reply the following elements, *for example*:

- Basic research, innovation?
- Standardisation, communication and networking, align research agendas?
- If technological developments expected, what level of maturity? Experimental proof of concept, validation/testing in the lab or related real environment, prototyping...
- Involve other actors beyond researchers/innovators? Which ones?
- International collaboration is key and if so with which regions?
- Other major initiatives to be aware of for consideration and/or collaboration?
- New ideas?

Co-creation

Question 1: What are the research needs in this area?



1 idea per 1 sticky note
CAPITAL LETTERS

Individually provide at least with 2 needs



Present 1 key idea & discuss together with the group



Each person 3 dots

Vote with a dot on the priority idea

Question 2: How should those needs be delivered through research and innovation?



Choose 1 need from the previous question



Individually develop at least 1 idea



Group discussion with the ideas with most votes



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Debrief R&I priorities from the co-creation

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