80% of the European Union's surface is rural and one in every three citizens live in a rural area. Yet, rural areas are very diverse, based on their characteristics, their spatial relationships or the trends and challenges that they face.

Today, rural areas have to face several challenges and opportunities in the light of their **digital and green transition**. To drive transition, rural areas need better data and tools at different levels of granularity to design place-based policies that are targeted to their needs.

Contact us

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GRANULAR

Better knowledge for better rural policies

Logos: CIHEAM MONTPELLIER · tetis · CIHEAM CHANIA · Nordregio · WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH · International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) · PAGE · Agricultural University of Athens · Czech University of Life Sciences Prague · THÜNEN · aeidl · RIATE · cnrs · Université Paris Cité · ECORYS · Universida de Vigo · PREPARE · region västerbotten · P10 · Distretto Rurale e Biologico della Val di Cecina · Luke · PAYS PYRÉNÉES MÉDITERRANÉE · Politechnika Koszalińska · UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO · University of Southampton · The James Hutton Institute

About GRANULAR

The overarching ambition of the GRANULAR project is to **identify, develop and provide novel data and reusable tools** to understand the characteristics, dynamics and drivers of **rural areas** and hence support place and evidence-based policy making.

GRANULAR's main **objectives** are:

- To conceptualise the diversity of features and functionalities of rural areas.

- To generate and assess novel rural data to support decision-making in rural areas.

- To develop indicators to better understand trends, threats and opportunities for rural areas.

- To contribute to operationalise the rural proofing of policies.

- To engage with actors across different types of rural contexts to collect, analyse, validate and assess data.

- To share knowledge and give rural actors tools for decision-making and support just, carbon-neutral and inclusive transitions of rural areas.

GRANULAR is a four-year project (2022-2026) led by the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Montpellier (IAMM), France.

🔴 **LIVING LAB** ⬡ **REPLICATION LAB**

GRANULAR Living Labs

Our approach is based on **co-creation** and **multi-actor engagement**.

As such, GRANULAR will run **7 Living Labs** in different rural areas of Europe (France, Netherlands, Italy, Poland, Spain, Sweden, United-Kingdom). In our Living Labs, rural actors from science, policy and civil society come together and co-design, test and validate GRANULAR work.

Halfway through the project, **9 Replication Labs will assess how to replicate the tools and methods** of the project in other countries (Albania, Finland, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Romania and Serbia).

GRANULAR Outputs

7 Living Labs and 9 Replication Labs: to co-design tools, data and analyses to guide decision-making.

Rural Compass: to understand rural diversity.

Rural proofing mechanism applied to 4 European policies.

Thematic topics: climate neutrality, socio-economic resilience, food systems, wellbeing, attractiveness.

Online repository: existing and new data sources for rural areas.

Digital platform: data and tools at different granularity.

Briefs, reports and analyses: on thematic topics, European and national policies, rural proofing.