



GRANULAR

Newsletter 3 - December 2023

“Living Labs in Rural Areas: How To?”, the first GRANULAR Knowledge Transfer Webinar

On November 27th around 100 actors welcomed the first GRANULAR Knowledge Transfer activity on “[Living Labs in Rural Areas: How To?](#)”, organised by the European Association for Innovation in Local Development (AEIDL). GRANULAR gathered in this event some of the top Living Lab examples from recent and ongoing Horizon research projects.

[FIND OUT MORE!](#)

GRANULAR NEWS



We're staying in rural areas: practices, policies and tools

On 11 October GRANULAR presented the state of play of the project at the event We're staying in rural areas: practices, policies and tools for thriving regions. This is part of the European Week of Regions and Cities, the European gathering of local and regional decision-makers, practitioners and territorial thinkers, bringing 20.000 people to Brussels each October. Our event was organised by GRANULAR partner AEIDL - the European Association of Innovation in Local Development - and PARTENALIA, the European network of intermediate local authorities.

[Read more!](#)

How to understand Rural diversity

The Wageningen University, our partner in the GRANULAR project, published the "Synthesis Report on the Multi-Spatial Understandings of Rural Diversity and Policy Notions Framework". The document presents a theoretical framework for GRANULAR, focusing on how to take account of contemporary rural differentiation trends when developing indicators for rural diversity.

[Check it out!](#)



GRANULAR contributes to the High-Level Rural Policy



Forum in Sigüenza

The picturesque town of Sigüenza in central Spain recently became the focal point of discussions about the future of rural and cohesion policies in the European Union. The High-Level Rural Policy Forum, held on September 26-27, 2023, brought together 200 key EU experts, decision-makers, practitioners, and stakeholders from across Europe. Organised by the European Commission, the Spanish EU Presidency, and the Rural Pact Support Office, this event marked a significant step towards defining the direction of rural and cohesion policies post-2022.

[Read more!](#)

LIVING LABS IN FOCUS

Our Living Lab in rural Ourense, Spain

The Spanish Living Lab is located in Ourense, the only landlocked province in Galicia region, Northwest of Spain, at the border of Portugal. Ourense covers a surface of 7,278 km² and it includes 92 municipalities, for a population of approximately 308,000. Being predominantly rural, Ourense has the lowest birthrate of any Spanish province (population growth rate of -2,993). The mountainous terrain and isolation have kept the province economically challenged and encouraged much emigration to the rest of Spain, Europe and America.

[Check it out!](#)



GRANULAR Swedish Living Lab of region Västerbotten

Our the Swedish Living Lab is run by Region Västerbotten. Created more than 20 years ago, this consortium brings together the four northernmost counties of Sweden, all characterized by similar territorial characteristics. Northern Sweden, part of the European Arctic, is increasingly important in terms of geopolitics and economic interests, with a significant potential for natural resources and renewable energy.

[Watch the video!](#)

EUROPEAN NEWS

The EU Council's conclusions endorses the Long-Term Vision for Rural Areas

The Council of Agriculture and Fisheries Ministers of the EU, held in Brussels on 20 November, gave the green light to the conclusions document on the long-term vision for rural areas (LTVRA), which advocates the implementation of initiatives that favour the development of these areas and the improvement of the living conditions of their inhabitants, with greater financial support beyond the funds of the

Common Agricultural Policy(CAP).The Council welcomes the rolling out of the EU Rural Action Plan to achieve the goals of the LTVRA by 2040.

[Check it out!](#)



The Rural Vision Magazine: Discover the 1st edition

The inaugural edition of the Rural Vision Magazine has just been published. This first edition provides stories and information to inspire and drive progress in implementing the EU's Rural Vision. This Magazine was produced by the Rural Pact Support Office with the collaboration of members of the Rural Pact community. This year has marked a bountiful 'harvest' year for the EU's Long-term Vision for Rural Areas within. Numerous actions have been set in motion to translate this vision into reality. The Rural Vision Magazine reflects the progress made in 2023 towards the rural vision placing a special emphasis on the pivotal role that Member States can play in its implementation.

[Read more!](#)

OTHER PROJECTS



Mountain actors convene in Hungary to forge pathways for sustainable value chains

From November 6 to 8, around 100 mountain representatives spanning 16 countries and 22 mountain ranges converged in Hungary for the Workshop, 'Unlocking the Power of Mountain Value Chains', organised in the framework of the EU-funded MOVING project.

[Read more](#)



Registration opens for webinar on Fostering Resilience in Rural Communities

This EU-level webinar on Fostering Resilience in Rural Communities will take place on Tuesday 23 January 2024, 15:30 – 17:45 CET. It is organised as part of the REBOUND project and will present key concepts and models of rural resilience

[Read more](#)



Exploring challenges of the Finnish farm work and their working culture

On December 4, 2023, the inaugural meeting of the Finnish Community of Practice (FinCoP) of Safe Habitus project, took place. The event was conducted in a hybrid format, with participants meeting face-to-face at Savonia Iisalmi Campus and online.

[Read more](#)

Review of rural proofing instruments and experiences in EU and non-EU countries

Don't miss the report published by the RUSTIK project and written by Francesco Mantino and Barbara Forcina from CREA-PB. This report focuses on three different case studies as examples of Rural Proofing implementation.

[Read more](#)

EVENTS

[Tools4CAP Academy Module 1 - Inventory of methods and tools](#)

17 January 2024

Online

[Sustainable Digitalisation: Shaping the Future of Agriculture](#)

25 January 2024

Online

[Promotion of Agricultural Products: Info Days 2024](#)

31 January 2024

Brussels, Belgium

[États Généraux des Pôles Territoriaux et des Pays 2024](#)

1 - 2 February 2024

La Rochelle

[European Summit of Regions and Cities 2024](#)

18-19 March 2024

Mons

[European Research and Innovation Days 2024](#)

20-21 March 2024

Brussels



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