GRANULAR

Newsletter 5 - September 2024

GRANULAR partners gather in Pisa for annual reflective workshop

On June 27 and 28, the GRANULAR project held its annual reflective workshop for Living Labs and Replication Labs. Hosted by the University of Pisa, this gathering brought together project partners to reflect on their progress and chart the path ahead as they approach a pivotal phase of delivering their first results.

FIND OUT MORE!

GRANULAR NEWS

GRANULAR Rural Proofing: Tailoring Policies for EU Rural Areas

Rural proofing is the process of putting on a pair of "rural glasses" to help policymakers understand the unique needs of rural areas and identify any negative impacts that new or existing initiatives may have on rural communities. Rural proofing systematically assesses the **potential impacts** of policies, programs, and projects on rural areas. Explore GRANULAR's rural proofing methodology.

Read more!

GRANULAR at 'Social Capital and Development Trends of Countryside in Knowledge and Risk Society' event

On 16 & 17 September, GRANULAR participated in the 18th workshop of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA). The event focused on 'Social capital and rural development trends in the knowledge and risk society'. The event addressed pressing issues facing rural areas, including depopulation, regional deprivation and the growing impact of climate change on rural communities in today's so-called 'post-urban world'.

Check it out!

Spain´s Parliament brings together rural proofing experts from all over Europe

On 27th September the Spanish Parliament hosted the Rural Proofing and Local Governance Day., bringing together MPs, experts, regional politicians and representatives from Estonia, Ireland, Bulgaria and Spain. They discussed the practical implementation of rural proofing and its role to combat rural depopulation by better understand rural needs and impacts of public policies.

Read more!

LIVING LABS IN FOCUS

Ourense Living Lab hosts Reflective Workshop in Ribadavia

The Spanish Living Lab, coordinated by the University of Vigo, held its reflective workshop in Ribadavia (Ourense) on June 17th. The meeting gathered core members of the Living Lab (LL), including individuals and entities with expertise in three key areas: aging and demographic challenge, forest fires and e-government tools (e - health). They analysed the LL action plan, discussed its current status, and outlined short and medium-term objectives within the GRANULAR project.

Check it out!

GRANULAR Project at the SmARTIES Meeting

On 3 June, GRANULAR partners from the University of Pisa attended the mid-term meeting of the PRIN project 'SmARTIES' in Pollica, Italy. The project, which stands for 'Puzzling out smart ruralities, sound knowledge and rural (agricultural/agrifood) entrepreneurial ecosystem', aims to explore transition mechanisms in the agri-food sector and rural areas, with an emphasis on the role of digitalisation in shaping agricultural practices, knowledge systems and sustainable innovation. Throughout the day, several SmARTIES partners shared their work on the growth and evolution of innovation ecosystems in rural areas in Italy.

Read more!

Spanish Living Lab's research on longevity is presented at the XXXIV International Congress of Geriatrics and Gerontology

In this edition, the topic of the Congress was "Longevity: challenges and opportunities. Galicia, a place to live and age healthily". The focus was on the current significant increase in life expectancy from the point of view of different scientific disciplines: demographic aspects, intrinsic and extrinsic factors determining longevity, biology, life style, health care, gerontology and geriatrics but also opportunities and challenges arising from longevity.

Check it out!

EUROPEAN NEWS

The EU's Data Strategy for 2024-2029

The European Union's strategic vision for 2024-2029 places data at the heart of its growth and policymaking. President Ursula von der Leyen's proposal for an EU Data Union Strategy aims to unlock untapped data, ensuring accessibility for all, especially small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), while leveraging technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI). This inclusive approach will strengthen businesses across the EU and drive innovation. For GRANULAR, this means enhanced support for using granular data in policymaking, improved access to data for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and a focus on sustainability.

Check it out!

Getting to Services in Town and Villages

On June 26, the OECD hosted an open seminar on access to basic services in rural areas, which was attended by GRANULAR partner AEIDL and other key stakeholders.Together with representatives from the EU Joint Research Centre and similar research organisations from across the EU and North America, the meeting was an opportunity to present the study "Getting to Services in Towns and Villages: Preparing Regions for Demographic Change". Although summer has already arrived at OECD, there was still time for a seminar on the degree of urbanisation (DEBURBA) and the launch of the report 'Getting to Services in Towns and Villages: Preparing regions for demographic change'.

Read more!

EU Committee of the Regions Seminar on Functional Areas in Cohesion Policy

On 12 July 2024, the Committee of the Regions (CoR) held a COTER external seminar on the role of functional areas in enhancing the EU's Cohesion Policy in Balatonfüred, Hungary. The primary aim was to explore opportunities for developing policy instruments and effective forms of territorial cooperation to support these functional areas. The seminar was an opportunity to go over the current use of functional areas and territorial tools within the EU, providing a foundational understanding of how these tools have been utilised.

Check it out!

Enhancing rural policy effectiveness through Rural Proofing: Lessons from the OECD

The role of rural areas in the current socio-economic landscape is crucial. Yet, these regions often face unique challenges that demand tailored policy solutions. The new OECD paper by Betty-Ann Bryce, titled “Rural Proofing: Lessons from OECD Countries and Potential Application to Health,” highlights the significance and implementation of rural proofing as a strategic tool to ensure that policies are effective and inclusive for rural communities.

Read more!

The European Commission highlights key contributions of CAP to rural development

The European Commission has recently published a study on funding for EU rural areas. This study focuses on the contributions of the 2014-2022 Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) period in addressing the needs and actions outlined under the EU’s rural vision. Additionally, it provides a preliminary analysis of the programmed interventions under the 2023-2027 CAP. The CAP is a cornerstone of the EU’s efforts to ensure balanced territorial development. It covers a wide range of objectives aimed at enhancing the competitiveness of agriculture, promoting economic development, and fostering social inclusion.

Check it out!

OTHER PROJECTS

Territorial development for the green transition: Harnessing the potential of rural communities

This Policy Action Lab, organised by the Rural Pact Support Office, explored key opportunities for rural communities to benefit from the green transition and enhance their territorial development tools.

Read more

MOVING says goodbye with a legacy of results

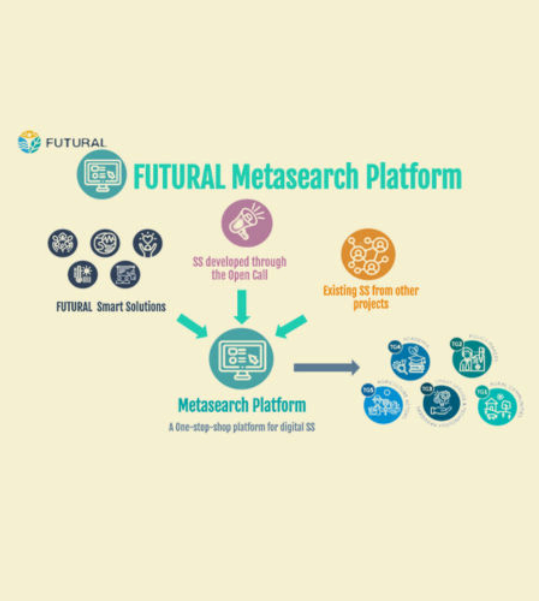
After a 4-year journey, the H2020 MOVING project has concluded, leaving behind valuable resources on its website. From deliverables and Practice Abstracts to innovative tools, MOVING offers key insights for sustainable mountain development. Highlights include the Policy Roadmap and Policy Design Toolkit, empowering mountain communities and policy-makers to shape the future of Europe's mountain regions.

Read more

RUSTIK Data Viewer Now Available! Empowering Rural Sustainability Transitions

The RUSTIK Data Viewer is now available, a powerful tool designed to revolutionise evidence-based decision-making and drive positive impacts in rural sustainability transitions. The RUSTIK Information System is more than just a tool; it's a reliable resource crafted to facilitate comprehensive insights into rural sustainability transitions, encompassing social, economic, environmental, and digital dimensions.

Read more



FUTURAL: The MVP of our Metasearch Platform is live!

The MVP for FUTURAL Metasearch Platform developed by UPB is already available! In the FUTURAL project, the Metasearch Platform aims to provide unified access to diverse data types, including data series, charts, and heat maps, from multiple Smart Solution Providers across various domains. This data is frequently utilised by domain experts, policymakers, academics, and developers to create innovative applications, conduct research, and formulate policies.

Read more

EVENTS

GRASS CEILING project hosts European Policy Forum for women-led innovation in agriculture and rural areas

7 Oct 2024

Online

European Week of Regions and Cities 2024

7-10 Oct 2024

Brussels, Belgium

Towards a New Equality of Place: Leveraging Geospatial Data for Policy Impact

7 Oct 2024

WZB Berlin Social Science Center & Online

CODECS webinar - Reducing women's inequalities in EU Agricultural Areas: the role of digitalisation

22 Oct 2024

Online

ARIA 2024 Awards Ceremony

4 Dec 2024

Théâtre du Vaudeville - Brussels, Belgium

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aeidl@ruralgranular.eu

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