



# What is the Rural Pact?

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Rural Pact Conference, Sweden

04/05/2023

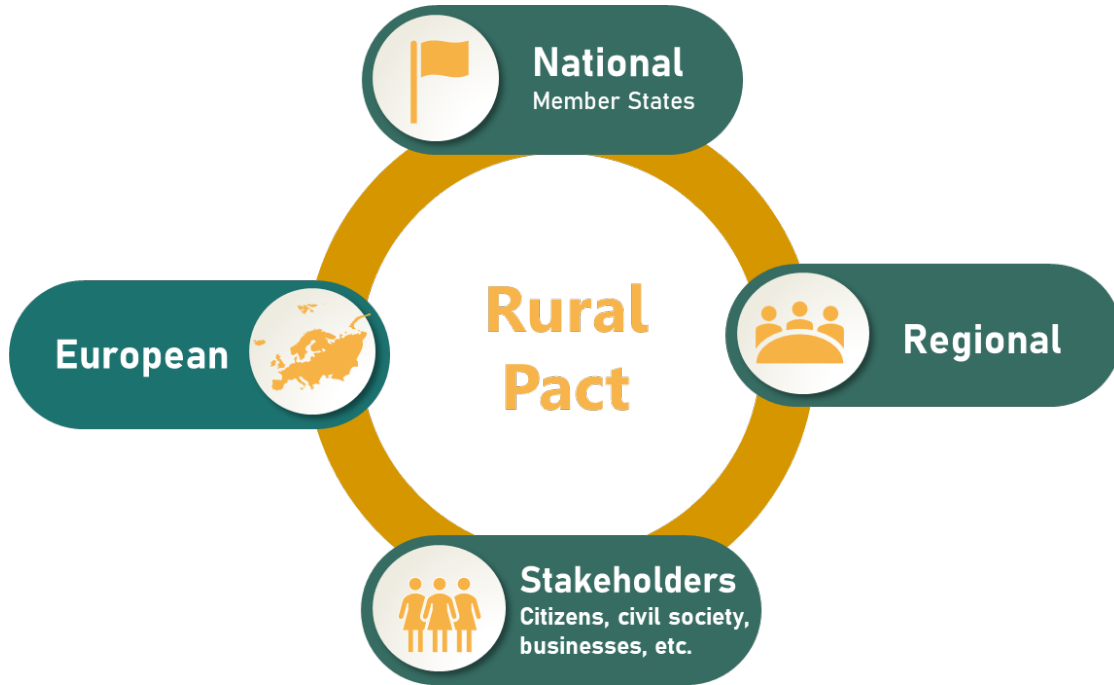


#RuralPact



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# The Rural Pact



## What is the Rural Pact ?

**The Rural Pact is a formal space and framework to boost cooperation** between national, regional and local governments, civil society organisations, businesses, academics and citizens to act towards the shared goals of the rural vision.

#RuralPact



## Participatory process

**Rural Pact**

*Proposals from the Rural Pact preparatory group for the Rural Pact conference on 15-16 June 2022*

**Introduction**

With the adoption of the Communication on a Long-term Vision for the EU's rural areas, the European Commission committed to setting-up a Rural Pact. This Pact will contribute to reaching the shared goals of the Long-term Vision for the EU's rural areas but also fits into the EU's broader commitment of implementing the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals and ensuring balanced territorial development.

Following the launch of the Rural Pact Community, in December 2021, over 1000 individuals and organisations have endorsed the shared goals of the rural vision and want to work towards their achievement. This draft is the next step in the Rural Pact process. Drafted by EU institutions and rural stakeholders<sup>1</sup>, it outlines the main features of the Rural Pact. Rural Pact Community members were invited to express their views on this proposal in May through a survey. Their feedback was taken on board for the final proposal which was presented at the Rural Pact conference on 15 and 16 June 2022.

**Objectives**

The Rural Action Plan, which was adopted with the Long-term Vision for the EU's rural areas, represents the European Commission's commitment to acting for rural areas. One of its actions is to propose a Rural Pact, which aims to strengthen multi-level governance for the EU's rural areas. This means that the Pact will engage the European, national, regional and local level, all of which have a key role to play in the future of rural areas, to work together.

The activities of the Rural Pact could be classified as contributing to three broad objectives:

<sup>1</sup> Presidency of the Council of the EU, the European Committee of the Regions, the European Economic and Social Committee, ELARD, PREPARE and ERCA from the European Rural Parliament, as well as the European Parliament and the European network for Rural Development as observers.

## Proposal endorsed Rural Pact Conference (15-16 June 2022)

# The Rural Pact - Objectives



**Amplify the voice of rural areas and bring them up in policy agendas**



**Networking, collaboration & mutual learning**



**Commitments to act**



Join the Rural Pact Community! <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/RuralPact>



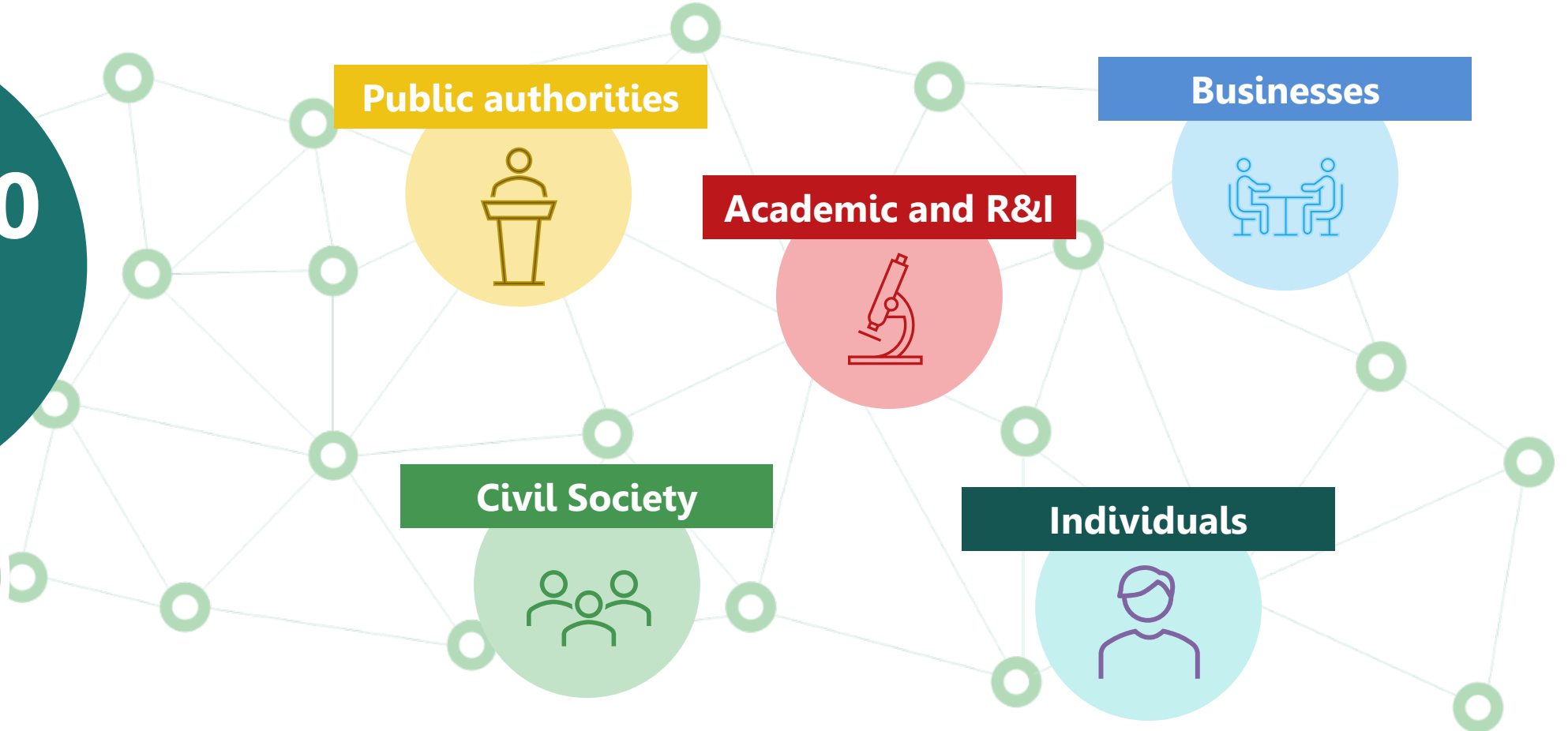
Rural Pact Proposal: [https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-07/rural-pact-proposal\\_en.pdf](https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-07/rural-pact-proposal_en.pdf)

# The Rural Pact Community Members



**+1500**  
Rural Pact  
Community  
Members

**+80**  
Commitments to  
act



**Participating in the Pact = Committing to act for one or more of its objectives**



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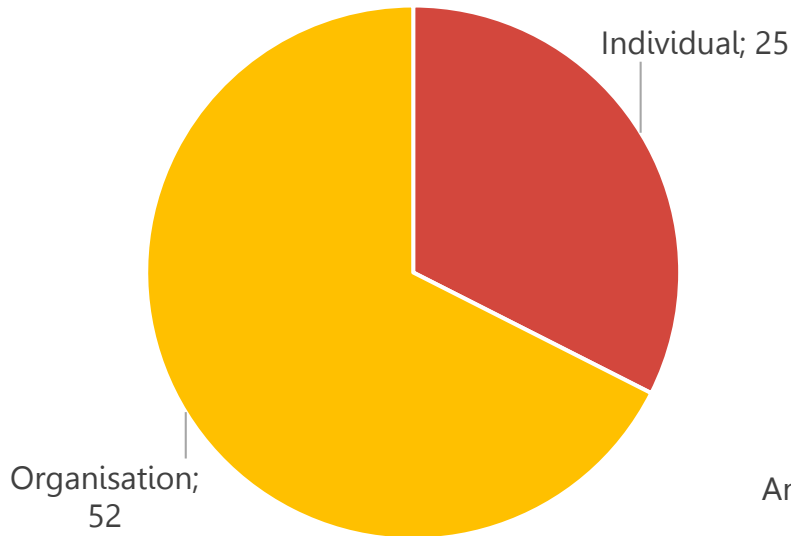
# Commitments to act



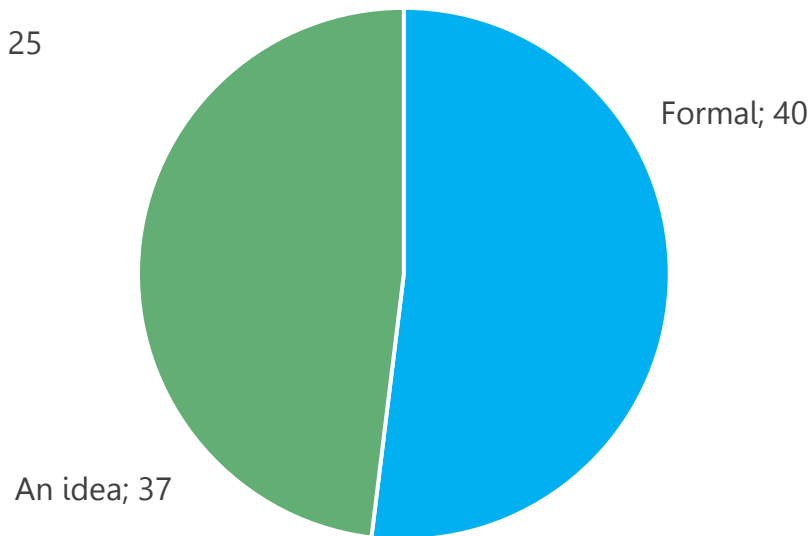
*“Introducing car sharing with cars of the municipality and companies by the end of 2022.”*

*“I commit to engage in setting up an energy community in my 12 municipalities territory.”*

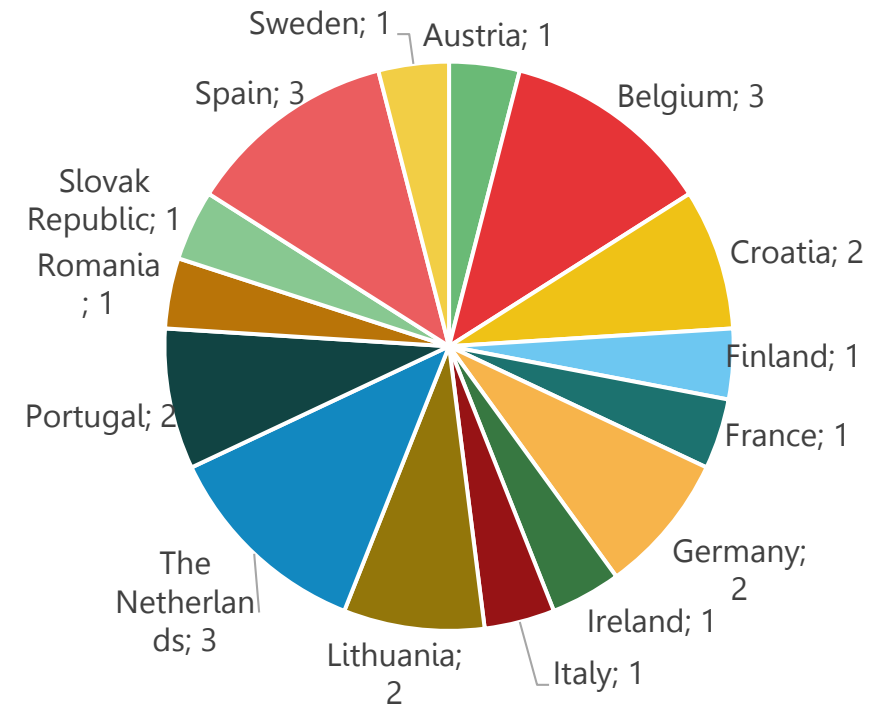
I commit as an:



My commitment is:



I come from:



# The Rural Pact for national authorities



**Amplify the voice of rural areas**

- Having **structures** in place to **engage specifically with rural communities**
- Having a **member of government** and a **service responsible for rural areas across policies**



**Commitments to act**

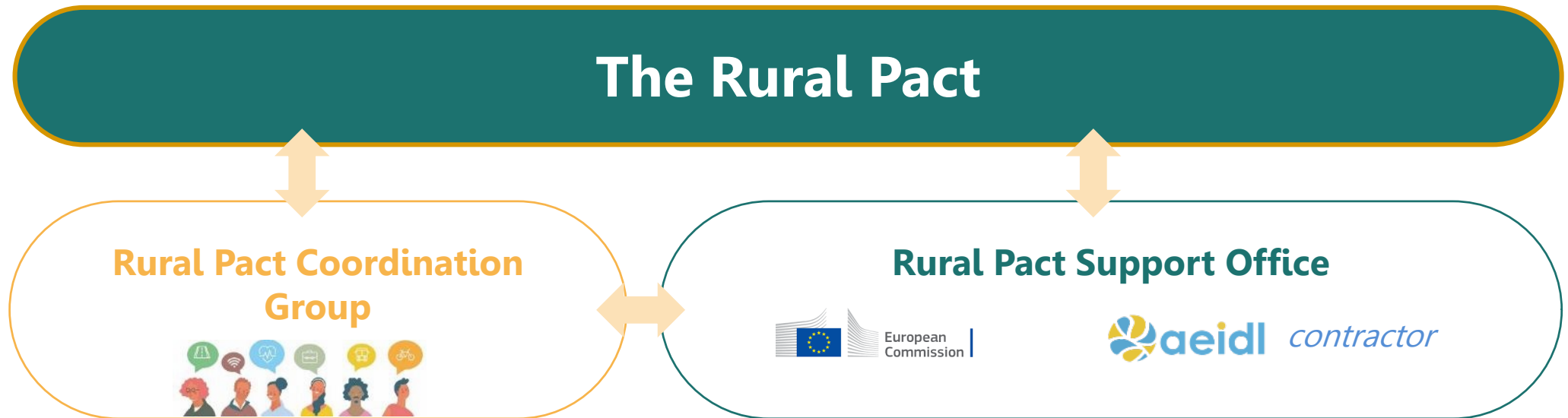
- Having a **forward-looking vision** in place
- Having a holistic **strategy** and/or **action plan/programme/agenda**
- Having **mechanisms** in place to **coordinate** horizontally **across departments** and vertically across **governance levels**
- Coordinating **allocation of funding** for action and ensuring **synergies** between various funds
- Having a **rural proofing** mechanism in place
- Having **good rural data** for monitoring and evaluation



**Networking, collaboration & mutual learning**

- **Capacity building** and **support** mechanisms
- **Networking structures** engaging a broad array of stakeholders (rural but also thematic)

# Rural Pact Support Office



- Representation of stakeholders
- Overlook the activities of the RP
- Call for expression of interest will be launched shortly

- Provide facilitation services to the Rural Pact community
- Networking and information
- Build synergies with networks and governing bodies
- Evaluate needs of the RP community and support its work

# Rural Pact Support Office - Team



## Central Team



Pascale Van Doren  
**(Team leader)**



Enrique Nieto  
**(D. Team leader)**



Monique Braem  
**(Project Officer)**



Urszula Budzich  
**(Policy Analyst)**



Patricia Martinez  
**(Policy Analyst)**



Julie de Galard  
**(Policy Analyst)**



Divin Mahame  
**(Comms Officer)**



Alexia Van Uytvanck  
**(Events Officer)**



Paul Soto  
**(Senior Advisor)**

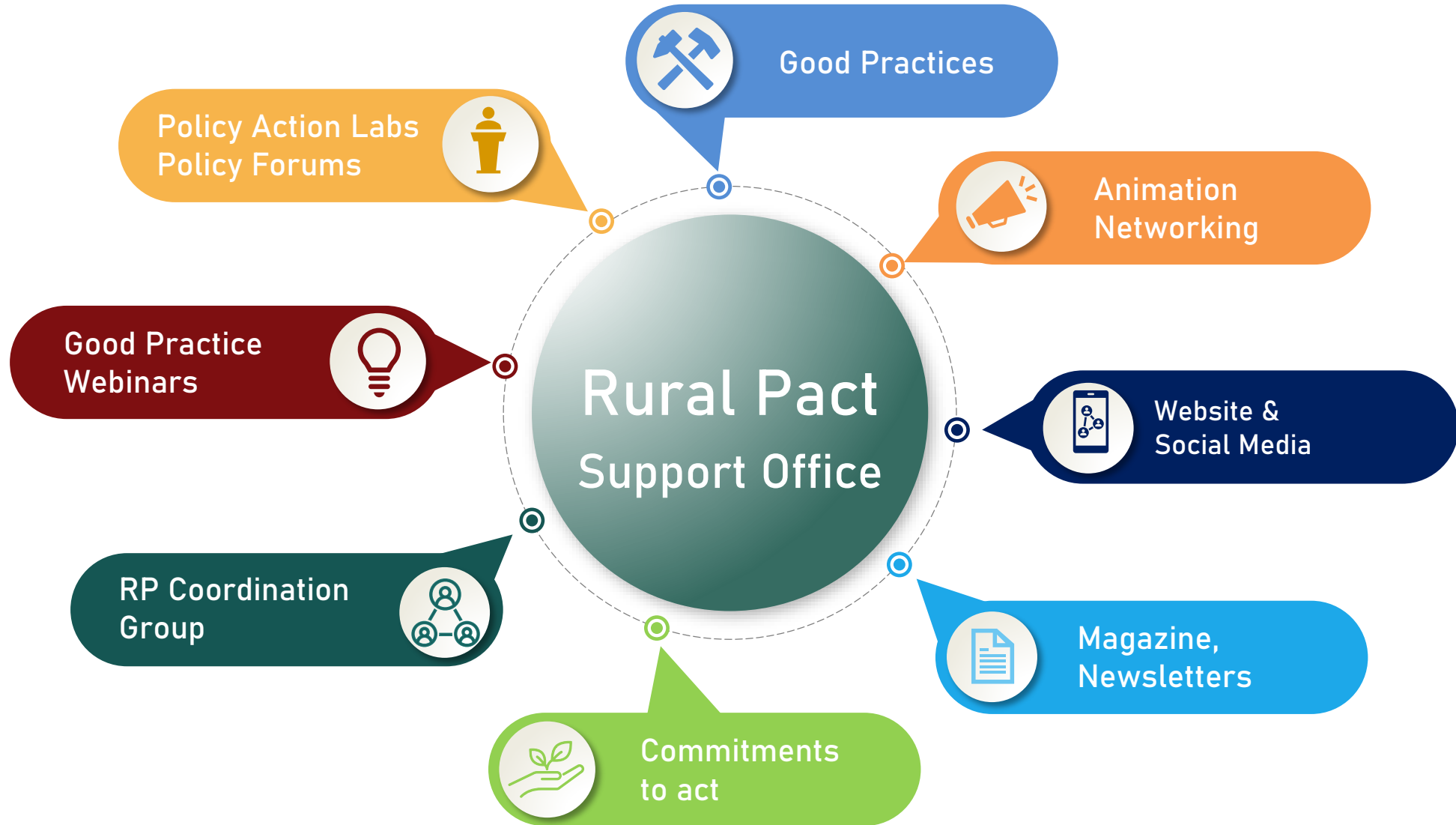


Contact

[info@rural-pact.eu](mailto:info@rural-pact.eu)



# The Rural Pact Support Office



# The Rural Pact Support Office - Events



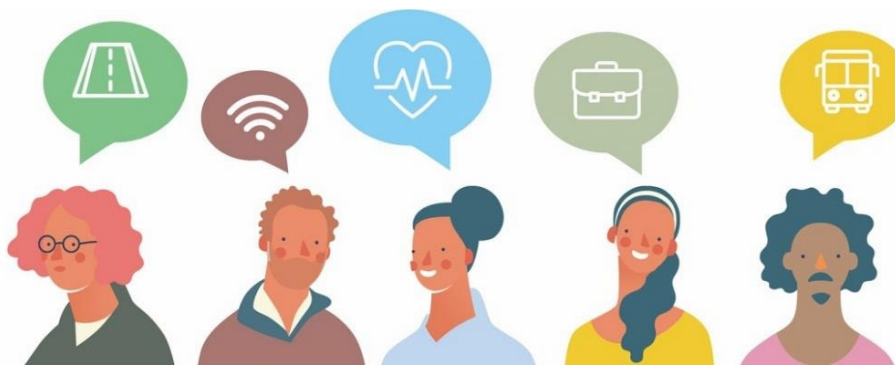
## Policy Labs

- ▶ Taking action to tackle **rural depopulation**, Brussels, Belgium **(29 June)**
- ▶ Online - Designing **future support** for rural areas **(December – tbc)**



## Good Practice Webinars

- ▶ Fostering **social entrepreneurship** in rural areas through local action **(11 May)**
- ▶ Strengthening **digital skills of rural people to benefit** from the digital era **(8 June)**
- ▶ **Energy transition** **(October – tbc)**
- ▶ Webinar 4: **(December – tbc)**



# The Rural Pact Support Office – Key events



Spanish Presidency  
of the Council of the EU



## High level Policy Forum

### Shaping the future of rural areas

(27-29 September), Sigüenza (Spain)

Organised by Spanish presidency & European Commission

[https://rural-vision.europa.eu/events/shaping-future-rural-areas-2023-09-27\\_en](https://rural-vision.europa.eu/events/shaping-future-rural-areas-2023-09-27_en)



# Be informed, participate and take action



## Steps

1

Join the Rural Pact Community

Form: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/RuralPact>

2

Take action contributing to the vision & share it with us

Form:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/TheRuralPactCommitmentCanvas>

**SCAN HERE**

Do you want to **make a difference** in rural areas across Europe?

**BECOME A MEMBER OF THE RURAL PACT COMMUNITY!**

STEP 1

[www.rural-vision.europa.eu](http://www.rural-vision.europa.eu)

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# THANK YOU

**Rural Pact Community – Join us**  
<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/RuralPact>



<https://rural-vision.europa.eu/>

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