

Imagining the future of Europe's rural areas

22-26 MARCH 2021

Rural Vision Week



#Rural2040 #RuralVisionEU

Workshop 7: Diverse and Resilient Rural Areas

Draft first reflections from the workshop

ENRD Contact Point Team

What are the key ideas/strands that should go into the vision. Where do we want to go?

- **Real**, aware and empowered rural communities that are able to act together
- The **community** and the value of ,rural' are recognised as basic components of rural resilience – at all levels
- Diversity (bio-, economic, social, networks, etc.) is valued as the source of rural resilience and strengthened, while preserving the unique character of rural areas
- The importance of interconnectedness (at different scales and levels) is fully recognised by the communities, the people, and the policy-level (local to EU)
- **Investing** in resilience is an integral part of local action and policy – it is continuous and facilitates “bouncing forward after crises”

What are the step changes/conditions needed to get to the vision from where we are now?

How do we get there?

- Raise awareness for **informed** local action for building resilience (use networks)
- Build **real** communities of local stakeholders based on a sense of belonging (e.g. use the examples of successful local action groups and networks)
- Empower communities to take **collective action** for resilience (e.g. implementing environmental action, green transition, environmental agenda, social innovation, economic diversification)
- Policies, practices and programmes (from local to EU level) should be coherent and adapted to support the resilience and diversification agenda (e.g. CAP reform)
- Raise awareness about the role and importance of rural areas (external communication, use networks)