



Next Generation EU and rural development

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*This presentation is only intended to facilitate the work of the ENRD webinar.
It has no interpretative value as regards the draft Regulations for the CAP post-2020.*

How to make the most of the coming
years for agriculture and rural
development?

Challenges and objectives

- **Recovering from the crisis** economically and socially
- **Ensuring a green transition**, sustainable futures : translated in a number of targets in the field of agriculture
- **Digital transition**: reducing and overcoming the rural digital gap

Key areas for investment in agriculture and rural areas – GREEN TRANSITION

Depending on national, regional or local contexts, some important areas are:

- Investing in carbon sinks;
- Afforestation, peatland-wetland, soil management
- Investing in bioeconomy and renewable energy
- Investment in the organic sector (for instance promotional activities, improving production methods, processing and supply chains, or research activities)
- Investment in the protein crop sector to reduce dependence and reduce agricultural emissions;
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Key areas for investment in agriculture and rural areas – ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, DIGITAL

Depending on national, regional or local contexts, some important areas are:

- Digitalising agriculture and rural areas, broadband and digital solutions/services
- Knowledge, innovation, cooperation and social capital for sustainable agricultural production and food and nutrition security;
- Reforms and investments to improve the economic, social and environmental sustainability of rural areas (including infrastructure, mobility or energy efficiency);
- ...

The existing and new instruments

- **The Common agricultural policy**, in particular Rural Development Programmes (and CAP Plans as from 2023) - complemented by the EURI for rural development.
- **Next Generation EU**: several new instruments, but in particular the Recovery and Resilience Facility (and National Plans - RRP) - but also the EURI-RD
- The (other) European Structural and Investment funds, in particular under the **Regional Policy** (through operational programmes)

Under RDPs, complemented by EURI, which most appropriate instruments or actions?

- For the Green transition, notably:
 - Agri-environment (creating carbon sinks, soil management, etc.)
 - Organic (area-based payment, and more...)
 - Non-productive investments, investments in renewable energy, investments in the bio-economy
 - Afforestation
 - ...

Under RDPs, complemented by EURI, which most appropriate instruments or actions?

- For the recovery of the economy and digital transition, notably:
 - Immediate recovery: temporary relief to farmers and agrifood businesses affected by the COVID-19 crisis extended until June 2021
 - Restoration of agricultural potential
 - Investments in small infrastructures (mobile health facilities, e-health, development of short food supply chains...)
 - Investments in digital solutions and precision farming (including use of technical assistance to support enhanced digital tools for administrations)
 - Cooperation, Leader to support innovative projects, adaptation to new local circumstances
 - ...

Some more suggestions

- Recommendations to Member States for the CAP strategic Plans:
=> to take some steps ahead through the RDPs in 2021 and 2022
 - The CAP will not be able to cover all needs:
 - What can/will RRP's do for agriculture and rural development?
 - What can/will structural funds do for agriculture and rural development ?
- => To anticipate complementarities and demarcation with RDPs but also with future CAP Plans as from 2023.