

# Imagining the future of Europe's rural areas

22-26 MARCH 2021

# Rural Vision Week



# Building fair and inclusive communities

**Professor Sally Shortall**

Newcastle University, England

23rd March 2021

Workshop 3: Fair and Inclusive Rural Futures

# Challenges to inclusive communities

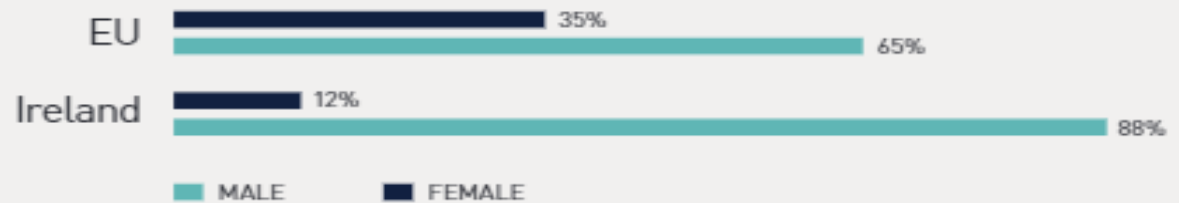
- Social inclusion: poverty, access to resources, exclusionary tactics
- Rural social exclusion: remoteness, demography, education, labour markets
- Let's think about:
  - Migrant workers
  - Older people
  - Women on farms

# Challenges to inclusive communities

- **Migrant agricultural workers:** *'And try to go to church and study English, but it wasn't allowed for them. Because, they want every Thursday to go to school at 7 o'clock, it means finish at 6pm. But no, owner said 'you must make orders, it's not my business about your school'. It was impossible'.*
- **Older people:** *'We have an ageing population. They can't get to the hall. With zoom they can join in from home. There are lots of things we could do in the future'.*
- **Women on farms:**

## Farm labour

Ireland's farm workforce stands at 269,500 people of which 74,100 are women



## Proportion of women working in general workforce



## Basic payment



According to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine's client database, only 10% of the land in female ownership is eligible land for basic payments or 8% of payments.



# What is needed to get to the desirable future?

- Different strategies required:
  - Migrant workers: protection of rights. Value skills. Respect. EU policy.
  - Older people: foster community initiatives: local response is best.
  - Women on farms: challenge cultural barriers and norms. Requires policy, the industry, and women working together.

# Thank you

Sally Shortall

[sally.shortall@Newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:sally.shortall@Newcastle.ac.uk)

Twitter: @sally\_shortall

