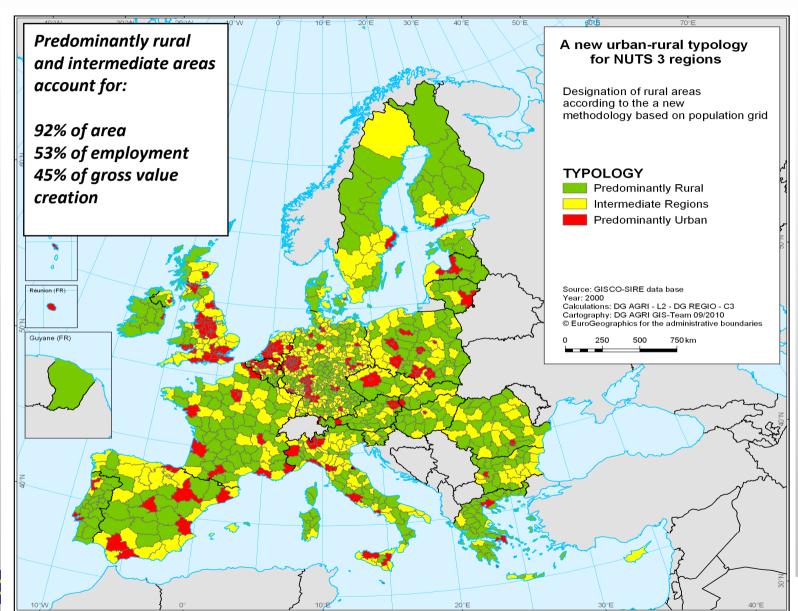
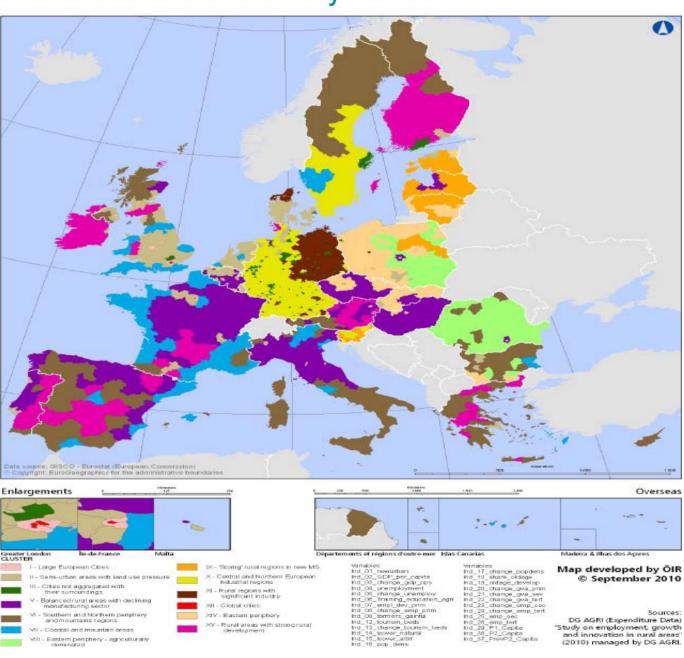
How "rural" is the EU?



Rural areas are extremely varied

- Some rural regions in economic difficulties; others show good rates of growth / employment compared to urban areas
- No "typical rural region": different types of "rurality" determined by the regional "mix of functions" rather than a single economic activity





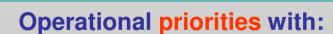
Objectives and priorities for RD policy - overview

Competitiveness of agriculture

Sustainable management of natural resources

Balanced territorial development

<u>Interpreted</u> in the light of **Europe 2020**: smart, sustainable, inclusive growth



- focus areas
- improved target indicators
- achieved through RD measures

All MS / regions must address these in their RD programmes



Rural development in a new framework

Europe 2020 strategy

Common Strategic Framework (CSF)

 covering the EAFRD, ERDF, ESF, Cohesion Fund and EMFF, and reflecting EU2020 through common thematic objectives to be addressed by key actions for each of the funds

Partnership Contract

- national document outlining the intended use of the funds in the pursuit of EU2020 objectives

Rural development policy: EAFRD

Other CSF funds (ERDF, ESF, CF, EMFF)

Innovation, Environment and Climate Change as cross-cutting objectives

Priorities

Fostering knowledge transfer and Innovation in agriculture, forestry and rural areas

Enhancing competitiveness of all types of agriculture and farm viability Promoting food chain organisation and risk management in agriculture Restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems dependent on agriculture and forestry Promoting resource
efficiency and
supporting the shift
towards a low carbon
and climate resilient
economy in
agriculture, food
and forestry sectors

Promoting social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas



Rural Development Programme(s)



Streamlined set of measures

- Continuity with respect to the present programming period, but:
 - Reduced number of measures (grouping based on typology of interventions) to simplify financial management
 - Fine-tuning (eligibility conditions, scope, etc.) to address bottlenecks in implementation
 - New measures to cover emerging needs (e.g. risk-management tool to address economic and environmental production risks, cooperation and start-up toolkit for LEADER)
- Flexibility in the choice of measures within any priority to fully exploit their possible synergetic effects towards the established targets



- Knowledge transfer and information actions
 - Traditional training courses, better adapted to the needs of rural actors
 - Workshops, coaching, demonstration activities, information
 - Short-term farm exchange or visit schemes

What's new?

- Unified, more visible measure with stronger profile and broader scope
- Advisory services, farm management and farm relief services
 - Advice related to cross-compliance, green elements of direct payments,
 other agricultural, environmental and economic issues

What's new?

- No limit on frequency of use
- Open to non-agricultural SMEs
- Training for trainers / advisers supported

Setting-up of producer groups

- Extended to all Member States
- Limited to groups which classify as SMEs



- Investment in physical assets
 - Improving overall performance of farm (economic, environmental, other)
 - Processing, marketing, development of agricultural products and cotton (output of process can be non-agricultural product)
 - Infrastructure related to development of agriculture
 - Purely environmental improvements ("non-productive" investments)

- Output of production process may be non-agricultural product
 - Higher support rates for:
 - young farmers
 - collective investments and integrated projects
 - investments in areas facing natural constraints
 - investments in framework of European Innovation Partnership
- Quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs
 What's new?
 - Cotton included



- Farm and business development
 - Setting-up aid for:
 - Young Farmers
 - Non-agricultural activities in rural areas
 - Development of small farms
 - Investments in non-agricultural activities
 - Support for farm restructuring

- Current support for semi-subsistence farms increased, extended to all "small" farms in EU (defined by Member States)
- Support for further development of non-farm businesses in rural areas extended from micro- to small businesses
 - Restructuring aid to encourage small farmers to transfer farm
- Basic services and village renewal in rural areas
 - Local basic services
 - Broadband infrastructure; small-scale infrastructure, renewable energy
 - Recreational infrastructure, tourist information
 - Cultural & natural heritage of villages & landscapes, relocation of activities, conversion of buildings to improve quality of life

- Organic farming separate measure for increased visibility
- Agri-environment-climate payments

A wide range of commitments going beyond legal requirements, related to (for example):

- biodiversity & ecosystems
- climate change
- water quality & quantity
- soil quality & quantity
- landscapes
- conservation of genetic resources

- Greater flexibility in length of contracts (e.g. possibility to renew annually after 5 years)
 - Joint contracts encouraged
- Member State to ensure that adequate training / information is available

 available

Natura 2000 and Water framework directive payments

What's new?

- Provision for payments for "stepping stone" areas
- Payments to areas facing natural or other specific constraints
- Designation of areas facing natural or other specific constraints
 What's new?
 - New delimitation under revision

- Animal welfare
 - Animal welfare commitments going beyond legal requirements

What's new?

More flexible obligations: annual contracts



- Investments in forest area development and improvement of forest viability
 - Afforestation, woodland creation
 - Establishment of agro-forestry systems
 - Prevention and restoration of damage to forests from fires and natural disasters
 - Investments in resilience, environmental value of forest ecosystems
 - Investments in new forestry technologies, processing & marketing of forestry products

What's new?

- Streamlining of several measures and various changes to eligibility, level, duration of support
- Forest-environmental and climate services and forest conservation
 - Forest-environment commitments going beyond legal obligations
 - Conservation & promotion of forest genetic resources



What's new?

Addition of support for forest genetic resources

Co-operation

- Development of new products, practices, processes and technologies
- Pilot projects
- Co-operation among small operators in organising joint work processes, sharing facilities and resources
- Horizontal and vertical co-operation between supply chain actors to promote short supply chains and local markets
- Local promotion activities related to short supply chains and local markets
- Joint approaches to environmental projects and ongoing practices
- Local development strategies outside the scope of Leader

- Measure is very significantly expanded
- Support for technological co-operation strengthened
- Support made possible for a wide range of types of economic,
 environmental and social co-operation

Risk management tools

- Contributions to premiums for crop, animal and plant insurance against problems caused by weather and disease
- Contributions to mutual funds offering compensation for losses caused by animal & plant disease and environmental incidents
- Income stabilisation tool (operating through the mechanisms of a mutual fund) offering compensation for severe drops in income

What's new?

- New toolkit to address increasing economic and environmental risks
 Plus:
- Restoring agricultural production potential damaged by natural disasters and introduction of appropriate prevention actions

What's new?

Higher aid intensity possible for collective projects



- Prize for innovative, local cooperation
 - Awarded to cooperation projects involving at least two entities located in different Member States that realise an innovative, local concept
- Leader: making it fit to better serve innovation and local governance
 - Leader approach strengthened across EU funds
 - Common provisions on community led local development
 - Considerable scope for ensuring that local partnerships are free to use these EU funds in a coordinated way
 - Selection committee for a 'multi-fund' local development strategy to decide whether to designate a **"lead fund"**
 - Preparatory support
 - "LEADER start-up kit" and support for small pilot projects
 - Capacity building, training and networking with a view to preparing and implementing a local development strategy



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The rural development programming: sub-programmes

- Possibility of designing <u>thematic sub-programmes</u> to put emphasis on and address specific needs of particular sectors, geographical areas or types of beneficiaries, in particular in relation to young farmers, small farmers, mountain areas, short supply chain:
 - Higher support rates (aid intensities)
 - Specific SWOT analysis and identification of needs
 - Specific targets at sub-programme level and selection of measures
 - Specific separate indicator plan
- No separate specific financial management for sub-programmes



Example: what can the EU's rural development policy do for Young Farmers?

- Thematic sub-programme on Young Farmers
- Combination of measures into a "Young Farmers" package, including for instance:
 - Business start up aid: EUR 70.000 per young farmer
 - Investments in physical assets: increased max aid intensity by 20% for young farmers setting up
 - Knowledge transfer and information actions, including exchange programmes
 - Co-operation
- Use of selection criteria to give priority to young farmers
- Setting up modalities for access to other measures for young farmers under the setting up measure



Example: what can the EU's rural development policy do for fostering short supply chains?

'A supply chain involving a limited number of economic operators, committed to co-operation, local economic development, and close geographical and social relations between producers and consumers'

- Thematic sub-programme on Short supply chains with higher aid intensities: +10%
- Combination of measures into a "Short supply chains" package, including for instance:
 - Co-operation
 - Setting up of producer groups
 - Quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs
 - Basic services and village renewal in rural areas
 - Investments in physical assets
 - Leader



How the CAP will be financed

 Commission proposals on EU budget for the period 2014-2020 maintain CAP spending at 2013 levels in nominal terms

In constant 2011 prices

- Pillar I – Direct payments and market expenditure	€281.8 bn
- Pillar II – Rural development	€89.9 bn
Total Pillar I and II	€371.7 bn
- Food safety	€2.2 bn
- Most deprived persons	€2.5 bn
- Reserve for crisis in the agricultural sector	€3.5 bn
- European Globalisation Fund	Up to €2.5 bn
- Research and innovation on food security, the bio-economy	€4.5 bn
and sustainable agriculture	
Total additional funds	€15.2 bn
Total proposed budget for the period 2014-2020	€386.9 bn

Source: Commission Communication 'A budget for Europe 2020' - COM(2011) 500 final, part II.



Thank you!

