

Urban-rural symbiosis

GRAND CHALLENGES :

C1. Health, demographic change and wellbeing

C2. Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research, and the Bioeconomy

C3. Secure, clean and efficient energy

C4. Smart, green and integrated transport

C5. Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials

C6. Europe in a Changing World – inclusive, innovative and reflective societies

C7. Secure societies - protecting freedom and security of Europe and its citizens

CHALLENGE



A better-balanced urban rural integration - considering the diversity of rural areas (i.e. suburb, outer periphery, deep rural) - is seen as vital for the quality of life for both urban and rural citizens. There is widespread concern in different countries about a declining quality of life in rural areas and migration from the countryside to urban areas. They point to the need for integration of spatial planning of cities and rural areas to improve social, ecological and economic sustainability while preserving the distinctiveness of each space. Participatory governance is currently largely missing. As a basis for solutions, a deeper understanding of the diversity of situations is needed. Also we need more differentiated notions than the simple rural/urban dichotomy - city and countryside do not really stop at the border, the mayor's responsibility stops there, but we should consider the functional urban area.

SCOPE

Research should investigate one or several of the following aspects:

- Differentiated notions of diverse types of spatial development patterns based on empirical studies of concrete cases across Europe
- Ways to establish cultural and physical linkages across diverse types of spaces
- Solutions for sustainable urban/rural environmental resource flows, identification of asset bases and means of co-governing in order to share them
- Ways to improve the quality of life and attractiveness of countryside in deprived rural areas,
- Integrating urban rural planning approaches
- Participatory governance of spatial planning, shared urban-rural participative governance structures to be explored
- Exploring the drivers of migration both from rural to urban and urban to rural areas
- Collecting, analysing and disseminating case studies of good practice of urban-rural symbiosis from different parts of the world

EXPECTED IMPACT

- The tendency to focus on the differences between the city and the countryside has been minimized and there is a mutual understanding between the two
- Ways to develop rural areas to preserve their identities, and to retain their human and social capital
- Solutions developed for rural areas to attract more inhabitants
- A differentiated view on diverse conditions in different areas
- More locally integrated value chains, reduced environmental footprint
- Increased resilience of cities

Online
consultation
rating



URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

13 Urban-rural Symbiosis

Research topic :
Urban-rural symbiosis

8.b

Grand Challenges:

ALL

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Online consultation rating: average importance: 3,82/5

Countries prioritizing this research area: Romania, Sweden Slovakia, Austria (experts, stakeholders), Austria (citizens), Denmark

CITIZENS' VISIONS

[HRV] Vision 4: Erasing the borders

“• A balanced urban and rural development

• EU Member states are self-sustaining in terms of food production

and use of renewable energy sources, demographic representation will be equal in the city and in the countryside. The racial, economic, ethnic, gender and political equality is present in the societies

• Planet Earth is a desirable place to live in. By taking care of the Earth - we take care of ourselves”