

Rural Poverty and social inclusion.

RDP Challenges

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a bridge between Europe and organised civil society

Definition/s

- Rural: Geographical areas outside of the main Cities.
- Social Exclusion: People, especially vulnerable and marginalised groups, that are being **excluded** from participating in **society**.
- In Rural terms this is exacerbated by distances, scattered population patterns, poor services and infrastructure, reduced or declining services, employment.

- Rural areas in Ireland have been severely affected by the economic downturn. Unemployment increased by double the rate of cities, at about 200%, largely as a result of the collapse of the construction sector.
- The five principal cities account for 45 per cent of all job locations in the country.

EUROPE.

- ***Almost one in four (23.7 %) of the EU-28 population was at risk of poverty or social exclusion***
- A higher proportion of the EU-28 population living in rural areas (compared with urban areas) faced the risk of poverty or social exclusion.
- In 2015, (25.5 %) of the rural population at risk of poverty or social exclusion.
- people living in cities (24.0 %)
- (22.1 %), perhaps explaining, the movement towards towns and suburbs. (Eurostat)

Europe

- ***Risk of poverty or social exclusion, highest in the rural areas of several eastern and southern EU States***
- This was particularly the case in Bulgaria, Romania and Malta, where at least half of the rural population was at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2015.
- Nine Member States, the population at risk of poverty or social exclusion was higher than the share recorded for the urban population in the range of 30.0–40.0 %; six of these t joined in 2004 or more recently (Latvia, Croatia, Lithuania, Cyprus, Hungary and Poland), the other three were (Greece, Spain and Portugal).

Europe

- 19.8 % of inhabitants living in EU-28 rural areas at risk of (monetary) poverty.
- 9.1 % of the rural population aged less than 60 and living in a household with very low work intensity.
- 8.3 % of the rural population was living in severe material deprivation. (Eurostat)

- ***The share of young people (aged 18 to 24) living in rural areas of the EU who were neither in employment nor in further education or training was 3.7 percentage points higher than in cities***

National Rural Plan Objectives.

- support sustainable and vibrant rural communities,
- support enterprise and employment;
- maximise our rural tourism and recreation potential;
- foster culture and creativity in rural communities; and
- improve rural infrastructure and connectivity

Challenges

- How can LEADER influence social inclusion in rural areas.
- Can it leverage of other Programmes
- How does LEADER measure its outcomes in terms of influencing positively the effects of social exclusion.
- Questions????