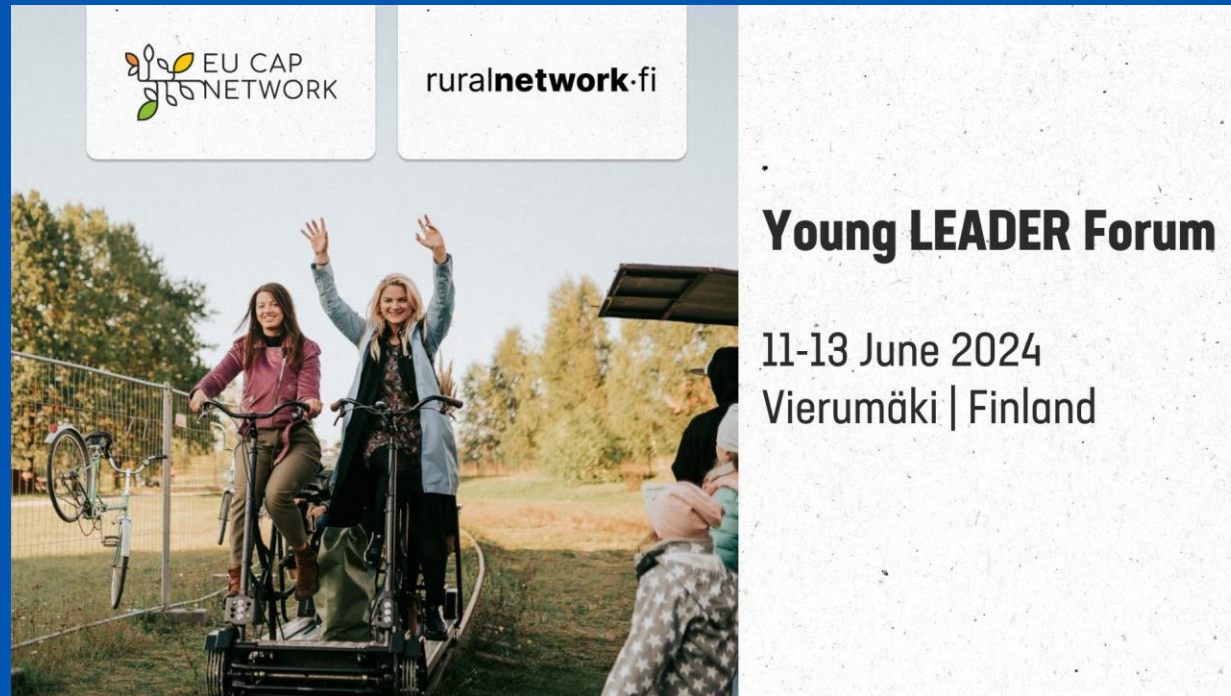




# Welcome to the

A promotional banner for the Young LEADER Forum. The banner features a photograph of two young women riding a tandem bicycle on a path, with one woman waving. The background shows a park-like setting with trees and a fence. In the top left corner of the banner, there are two logos: "EU CAP NETWORK" with a leaf icon and "ruralnetwork.fi". On the right side of the banner, the text reads "Young LEADER Forum", "11-13 June 2024", and "Vierumäki | Finland".

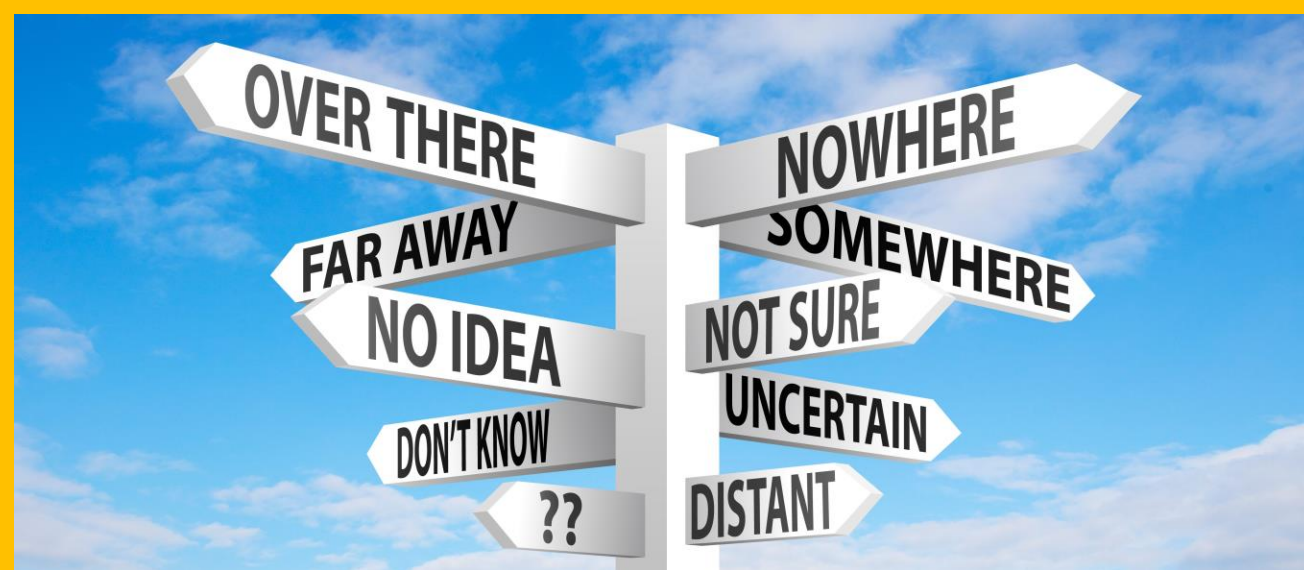
EU CAP NETWORK

ruralnetwork.fi

**Young LEADER Forum**

11-13 June 2024  
Vierumäki | Finland

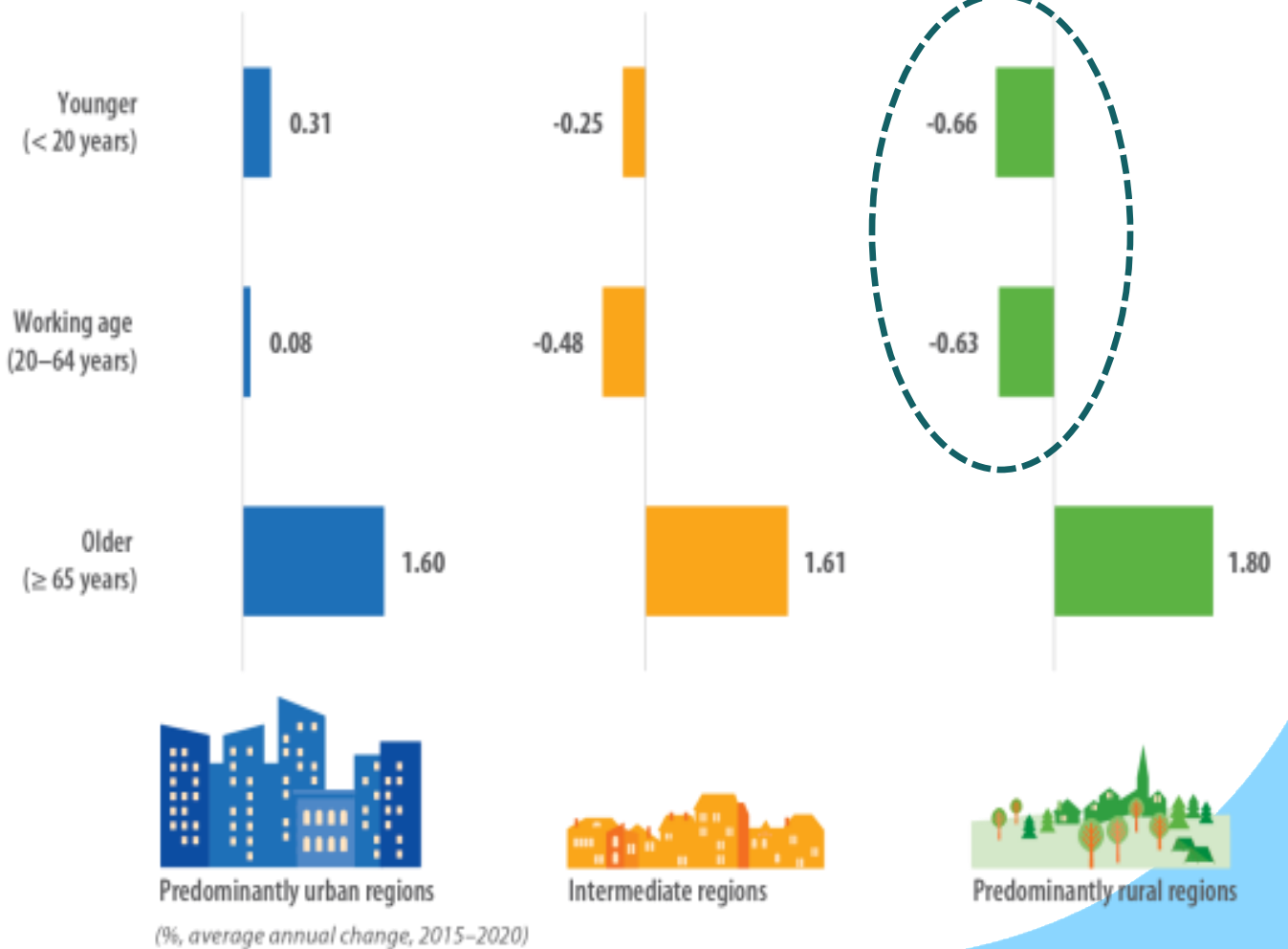
**María Gafo Gómez-Zamalloa**  
**DG Agriculture and Rural Development**



Why are we here?

# Demography in our rural areas (2015-2020)

How has the EU's  
population  
developed?





## RURAL SURVEY....

How many young people participate in LAG's decision-making bodies?

- 4%
- 9%
- 19%

- 2407 young people participate in LAG's decision-making bodies out of 27.002 people in total (data collection ongoing)



# The first monitoring data confirms: we need more young people in LEADER!

Member State	Number of LAGs	Total number of persons in LAGs decision making bodies	Number of young people in LAGs decision making bodies	Definition of “young” people (years old)
Austria	83	1518	63	Up to 30
Croatia	56	648	198	Up to 40
Czech Republic	50	379	46	Up to 40
Cyprus	4	24	3	Up to 40
Denmark	26	352	34	Up to 40
Estonia	26	222	22	Up to 40
Greece	51	455	68	Up to 40
Finland	53	601	22	Up to 28
Germany	371	8003	839	Up to 40
Hungary	105	982	111	Up to 40
Latvia	27	311	8	Up to 25
Lithuania	49	621	92	Up to 29
Luxembourg	5	37	9	Up to 40
Netherlands	31	359	31	Up to 40
Poland	284	3679	83	Up to 25
Portugal	58	406	0	Up to 30
Sweden	40	698	10	Up to 25

At the past CAP Network events young people asked for...



- ✓ « empowering young people
- ✓ supporting networking and mentoring
- ✓ fostering skills and knowledge
- promoting good practices and successes
- ✓ bottom-up approach as politicians are not always so young
- ✓ enabling international experience
- ✓ inter-generational exchange »

All guaranteed  
here in Vierumäki!

# Ultimate policy objective of Young LEADER Forum:

## **Create and launch a sustainable Young LEADER Community in the EU!**

which will engage in LEADER and transmit young people interests' to social, economic, environmental and digital transitions of rural areas in the EU



# Who is here today?





# Inter-generational exchange: who are we listening to today?

## Millennials (GenY, born 1981-1996)

- the first digital generation to integrate digital technology in life;
- generation that has received the most formal education;
- the first global generation;
- conscious of environment and climate change
- possibly the first generation to be economically worse off than their parents;

## GenZ (born 1997-2012)

- « digital natives » - have lived fully connected digitally
- shaped by Great Recession (2008) and pandemic;
- socially conscious generation which prioritises mental health, sustainability and equity
- anxious of multi-crises, environment and climate change

\*This is based on Wikipedia but we hope to hear and understand from you these days!



# Why does your voice and action matter?

*Your voice matters.*

*Don't let anyone silence you.*



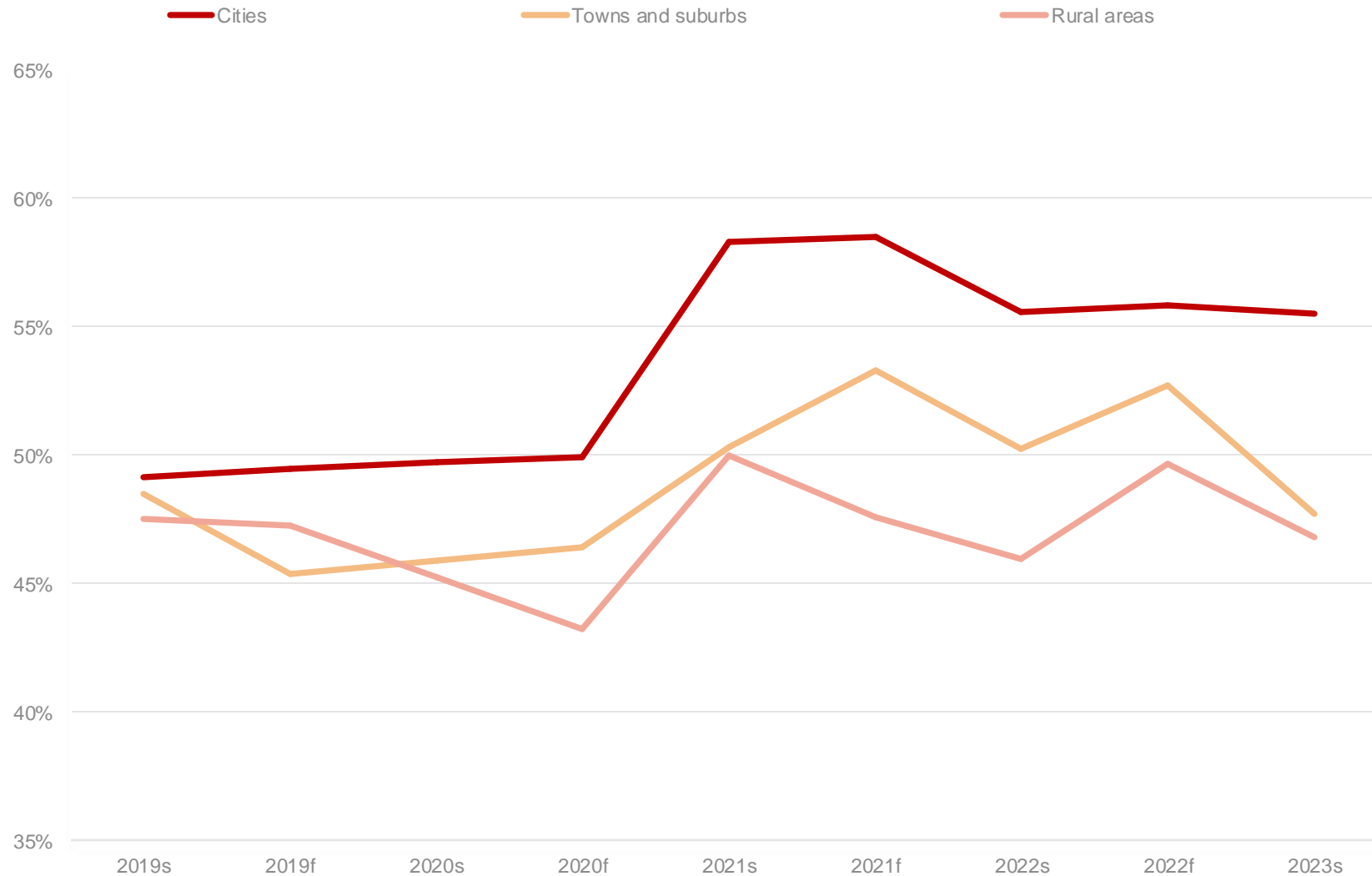
Because EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) seeks also to facilitate social, economic, digital and environmental transition of rural areas via eg LEADER instrument (with 5 billion EUR funding)

Because young people are crucial to development of rural areas as acknowledged in the Long Term Vision for EU Rural Areas

Because you have unique views, values and competencies and to bring.

# Demography and democracy go hand in hand


Trust in the EU (Eurobarometer – calculations from Joint Research Center)



Rural residents are more likely to trust local and regional authorities (61%) than their national government (31%) or the EU (47%).



So let me now go to..

**CURRENTLY IN  
LISTENING   
MODE**

**#THESHOWMUSTBEPAUSED**

# Keep in touch



[commission.europa.eu/](https://commission.europa.eu/)



[europa.eu/](https://europa.eu/)



[@EU\\_Commission](https://twitter.com/EU_Commission)



[@EuropeanCommission](https://www.facebook.com/EuropeanCommission)



[European Commission](https://www.linkedin.com/company/european-commission/)



[europeancommission](https://www.instagram.com/europeancommission)



[@EuropeanCommission](https://www.messenger.com/profile/europeancommission)



[EUTube](https://www.youtube.com/EUTube)



[EU Spotify](https://open.spotify.com/playlist/37i9dQZF1DX0XUf1h2B1Q1)

# Kiitos! Thank you!



Austria



Finland



Spain

A promotional poster for the "Young Climathon Amay &amp; Waremme" event. The poster features a globe, silhouettes of people, and the text "PASSE À L'ACTION POUR LE CLIMAT! 24 et 25 février 2021 Au Centre Sportif d'Amay". It also mentions "avec la participation de J&amp;JOY" and lists several partner organizations like IPES HESBAYE and GAL. The hashtag #YoungClimathon is visible at the bottom.

Belgium



Italy



Estonia



Poland



Latvia

A stylized logo for "HÖLZ LAND €ASH". The text is written in a bold, white font on a black background with splatter effects. Below the logo is the European Commission logo and the text "European Commission".

Germany

