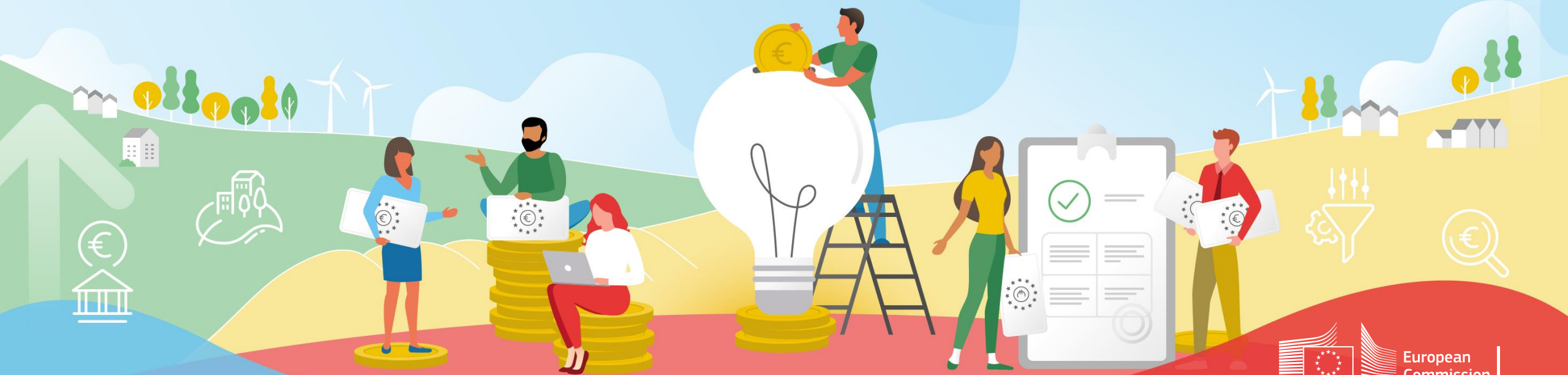


# Rural toolkit launch event

6 February 2024  
10.30 – 12.00



# Agenda of the day

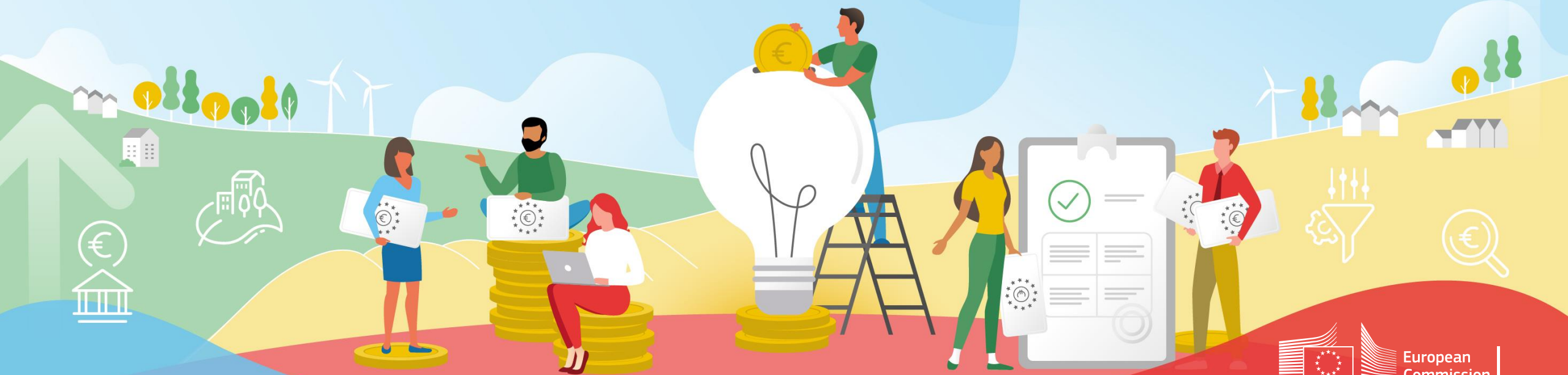
- 6 Feb 2024, 10:30 - 10:35 (CET)** **Opening**  
Joint Research Centre
- 10:35 - 10:45 (CET)** **Welcome address**  
Salla Saastamoinen - Deputy Director-General, JRC
- 10:45 - 10:55 (CET)** **Introduction**  
Gergana Miladinova - Deputy Head of Inclusive Growth, Urban and Territorial Development Unit, DG REGIO
- 10:55 - 11:20 (CET)** **Presentation and live demo of the tool, Q&A**  
Giulia Testori - Territorial Development Unit, JRC
- 11:20 - 11:35 (CET)** **Case study 1: Regenerative development in rural areas**  
Filipe Alves - Biovilla project, Portugal
- 11:35 - 11:50 (CET)** **Case study 2: Rural tourism for competitiveness**  
Angela Loporchio - Monti Dauni project, Italy
- 11:50 - 12:00 (CET)** **Conclusions**  
Alessandro Rainoldi - Head of Territorial Development Unit, JRC

# Rural toolkit

Background, partners involved and live-demo

**GIULIA TESTORI**

Joint Research Centre (JRC)



# Main info

The Rural toolkit is an **online dashboard** of funding opportunities for rural development

Hosted under the **Rural Vision platform** (together with the Rural Observatory)

- First multi-stakeholder validation: June 2023
- Second multi-stakeholder validation: Oct 23
- Final version: December 2023
- Official launch: 6 February 2024 (online)

The screenshot shows the 'Rural toolkit' website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the European Union logo and the text 'EN English'. Below this is a dark blue header with the title 'Rural toolkit' and a menu with links: 'Overview', 'Funding finder', 'Get inspired', 'Resources', 'Frequent questions', and 'About'. A breadcrumb trail shows 'Home > Rural toolkit'. The main content area features a large, colorful illustration of people working together in a rural setting. Below the illustration, there is a text block explaining the toolkit's purpose: 'The Rural toolkit is the comprehensive guide to EU funding and support opportunities for rural areas in the European Union. It aims to help local authorities, institutions and stakeholders, businesses and individuals to identify and take advantage of existing EU funds, programmes and other funding and support initiatives, and to foster development in rural territories.' A note states: 'Note: Rural toolkit provides practical information, examples and direct links to existing schemes. Applications must be submitted via the official webpages of each initiative.' There is a video player with the title 'What is the Rural toolkit?' and a 'More about the tool >' button. Below the video, there are four main sections: 'Funding finder' (with a blue icon), 'Get inspired' (with a yellow icon), 'Resources' (with a green icon), and a 'Long-term vision for the EU's rural areas' section. Each section has a 'Go >' button. At the bottom, there are four cards for 'Long-term vision for the EU's rural areas', 'Rural Observatory', 'Rural Pact', and 'Territorial Agenda 2030', each with a 'Discover more >' button.



# Objectives of the Rural toolkit

- **What:** a **guide** on the **different EU funding opportunities** offered by the 2021-2027 budget, **centralising information** in one web tool
- **Policy framework:** the long-term vision for the EU's rural areas (LTVRA) and the revitalization of rural areas
- **For whom:** local actors in rural areas - with limited administrative capacity - encountering challenges in finding, understanding, using and combining EU funding opportunities
- **Aim: promoting revitalisation and sustainable local development** to tackle existing challenges, and unleash the potential of **rural areas**
  - EU programmes and initiatives by all relevant DGs and agencies
  - Be **accessible to rural local actors**
  - Be written in plain language, **easy to understand**
  - Provide inspirational solutions and **examples**



# DGs involved and team

**JRC:** Collected information, analysed data, carried out data processing and testing, development and maintenance of the dashboard

Implementing team: **Giulia Testori** (project leader), **Terry Stavropoulos**, **Pier Saraceno**, **Davide Auteri**, **Carmelo Attardo**, **Glauco Prina** (ext). Communication responsible: **Elisa Bazzani** and **Gabriel Resende**. Graphical support: **Laura Spirito** (ext).

**Alessandro Rainoldi** (Head of Unit)

**DG REGIO:** Promoter of the initiative and funding DG. Collaborated in collecting, producing and analysing information, facilitated the required data, coordinated with DG AGRI, DG COMM and DG DIGIT the web presence of the online dashboard

Responsible team: **Marek Teplansky**, **Gergana Miladinova** and **Merja Haapakka**

**DG AGRI:** Advise on funding related to agriculture and rural development, facilitate the linkage with the LTVRA

Reference officers: **Alexia Rouby** and **Silvia Nanni**

**External experts:** **Carlotta Fioretti** (former project leader) and **Fabrizio Guzzo**

# First validation workshops

- DG-REGIO premises  
27 June 2023 - 09.15-15.30

*CEMR, Euromontana,  
RUMRA, SHERPA, Copa-  
Cogeca, ECA, Smart Villages  
Forum, PREPARE, Rural Pact,  
Rural Youth Europe, CAP  
Network, NSPA – Sweden, DG  
REGIO and DG AGRI*



# Second validation workshop

- European Week of Regions and Cities (EWRC)  
11 October 2023



Session in cooperation  
with DG AGRI



# Dissemination activities

## List of events:

- Several Commission internal coordination events
- High-level Rural Policy Forum in Sigüenza – Sep 23
- EWRC (European Week of Regions and Cities) – Oct 23
- Regions of North Sweden – Nov 23
- EGTCUM (Expert Group on Territorial Cohesion and Urban Matters) – Nov 23
- ERCA (European Rural Community Alliance) – Nov 23
- Rural pact Policy Lab – Dec 23
- European LEADER Congress – Dec 23

# LIVE - DEMO

# Thank you for joining us



ACCESS THE TOOL:

<https://funding.rural-vision.europa.eu/>