



PREPARING **REGIONS** FOR DEMOGRAPHIC **CHANGE**

AGENDA

3 December 2021 | On-site (Comillas, Spain) & Virtual

Preparing regions for demographic change

Final event

Strategic Governance Plan for Rural Depopulation in RESOE



This project is funded by the EU via the Structural Reform Support Programme and implemented by the OECD, in collaboration with the European Commission



OECD Strategic Governance Plan for Rural Depopulation in RESOE

■ What's the issue?

In the framework of the OECD work stream *Preparing Regions for Demographic Change*, the project *Strategic Governance Plan for Rural Depopulation in RESOE* aims to help policy makers manage the challenge of demographic change. The RESOE macro-region (regions of Asturias, Cantabria, Castilla y León and Galicia in Spain) has a high degree of rurality, and is facing challenges associated with population decline and ageing. The project provides national, regional and local stakeholders with an action plan for each region and a common strategy for the four regions on relevant topics to OECD rural regions facing depopulation: quality service provision, entrepreneurship, innovation, digitalisation, and multi-level governance.

■ When? Where?

Friday 3 December, 11:00 – 13:00 (CET time).

The event will take place in *Fundación Comillas* (Comillas Foundation) in Comillas (Cantabria, Spain) and can be followed virtually via Zoom. Please register below:

REGISTRATION

■ What will be discussed?

This event brings to an end the project *Strategic Governance Plan for Rural Depopulation in RESOE*, which started in October 2020. It will discuss rural depopulation challenges and will bring together policy makers from Spain, the RESOE macro-region and other OECD regions, as well as international experts, to share experiences of best practices in managing demographic change in rural areas.

Contact

Email us at marc.bournisiendevalmont@oecd.org

Agenda (CET time)

10:50 – 11:00	Registration <i>(for virtual attendees, please join the meeting 10 minutes before the start)</i>
MODERATOR	Jose Enrique Garcilazo , Deputy Head of Regional Development and Multi-level Governance Division, OECD
11:00 – 11:20	Welcome high-level remarks
SPEAKERS	Nadim Ahmad , Deputy Director of the Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities, OECD <i>(virtual intervention)</i> Mario Nava , Director-General of the Directorate-General Structural Reform Support (REFORM), European Commission <i>(virtual intervention)</i>
11:20 – 11:40	High-level remarks by the project's regions
SPEAKERS	Jaime Izquierdo , Commissioner for Demographic Challenge, Government of Asturias María Sánchez , Councillor for Economy and Finance, Government of Cantabria Francisco Igea , Vice-President and Councillor for Transparency, Territorial Planning and External Action, Government of Castilla y León <i>(virtual intervention)</i> Fabiola García Martínez , Councillor for Social Policy, Government of Galicia <i>(video intervention)</i>
11:40 – 12:00	Presentation of the project's action plans
SPEAKERS	Marc Bournisien de Valmont , Policy Analyst, Regional and Rural Policy Unit, OECD Manuel Barros , Policy Analyst, Decentralisation, Public Investment and Subnational Finance Unit, OECD <i>(virtual intervention)</i>
12:00 – 12:25	Panel discussion with the project's regions and the Spanish national government
SPEAKERS	Jorge Luis Vega , Deputy Director General for Analysis, Planning and Coordination, General Direction of Policies Against Depopulation, Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, Government of Spain Ramiro Lomba , Asturias Society for Economic and Industrial Studies (SADEI), Government of Asturias Paz Díaz Nieto , Director General for European Funds, Regional Ministry of Economy and Finance, Government of Cantabria Antonio Calonge Velázquez , Director General for Territorial Planning, Regional Ministry for Transparency, Territorial Planning and External Action, Government of Castilla y León Xosé Lago García , Deputy Director General for External Action and Cross-border Cooperation, Regional Ministry of the Presidency, Public Administration and Justice, Government of Galicia <i>(virtual intervention)</i>
12:25 – 12:50	Policy Exchange's panel
SPEAKERS	Professor Raquel Ortega-Argilés , Chair in Regional Economic Development, Department of Strategy and International Business, Birmingham Business School, The University of Birmingham, United Kingdom <i>(virtual intervention)</i> Francesca Michielin , Programme Assistant for Portugal and Spain, DG REGIO, European Commission <i>(virtual intervention)</i>

Nuno Oliveira Romão, Coordinator, Agency for Development and Cohesion, Portugal
(*virtual intervention*)

12:50 – 13:00

Closing remarks

SPEAKER **Maria Varinia Michalun**, Senior Project Manager, Decentralisation, Public Investment and Subnational Finance Unit, OECD (*virtual intervention*)

About the OECD Regional and Rural Development Unit

Rural areas have a variety of different characteristics and geographies - from well-served communities near urban areas to remote sparsely populated places with limited access to basic services - as well as differing cultures. Our work aims to strengthen and support the economies and inhabitants of all types of rural area and reinforce their resilience in a fast-changing world.

For more information, visit our website: <http://www.oecd.org/regional/rural-development/>

CONTACT

If you are interested to learn more about the project or to get involved, please contact
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