

**Silvia Michelini**  
**Director for Rural Development**  
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Silvia Michelini is Director for Rural Development in the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI) in the European Commission. Prior to assuming this position in June this year, she was for ten years Head of Unit in DG AGRI and held various posts in this position. She was in charge of International affairs, negotiating Free Trade Agreements in the area of agriculture, covering also Asia. She led the service in charge of managing the payments of the Common Agricultural Policy. She headed the unit dealing with rural development in Spain and Portugal. Silvia Michelini also served as political assistant for two Deputy Directors-General in DG AGRI, dealing with overall coordination of some policy areas and contributing to reforms of the Common Agricultural Policy. Silvia Michelini holds a degree in Political Science with a focus on International Affairs; she has also studied journalism and followed executive management courses.