

**Interreg  
Europe**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

**RuralYouthFuture**

**Improving the role of youth  
policies for rural sustainable  
development**

# The project at a glance

- ▶ RuralYouthFuture focuses on enhancing youth employment policies for sustainable rural development.
- ▶ Aims to address the challenges faced by young individuals in rural areas, particularly in light of the COVID-19 crisis, which has exacerbated unemployment rates and created a demand for new digital skills.
- ▶ Implemented through a collaboration of municipal, regional, and national entities from 7 countries: Spain, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Latvia, Portugal, Estonia, and Belgium.
- ▶ Funded by INTERREG Europe.

# A few numbers

## Duration

01 Mar 2023 - 31 May 2027

9 partners

7 countries

[www.interregeurope.eu/ruralityouthfuture](http://www.interregeurope.eu/ruralityouthfuture)



TOTAL

1,681,884 EUR



# Our team



UNIVERSITY  
OF LATVIA



INSTITUTO PORTUGUÊS  
DO DESPORTO  
E JUVENTUDE, I. P.



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# What issue will the project address?

The COVID-19 crisis has resulted in a surge in unemployment rates, disproportionately affecting young individuals.

The **RuralYouthFuture** project specifically addresses the challenges faced by young people in rural areas who lack vocational training, digital skills, and viable employment prospects.

# Project Objectives

- ❑ **Reduce inequalities** between rural and urban areas in terms of youth employment opportunities.
- ❑ **Combat depopulation and ageing** in rural regions by attracting and retaining a talented and youthful workforce.
- ❑ **Empower young individuals** in rural territories by providing them with abundant job opportunities and improved working conditions.
- ❑ **Foster sustainable rural development** through the promotion of digital skills and emerging work models.

# Policy Instruments

Six policy instruments will be addressed, at municipal, regional and national level, to face a common challenge: **responding to the needs of young people in rural territories, by reducing the inequalities with urban peers and fighting ageing and growing depopulation.**

- ❑ ESF+ Galicia 2021-2027 Operational Programme (Spain)
- ❑ Integrated Development Plan 2021-2027 of Peshtera Municipality (IDP) (Bulgaria)
- ❑ Local development strategy of Local action group Goričko 2020 for the programming period 2021-2027 (Slovenia)
- ❑ Children, Youth, and Families Guidelines for 2021-2027 (Latvia)
- ❑ National Youth Plan (Portugal)
- ❑ Tartu County Development Strategy 2040 (Estonia)



# Main Activities

## Core Phase

- Technical seminars
- Study visits
- Partner-2-Partner exchanges
- Reports
- Road map
- Exchange of good practices
- Communication

## Follow-up Phase

- Online exchanges
- Assessment of the improvements achieved at different levels
- Follow-up surveys
- High-level dissemination event





*The project's most important activities are the exchanges that lead to a fruitful interregional learning process.*

# Thank you!



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