



3rd MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN RURAL MOBILITY NETWORK

Influencing rural-sensitive mobility policies and planning at regional, national, and European level

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Purpose

The workshop aims to discuss orientations to **incorporate the rural dimension in mobility policies and planning**, by:

- **Boosting dialogue** among authorities and practitioners at all levels to explore ways to enhance rural-sensitive policies and planning, engaging local rural actors and communities;
- **Building recommendations** together, based on shared good practices, on possible orientations for enhanced support action (including financing) for rural areas, as well as on the ways forward.



10:30 – 11:20

Themes



The local level

- Current Rural Policies, at the local level; focus on the town development plans
- Identification of Gaps and Challenges
- Sharing of good practices

The regional level

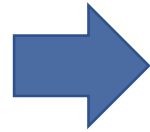
- Current Rural Policies, at the regional level;
- Identification of Gaps and Challenges
- Identification of good practices

The national and EU level

- How can local and regional initiatives influence European policies for rural development?
- What channels are available for engaging with European policymakers?

The relevance of rural-sensitive policies

Lack of Policy and Responsibilities



Limited Supply of Services



Limited Mobility for People without cars

Challenges caused by poor Mobility in rural areas



FOR PEOPLE

- Less services in rural areas; need to travel more often and further;
- High dependency on cars for mobility; associated cost, energy use, emissions;
- Less opportunity for those without cars; often leads to isolation, exclusion;



FOR COMMUNITIES

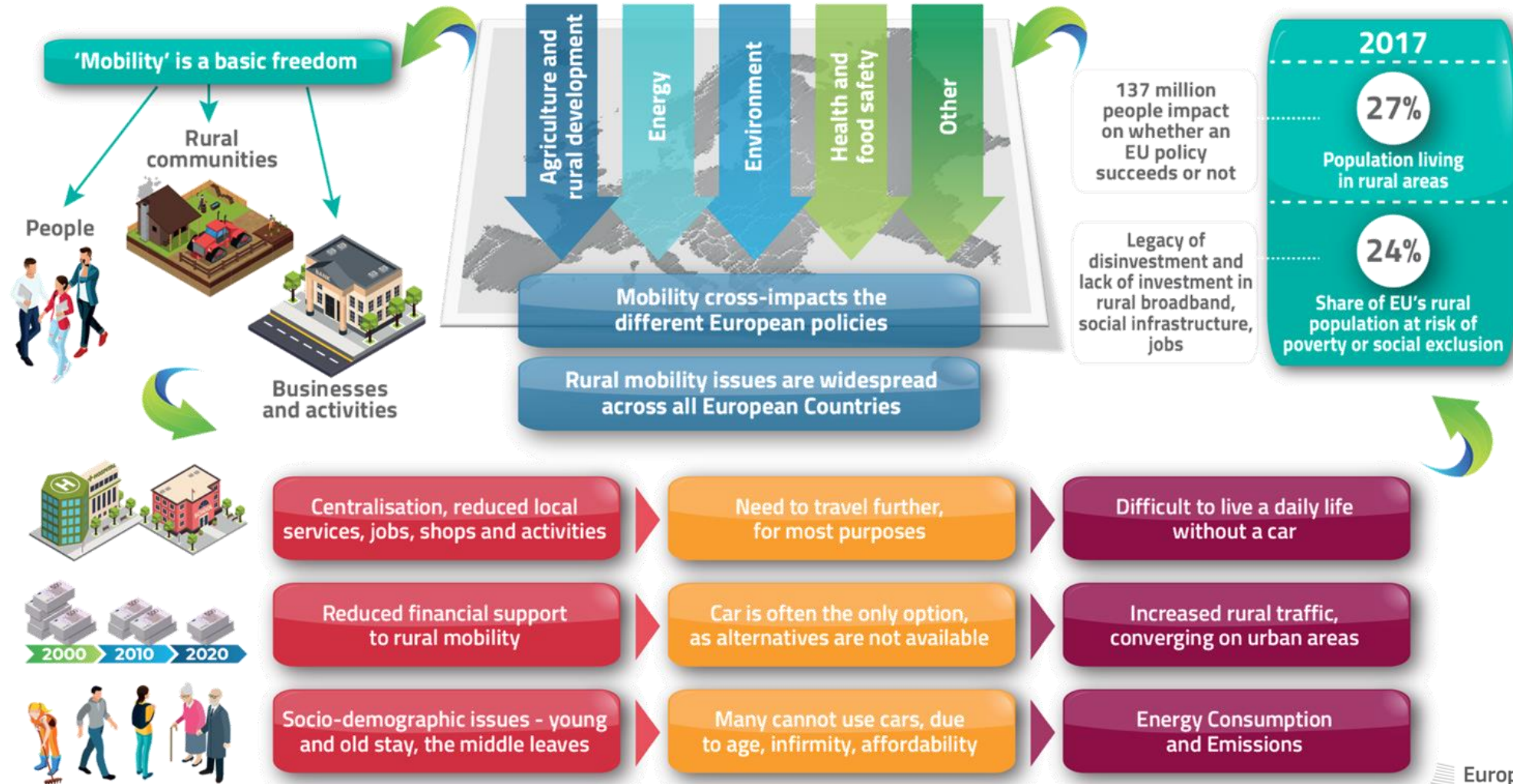
- Increased difficulty, cost to achieve many elements of development plans;
- Ability to attract, develop and retain businesses;
- Ability to attract and retain customers, users;



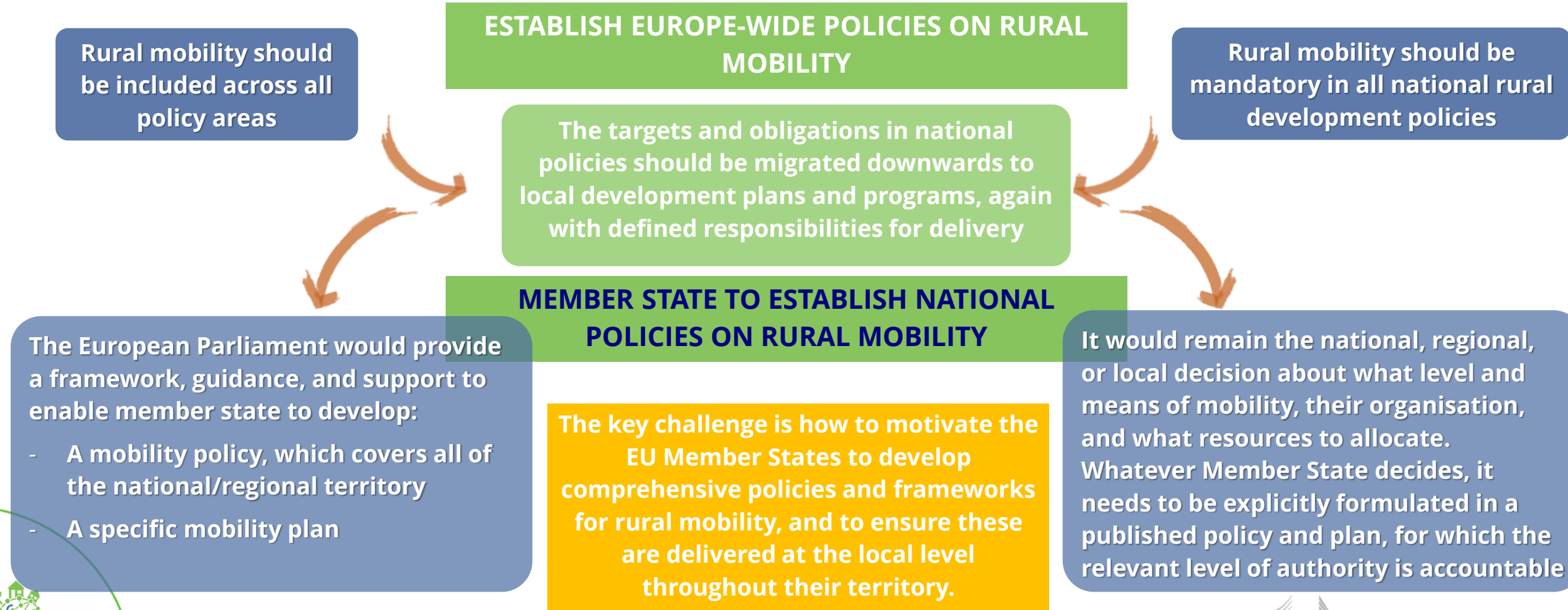
FOR REGIONS AND MEMBER STATES

- Ability to achieve balanced regional development, to revitalize areas in decline;
- Population retention, in particular the youth and families;
- Public sentiment;

Why should the EU act on something that seems to be a local issue?



EP and EC role in the rural mobility transformation



EP and EC role in the rural mobility transformation

POLICY DEBATE: Launched in 2022, seek agreement on way forward in 2023-2024. Debate may be relaunched periodically c. 2025 and 2030 to review progress and perhaps develop further

SUPPORTIVE MEASURES: Support the Policy debate, establish Rural Mobility Forum, develop a Rural Mobility Technical Assistance Program, extended evaluation of rural mobility

"Supportive Pathway"

- A structured set of supporting measures for rural mobility would be established with funding from both the EU and Member States

"Persuasive Pathway"

- Eligibility for regional and rural development funding would be linked to the development of rural mobility policy and frameworks for that Member State and region.

"Mandatory Pathway"

- By directive or other instrument of the European Union, all Member States would be required to establish national rural mobility policies, develop/enhance the rural mobility frameworks, and establish the necessary financing mechanisms.