



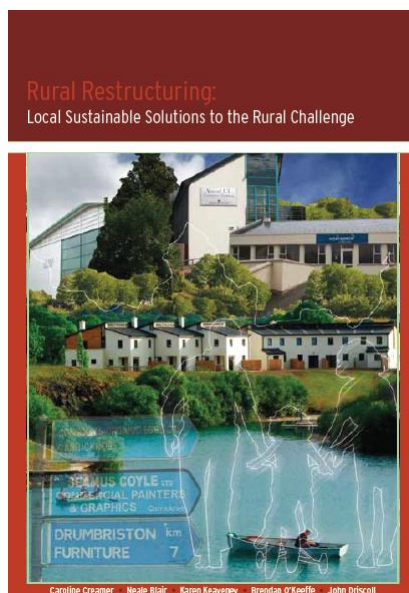
THROUGH A RURAL LENS: PROGRAMMES, POLICY & PRACTICE - DEVELOPING OR SUPPORTING THE RURAL?



Dr. Karen Keaveney
Assistant Professor, UCD School of Agriculture & Food Science
Research Associate, ICLRD

Today's Presentation

1. Are we supporting for development?
2. Rural places are places of opportunity
3. Need to capitalise on existing local strengths



Rural Society in Transition: Planning for 21st Century Rural Potentials and Challenges
April 26th 2018, Crowne Plaza Hotel Dundalk

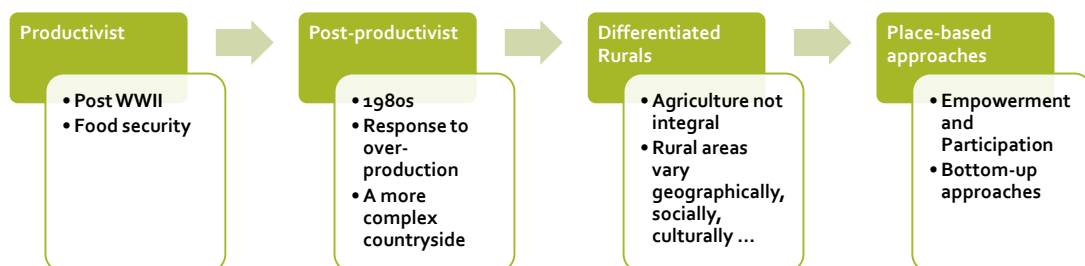


Supporting for Development?

'Development' or 'supports' ... or perhaps a bit of both

Bottom-up, place-based development 'vis-à-vis' Top-down, hierarchical framework of supports

Supporting for Development? Change at the core of rurality



Supporting for Development? Change at the core of rurality

- Agriculture a core EU Policy since 1950s
- 1980s characterised as time of 'rural crisis'
- Changing policy focus: McSharry Reforms in 1992
 - rural development is no longer co-determinous with agricultural policy
 - promotion economic diversification
 - introduction of LEADER initiative
- A Myriad of papers and policies since the 1990s
 - Rural Development under the CAP
 - Cork 2.0
 - European Network for Rural Development
 - Rural Development in OECD – Rural Policy 3.0



Rural Society in Transition: Planning for 21st Century Rural Potentials and Challenges
April 26th 2018, Crowne Plaza Hotel Dundalk



Supporting for Development? Change at the core of rurality

Future of Rural Society (CEC, 1988: 32) proposed that the countryside should act to

"... take full advantage of the growing demand of urban dwellers for green spaces [where] the crux of the problem is to keep the countryside intact from an environmental point of view, not only so that it can fulfil its **function as an ecological buffer** and source of natural reproduction, but also to provide it with a new and lasting **scope for development as an area providing recreation and leisure for city-dwellers.**"



Rural Society in Transition: Planning for 21st Century Rural Potentials and Challenges
April 26th 2018, Crowne Plaza Hotel Dundalk



Supporting for Development? Change at the core of rurality

The context of shifting governance of bottom-up local development North (2007) and South (2014)

Parallel to a weakening of local government which has been taking place for a number of decades

- In Northern Ireland, early 1970s centralisation to the Review of Public Administration
- In the Republic of Ireland, privatisation of powers, ongoing centralised state government, and removal of the dual mandate

Community Led Local Development (CLLD)



Rural Society in Transition: Planning for 21st Century Rural Potentials and Challenges
April 26th 2018, Crowne Plaza Hotel Dundalk



Supporting for Development? (Rural) Supports

RoI

Town and Village Renewal scheme, Rural Recreation Infrastructure Scheme, Rural Walks Scheme, Rural Development Fund, CLÁR, LEADER programme, Tidy Towns competition, Dormant Accounts Fund (also supporting disadvantaged urban communities). Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP), PEACE Programme, RAPID

NI

RDP Business Development Groups, Rural development benchmarking 2015 – 2016, Rural micro capital grant scheme 2017, Initiatives to tackle rural poverty and isolation, The Rural Network, Open funding calls, LEADER, Rural Tourism, PEACE Programme.

Supports are often cross-geographical, so for example RAPID, might have an urban focus, it encompasses what might be defined as large rural towns.



Rural Society in Transition: Planning for 21st Century Rural Potentials and Challenges
April 26th 2018, Crowne Plaza Hotel Dundalk



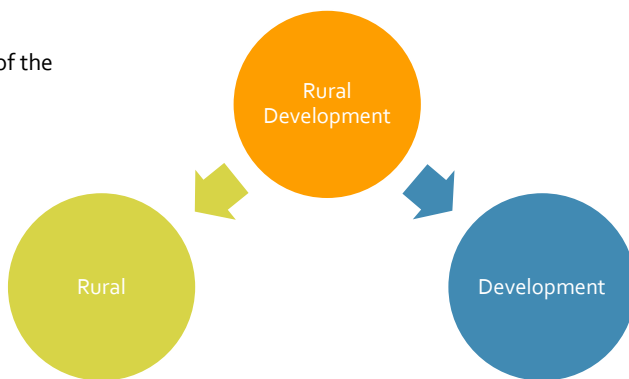
Supporting for Development?

An Unstable term

Globally contentious term

Politicisation of the terms

Old 'problems' persisting – no major policy change for living in the countryside



Taking a comprehensive and integrated approach (Economic, political, cultural, social, environment and physical infrastructure)

Improvement from one state or condition to another

(adapted from Douglas, 2010)

1. Are we supporting for development?
2. **Rural places are places of opportunity**
3. Need to capitalise on existing local strengths

Rural places as places of Opportunity

- Cultural reference points of rural and urban, countryside and town
- The instability of the term and its meaning has the potential to lead to confusing and contradictory policies for the countryside
- leaving uncertainty about the future, putting pressure on traditional economic activities and society, and providing new challenges for the environment.



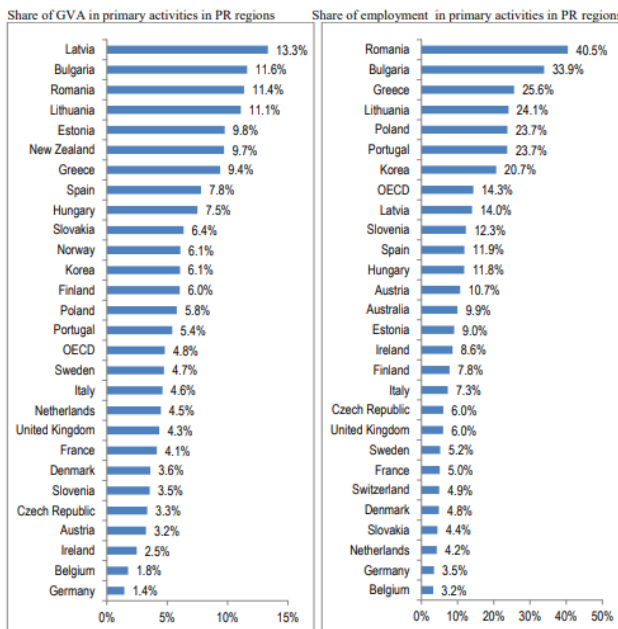
Rural Opportunity

- Primary activities account for less Gross Value Added; and share of persons employed.
- GVA: UK 4.3%; Ireland 2.5%
- Share of Employment: UK 6.0%; Ireland 8.6%



Rural Society in Transitive
Apri

Figure 2. Share of Gross Value Added (GVA) and employment in primary activities predominantly rural (PR) regions



Rural places as places of Opportunity

- Improvement may involve:
 - The retention of what is already in place (e.g. cultural resources, community identity and self-esteem)
- In rural communities and environments – **place-based** development (Douglas, 2010)



Rural places as places of Opportunity

- Genuine attempts to approach the rural holistically
- Holistic approaches through government policies and programmes
 - Traditional silos
 - Cross-Departmental policies

All-Island approaches highlighted by Brexit



Rural Society in Transition: P April 26th 2018, Clowrie Plaza Dublin

6 News

Fine Gael warming to idea of opposition

David McNeill, **Public Affairs Director**

There is a growing consensus among Fine Gael members that the party should consider the possibility of forming an opposition government. This is a significant shift in the party's long-standing policy of supporting a coalition government.

The party's current position is that it will support a coalition government if it is necessary to ensure a stable government. However, some members are now arguing that the party should be prepared to form an opposition government if it is elected with the most seats but does not have a majority.

This change in policy is being driven by a number of factors, including the need to ensure that the party is able to hold the government to account if it is not in government. It is also seen as a way of ensuring that the party is able to deliver on its manifesto if it is in government.

Swings and roundabouts

FINE GAEL MINORITY GOVERNMENT

1 HOW IT WOULD WORK: Fine Gael would lead a minority government with support from Fianna Fáil and Labour. This would be a significant change for the party, which has traditionally supported a coalition government.

NUMBERS REQUIRED: Fine Gael would need 47 seats to form a minority government. This would require support from Fianna Fáil (26 seats) and Labour (14 seats).

WHAT OTHERS WILL DO: Fianna Fáil and Labour would support the Fine Gael government. This would be a significant change for both parties, which have traditionally supported a coalition government.

VERDICT: This is a significant change for Fine Gael, which has traditionally supported a coalition government. It would allow the party to hold the government to account if it is not in government.

FIANNA FAÏL MINORITY GOVERNMENT

2 HOW IT WOULD WORK: Fianna Fáil would lead a minority government with support from Fine Gael and Labour. This would be a significant change for the party, which has traditionally supported a coalition government.

NUMBERS REQUIRED: Fianna Fáil would need 47 seats to form a minority government. This would require support from Fine Gael (26 seats) and Labour (14 seats).

WHAT OTHERS WILL DO: Fine Gael and Labour would support the Fianna Fáil government. This would be a significant change for both parties, which have traditionally supported a coalition government.

VERDICT: This is a significant change for Fianna Fáil, which has traditionally supported a coalition government. It would allow the party to hold the government to account if it is not in government.

LABOUR MINORITY GOVERNMENT

3 HOW IT WOULD WORK: Labour would lead a minority government with support from Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil. This would be a significant change for the party, which has traditionally supported a coalition government.

NUMBERS REQUIRED: Labour would need 47 seats to form a minority government. This would require support from Fine Gael (26 seats) and Fianna Fáil (14 seats).

WHAT OTHERS WILL DO: Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil would support the Labour government. This would be a significant change for both parties, which have traditionally supported a coalition government.

VERDICT: This is a significant change for Labour, which has traditionally supported a coalition government. It would allow the party to hold the government to account if it is not in government.



DUAGAIRÉ

3 HOW IT WOULD WORK: Enda Kenny would lead a minority government with support from Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil. This would be a significant change for the party, which has traditionally supported a coalition government.

NUMBERS REQUIRED: Enda Kenny would need 47 seats to form a minority government. This would require support from Fine Gael (26 seats) and Fianna Fáil (14 seats).

WHAT OTHERS WILL DO: Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil would support the Enda Kenny government. This would be a significant change for both parties, which have traditionally supported a coalition government.

VERDICT: This is a significant change for Enda Kenny, which has traditionally supported a coalition government. It would allow the party to hold the government to account if it is not in government.

SECOND ELECTION

4 HOW IT WOULD WORK: A second election would be held to determine the outcome of the coalition government. This would be a significant change for the party, which has traditionally supported a coalition government.

NUMBERS REQUIRED: A second election would require a majority of 71 seats in the Dáil.

WHAT OTHERS WILL DO: All parties would participate in the second election. This would be a significant change for all parties, which have traditionally supported a coalition government.

VERDICT: This is a significant change for all parties, which have traditionally supported a coalition government. It would allow the parties to hold each other to account if they are not in government.

Kenny: Election calls for a new politics

Enda Kenny, **Prime Minister**

The Prime Minister has called for a new politics in Ireland, one that is based on honesty and integrity. He has said that the current political system is broken and that it is time for a new approach to government.

Kenny has said that he is committed to the coalition government that he has formed with Fine Gael and Labour. However, he has also said that he is open to other options if it is necessary to ensure a stable government.

The Prime Minister has also said that he is committed to the welfare of the Irish people. He has said that he will continue to work to improve the lives of all Irish people, regardless of their background or where they live.

NUMBERS GAME

79 numbers needed for Dail majority

51 votes Enda Kenny has in the bag

50 FG + Michael Lacey

43 votes total (43 FF)

Michael Lacey

Rural places as places of Opportunity

The Rural Development Agenda:

- NPF: "At all scales, our cities, towns and villages offer a range of opportunities for community and social interaction, potential for innovation and prosperity and support and **enable their surrounding rural areas.**" (p.54)
- National Policy Objective 6 (NPF): Regenerate and rejuvenate cities, towns and villages of all types and scale as environmental assets, that can accommodate changing roles and functions, increased residential population and employment activity and enhanced levels of amenity and design quality, in order to **sustainably influence and support their surrounding area.**
- Presumption of decline and lack of prosperity that must be supported from outside.



Rural Society in Transition: Planning for 21st Century Rural Potentials and Challenges
April 26th 2018, Crowne Plaza Hotel Dundalk



Rural places as places of Opportunity

- Rural regions will play a central role in meeting the major global opportunities and challenges of the 21st century (OECD, 2018)
- "**Proximity** of less than 1 hour travel time to a large urban region is an important predictor of rural growth. **Proximity allows stronger linkages between urban and rural places.** ... By contrast, in **remote rural places there are fewer direct connections** with cities and local residents and firms must rely almost exclusively on local providers of goods and services. Strong performance in these remote places tends to be associated with specialisation (OECD Rural Policy 3.0, 2018)."



Rural Society in Transition: Planning for 21st Century Rural Potentials and Challenges
April 26th 2018, Crowne Plaza Hotel Dundalk



Rural places as places of Opportunity

OECD's 6 Mega-trends that will influence rural success:

- Population ageing and migration
- Urbanisation
- Global shifts in production
- Rise of emerging economies
- Climate change and environmental pressures
- Technological breakthroughs

(Rural 3.0)



Rural Society in Transition: Planning for 21st Century Rural Potentials and Challenges
April 26th 2018, Crowne Plaza Hotel Dundalk



Do What You Are Good At



Rural Society in Transition: Planning for 21st Century Rural Potentials and Challenges
April 26th 2018, Crowne Plaza Hotel Dundalk



1. Are we supporting for development?

2. Rural places are places of opportunity

3. Need to capitalise on existing local strengths



Rural Society in Transition: Planning for 21st Century LRLD Potentials and Challenges April 26th 2018, Crowne Plaza Hotel Dundalk



10p Eurozone
Thursday 21/04/2016

News | 7

Rural Ireland needs a dedicated minister

A minister for rural affairs is needed — but only if they are willing to face up to responsibilities far beyond the next election, writes Michael Clifford

Will there be a grand tour for the prospective minister for rural affairs?

Will he — there's no one in the frame as of yet — be paraded through towns and villages on the back of a...

Rural Affairs will be a minister with a rural affairs portfolio. The recent talks between Independent Democrats and Fine Gael and...

The rural Alliance is taking a step back in formation talks, but irrespective of what exactly happens the...

Both the Fianna Fáil and the Sinn Féin are getting a minister. The report also indicates that...

But the report also says that the poverty rate in rural Ireland is 4.8 per cent...

But the report also says that the poverty rate in rural Ireland is 4.8 per cent...

But the report also says that the poverty rate in rural Ireland is 4.8 per cent...

But the report also says that the poverty rate in rural Ireland is 4.8 per cent...



Members of the West Cork Rural Gardas Station for active Campaign present outside Linstoe Hall and the importance of local garden to rural communities.



Maura Healy-Rae: Planning laws forcing rural dwellers to 'go underground like hobbits.'

Resources will be made available to address the most immediate worries. However, there is a real danger because there will be little or no support for rural dwellers at the...

Resources will be made available to address the most immediate worries. However, there is a real danger because there will be little or no support for rural dwellers at the...

My deputy has suggested that the planning restrictions on high ground will soon have all over the hills beyond the hills. "Are they going to be getting the hills to be better?" she said.

My deputy has suggested that the planning restrictions on high ground will soon have all over the hills beyond the hills. "Are they going to be getting the hills to be better?" she said.

Let's hope the opportunity is not missed. Let's hope the opportunity is not missed. Let's hope the opportunity is not missed.



Existing Local Strengths

- Associations with stagnation; lack of potential

There should be no caving in to rural populists

Claims the recovery is by-passing rural Ireland will only lead to an unfair grab at scarce resources, writes **Dan O'Brien**



A sense of entitlement exists, they are dangerous because government decisions taken on the basis of anger and emotion, rather than evidence and analysis, lead to more uniformity in society and less. It is important to stress from the beginning that making these points in a newspaper is not anti-rural Ireland or figures.

The strong sense of grievance in much of rural Ireland is in keeping with the anger which has spread across the western world. Some rural dwellers claim the recovery is not being felt in their areas that they are being ignored and neglected by the Dublin elite and that they are being cut out in all manner of ways. Some have even spoken of the 'death of rural Ireland'.

Many rural TDs are not behind the door in playing on widespread anger to reinforce the sense of grievance in their constituencies.

'Ireland steps at the Red Car roundabout, one rural TD cautiously put it. In an effort, it could be construed, that many feel in rural Ireland. Another has claimed that the recovery has not extended beyond the M61 motorway.

These claims are both wrong and dangerous. They are wrong because there is very little evidence to support the notion that there is no recovery in Ireland outside the urban areas that surround Dublin.

the less well-off in society. I also support redistribution from areas that are better off to those that are poorer. Solidarity is the glue that holds societies and politics together. But taking people's recovery from them to give it to others in a rotten business, it should never be done lightly. A strong case always needs to be made to do so, both on grounds of equity and efficiency.

In discussion on the formation of government, there has been much talk about doing more for rural Ireland. Not all of the proposed measures require more cash. Perhaps the most symbolic of the demands being made is that a full Cabinet position be created for rural affairs, something that both Fine Gael and Fianna Fail are expected to have conceded.

But as often as we make the larger parties in return for the support of Independent TDs, there is a real risk that rural politicians will get taken from one group in society and redistributed to others when the case for doing so is based not on fairness or need, but on mere political expediency.

There is a long tradition in Ireland of supporting those who have much less than those who have most.

This has usually happened in the context of supporting those with little by way of justice. The many tax breaks that have built up over the years have all too often been granted with little thought to the impact on the rest of the country. It is to make a case against investment in and subsidisation of rural projects. Just as I support redistribution of wealth from the well-off to



COUNTRY MATTERS: Michael Healy-Bea, centre, is one of several politicians calling for a full Cabinet portfolio to be created for rural affairs. Photo: Frank McGrath

available figures on regional and county economic performance and activity are analysed in detail in my column in the business section of this newspaper, but here is a brief summary.

● **Average disposable income per person has increased in all 26 counties since the post-crash low point.** The difference in growth in disposable income across counties is narrow and there is very limited evidence that the more rural counties are doing less well than the more urban counties.

● **Every region of the country unemployment has fallen and the numbers at work have grown from their post-crash low points in the**

country's eight regions, three predominantly rural regions have recorded faster job growth than Dublin.

● **Most of the death of rural Ireland is greatly exaggerated.** The population of rural Ireland continues to grow, something that is in contrast to many rural areas across Europe including countries which had much shallower population growth.

● **Rural Ireland receives more state aid than any other region in the country.** The average person in 21 counties receives more in social transfers than they pay in tax. It is the opposite in more urban counties.

those representing areas of urban poverty – appear surprising even to question the more fanciful claims made by some of their rural counterparts. While there are undoubtedly strong cases to be made for policies and actions aimed at problems affecting rural areas, the most deprived in Irish society are those in the urban underclass. The needs of all groups and segments of society should be considered by the next administration, wherever it is formed. But given how tight available resources will be for the foreseeable future, there appears to be a stronger case for a minister for urban deprivation than one for rural deprivation.



Independent stood firm as turf row threatened to derail Kenny

From the 'Boxer' of Westmeath to the Doctor of Clare, 15 Independent TDs and the two Green Party deputies took the bold decision to enter government formation talks almost 70 days ago. Unlike their colleagues from other political parties, such as Sinn Féin and the Social Democrats, this motley crew of politicians were prepared to take a risk. They were willing to engage seriously with Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil – not only about forming a Government – but to address the huge issues affecting the lives of ordinary families. But as the weeks dragged on, a number of TDs dropped out of the negotiations. And so eight Independents joined forces with Fine Gael in a move that pushed Mr



Niall O'Connor
Kenny beyond the magic number of 58 and brought the torturous political impasse to an end. But the dramatic story behind Mr Kenny's election will be told for decades to come. And the outcome of yesterday's vote could have been very different indeed if a row over bogs had rewritten the script and shattered Mr Kenny's dreams of making history. For over three days, Roscommon deputy Michael Fitzmaurice fought tirelessly on behalf of the county's

turf-cutters. The farmer demanded better terms, especially for those opting to transfer to bogs where the EU ban on turf cutting does not apply. On Tuesday, the Independent Alliance were given a ray of hope from Fine Gael negotiator Michael Noonan that a deal could be done. But the sense of hope quickly turned to anger after Heather Humphreys, whose Department of the Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht has responsibility for the county's bogs, was drafted in to discuss the issue. Mr Humphreys illustrated the difficulties in meeting Mr Fitzmaurice's demands as she explained the county's obligations under EU law. As Thursday arrived, it became clear that the mood in the talks was changing. And, not the first

time, tempers flared. Mr Fitzmaurice, who wears his heart on his sleeve, lost his cool. On one occasion, he resorted to colourful language during an exchange with Simon Covey. 'You might have told Labour when they were in Government, but you ain't going to be riding me,' he said. But as Fine Gael figures tried to win Mr Fitzmaurice round on Friday morning, there were exasperated faces in other parts of the Independent Alliance camp. John Halligan accused Fine Gael of trying to bounce him and his colleagues into the middie vote before they had resolved outstanding issues. Mr Halligan warned the vote designed in a move that caused consternation within the Fine Gael camp. Just after 10am, the Waterford deputy insisted it

Turf matters – and so do promises made to voters

It was the whiskey bottles of sweet tea wrapped in tea towels and hand-delivered by my mother that sticks in my memory most. Under cloudless skies, the sun glistened off the sweaty skin of my grandfather while my father, alongside neighbours, sat on the banks of the bog, wellies dangling over the edge. Behind them, slices of freshly cut turf rested one on top of the other while ham sandwiches were consumed with relish. Those work breaks were perfect in every way. There was nothing like a day in the bog. Though the slán has now been replaced by modern technology in many areas, there's still nothing quite like it. There's magic among the bog cotton.



Graham Clifford
harvesting of a fossil fuel so as to save money on purchasing alternatives. If it was, then turf-cutters would happily accept compensation for not being allowed cut their bogs and sit at home in front of their bio-fuel briquettes. It's so much more complex than that. It's about a way of life. In the Corrin Mart and Event Centre in Fermoy last Wednesday, 300 farmers turned out to speak about mental health and isolation in rural communities. They told of how modern technology and changes in working practices meant farmers today see less and less of their neighbours and peers. The impact to their mental health can be severe. In generations past, the bank of the bog was a place where neighbours helped each other out, where stories and jokes were shared. I often watched the men, after a 12-hour-day, walk away through the Kerry commongage with their pikes over their

Existing Local Strengths: getting the focus right





Need to capitalise on existing local strengths

- Rural regions will be central to harnessing the major global opportunities and meeting the challenges of the 21st century.
- Bioeconomy: Trade in food and agriculture, mining and resources, forestry, and tourism has always driven the prosperity of rural people; with an increasingly interconnected world, these strengths will be the basis for new products and services to generate rural prosperity and well-being.



Rural Society in Transition: Planning for 21st Century Rural
April 26th 2018, Crowne Plaza Hotel Du



National Policy Statement on the Bioeconomy



February 2018

Need to capitalise on existing local strengths

- Build on the legacy of what is now termed Community Led Local Development (CLLD)
- Rebuild from the challenges faced by changes to LEADER
- Multi-actor, place-based approach
- Recognise that while rural areas or low-density economies are different to urban economies, that difference does not equate to stagnation and decline

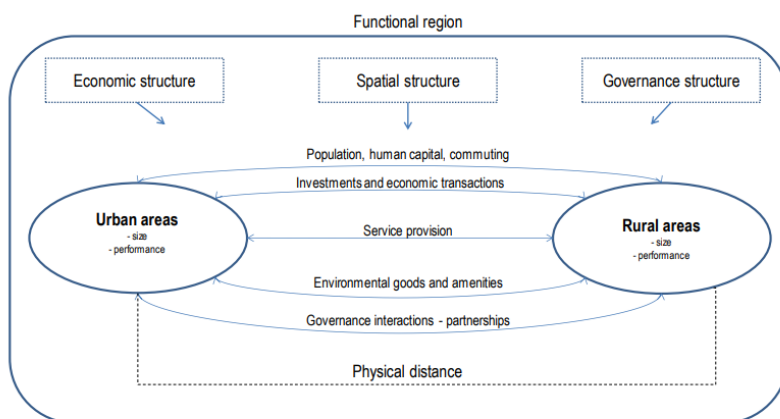


Rural Society in Transition: Planning for 21st Century Rural Potentials and Challenges
April 26th 2018, Crowne Plaza Hotel Dundalk



Need to capitalise on existing local strengths

- A changing mindset
 - Where we revisit the value of local knowledge and strengths
- Infrastructural investment to support rural development



Need to capitalise on existing local strengths

Table 1. Challenges by type of rural region

Type	Challenges	Opportunities
Rural inside a functional urban area (FUA)	-loss of control over the future -activities concentrate in the urban core -loss of rural identity	-more stable future -potential to capture benefits of urban areas while avoiding the negatives
Rural outside, but in close proximity to a FUA	-conflicts between new residents and locals -may be too far away for some firms, but too close for others	-potential to attract high-income households seeking a high quality of life -relatively easy access to advanced services and urban culture -good access to transport
Rural remote	-highly specialised economies subject to booms and busts -limited connectivity and large distances between settlements - high per capita costs of services	-absolute advantage in production of natural resource-based outputs -attractive for firms that need access to an urban area, but not on a daily basis -can offer unique environments that can be attractive to firms and individuals