

## Transition to the Green Economy

Rural Development policy has a key role to play in supporting the transition to the green economy – one that sees economic growth in harmony with social and environmental sustainability. Find out more by reading [EU Rural Review 23](#) [1].

### Definition of the 'Green Economy'

*"An economy that results in improved human well-being and reduced inequalities over the long term, while not exposing future generations to significant environmental risks and ecological scarcities."*

*United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)*

Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) can support **low-carbon, resource-efficient and socially equitable investments** in rural areas as well as **sustainable management of natural resources** in a wide range of economic sectors.

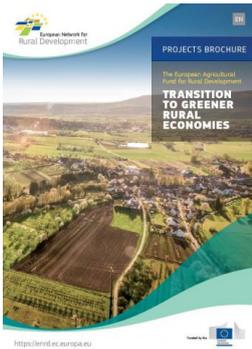
Achieving the full scale of the potential transition to the green economy will mean adoption of current good practice on a much greater scale than is currently the case within the EU-28 and new ways of thinking and working across territories. **Cooperation, innovation, rural entrepreneurship and knowledge transfer** must be encouraged and supported.

Planning how to **combine RDP Measures in packages to support integrated schemes** to deliver particular outcomes will be important, as will the use of Financial Instruments, particularly looking at how these might support **small-scale investments at local level**.

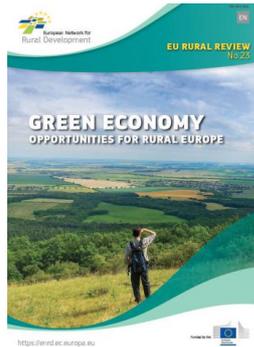
### Main reports

- [Final Report of the Thematic Group on 'Promoting the transition to the Green Economy'](#) [2]
- [Factsheet on 'Promoting the transition to the Green Economy'](#) [3]
- [Thematic Group background and scoping paper](#) [4]

## Publications



[5] [EAFRD Projects Brochure on 'Transition to Greener Rural Economies'](#) [6]



[7] [EU Rural Review 23 on 'Green Economy - Opportunities for Rural Europe'](#) [1]

## Events

- [European Seminar 'Promoting the Transition to the Green Economy'](#) [8] (1 July 2016) – see [Seminar highlights](#) [9]
- [1<sup>st</sup> TG meeting](#) [10] (16 December 2015) – see [meeting highlights](#) [11]
- [2<sup>nd</sup> TG meeting](#) [12] (6 April 2016) – see [meeting highlights](#) [13]
- [3<sup>rd</sup> TG meeting](#) [14] (17 May 2016) – see [meeting highlights](#) [15]

**Browse through all events under the broader topic '[Greening the Rural Economy](#) [16]'.**

## Case studies

- [Programming for the Green Economy in Emilia-Romagna, Italy](#) [17]
- [Programming for the Green Economy in Finland](#) [18]
- [Programming for the Green Economy in Ireland](#) [19]
- [Programming for the Green Economy in Lower Saxony and Bremen, Germany](#) [20]
- [Programming for the Green Economy in Wales, the UK](#) [21]

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### Links

- [1] [https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/eu-rural-review-23-green-economy-opportunities-rural-europe\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/eu-rural-review-23-green-economy-opportunities-rural-europe_en)  
[2] [https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/green-economy-final-thematic-group-report\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/green-economy-final-thematic-group-report_en)  
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[4] [http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/tg-ge\\_background-paper.pdf](http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/tg-ge_background-paper.pdf)  
[5] <https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/styles/large/public/pb-green-economy.jpg?width=340&height=480>  
[6] [https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/eafrd-projects-brochure-transition-greener-rural-economies\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/eafrd-projects-brochure-transition-greener-rural-economies_en)  
[7] <https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/styles/large/public/rr23-cover.jpg?width=340&height=480>  
[8] [https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events/enrd-seminar-promoting-transition-green-economy\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events/enrd-seminar-promoting-transition-green-economy_en)  
[9] [http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/s2\\_ge\\_finalreport.pdf](http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/s2_ge_finalreport.pdf)  
[10] [https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events/1st-meeting-thematic-group-tg-promoting-transition-green-economy\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events/1st-meeting-thematic-group-tg-promoting-transition-green-economy_en)  
[11] [https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/changing-our-mindsets-seizing-opportunities-green-economy\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/changing-our-mindsets-seizing-opportunities-green-economy_en)

[12]

[https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events/2nd-meeting-thematic-group-tg-promoting-transition-green-economy\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events/2nd-meeting-thematic-group-tg-promoting-transition-green-economy_en)

[13] [https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/green-economy-2nd-thematic-group-meeting\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/green-economy-2nd-thematic-group-meeting_en)

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[15] [https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/green-economy-3rd-thematic-group-meeting\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/green-economy-3rd-thematic-group-meeting_en)

[16] [https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events/past/greening-the-rural-economy\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events/past/greening-the-rural-economy_en)

[17] [https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/programming-green-economy-emilia-romagna-italy\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/programming-green-economy-emilia-romagna-italy_en)

[18] [https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/programming-green-economy-finland\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/programming-green-economy-finland_en)

[19] [https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/programming-green-economy-ireland\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/programming-green-economy-ireland_en)

[20] [https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/programming-green-economy-lower-saxony-and-bremen-germany\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/programming-green-economy-lower-saxony-and-bremen-germany_en)

[21] [https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/programming-green-economy-wales-uk\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/programming-green-economy-wales-uk_en)