

# Policy Lab 3. Rural-Urban Partnerships

## Q1. Possible governance tools

- 1. Integrated governance of functional rural-urban areas (either monocentric or polycentric)
- 2. Implementing the principles of Community-Led Local Development at Functional R-Urban Areas
- 3. Look at best practices (*comarcas* in some regions of Spain, *città metropolitana* in Italy ....)
- 4. Rural-Urban partnerships can be the basic Governance Tool allowing for an integrated governance of functional, rural-urban areas as long as 2 principles as met:
  - “drink” from the LEADER approach fountain
  - Follow principles of good governance (Aguilar 2006)
- 5. Conditions for a good functioning of rural-urban partnerships (Noguera and Freshwater 2016)

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## Q2. Using the ITI instrument to promote urban-rural partnerships

- **Pre-condition:** Rural-Urban Partnership can manage and implement an “Integrated Territorial Investment” as long as Member States allow for partnerships or LAGs to act as “intermediate Bodies”
- **Proposal:**
  - Partnerships promoted on rural-urban functional scale with initial function: designing a territorial development strategy (using the ITI)
  - Then, partnership operates in accordance with CLLD principles to implement the ITI
  - If done correctly, the partnership, the territorial strategy and the ITI model, become legitimized and will not be used “ad-hoc”
- **Elements of success**
- **Challenges (bad practices)**

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## Q3. Possibilities for knowledge transfer:

- Yes, it is possible
- Cultural and territorial diversity must be taken into account when designing policies for R-Urban Governance
- In addition, urban-rural fringes are not well suited to traditional administrative boundaries, given a context of dynamic and growing functional flows that can overwhelm a traditional territorial structure.
- Recommendations for a better Rural-urban governance:
  - A coordinated, multi-level strategy for the development of the rural-urban system
  - Combining identity, functionality and sustainability in a new governance
  - Promote high levels of participation