

# 2. Activity: Navigate European Rural Development

## Policy Puzzle



## Policy Puzzle: Rural Youth Development Initiative

# ACTIVITY GUIDE

Welcome to the Policy Puzzle: Rural Youth Development Initiative. This engaging and interactive game is designed to guide you through the journey of creating a rural development initiative in youth work. The puzzle pieces you'll work with represent key elements, from personal motivation to building a team and understanding your target group. Let's learn more.....

## SETUP

Gather a group of individuals interested in rural youth development. Ensure diversity in skills and perspectives to enrich the collaborative process.

## OBJECTIVE

Work together with your team to assemble the puzzle pieces, each representing a crucial element in developing a Rural Youth Development Initiative. From personal motivation to understanding target groups and building a team, your collective efforts will shape a well-rounded and impactful initiative.

## MATERIALS

Prepare a set of puzzle cards representing different phases of the initiative. There should be enough space on the front side for a small visualisation by each participant. On the back part, prepare questions for discussion among participants. Provide writing materials for participants to jot down thoughts and ideas.

## HOW TO PLAY?

### Introduction:

Begin with a brief introduction to the Policy Puzzle and its goal of creating a Rural Youth Development Initiative.

### Step 1: Motivation and Passion:

- Distribute Cards 1 to 5 among participants.
- Allow time for participants to fill in the cards individually. Facilitate a discussion on the contents of each card.
- Encourage sharing stories and experiences to build connections.

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## Step 2: How to Get Followers and Your Team:

- Distribute Cards 1 to 5 among participants.
- Allow time for participants to fill in the cards individually. Facilitate a discussion on the contents of each card.
- Explore creative ideas for building a motivated and effective team.

## Step 3: Understanding Your Target Groups:

- Distribute Cards 1 to 5 among participants.
- Allow time for participants to fill in the cards individually. Facilitate a discussion on the contents of each card.
- Encourage participants to share their insights and thoughts.

## Step 4: Discuss

- Discuss how individual contributions align to form a holistic initiative.
- Facilitate a reflection session where participants share their thoughts on the assembled initiative.
- Discuss potential strengths, areas for improvement, and the overall impact.

## HOW TO DESIGN YOUR CARDS

- Before you start a game, design 15 cards (paper or any other appropriate material) so that you will have a front and back part. The front part should have space for visualisations, and the back should have enough space to write questions.

## CARDS FOR THE STEP 1: MOTIVATION AND PASSION

- **Card 1: Motivation Meter**
- Front Part: Visualize your motivation meter, ranging from low to high motivation.
- Back Part: Write down the main reasons motivating you to be part of this initiative.

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## **Card 2: Pitching Your Passion**

Front Part: Visualize a speaker in a hall with many people.

Back Part: Craft a concise and compelling elevator pitch that conveys your passion and the initiative's mission.

## **Card 3: Navigating Networks**

Front Part: Illustrate a tree with branches.

Back Part: List local communities, organisations, or online platforms where potential team members may be present. Identify potential collaborators.

## **Card 4: Recruiting with Purpose**

Front Part: Illustrate a spider web.

Back Part: Specify individuals' roles and how their contributions will contribute to achieving goals.

## **Card 5: Goal-Oriented Path**

Front part: Visualise a podium with winners and their medals

Back part: Define roles and contributions to achieving goals. Clearly state both short-term and long-term objectives for the initiative.

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## CARDS FOR THE STEP 2: HOW TO GET FOLLOWERS AND YOUR TEAM?

### Card 1: Attracting Followers

Front Part: Visual representation of a magnet pulling in followers.

Back Part: Highlight potential benefits, communicate values, and articulate what makes your initiative stand out.

### Card 2: Heart Connection

Front Part: An illustration of a heart symbolising your personal connection to the cause.

Back Part: Share a personal story or experience connecting you emotionally to the community's needs.

### Card 3: Passion Flames

Front Part: Representative visual flames indicating your passion intensity.

Back Part: Envision the long-term impact of your efforts in the community.

### Card 4: Goal Compass

Front Part: Visual representation of a compass pointing towards a goal.

Back Part: List specific short-term goals for the next three months and plan a small celebration for achieving a milestone.

### Card 5: Commitment Seal

Front Part: Visualize a symbolic seal representing commitment.

Back Part: Draft a personal commitment statement and physically sign and date the card as a tangible commitment.

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## CARDS FOR THE STEP 3: UNDERSTANDING YOUR TARGET GROUPS

### Card 1: Walk in Their Shoes

Front Part: Design a wardrobe with shoes inside.

Back Part: Reflect on the challenges and aspirations of the target group. Incorporate visual elements that evoke empathy.

### Card 2: Understanding Personas

Front Part: Make a sketched illustration of people.

Back Part: Share anonymised personal stories that capture the essence of the target group's experiences.

### Card 3: Snapshot Moment

Front Part: Design the solution to impact the target group.

Back Part: Summarize key solutions to address the target group's challenges. Use icons or symbols for visual representation.

### Card 4: Hands Working Together

Front Part: Sketch humans holding hands.

Back Part: Describe how the initiative will involve the target group in design and decision-making processes.

### Card 5: Celebrating Achievements

Front Part: Visualize fireworks.

Back Part: Describe how the initiative will adapt based on feedback. Outline how achievements will be celebrated.