

## Practice abstract 03

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## PoliRural Pilot Areas

PoliRural methodology is being tested in 12 regions across Europe plus Israel. The pilot selection was guided by a desire to include a wide spectrum of areas in relation to climate, geography, topography, social and economic conditions.

PoliRural pilot study areas are: **Flanders** (Belgium), **Monaghan** (Ireland), **Segóbriga** (Spain), **Vidzeme** (Latvia), **Mazowieckie** (Poland), **Central Bohemian Region** (Czech Republic), **Slovakia Region**, **Häme** (Finland), **Central Greece** (Greece), **Apulia** (Italy), **Gevgelija-Strumica** (Macedonia), and **Galilee** (Israel).

Policy makers, experts, farmers, rural dwellers and new entrants are main target groups in each pilot region defined as regional panel members. Each pilot has chosen the most appropriate approach to set up a regional panel and ensure efficient collaboration, certifying that the pilots' stakeholder engagement methodology is being followed.

Since the beginning of the project, PoliRural pilots have engaged 433 stakeholders. Of those, 107 are policy makers, 188 are members of the rural community, 68 representing rural newcomers, and 70 come from the research sector. Stakeholders have contributed to several tasks, namely to the production of pilot fiches, to the pan-European survey on rural needs, to the identification of drivers of change for rural areas and to the development of Statement of Purpose and Implementation Plan for each pilot.

