



## Rural Development: Challenges for Managers and Policy Makers

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

This Special Issue is particularly focused on the following issues:

- 1) What are the main objectives and functions of rural development policies within the broader range of policies addressing rural areas, and what relations have been established between them over time (complementarities, synergies, conflicts, etc.)?
- 2) What is the effectiveness of rural development policy instruments in pursuing objectives of social inclusion, environmental sustainability (including the provision of specific environmental public goods such as biodiversity, landscape conservation, etc.), agricultural competitiveness, and diversification of rural economies through multi-functional agricultural systems?
- 3) What is the contribution of rural development policies to reducing territorial disparities in terms of income and unemployment and access to social services and infrastructure, in combination with other territorial policies?

For further reading, please visit the [Special Issue Website](#).





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