



# GRASS CEILING

## D 4.2 Synthesis report gender benchmarking European and national agricultural and rural policies

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# Agenda

1. Introduction
2. General impressions
3. Barriers to gender equality
4. Next steps



# Introduction

- Conducted discourse analyses of 4 major EU policies (CAP, LTVRA, F2F, & Green Deal) and 36 national equivalent policies (9 countries x 4 policies) . Drafted 4 national synthesis policy reports produced each covering the 9 countries in each report.
- Team of 20+ researchers working over the course of an entire year.
- GC maintains that the gender dimension is:
  - Fundamental to society, economy, and sustainability
  - Women need to be involved in rural areas and farming to solve the problems we are facing.
  - Young women in particular may prefer to live where they are paid for their work, can build up a pension, and have the basic services they need to live, including childcare.
  - Digital inclusion and access is not yet fully integrated into the nine countries analysed.



# General Impressions



- My personal impression is that there is a lot of room for improvement.
- We have now opened the discussion and are beginning to understand the gravity of what needs to be done to bridge the gender gaps.
- If we don't make strides in supporting more women farmers and rural women entrepreneurs, there are severe consequences in terms of decline in agricultural productivity on family farms, rural depopulation, and a growing gender imbalance and social consequences in rural areas.



# Barriers to gender equality



- Lack of recognition about the depth of the problem of gender inequality, its severity, and the need to take coordinated actions to solve it.
- Intentions or mentions may be present about equality for women, but there is a lack of specific implementation plans to achieve change.
- Lack of clear goals and objectives, measurable targets and lack of follow-up.
- Lack of budgetary considerations targeted specifically at women farmers and rural women entrepreneurs.
- Lack of detailed planning and coordination.
- Lack of gender specific objectives where women's issues are bundled into other issues, where they become nearly unrecognizable or forgotten, and no definition is made of how much priority is given to them.
- Gender issues are sometimes put in a separate chapter of the policy where they are typically forgotten, sidelined, or deemed low priority, since they are not part of the mainstream policy.
- And much more.



# Next steps: Need for a strategic approach



- A **strategy** creates an enabling environment for business, and the way to move forward in supporting entrepreneurship in the best ways possible.
- The need for an **EU strategy** as a measure to ensure that country strategies do not get overturned when a new government comes into power is also a powerful means to ensure results are achieved.
- The inspirational **Croatian women's entrepreneurship strategy** is an excellent model, and we need to think more strategically at the EU level along these lines to realize the most benefits.



# Next steps: Need for a multi-disciplinary & cross sector Task Force



- The Task Force would bring policy makers together to drive change, track progress, and ensure implementation
- Bringing together expertise from different fields – for example, agriculture, SMEs, gender studies, and digital innovation- can encourage new ideas and solutions.
- This model would also help to bridge policy and practice.





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**Conclusions, Suggestions, Q & A**

**Thank you !!**



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