

Welcome!





Origin
Diversity
Territories

PILOT PROJECT SMART ECO-SOCIAL VILLAGES

21 February 2019, Brussels
#EU #SmartVillages



What is the context?

The Smart Village Initiative



A new concept



Part of the future policy (result indicator in CAP strategic plans).



EU provides a framework, Member States decide how to implement



Many other actions at EU level (ENRD Thematic Group, SMARTA Pilot Project etc.)

The Pilot Project is one building block of the Smart Village initiative



What is the Pilot Project?

What is the Pilot Project?



Initiated and financed by the EP, implemented by the EC.



From January 2018 to April 2019.



Study carried out by Ecorys, R.E.D, ODT and experts.

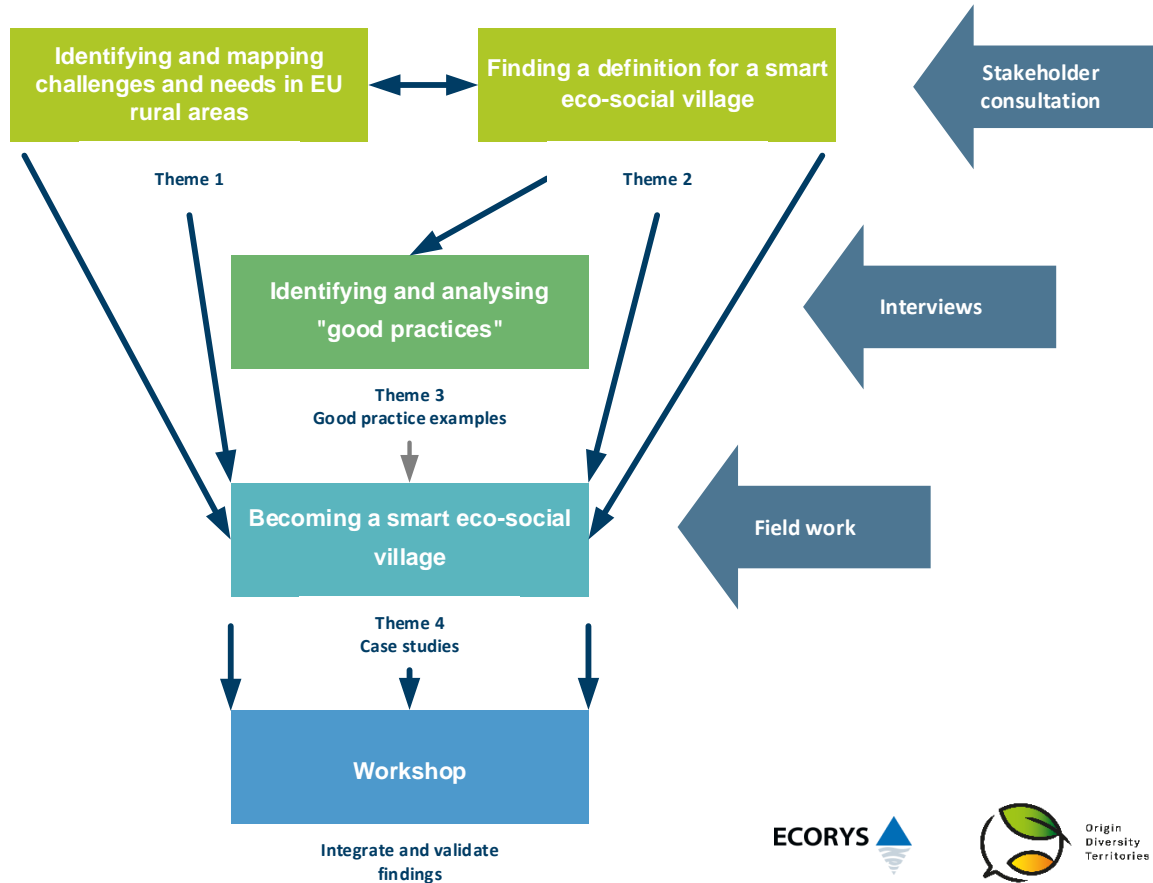


Main objective: **explore characteristics, drivers and factors of success of smart villages.**

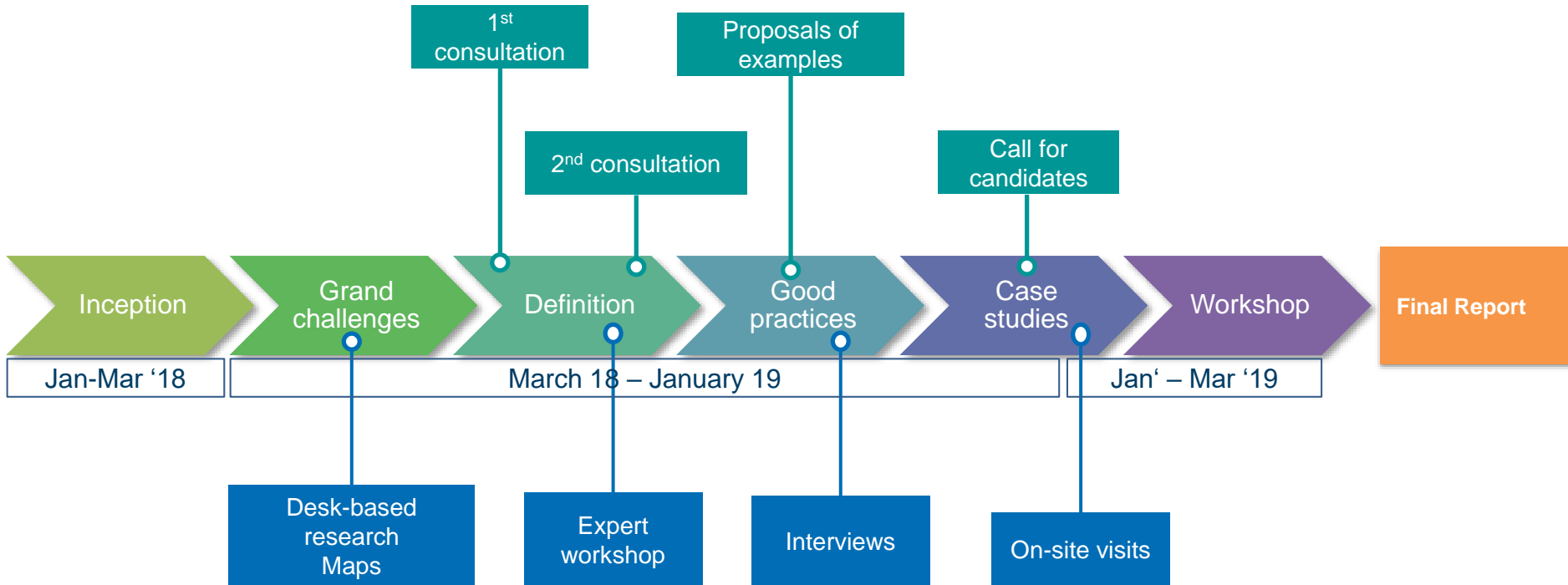
Three specific objectives

- 1 To **map the current challenges and potential** to boost development in EU rural areas
- 2 To **develop a definition** of Smart Villages
- 3 To **identify practical solutions** to overcome challenges and to improve the situation in villages

Approach



Overview



The Pilot Project in numbers



2 on-line consultations



30 interviews



10 workshops in **7** countries



19 villages in **13** countries



What is our Smart Village definition?

What is our Smart Village definition?



are **communities in rural areas** that use innovative solutions to improve their resilience, building on local strengths & opportunities.

They rely on a **participatory approach** to develop and implement their strategy to improve their economic, social and/or environmental conditions, in particular by mobilising solutions offered by **digital technologies**.

What is our Smart Village definition?



benefit from cooperation and alliances with other communities and actors in rural and urban areas.

The initiation and the implementation of **Smart Village strategies** may build on existing initiatives and can be funded by a variety of public and private sources.

Key concepts



A **participatory approach** means an active participation of the local community in the drawing-up and decision-making regarding the Smart Village strategy.

During the implementation phase, the participatory approach will ensure that the needs for capacity building and for training of people are properly addressed.

Key concepts



Digital technologies include, for example, information and communication technologies, the exploitation of big data or innovations related to the use of the Internet of Things (IoT). They act as a lever that enables Smart Villages to become more agile, make better use of their resources and improve the attractiveness of rural areas and the quality of life of rural residents.

The use of digital technologies is not a precondition for becoming a Smart Village. Where possible, high-speed broadband will facilitate the deployment of the digital solutions.



The definition is very broad...

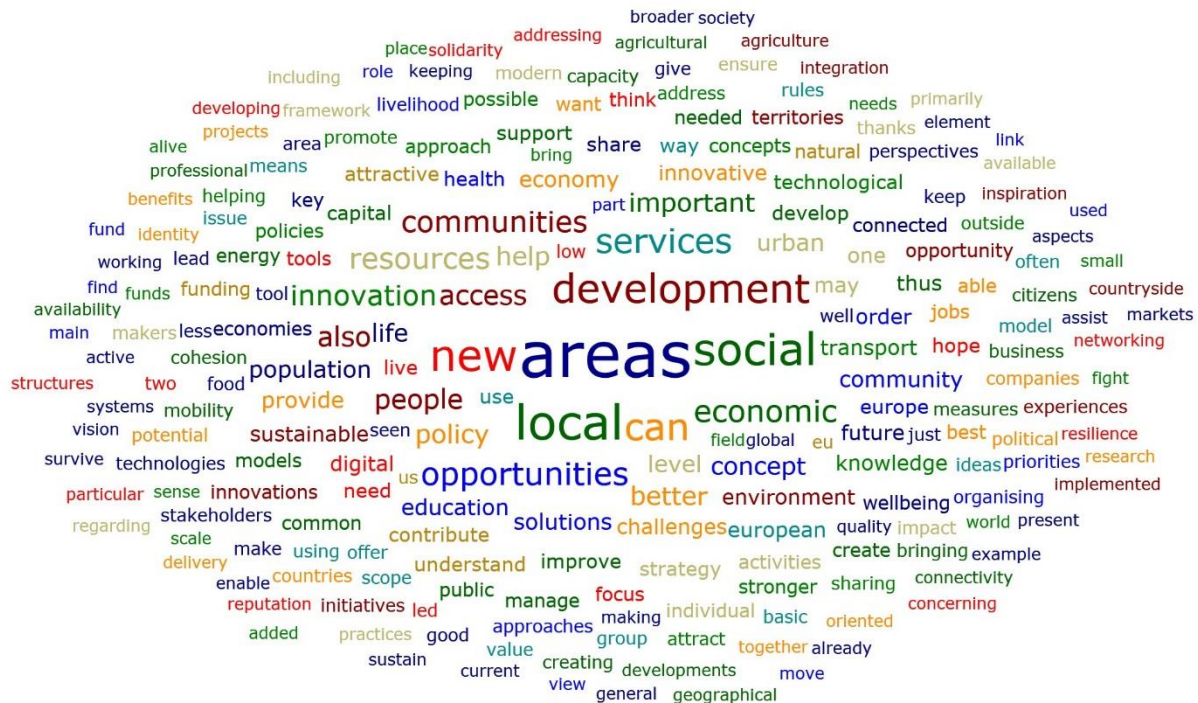
...because it is inclusive



...because the challenges and needs of rural areas are diverse



Smart Village diversity

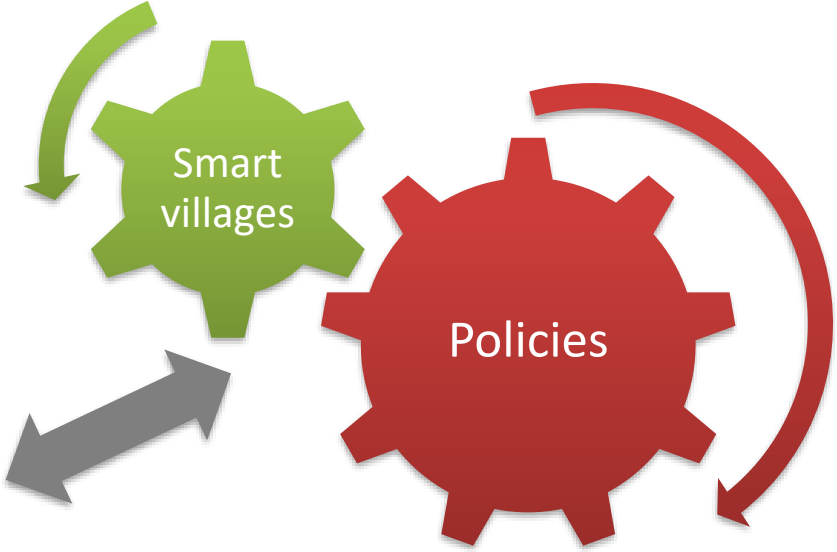
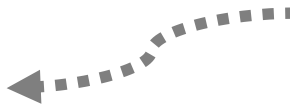


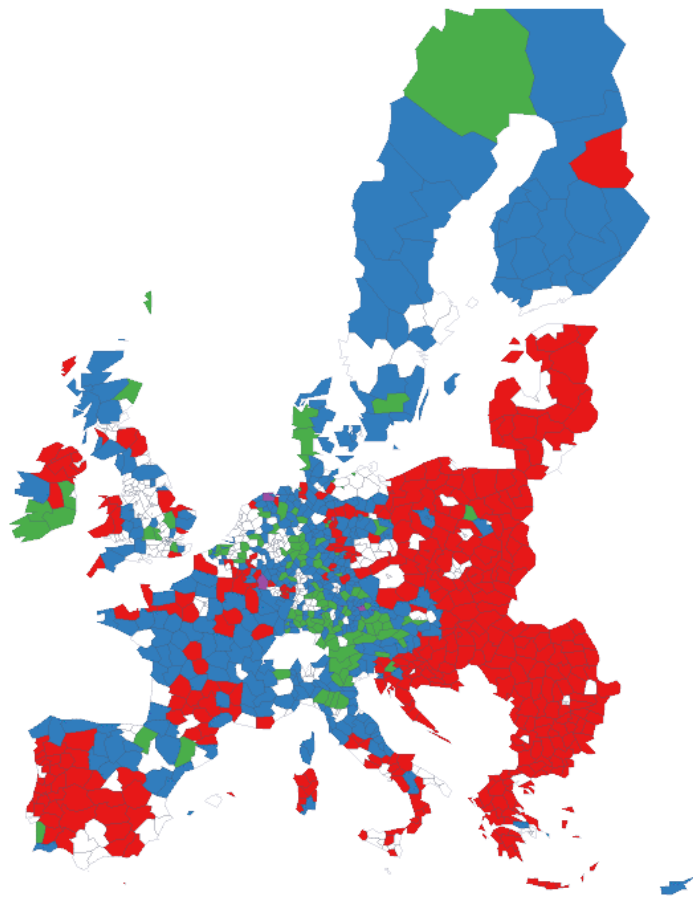
Current pressures



Development opportunities

Rural development approaches





- Traditional agricultural regions
- Connected agricultural regions
- Rich and connected regions
- Richest and very connected



**...and because it should take
into account the wider policy
context**

CAP after 2020

**EU
level**

**Objectives of the CAP
Broad types of interventions
Basic requirements**

**Member
States**

**Tailor CAP interventions to their specific needs
Set eligibility and support requirements**

Digitisation is not a pre-condition



Key concepts



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Will there be EU funding for Smart Villages?

Will there be EU funding for Smart Villages?



In their CAP strategic plans, Member States can design interventions that will support their ambitions regarding Smart Villages

Other sources of funding can also be used: Cohesion Policy, other public funds (EU, national and local), private sources, etc.

Workshop agenda

21 February

1. Innovative solutions in Smart Villages.
2. Which solutions are offered by digital technologies?

22 February

3. How to develop a Smart Village strategy?
4. How to finance Smart Villages?

Workshop agenda

21 February

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2. Which solutions are offered by digital technologies?

Smart villages are communities in rural areas that use **innovative solutions** to improve their resilience, building on local strengths and opportunities.

Workshop agenda

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Workshop agenda

22 February

3. How to develop a Smart Village strategy?

4. How to finance Smart Villages?

Smart villages benefit from **cooperation and alliances** with other communities and actors in rural and urban areas.

The initiation and the implementation of **Smart Village strategies** may build on existing initiatives and...

Workshop agenda

22 February

3. How to develop a Smart Village strategy?

4. How to finance Smart Villages?

The initiation and the implementation of Smart Village strategies may build on existing initiatives and...

can be funded by a variety of **public and private sources.**



Session 1: Innovative solutions for Smart Villages

Panel 1: Innovative services in Smart Villages

An aerial photograph of a fjord valley in Norway. A large, dark blue fjord winds through the landscape, flanked by steep, forested mountains. A town is visible on the right side of the fjord, with buildings and roads. The foreground shows trees with autumn foliage in shades of yellow and orange. A semi-transparent white box with rounded corners is overlaid on the bottom center of the image, containing text.

Lars Hustveit
Coordinator Economic Development

Sogn og Fjordane
County Municipality (Norway)

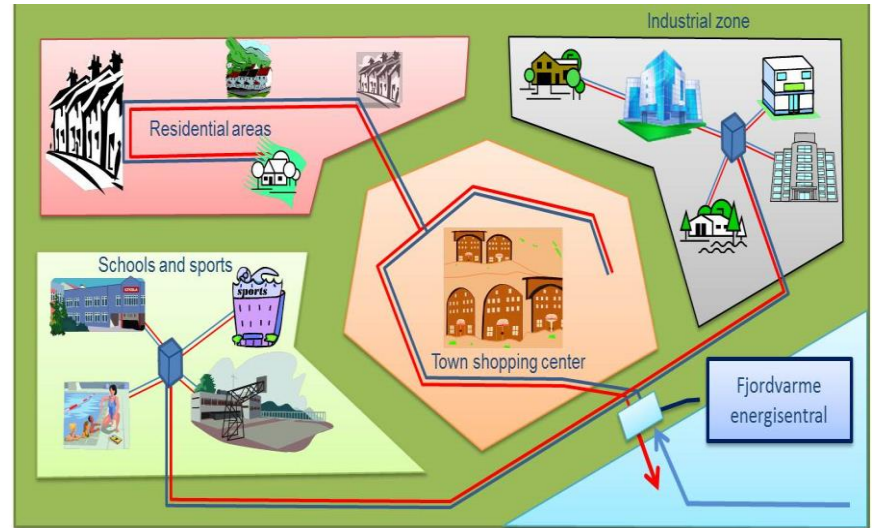
Villages can develop a wide range of creative solutions...

depending on their local context and needs

Smart organisation to reach critical mass

Case Nordfjordeid:

- The municipality is the coordinator
- Local enthusiasm & top expertise
- Proven to be an economic success
- Use thermic energy from the fjord for heating and cooling
- Renewable energy that is easily accessible
- **To be competitive:** many actors must decide to go for it at the same time



The Nordfjordeid example illustrates:

- Organisation is necessary to have critical mass in rural areas
 - Villages enhances efficiency by coordinating services
 - Combine bottom-up with expertise from outside
 - The public sector is relatively more important in rural areas
- and...

**Renewable energy as good topics for
smart eco-social villages**

Integrating services enhances efficiency

Ville d'Anaunia



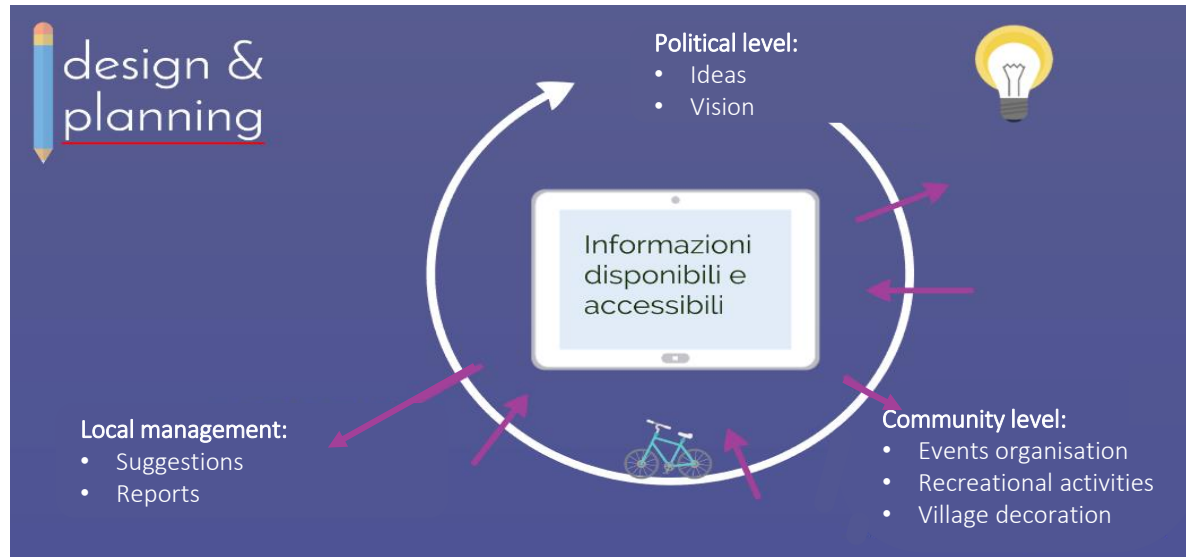
- 8 villages
- 3 former municipalities
- 4 900 inhabitants

Ville d'Anaunia (Italy)



Open governance instruments

- Innovative solutions are applied to ensure the provision of public services
- The services provided range from community events to management of local public spaces
- Information from the local administration are made available & accessible



Example n. 1 - Spazi Comuni



- **Question 1:** I want to have a meeting/party. Which rooms are available? Where can I reserve them?
- **Question 2:** I need dishes and decorations for the meeting/party. Is there a local association that can lend them to me? Which one?
- **Answer: Spazi Comuni!**

Gli spazi pubblici del comune

A disposizione dei cittadini

Data Dalle ore Alle ore Destinazione d'uso

Sala polifunzionale a Portolo

Vai al calendario

Sala polifunzionale adatta sia per convegni, concerti ecc che ad uso sportivo (ballo, corsi vari).

Dotata di ampio terrazzo coperto.

☎ 0463461191 int. 3
✉ danila.pellegrini@comune.villedarussica.it

Example n. 2 - GestiAmo



- **Question 1:** What is the mayor planning to make the square for the children safe?
- **Question 2:** The mayor said he would renovate a public building: where are we today?
- **Question 3:** What is the administration doing for tourism?

- **Answer: GestiAmo!**

Ricerca libera

Aggiornamento di Martedì, 20 Novembre 2018

In fase di installazione di due tabelle segnaletiche, una alla stazione Trento male e una a Sanzenone. In primavera saranno installati i segnali sul sentiero.

75%

Valorizzazione dell'area della Forra, in accordo con il C

Aggiornamento di Giovedì, 11 Ottobre 2018

Aggiornamento di Martedì, 20 Novembre 2018

- Responsabile politico: [Menapace Romina](#)
- Referente: [Menghini Susan](#)
- Costo: 40.000,00

Fintry - Scotland (UK)



FINTRY
DEVELOPMENT
TRUST



Sustainability

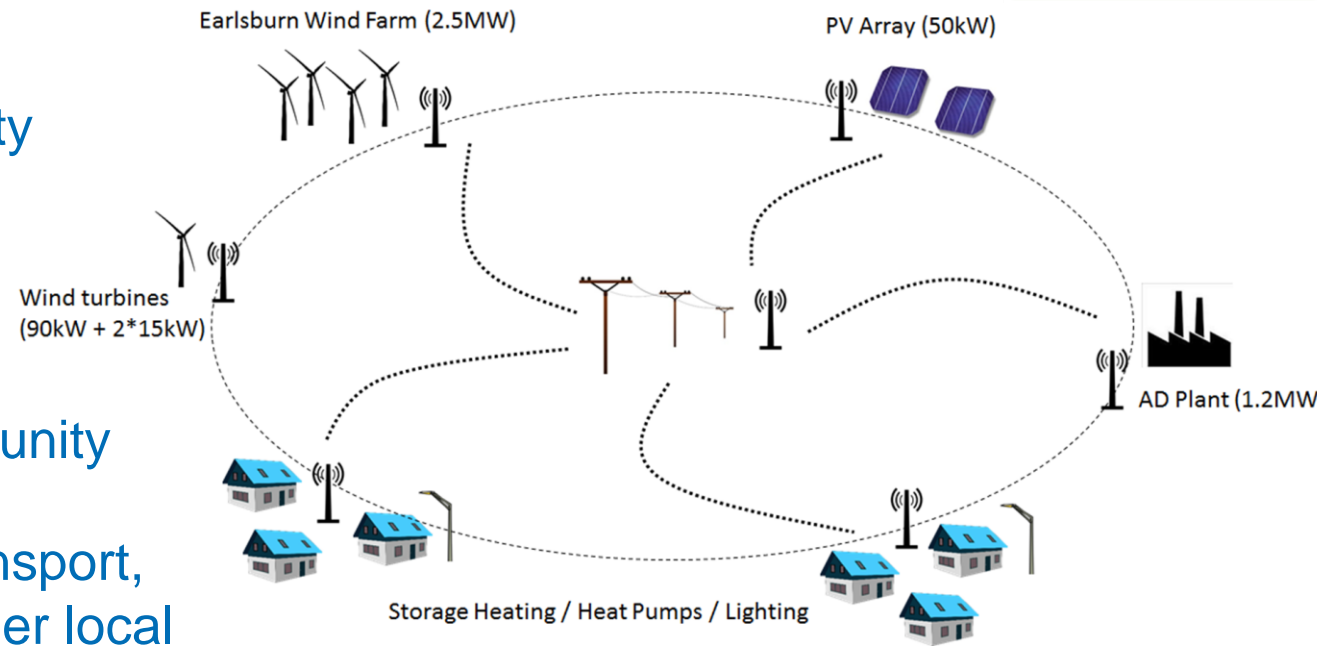
- In 2007, Fintry became the **first community** in the UK to enter into partnership agreement with a windfarm developer (Falck Renewables).
- The aim of FDT is to **enhance the sustainability of this rural community** through climate change mitigation and the alleviation of fuel poverty.
- FDT provides an **ongoing energy advice** service to local homes and businesses.

Community energy projects

- Low carbon district heating
- Community centre with biomass, solar photovoltaics, electric vehicle charging, LED lighting and sustainable insulation
- Primary school – solar photovoltaics and an outdoor classroom
- SMART Fintry



- Virtual smart grid project matching local supply & demand in the community
- Trading local electricity
- Using digital tools & communications to bring innovation services to our community
- Linking with heat, transport, street lighting and other local services



Challenges

- Higher cost of fuels
- Poorer communications
- Decline in business opportunities
- Declining population
- Poorer public transport links
- Weaker electricity grid infrastructure

Solutions

- Community empowerment & capacity
- Low carbon and sustainable local energy solutions
- Innovative ways of working involving public and private stakeholders
- Enhanced access to digital technologies and communications
- Investment

Panel 1: Innovative services in Smart Villages



Coffee break
16.00 - 16.20



Session 1: Innovative solutions for Smart Villages

Panel 2: Role and importance of digital technologies



Sébastien Côte

RURALITIC

**Some rural areas are more advanced than others
in use of digital tools**

Digitisation is a **tool**, but not a goal in itself

**Awareness raising and training should accompany the
introduction of **new technologies****

ESPACES DE CONVIVIALITÉ

COWORKING & PÉPINIÈRE

SERVICES PUBLICS CULTURELS
ET MULTIMÉDIAS

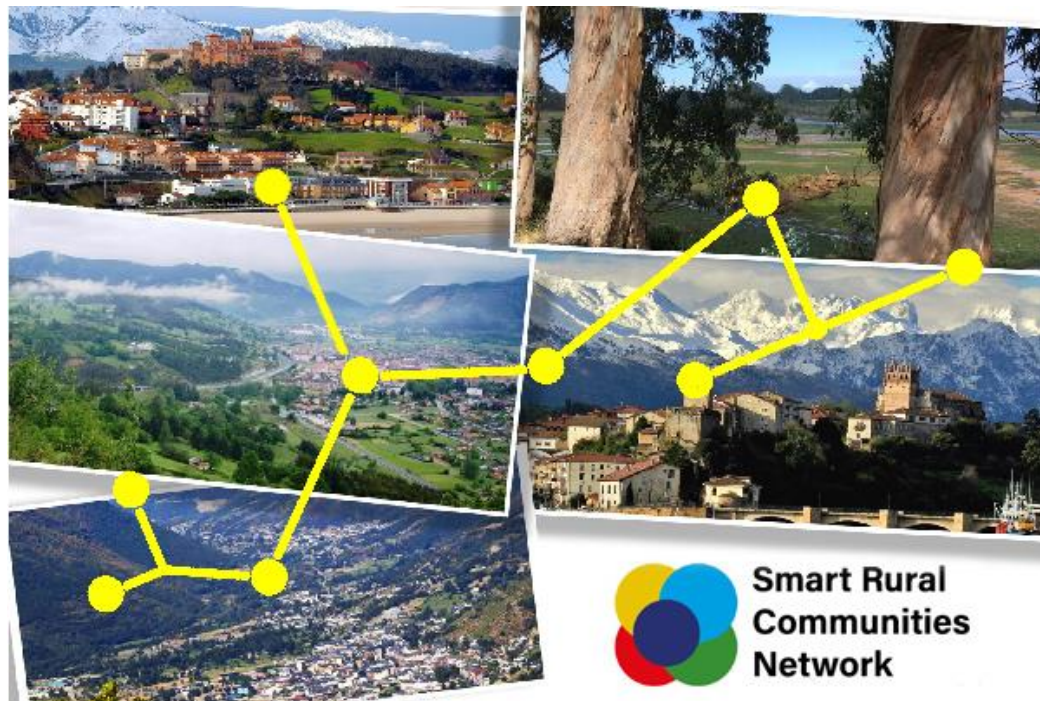
GRANDE SALLE
GRADINS/PARQUET

TRÈS HAUT DÉBIT

SALLES
D'ACTIVITÉS



Los Corrales de Buelna (Spain)



Basic information

- **Population:** 10 912 (2017)
- **Surface:** 45.38 km²
- Mixed **industrial and livestock economy**, both in crisis.
- Strong **aging of the population**



Progressive **population loss**

Smart Villages are already benefiting from digital tools



Technology to change our **development model**, based on our needs and opportunities



Technology to ensure environmental, economic and social **sustainability**



Technology to ensure **connectivity**

The Smart Management Network as a new public communications infrastructure



A single open and **multifunctional network** to manage municipal infrastructures and offer new services to citizens.



Reducing communication **costs** and facilitating the maintenance of the network.



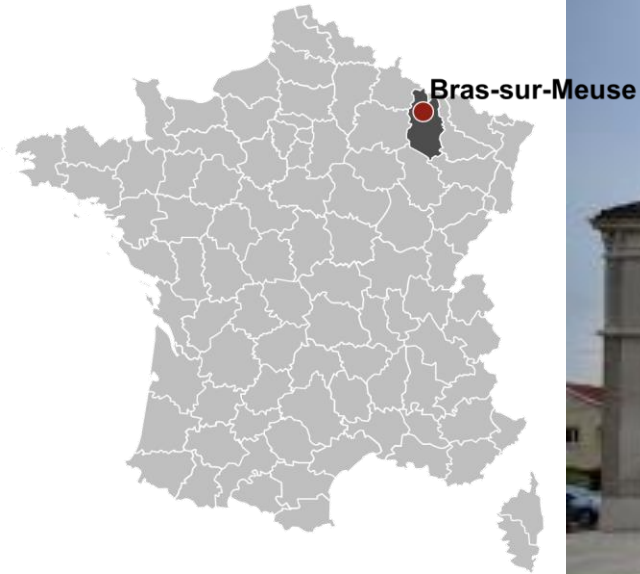
Facilitates the use of the network by local companies to offer **innovative services to citizens.**

Digitization is a tool not a goal

- Connectivity is a **key factor of development**
- New technologies must be accompanied by **training and awareness campaigns**



Bras-sur-Meuse (France)



Digital implementation

- Digital management of the commune
- Education and raise awareness on digital tools
- Economy and attractiveness - co-working space & fab lab
- Homecare services for elderly



Digital implementation

- Development opportunity for rural areas
- Access to services
- Implementation and improvement of civic participation
- Education and social cohesion

=> audacity and political willingness



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Session 2: Smart Villages strategies

Panel 3: How to develop a Smart Village strategy

Smart Land

da **Smart City** → a
la città che agisce
attivamente per
migliorare la qualità
della vita dei propri
cittadini

Smart Land
(come costruire) un
territorio sostenibile,
intelligente, inclusivo



Dominique Barjolle

Forum Origin, Diversity and Territories

Co-President

<http://polo-poschiavo.ch/bio-distretto-e-smart-valley-100-bio/>

Establishing strong leadership and adequate capacity
is the **first step**

An **active and engaged** local community is crucial
for success

Strategies should aim for

simplicity

Governance /
Participation of the
local community

Tourism

Co-working

Smart Farming

Food delivery /
Short chains

Distance learning

New markets /
New niche
productions

e-mobility /
Car sharing

e-health /
Telemedicine

Energy savings /
Renewable energy
production

Logistics and
distribution

Housing and
construction

Links with the **research community** can go a long way
in helping to make a success story out of

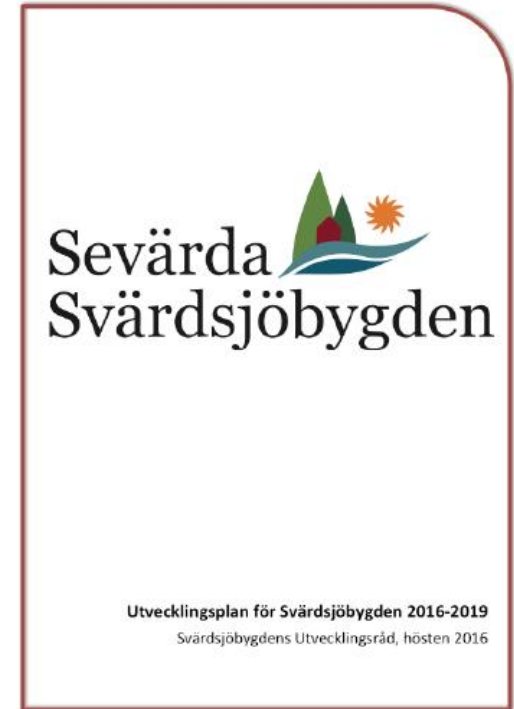
Smart Village strategies

Svärdsjö (Sweden)



Structure and continuity

- **VISION**
*Svärdsjöbygden – a place of opportunities
where young and old choose to live and work*
- **COOPERATE**
with municipality, companies and associations
- **LISTEN**
 - Surveys
 - Activity plans



Have fun and reach goals together (1/2)

- **Creation of a walking path**
 - cooperation with the municipality
 - voluntary work

- **Celebrate**
 - village festival
 - best Epa of the year



Have fun and reach goals together (2/2)

New gas station in Svärdsjö

- Financed by windmills, alternative banking, sponsors, municipality, state
- Owned by the village
- Every liter gasoline gives money for local development



Leadership

- Local leadership
- Professional skills
- Learning from others



Killorglin, Co Kerry (Ireland)



Killorglin - old and new

- Population of 2,199
- Located on River Laune – area of natural beauty
- Active, creative and resilient community
- Strong local economy – Fintech, Pharma, SMEs
- 2.2 jobs per resident worker
- CHALLENGE
Transport and Social infrastructure has not kept pace with economic and social development



Collaborative approach

Based on:

- A shared understanding of challenges facing Killorglin.
- Good relationships between community and agencies.
- Agreement re need for socio economic plan.
- Resources provided to support plan development.
- A local contribution – resources and expertise.



Kerry County Council



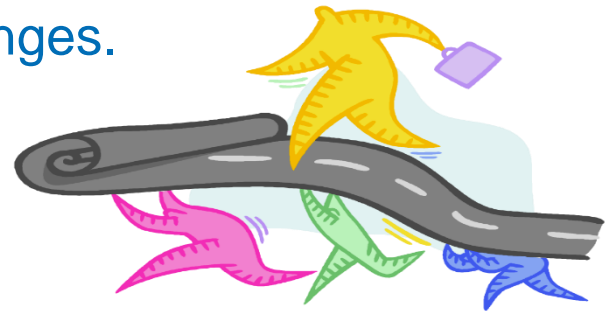
Community Engagement

Elements

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Community –Led | ✓ Killorglin Chamber Alliance – volunteers |
| Capacity Building | ✓ Preparatory work– skills, attitude |
| Local Champions | ✓ Leadership and Technical Support roles |
| Community Buy in | ✓ Building consensus. |
| Independent Facilitator | ✓ Expertise, Direction, Facilitator of conversations |
| Innovative Methodology | ✓ Smart engagement using social media |
| Implementation Structure | ✓ Group restructuring around plan delivery |

Key Messages

- A **collaborative approach** led by the Community and involving Business, Local Government and Agencies is a good model and needs resourcing.
- **Community Engagement** is critical. Supports are required to assist animation, engagement and capacity building.
- An effective **Community Planning** process identifies new ideas in addition to smart solutions to existing challenges.



Go raibh maith agat!



Panel 3: How to develop a Smart Village strategy



Coffee break
10.00 - 10.30



Session 2: Smart Villages strategies

Panel 4: How to finance Smart Villages



Peter Midmore

Professor of Economics
Aberystwyth Business School



Support should be **adapted** to the scale and level
of development

**The administrative setup should be
and streamlined**

simplified

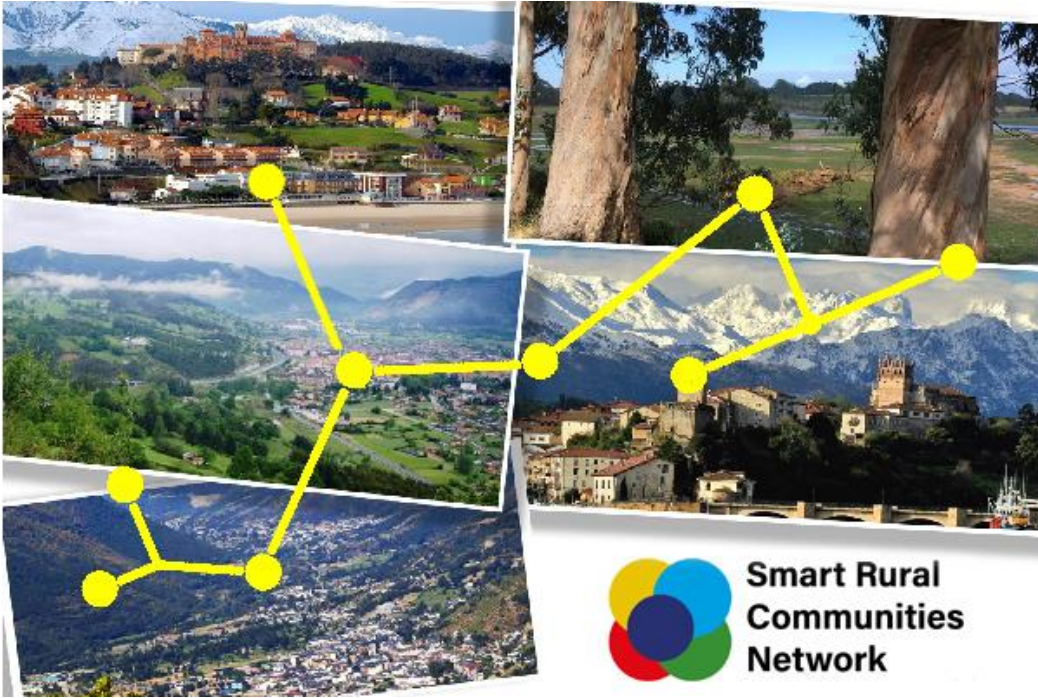
A network of **Smart Village advisors** **could help**
relatively disadvantaged areas

Opportunities and Challenges

A classic 'public good' problem, made more acute in thinly populated rural areas

- The **opportunity** is to reorient rural development policy in a way which gives high impact from low expenditure
- The **challenge** is not to revert to type, in the design of funding schemes

Comillas (Spain)



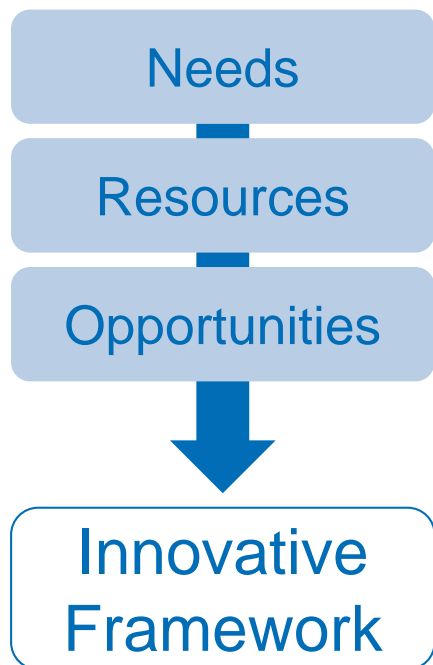
Basic information

- **Population:** 2 195 (2017)
- **Surface:** 18.5 km²
- **Tourism-based economy** with important cultural heritage and natural assets.
- Strong **aging of the population**



Progressive **population loss**

iComillas Smart Territory roadmap



1. Plan for the Smart Development of the Territory:

- Extent (needs, assets, opportunities).
- Stages (connectivity first: the Smart Management Network).
- Business model to ensure economical sustainability (savings to fund new services).

2. The nightmare of finding funding

3. Cooperation between municipalities: The Smart Rural Communities Network

Connectivity First: The Smart Management Network (SMNet)



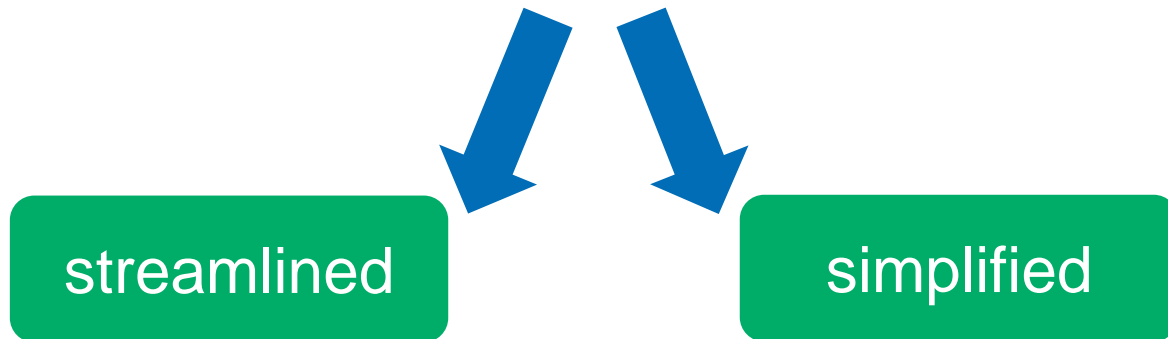
1. The opportunity of the public lighting renewal
2. The nightmare of finding funding

public grants on energy efficiency

3. Business Model

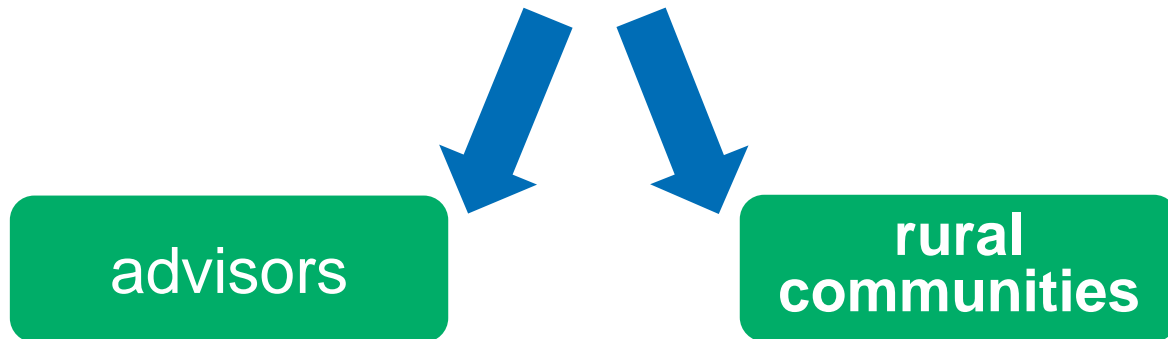
Energy savings and SMNet incomes to fund new smart services

The administrative setup



- To reduce administrative complexity to the minimum
- Creation of a streamlined “one-stop-shop” solution to eliminate the need to deal with multiple layers and instruments

A network of *smart*



- To help to design smart projects and unlock opportunities
- To share advisory services to implement smart development strategies
- To foster the exchange of experiences and best practices, and communities cooperation

Thank you!



Alsómocsolád (Hungary)



SMART REGION
Észak-Hegyháti Mikrotérségi Unió



The community has come together to reverse the negative trend

- Development of community services
- Tourist attractions, services and accommodation
- Innovative elderly care
- "Future Weaving Workshop" - Settlement support
- Regional cooperation and development of human capacity
- Creation of a smart village/area to improve the quality of life



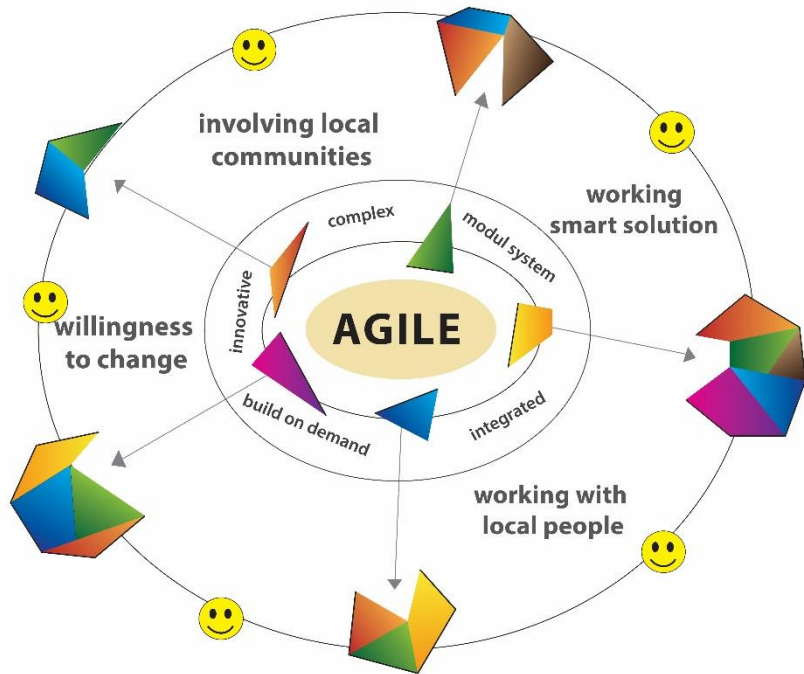
An integrated task...

- The smart village is based on the **local needs and goals** of the population
- **Access to information & knowledge** is needed to design smart solutions
- Smart developments affect **local human resources** and also have infrastructure components
- Due to the **rapid development of technology**, it is necessary to implement improvements fast

Our suggestions

- Simple, easy-to-access support, **tailored to the** size of the settlement and its level of development.
- A **one-stop-shop solution** for integrated development based on EU-level regulations.
- Creating a **“Smart Space” advisory network** to provide information and knowledge needed for planning.
- Creating a complex development programme based on **agile project management** methodology.

Adequate technology solutions through an agile methodology



- Builds on stakeholder engagement, not predefined processes
- Creates smart solutions instead of detailed documentation
- Development is driven by continuously assessed stakeholder needs rather than a previously prepared roadmap
- Prepares the community for the changes



SMART REGION
Észak-Hegyháti Mikrotársasági Unió



Thank you for your attention!

Alsómocsolád is waiting for you!

www.alsomocsolad.hu

Panel 4: How to finance Smart Villages



Conclusions

