



The existing rural development measures and ideas for future framework for supporting Smart Villages in Poland

ENRD Thematic Group on Smart Villages: Webinar

How to design the future support framework in the CAP Strategic Plans and Operational Programmes

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Current programming period (2014-2020) – support for rural areas

LEADER:

Support for:

- strengthening social capital by raising the knowledge of the local community in the field of environmental protection and climate change, also using innovative solutions
- entrepreneurship development in a rural area covered by the CLLD strategy
- supporting cooperation between entities conducting business activity in a rural area covered by LDS:
 - within short supply chains, tourist services and agriculture services, developing markets for local products or services
- preservation of local heritage
- construction or reconstruction of available for public and non-commercial tourist, recreational or cultural infrastructure
- construction or reconstruction of public roads
- promoting the LDS area, including local products or services



LEADER coverage 2014-2020

323 LAGs all together in Poland

292 LAGs with EAFRD:

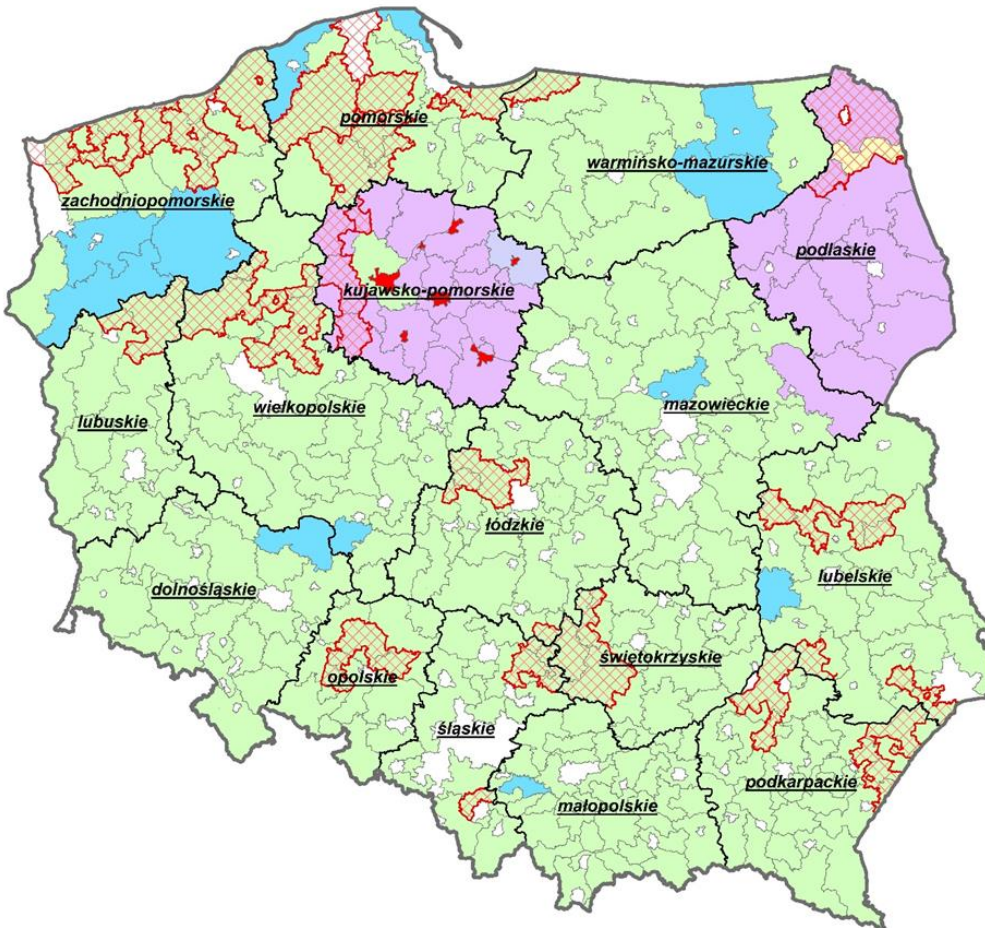
249 EAFRD only

13 EAFRD and EMFF

29 EAFRD & ERDF & ESF

1 EAFRD & ERDF & ESF & EFMR

1,25 - 4 mln EURO for EAFRD LAGs





Current programming period (2014-2020) – support for rural areas

- **Investments in facilities with cultural functions**
- **Public space development**
- **Protection of monuments and traditional buildings**

Support for:

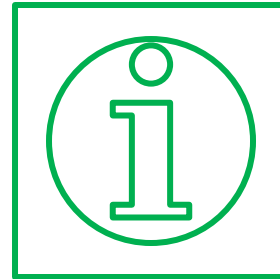
- construction, reconstruction or equipment of buildings performing cultural functions, including common rooms and community centers;
- Public space development – parks, village centers
- renovating or improving the condition of historic buildings intended to preserve cultural heritage, or purchasing buildings characteristic of the construction tradition in a given region for public purposes.
- **639 operations for 97 mln euro so far**

European Partnership for Innovation

- The subject of the operation may be innovative products or technologies, or methods of organization or marketing methods related to the production, processing or marketing of products listed in Annex 1 to the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU
- The ability to support the creation or development of short supply chains or local markets.
- **31 EPI Groups (+ 154 aid application from March 2020 call for applications)**
- **Up to 1,3 mln euro/group (0,59 mln euro/group in average so far)**



Smart Villages



Nothing has been decided yet.

The ideas presented in this presentation have been developed at the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and initially consulted with some partners
We are open to criticism and suggestions.



SV intervention – main assumptions

- **It is climate and environmental intervention with digital requirement**
- **Innovation according to local conditions, not as advanced research (e.g. under Horizon 2020)**
- **Smart Villages concept in micro scale, support of grassroots initiatives and commitment of the village council**
- **Intervention with the budget for the preparation and implementation of the concept but it is also possible to finance the implementation from other interventions or funds**
- **SV concepts can be integrated into LDS but are not part of LEADER intervention**
- **Due to the limited budget of CAP Plan: rather small-scale investments (comparable to LEADER or even smaller), although under the concept itself it is possible to design larger-scale investments (wind farms, biogas plants) - funds for the implementation of such projects will probably need to be sought outside of intervention measures SV or even CAP Plan**



Smart Villages in Poland

Intervention: Smart Villages

Dedicated intervention for Smart Villages and it's separated from LEADER or EPI interventions.



Preparatory support
for the Smart Village
concept

Support for
implementation
of the Smart Village
concept

Due to limited finance sources for this intervention (we still don't know the amount) there will be a possibility to implement SV concept under the SV intervention (rather small scale projects) and with other sources (other interventions from CAP Plan, different funds or other public or private sources – rather bigger scale projects).



Type of operation and territorial coverage

Type of intervention (divided into two stages)

1st stage: Preparatory support for the Smart Village concept:

- Cooperation (art. 71)

To improve access to knowledge and encourage innovation we are going to use **innovation brokers, LAGs and NRN structures**

2nd stage: Support for implementation of the Smart Village concept

- Investments (art. 68)

Territorial coverage:

Rural area - the area of the entire country, excluding cities with a population exceeding 20,000 (rural areas definition in LEADER)

The concept of Smart Village will be implemented in one or more towns

It is dedicated for a small subdivision of municipality, so it is even smaller scale than LEADER.



Beneficiary

Preparatory support for the Smart Village concept:

- a natural person
- a legal person, including non-governmental organizations (e.g. LAGs)

Support for the implementation of the Smart Village concept:

- a natural person, including a natural person who conducts business activities
- a legal person, including non-governmental organizations (e.g. LAGs) and local government units (e.g. municipalities)

Preparation of the Smart Village concept and the implementation of operations under the Smart Village concept are implemented through a partnership of **at least two entities**, of which one of them is a beneficiary.



Identified needs

- Improving the living and working conditions of rural residents
- Development of entrepreneurship in rural areas by creating jobs in rural areas
- Inclusion of people from disadvantaged or excluded groups in rural areas
- **Stimulating the economic development and innovation of localities in rural areas using the social, economic, cultural and environmental-landscape potential as well as digital tools**
- Bioeconomy development based on non-food applications of (waste) agricultural biomass
- Limiting air pollution and improving air quality



The purpose of intervention

- ensuring availability of a wide catalogue of services using digital tools
- creating infrastructure that has a positive impact on the environment and climate
- increasing the production capacity of energy and from renewable sources (including biomass)
- preventing depopulation and the aging of the population



Selection criteria

preparatory support	implementation
the quality of the Smart Village concept preparation process: taking into account the participatory nature, with local community participation and the role of the head of the village leader in this process	the quality of the Smart Village concept, in particular using the agricultural and bioeconomy potential
number of partners	performing activities appropriate to the subject of the operation and resources appropriate to the subject of the operation
organizational potential and experience	solutions ensuring reduction of costs of functioning of public space
marginalized areas	solutions ensuring the use of local resources
	marginalized areas

There will be a possibility to finance initiatives from SV concept from other interventions, with SV promoting selection criteria. LDS might have special criteria or even dedicated call for SV operations



Form of aid and financing level

Preparatory support for the Smart Village concept:

- Lump sums

Support for the implementation of the Smart Village concept:

- Reimbursement of eligible costs but advanced payments assured
 - Maybe lump sum for non-infrastructure projects?

Financing level:

- 75% (entrepreneurs)
- 100% (other entities)
- For lump sums not specified.



Elements of the SV concept

The effect of the preparatory support is to create a Smart Village concept for a given town or towns, which should contain at least the following elements:

- a description of the operations to be carried out under this concept, including a description of the needs that these operations will meet, what area and people those operations will affect,
- participatory character with the inhabitants (including the community in its preparation),
- conducting consultations with the community of a given village, presenting a plan to involve the community in the preparation of the Smart Village concept, with particular emphasis on the role of the village leader in this process
- Simplified SWOT analysis (about 1 page document),
- a list of initiatives based on Smart Village concept with description of social effect,
- **digital / environmental / climate** components.



Main issues to discuss/share

- Obligatory digital/environment/climate component – 30% ring-fencing
- Quality assessment of SV concepts (expert panels?)
- Regionalisation of implementation
- Fair and balanced partnerships (avoiding public entities domination)
- Overlapping with other support – looking for added value of SV
- Limited budget
- Lack of local leaders to animate the cooperation
- Links with LEADER and LAGs
- Keeping the SV concept simple but comprehensive



Thank you

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