

ENRD Thematic Group on Smart Villages

Policy instruments supporting Smart Villages

Agenda

5 December 2018

Rue de la Loi, 38, 2nd Floor, Brussels, Belgium

The last [meeting](#) of the Thematic Group (TG) brought together around 40 stakeholders from 16 different countries and a wide range of organisations to exchange ideas on how to design Smart Village strategies to effectively empower rural communities in different national contexts. The meeting concluded that becoming a smart village was something to aspire to rather than being a measure or a method. Digitisation was seen as a key tool, but not the only one. Participants argued that policies should be inclusive and flexible to deal with very different contexts and that care should be taken to avoid additional layers of strategies and structures.

Objective

The aim of this meeting is to exchange ideas about how **EU policy instruments can support Smart Villages**, with a particular focus on LEADER, cooperation and the future digital strategies.



Timing 	Preliminary Agenda Items  (exact timing and content to be confirmed)
09.00 – 09.30	Registration for TG meeting participants
09.30 – 09.45	Welcome to TG participants and agenda for the day
09.45 – 10.15	Overview of policy instruments supporting Smart Villages - <i>Stefan Ostergard & Karolina Jasinska (DG AGRI)</i>
10.15 – 10.45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10.45 – 12.00	LEADER CLLD and Smart Villages <i>How can LEADER / CLLD support smart villages?</i> - <i>Gabriel O’Connell (Monaghan LAG, Ireland)</i> - <i>Eamon O’Hara (ECOLISE)</i> <i>Group discussion</i>
12.00 -13.00	<i>Lunch break</i>
13.00 – 14.15	Cooperation and Smart Villages <i>How can the Cooperation instruments support smart village plans?</i> - <i>Alistair Prior (NRN, Scotland - UK)</i> - <i>Mark Redman (Highclere consulting, Romania)</i> <i>Group discussion</i>
14.15 – 14.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
14.30 – 15.45	Digital strategies to support Smart Villages <i>How can the digital strategies instruments support smart village plans?</i> - <i>Louis Mahy (DG AGRI)</i> - <i>Katharine Willis (University of Plymouth, UK)</i> <i>Group discussion</i>
15.45 – 16.00	Concluding remarks & next steps

