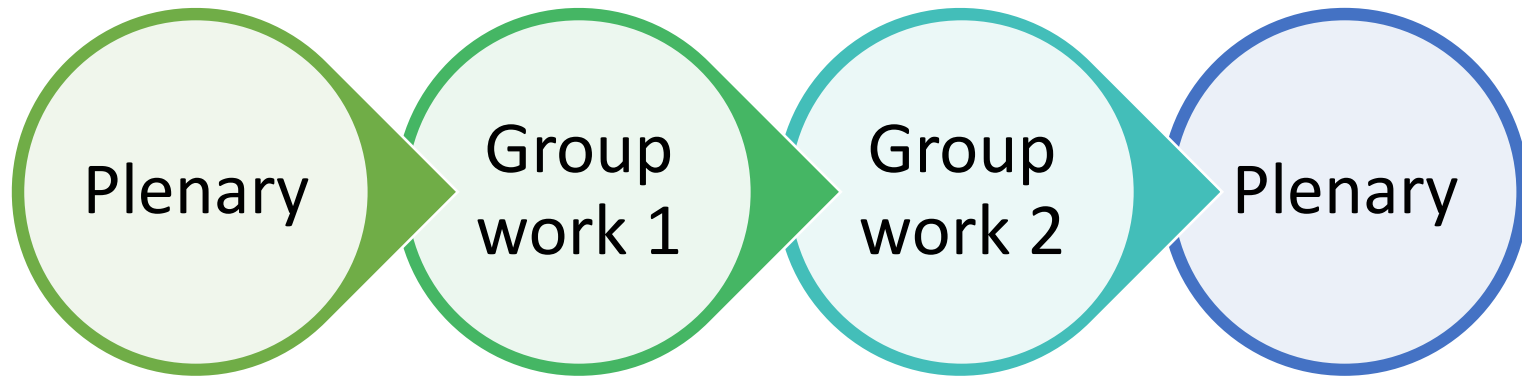# LEADER Thematic Lab on Working with Smart Villages „zooming in"

ENRD LEADER Thematic Lab on Working with Smart Villages

Brussels, 17 October 2019

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- Essentials
- LEADER and Smart Villages
- Your feedback
- In focus today

Agenda

Plenary → Group work 1 → Group work 2 → Plenary

Set the scene, "zooming in"

(9:00-10:30)

Diagnosis – priority issues

(11:00-12:15)

Success factors – adding detail

(13:15-15:00)

Summing up, communication

(15:30-16:30)

European Network for Rural Development

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- LEADER/CLLD principles are essential

- There is no one model...

- Social innovation, technology, communities

- LEADER is one of the instruments (but not the only one!) for supporting smart village initiatives

- LEADER can support preparatory work, animation, strategies, projects

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Smart Villages and LEADER

- „**LEADER** already includes all the **elements** needed to implement the smart villages concept"

- **„More LEADER for more smart villages"** – animation, facilitation, innovation, faster and more flexible funding, broad scope of interventions and adequate resources

- Smart villages are „rural **communities** that refuse to wait for change to happen to them"

- **Broad range** of current initiatives: digital transition, broadband infrastructure, local food ecosystem, bioenergy villages, and others

- „Digital technologies are not a precondition for becoming a smart village"

- Build on existing strengths, traditional and modern **networks**, **innovation**

Your feedback

- What could be the **measurable effects** of developing Smart Villages through LEADER? (Sweden)
- Method of **rating "smart", cooperation with the Managing Authority** (Czech Republic)
- Turning a regular village into a smart one is a **complex process – RDP rules do not allow complex projects with multiple phases** (Czech Republic)
- **Common elements** of LEADER and Smart Villages? (Estonia)
- **NRN role** in supporting LEADER/Smart Villages (Estonia, Finland)
- End-user policies, **scaling up and multiplying** smart villages concept **through LEADER cooperation** (Romania)
- ENRD CLLD/LEADER **orientation paper – further development and practical ideas** (Ireland)
- **Better community planning – technology is only an enabler** (Ireland)
- **Role of LEADER** in supporting smart and sustainable areas post-2020 - the need for smart **planning/partnerships/resourcing** (Ireland)
- What kind of **support activities** from LAGs? What is the **ideal composition of organisations** to support smart villages? (Belgium)

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In focus today

| How can **LEADER** | → | **effectively support** | → | **Smart Village development?** |

Smart Village concept = open, inclusive, flexible, „cannot be defined too rigidly in advance"

In the context of this Thematic Lab

- **Smart Village initiatives = community benefit, bottom-up development, innovation, use of networking, serving the transition from a `regular` to a `smart village` (an initiative or an action plan/roadmap with multiple projects foreseen)**

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