5th Meeting of Thematic Group on 'Smart Villages'

The fifth 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.

The ENRD thematic work on Smart Villages [1] was launched in September 2017 and since then, the momentum and interest in the topic has been growing at all levels.

Various thematic outputs – including a short video [2], editions of the EU Rural Review [3] and EAFRD Projects Brochure [4], an online portal [5], briefings [6], case studies [7], and event highlights [8] – clarify the concept and outline the wide range of initiatives that can form part of it.

Background documents

- Agenda [9]
- Scoping Paper and Work Plan [10] *(working draft)*
- Meeting highlights [11]

Presentations

- Introduction to the meeting [12], Paul Soto, ENRD CP
- State of play for Smart Villages [13], Stefan Jensen, Unit F1 - DG AGRI (European Commission)
- Smart Villages in Finland [14], Marianne Selkäinaho, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland
- Smart Villages in Scotland [15], Bill Slee, SIMRA
- Key components of Smart Village Strategies - Italian contribution [16], Franco Mantino, CREA
- Smart Villages in Austria [17], Julian Gschnell, Federal Ministry of Sustainability and Tourism, Austria
- Smart Villages: a view from Romania [18], Mark Redman (Highclere Consulting) and Nancy Samargiu (Romanian Rural Network)

Dates:
Thursday, 4 October, 2018 - 09:00
Images :

Event type:

- [Thematic Group meeting](#) [19]

Display as Stakeholder Event:
Location:
Brussels,
Belgium

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Links

[1] https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/enrd-thematic-work/smart-and-competitive-rural-areas/smart-villages_en
[2] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ckB71hb0kx0&list=PLocST8_B8egYdcnrG7EmMFZ4R2lW7ahmG
[3] https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/eu-rural-review-26-smart-villages-revitalising-rural-services_en
[4] https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications/eafrd-projects-brochure-digital-and-social-innovation-rural-services_en
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