

Smart Villages: Revitalising rural services through social and digital innovation

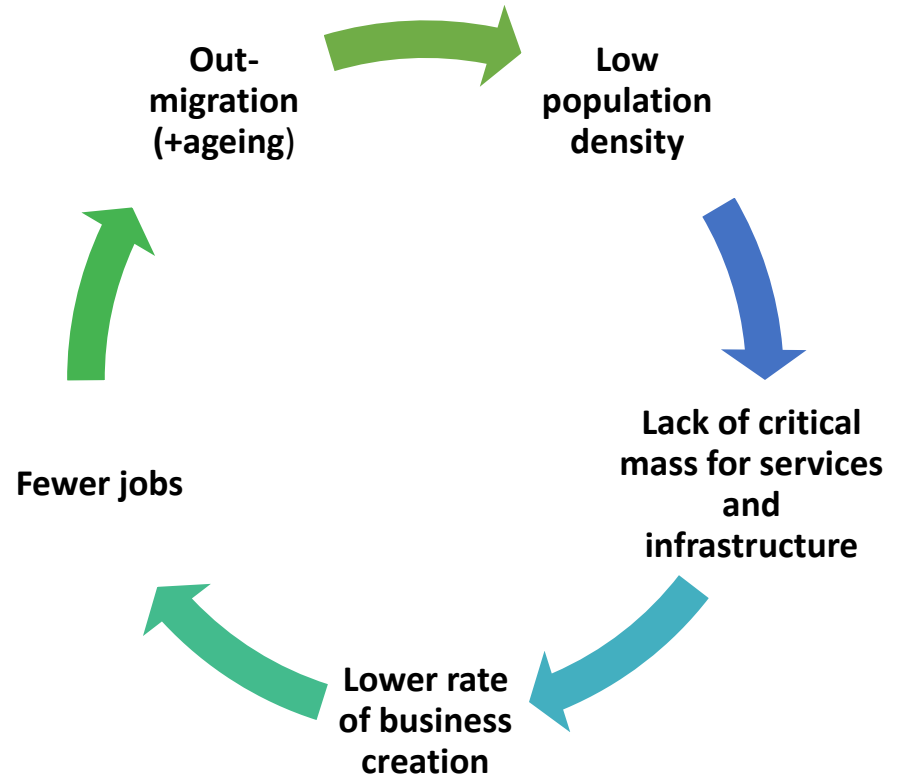
Paul Soto, ENRD Contact Point

Agri Innovation Summit, Oeiras September 2017

Rural areas are locked into a “circle of decline” by two mutually reinforcing trends—

1. a shortage of jobs and sustainable business activity
2. **Inadequate and declining services.**

Context





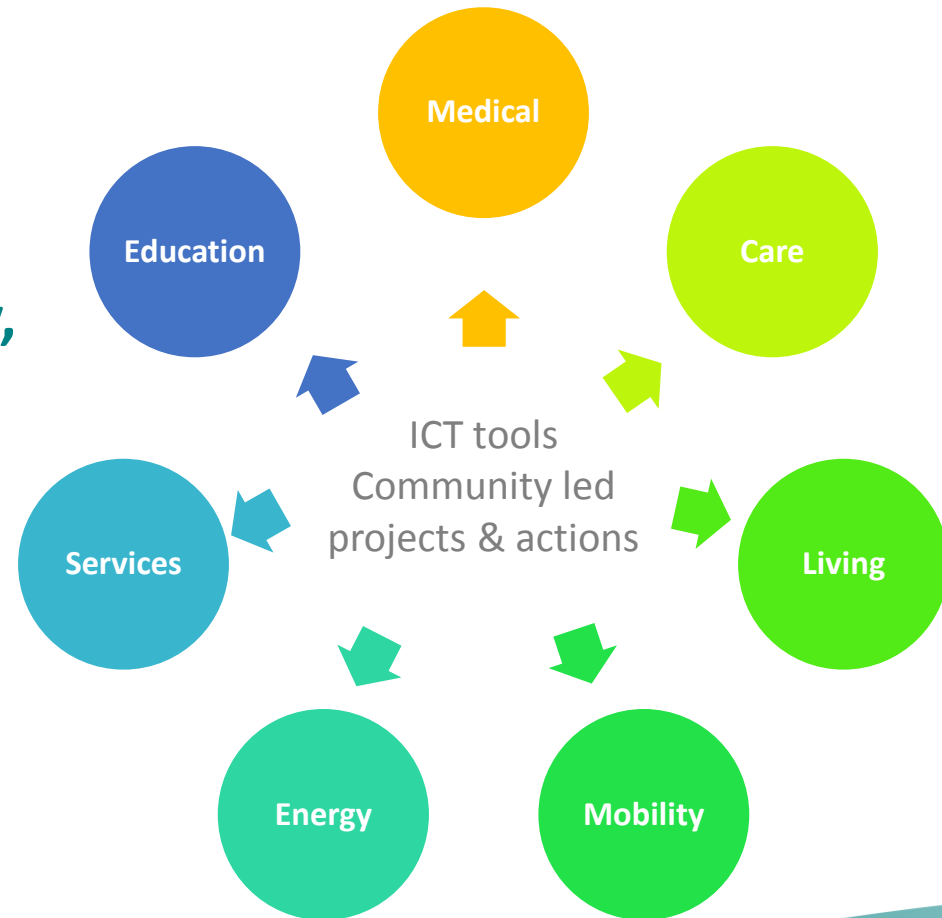
EU Action for Smart Villages

“Rural areas and communities which build on their existing strengths and assets as well as new opportunities to develop added value and where traditional and new networks are enhanced by means of digital communications technologies, innovations and the better use of knowledge for the benefit of inhabitants”.

The WS will explore how rural services in areas such as **health, social services, education, energy, transport, retail and others**, can be improved and made more sustainable through

- a) by supporting **community led actions** and projects and/or
- b) the deployment of **ICT tools**

Scope





European Network for Rural Development

Broadband Fibre in Östra Bräcke



Smart Village of the Future - Project Ruhtinansalmi

easy-to-access mobile medical service



An on-demand rural bus service in rural Wales



Local Computer Courses for young and old



On-line Support for Promotion of Local Businesses



Innovative rural learning facilities tackle youth depopulation



Socially Responsible Wine Tourism



Geoparks bringing together local business through quality parks



Quality of Life through Proximity



Workshop

- **Two examples of national approaches to Smart Villages**
 - Marianne Selkaihaho – Finnish Smart Countryside Initiative
 - Francesco Silvestri. Italian Inner Areas Strategy
- **Recommendations from the COR – Enda Stenson**
- **Group discussion**
- **Conclusions – bringing it together – after the WS**

Group discussion

1. Sharing experiences – how to set up similar initiatives

- critical points



- solutions

2. Policy recommendations

- Practical challenges and needs



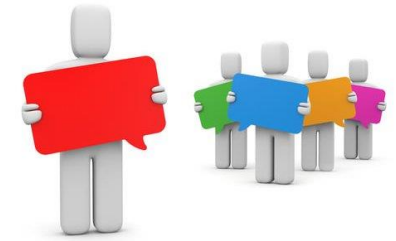
- How to use policies (RDP + others)

3. Conclusions – bringing it together

- 3 challenges/needs



- 3 recommendations



Group Discussion

Choose the Group you want to join:

Sharing experiences – how
to set up similar initiatives

- critical points
- solutions

Policy recommendations



European Network for
Rural Development

How to contact us

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