

MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Smart Policy Concept of the Czech Republic

Community-led Local Development and Smart Villages as Innovative Tools
for Effective Development of Rural Areas



European Committee
of the Regions



RUMRA Rural, Mountainous
& **SMART** and Remote Areas
VILLAGES



ESVF
EUROPEAN SMART
VILLAGES FORUM



Marie ZEZULKOVA, 28.10.2022, Lednice

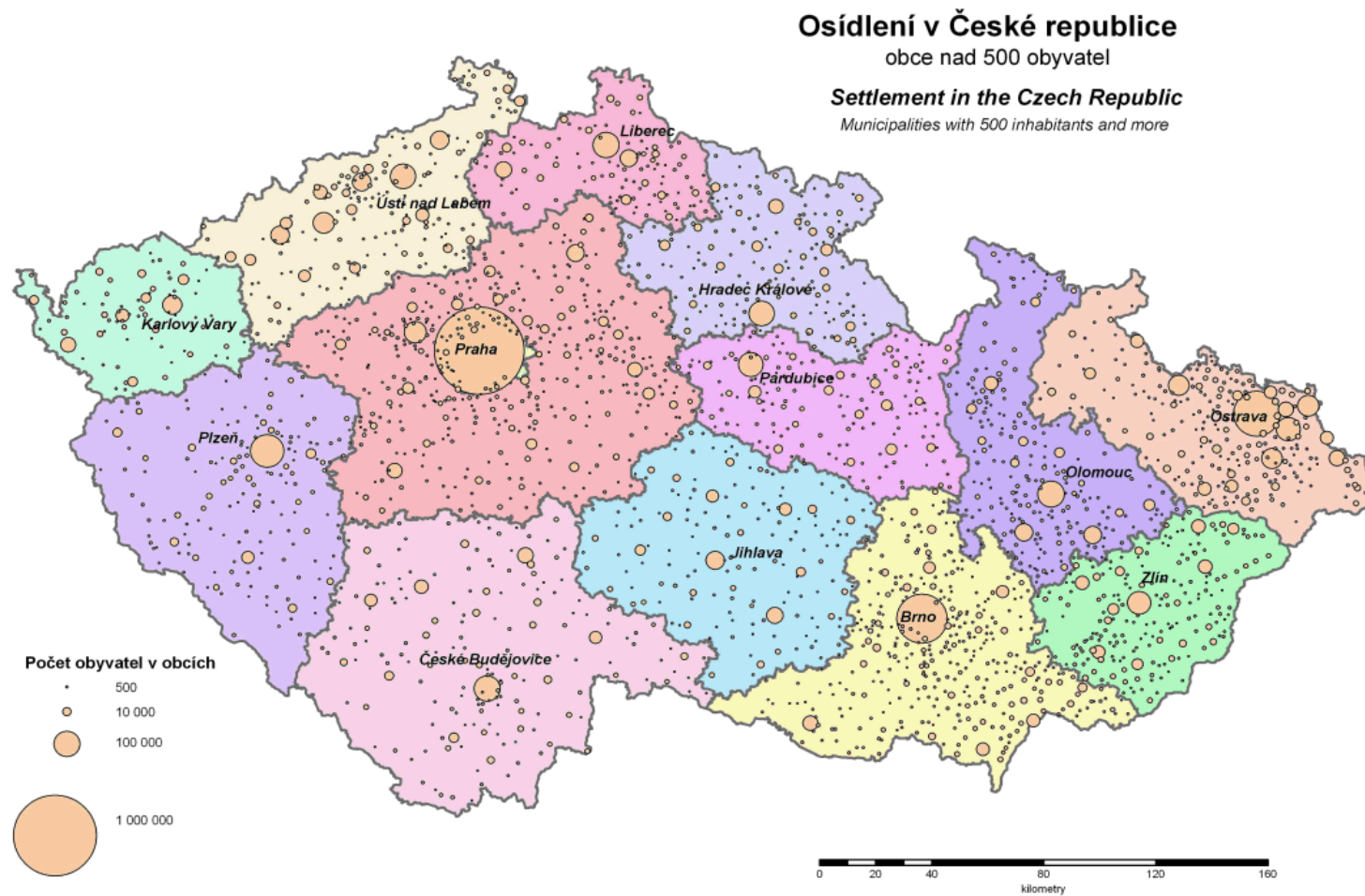


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FRAGMENTATION OF THE SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC



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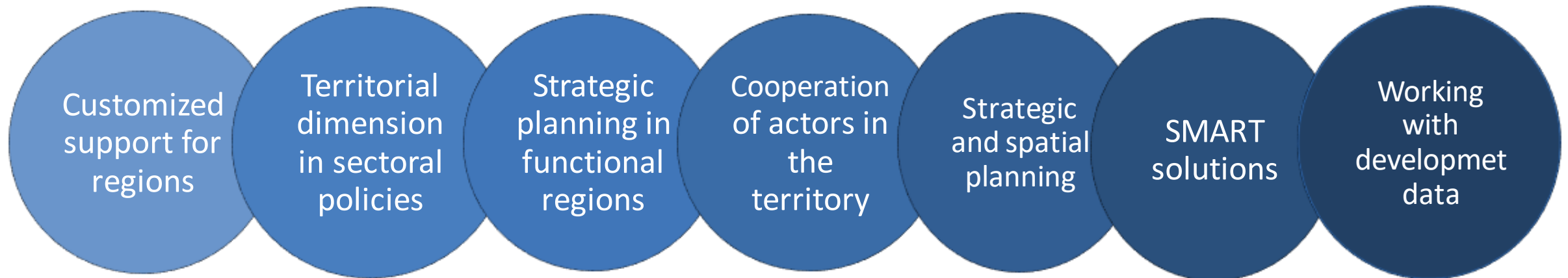


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Strategic direction of the Regional Development Strategy



SRR21+



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Smart concept

SMART concept = Smart City, Smart Village, Smart Region

The involvement of modern technologies in urban management to improve the quality of life of the population and streamline and optimize governance, including resource efficiency, risk management, better communication and getting feedback from the public.

*Creating **resilient** villages, towns, cities and regions capable of reacting to sudden unexpected changes (Covid-19 pandemic, current crisis connected with the Ukraine war)*

Two levels of the concept

Procedural: Governance, strategy and cooperation with key actors and the public

Technological: Added value of specific projects, technologies, new processes and solutions



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Activities of the Ministry

- Methodological support : **Smart Cities Strategy**
- **Smart Cities Work Group**
- Funding of Smart Cities activities
- International cooperation
- Seminars and conferences
- Sharing of **good practice** and capacity building



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Specific activities in the field of SMART solutions:

Current or past activities



Implementation of the Smart Cities Strategy via an **Implementation plan**



5G for 5 Cities project (cooperation with Ministry of Industry and Trade) + works on the **National Recovery Plan: Fund for supporting 5G applications**



International project (Netherlands + Czech Republic) on exchange of good practise in the field of national implementation of Smart Cities concept



Smart City Compass (ČVUT/UCEEB): Online tool for the municipalities:
Monitoring of key Smart Cities indicators



Smart Village Strategy

Smart Cities Competition: Competition organized by Smart City Innovations Institut



Project CapaCities: support for the climate neutrality and the **URBACT programme** which supports networking of European Cities and transfer of projects between them



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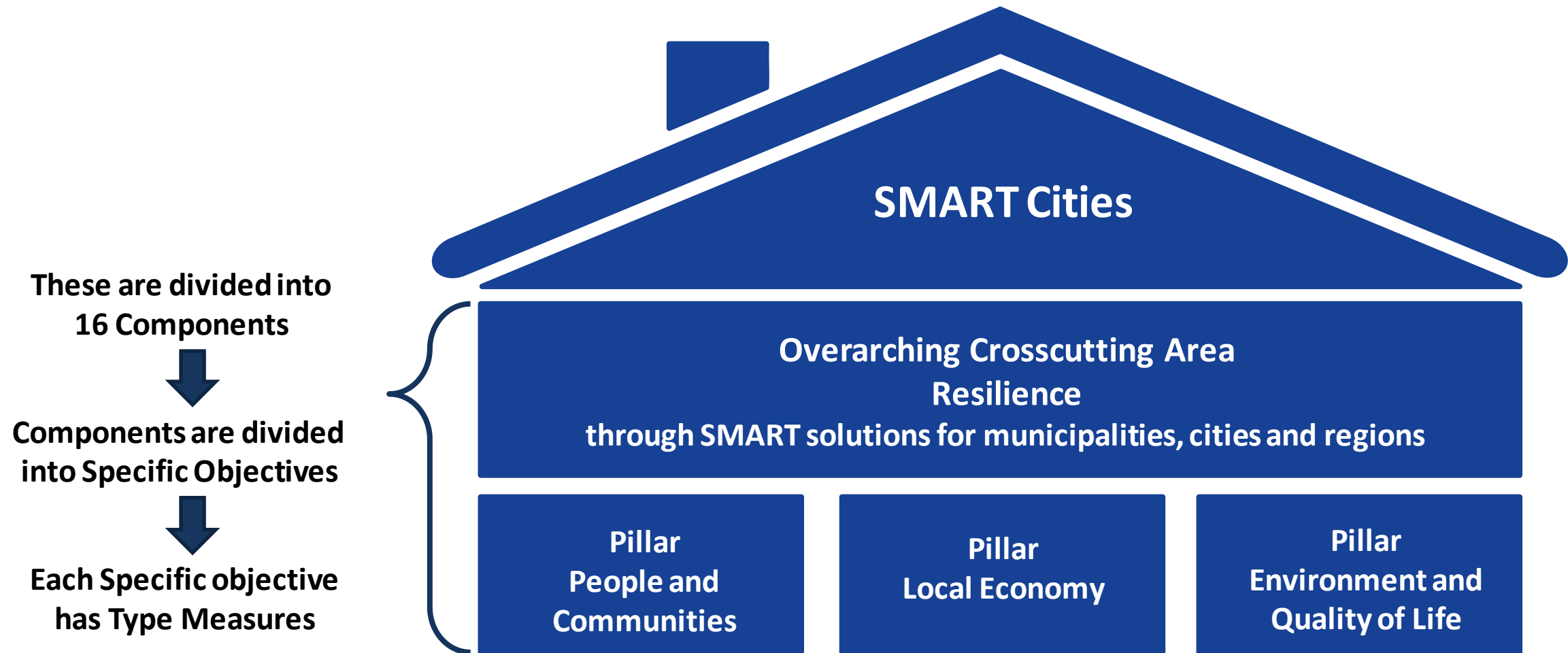
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Smart Cities Strategy

resilience through SMART solutions for
municipalities, cities and regions

Approved by the Government of the Czech Republic on 10th May, 2021

Smart Cities Strategy Structure



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Horizontal and vertical cooperation is the key

- Ministry coordinates the implementation of the **Smart City Strategy** in the form of an **Implementation Plan**
- Work Group of responsible institutions for the implementation of the Smart Cities Strategy was created
- The goal of the Implementation Plan is to support the Smart concept via **64 specific measures** that are part of the **Implementation Plan**
- Implementation Plan sees the support of **project preparation** (through Recover Resilience Facility and other activities) as key in order to support innovative solutions
- Furthermore, it includes a combination of **legislative, financial and methodological measures** that are to be implemented until 2030
- The **Implementation Plan** was approved by the government **on 11 May 2022**



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Specific measures from support of project preparation...

- Creation of a manual and training system for public administration officials in **SMART public procurements**
- A **set of methodologies** for individual areas of Smart Cities specifically targeted at municipalities
- Creation of a new **program of applied research** for the needs of the development of the territory under the Technological Agency of the Czech Republic for the year 2024
- Support of **project preparation** and sharing of good practice (national fund)
- **Testbeds for Smart Solutions** (financial support for innovative solutions in Cities)
- Support of **regional cities' cooperation** with partners abroad on the field of smart solutions, digitization and carbon neutrality



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First call for the support of demonstration projects

- Demonstration projects with the use of 5G
- For the **2022**, the first goal was set in the National Recovery Plan and that is the support of at least **5 demonstration projects** (5G for 5 Cities)
- In May, the Ministry of Regional Development announced the first call for the winner cities of the **5G for 5 Cities competition**
- In the first call, **7 first 5G projects for 2022 were selected for support**
- Areas of security, monitoring, education and healthcare...



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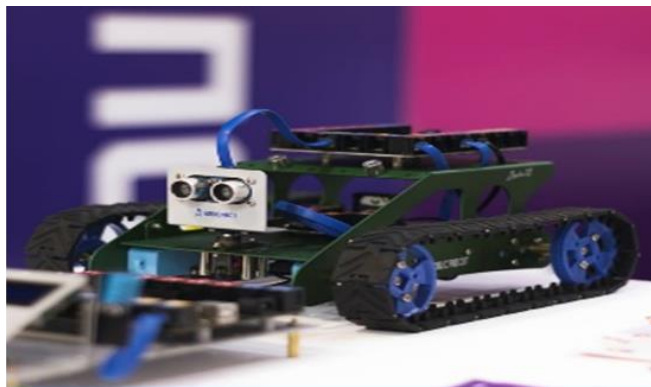


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5G for 5 Cities project



Plzeň



Jeseník



Karlovy Vary



Ústí nad Labem



Bílina



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Financing of demonstrative 5G projects

- **Financing of 5G projects** from the National Recovery Plan (RRF)
- Cooperation between **Ministry of Regional Development** and **Ministry of Industry and Trade**
- **First call for 5G projects** has allowed the Cities from the „5G for 5 Cities“ project to finance demonstrative projects
- In **2023 more calls will follow**, aiming at all Czech cities
- The amount of money which will support 5G in **Smart Cities** (Implementation managed by Ministry of Regional Development) and **Industry 4.0** (Implementation managed by Ministry of Industry and Trade) from RRF is **1 100 mil. CZK (approx. 45 mil EUR)**
- Apart from National Recovery Plan, other financing is available from sources such as **Connecting Europe Facility (CEF2)**



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International project on Smart Cities (the Netherlands and Czech Republic)

- Project realised by VNG International (Dutch union of towns and municipalities) and Czech Union of Towns and Municipalities in cooperation with our Ministry
- Aim of the project was **to create a national framework for the support of SMART solutions** based on the exchange of good practice from abroad
- Workshops on national level with both Dutch and Czech experts took place, as well as training sessions in municipalities
- Project proved that cooperation, especially on international level is the key for bringing highly innovative solutions to the Czech Republic



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Smart City Compass

- Online tool to support municipal planning and decision-making
- Monitoring of **urban development indicators** and setting **target values**
- The tool **prevents double work** in entering and managing data
- It helps to unify the approach to working with indicators
- The tool is **free** for users from **Czech cities, municipalities** and **regions**
- Our plan is to expand with other sets of indicators, automatically fill in data from existing databases and connect to other monitoring and management systems in the future
- <https://sc-compass.cz>

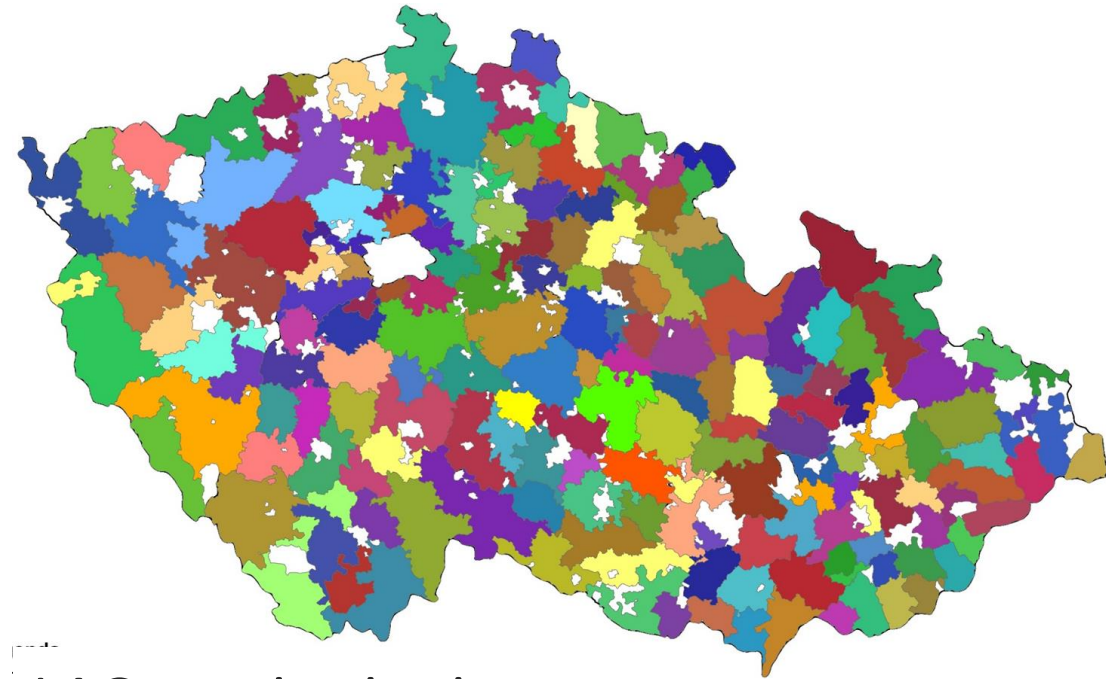


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Smart Villages



LAGs territories in
Czechia

- Smart Villages initiative should aim at an effective spread of up-to date ideas and solutions from urban centers to hinterland (rural/peripheral areas)
- The spread should be dynamic with respect to a specific rural or local conditions. However, some smart solutions are "spatially universal"
- The spread is a matter of many stakeholders at a various levels of governance, businesses, community leaders etc. In Czechia, we see it as appropriate to use **a wide network of LAGs for this purpose.**



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LAGs as Innovation Environment



- LEADER Principles themselves create innovation environment
 - CREATIVITY
 - Change based on KNOWLEDGE that brings added value LOCALLY
 - Different people COMING TOGETHER to define LOCAL SOLUTIONS
 - BOTTOM-UP approach and the openness-attractivity to newcomming stakeholders

- **The main success of LEADER lies in the method and the people**

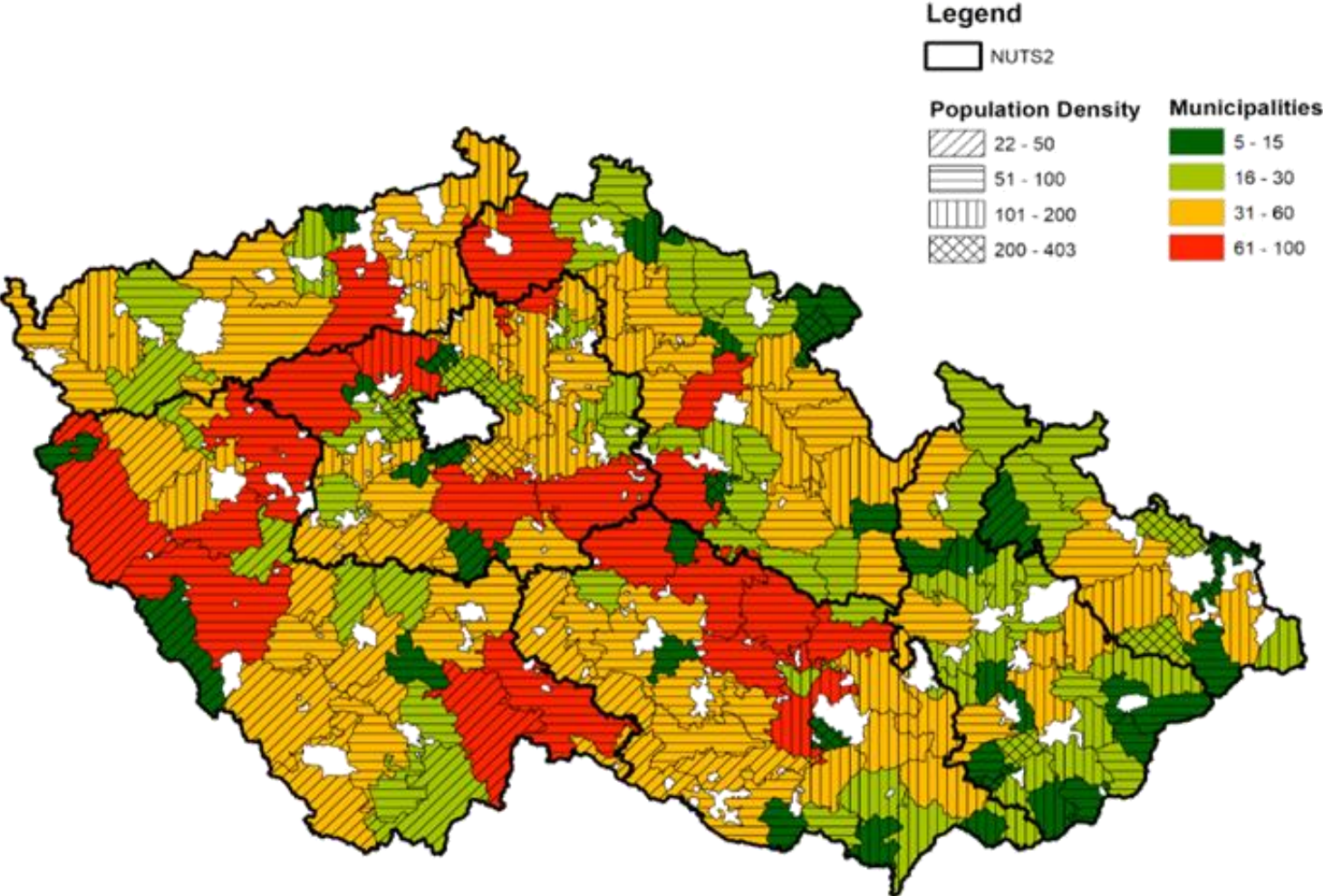


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Diversity of CZ LAGs: Regions & Population



180 LAGs

93 % of CZ territory

More than 6000 municipalities

Municipalities under 25 000 inhabit.

Voluntarity



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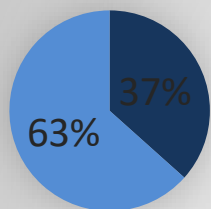


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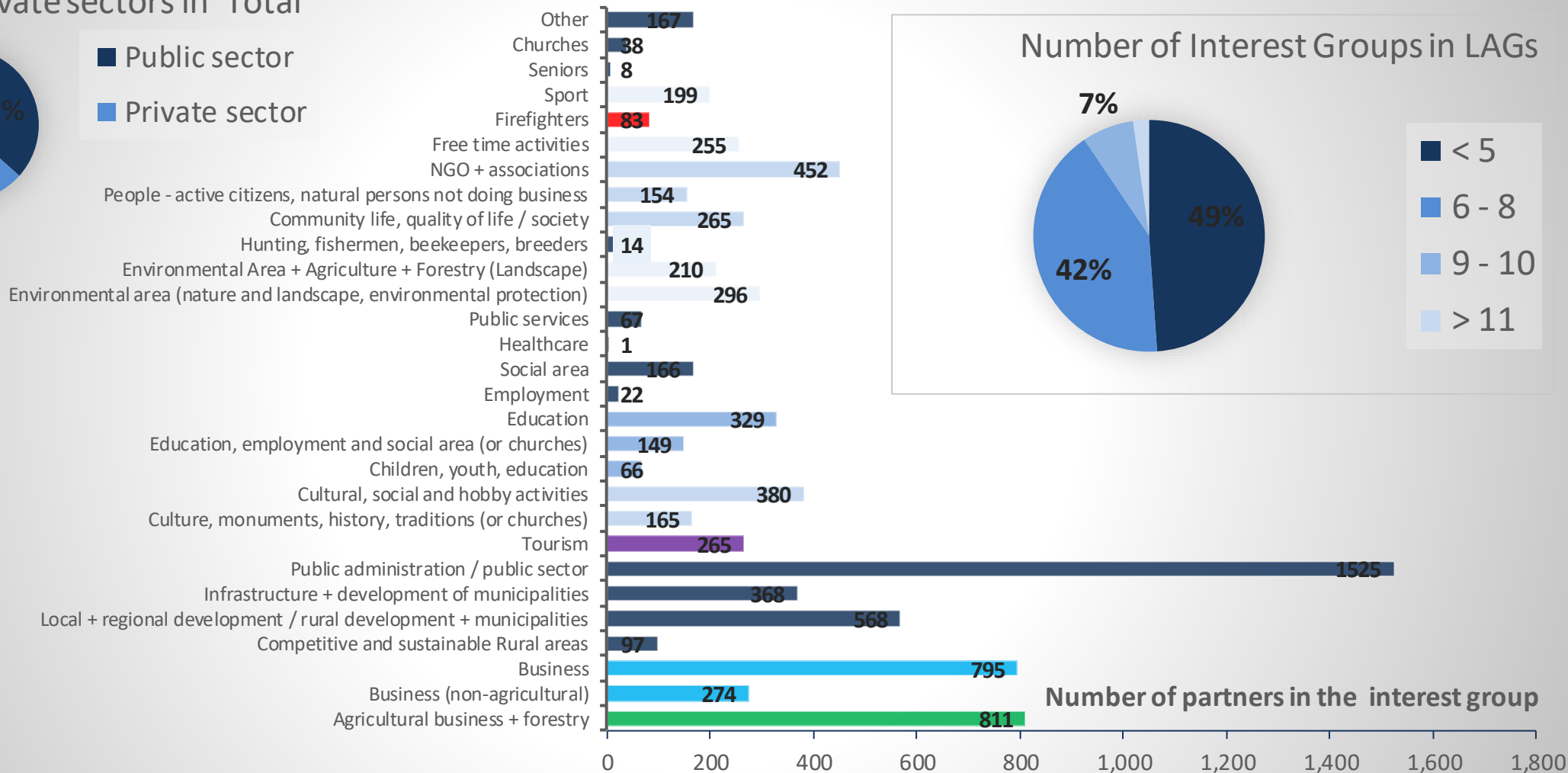


Stakeholders in LAGs as Source of Innovation

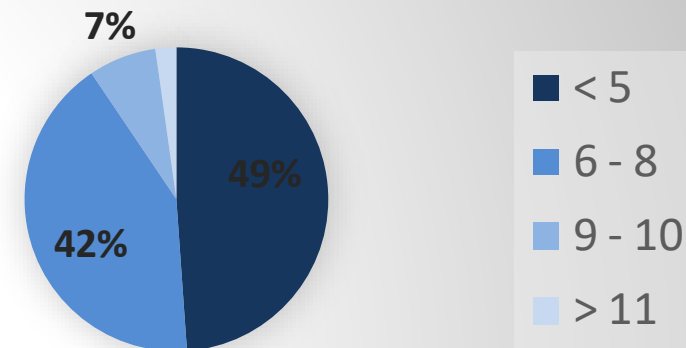
Public/Private sectors in Total



- Public sector
- Private sector



Number of Interest Groups in LAGs



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CLLD Added Value

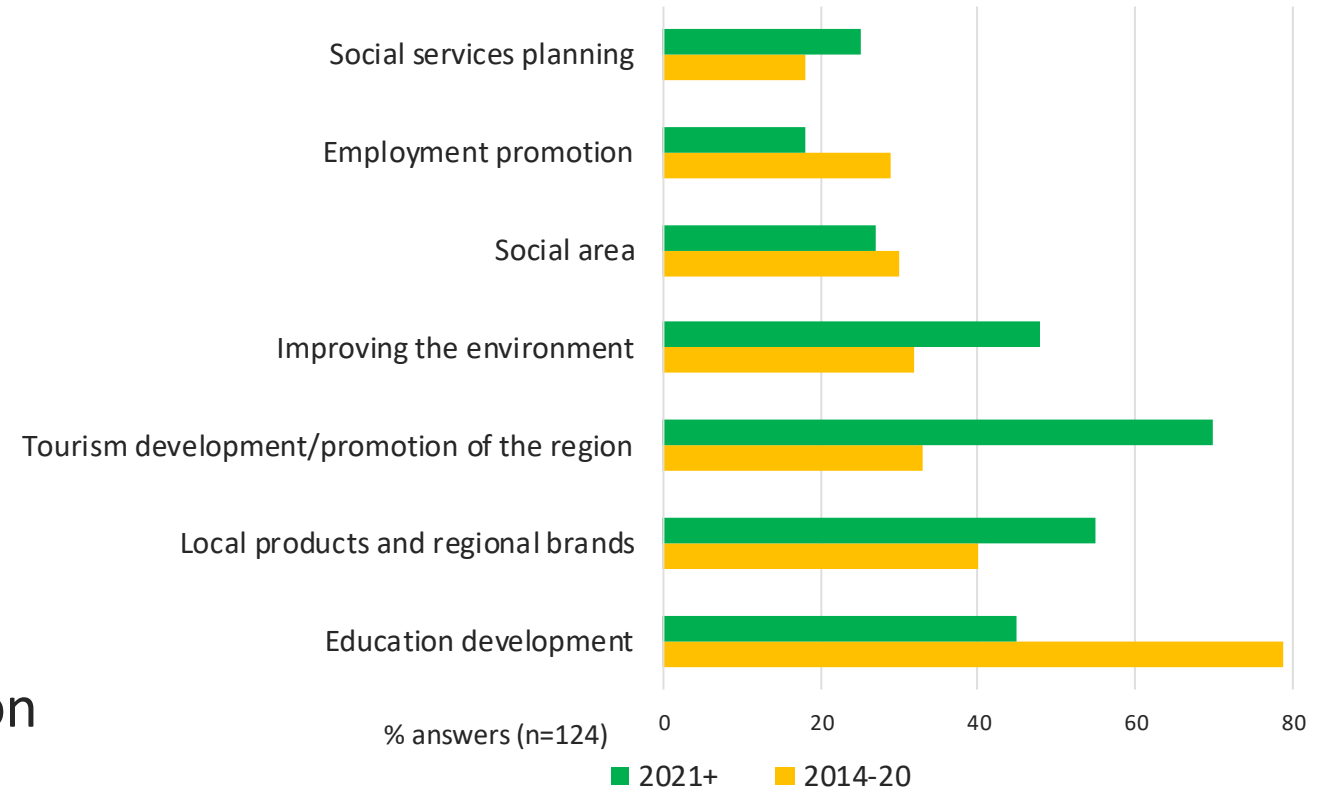
LEADER Principles = Added Value

- subsidiarity
- cooperation
- integrated solutions
- local knowledge, local stakeholders

Recognized roles of LAGs

- Grant agency
- Mediation role
- Innovation role (Innovation broker)
- Animation role for public administration

Present and Forecasted Issues LAGs Deal with (y2019)



Source: Místní akční skupiny: leadeři venkova, 2020, Mendelova univ. Brno



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Promoting Innovation in Rural Areas

Ministry of Regional Development

Strategic work

Analytical work, Research (e.g. Smart Countryside project)

Smart Cities Concept

Resilience for Communities, Towns and Regions

Rural Development Concept

Strategic Goal 5: Planning and Cooperation

Specific Goal 5.3 Smart Rural



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Smart Regions



Focus on all 14 Czech regions

Taking into account regional specificities

Building partner networks

Promoting smart approaches and introducing innovations

Regional development priorities :

Energy, transport, environment, smart governance, health, smart accelerators, smart specialization ...



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Mission Horizon Europe 2021-2027

- EU missions were introduced together with Horizon Europe
- Each mission is composed of a variety of actions to achieve the mission's stated objective
- The missions support European initiatives such as the Green Deal and others
- The Ministry of Regional Development was involved in the preparation of the mission "Climate Neutral and Smart Cities"



Cancer



Adaptation to climate change, including social change



Healthy oceans, seas and coastal and inland waters



Climate neutral and smart cities



Healthy soil and food



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Horizon Europe Mission: The CapaCITIES project was launched on 1 September

- The CapaCITIES project is centrally implemented by AIT (Austrian Institute of Technology), expected duration is 2 years
- The main objective is to support national, regional and local authorities in the transition to climate neutrality
- Cooperation with up to 5 pilot cities in each member country and subsequent transfer of good practice is foreseen
- The main partner is the NSZM (National Healthy Cities Network) of the Czech Republic, the MMR is involved in the project as an associated partner
- The NSZM is starting the project in cooperation with the Ministry of Regional Development, the city of Liberec has also been approached and is involved in the mission "100 Climate Neutral and Smart Cities"



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INNOVATIVE REGION CONFERENCE: Invitation

Tools for the support of innovations, municipal cooperation (Cities + countryside), Nástroje podpory inovací, spolupráce měst a venkova, business-oriented public administration and many others – [further information including registration here](#)

JESENÍK

9th – 11th

November 2022



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Thank you for your attention

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