



Smart Villages

Experience from the EU-funded Preparatory Actions on Smart Rural Areas in the 21st Century

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Projects*

Lednice, 28 October 2022

**Supporting villages with
Smart Village Strategies**

**Drawing lessons & making
policy recommendations**



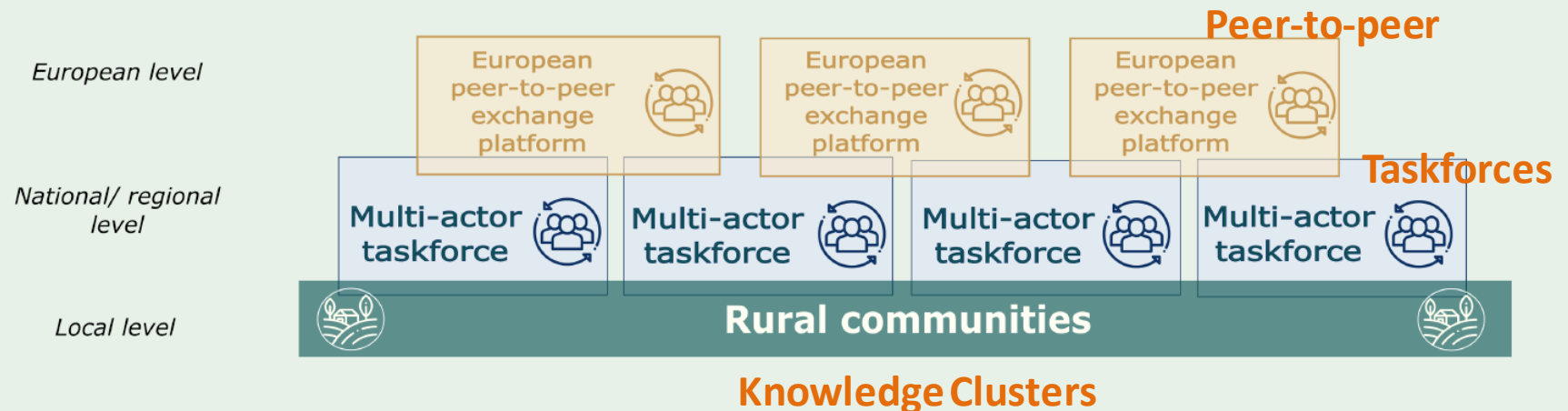
**Identifying, mapping &
promoting smart villages**

**Prepare Member States for
Smart Villages policy support**

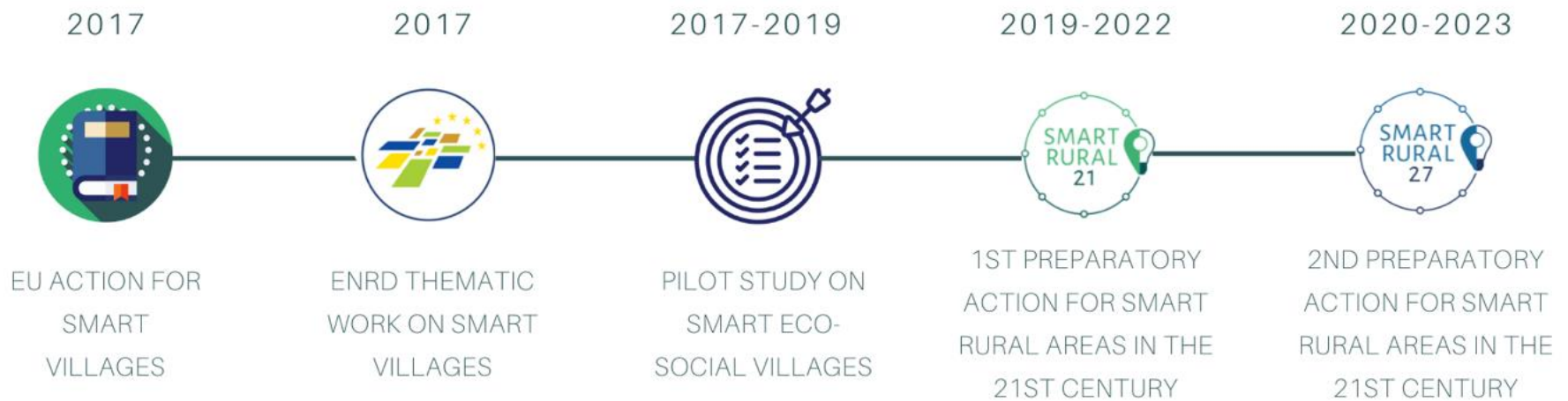
The Pilot Smart Village Observatory



Pilot Observatory exchanges & networking



HISTORY OF THE EU'S SMART VILLAGES CONCEPT



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Steering group chaired by DG AGRI with several representatives across DGs



Project



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Need to take action at all levels now

- Need to build on the outcomes of SR21 and continue working with villages in SR27: There is a lot of energy at the local level - and willingness to share knowledge
- Communities already take actions, need for regional & national authorities to take action too – supportive policies are needed now (from all funds)



21 villages selected

17 villages foreseen



21 selected villages



Approx. 200 Come Along! villages



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SR21 principles & findings

- Very **close working** with the villages (our “clients”) & listening to their needs
- **Inclusive** project approach (open call & Come Along!)
- **Practical** (‘hands-on’) support for strategy implementation
- **Very different village models** can work



SMART
RURAL

21



FINAL CONFERENCE

17-18 October 2022 - Sopot (Poland)

“Creating an atmosphere where people feel confident enough to speak clearly and come out of their shells is an achievement.” (Participant’s feedback, today)

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ENABLING A SUPPORTIVE FRAMEWORK FOR SMART VILLAGES THROUGH **THE SMART RURAL 27 PROJECT** – HOW TO GET INVOLVED?



We need a multi funding solution so all EU-programs and national funding schemes can contribute to the development of Smart Villages. Connect the silos.



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LEADER AND SMART VILLAGES – ARE THEY COMPETING OR COMPLEMENTING EACH OTHER?



Notwithstanding the indisputable merits of CLLD/LEADER which have evolved through the past thirty years in many ways and forms, SV opens a window for innovative actions and broader involvement and empowerment of local people, ultimately leading to rejuvenating the LEADER method.



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BEYOND THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY - **HOW OTHER POLICIES,** INCLUDING COHESION POLICY, **SUPPORT SMART VILLAGES?**



Do not leave the villages alone in coping with required transitions.



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Guidebook on How to Become a Smart Village

Guidebook on How to Become a Smart Village

Preparatory Action on Smart
Rural Areas in the 21st Century



Guidebook on How to Become a Smart Village



Preparatory Action on Smart Rural Areas
in the 21st Century

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The Smart Rural 27 Project

The 2nd Preparatory Action on Smart Rural Areas in the 21st Century (shortly called Smart Rural 27 project) was launched by the European Commission in December 2020 with the aim to "prepare Member States and rural communities for the implementation of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) post-2020 as well as other EU policies and initiatives, which could potentially support the emergence of additional Smart Villages across the European Union".

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