

SMART VILLAGES AND LEADER IN A LAGGING BEHIND REGION

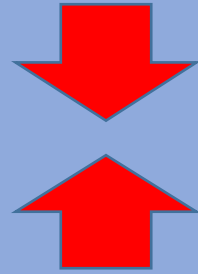
Koppány-valley LAG

Hungary

South-Transdanubian Region

Somogy County

LEADER = Participatory Local Development



Lagging behind region with:

shrinking and contraselected society

(age, education, health, property, income)

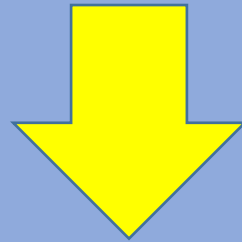
low level of financial resources

low level of perception



They are usually go for their „comfort improving” solutions (which are important!), and not so open to solutions and innovations aiming at wider goals (e.g. co-working space or other services for incomers; water retention; energy rationalisation, etc).

THEREFORE: somebody should help planning...
...**LOCALLY!**



LEADER was created for that!

Holistic („eco-social”) view and knowledge (*training need!*) is a prerequisite!

So far: small, „innovative” steps towards being „smart”

Energy rationalisation: audit, insulation, biomass, solar, biogas;

Sustainable natural resources management: ecological surveys, soil rehabilitation, habitat restoration, water retention, diffuse pollution buffer zones, agrobiodiversity

Community development: entrepreneurial training for kids, forest school, reviving traditional local sport, developing vocational and adult training curricula

Circular economy: aquaculture and insect breeding plant using food waste and soil heat

OUR EXAMPLE (not approved yet by the MA)

Definition in our new local development strategy:

„In the next few years there can be strong external impacts on our rural world, as a consequence of the climate change, Artificial Intelligence, war and other events, some of them can even be elementary (singularity). It is very difficult to prepare for that, therefore we concentrate on knowledge transfer, co-operation, and independent, local, innovative solutions (energy, environment, connectivity, food and digital services community systems), which we use as „smart village” planning and implementation in the context of our local development strategy”

LDS vision

„Strengthened local communities acquired innovative smart village solutions through national and international co-operation, to answer challenges. This way they were able to moderate unfavourable effects and utilize opportunities coming from these trends.”

LDS measures

Measure: **Applying smart village community solutions**

Sub-schemes:

- Local product infrastructure
- Renewable energy utilization
- Co-working space capacities

Measure: Strengthening local human capital

Sub-schemes:

- Local climate circles (farmers, municipalities – knowledge transfer to develop climate resilience)
- Human resource to help lagging behind villages to catch-up
- **Preparation of smart village strategies**

Alternatives to handle Smart Village strategies/projects

LAG is only motivating/animating

LAG is offering grants for SV strategy development

LAG is paid to coordinate/prepare SV strategy

LAG is offering grants to projects related to local SV strategies (our resources are not enough!)

NEEDS

Key roleplayers (local „visionary” leaders, „yeast”)

Inspiration (networking, cross-visits, thematic fora, pilot projects, etc)

Accessible and transferable knowledge on technological issues (renewable energy, bioeconomy, digital solutions, etc)

Financial resources (for implementing SV projects)

Flexible and promoting regular and policy **environment**

