

# Smart Village Task Force in Finland

A Pathway to build a Smart Village framework

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Brussels/Kim Smedslund



# Taskforce Finland

- Creation of the Finnish SV Taskforce contributing to
  - better understanding of Smart Villages concept
  - smart Village policy and programming
  - build bridges between sectors in rural development
- A better understanding of the Smart Villages concept
  - Defining and explaining the concept, also through the CAP-analysis
  - Organising webinars on "Smart" topics like Energy Communities and Digital Transition
  - Making a survey for Village NGOs and Leader groups on the state of play and thoughts on the future

# Taskforce Finland

- **Smart Village Policy and Programming**

- The CAP analysis, the small study on development programmes and financing, as well as the survey contributed to the recommendations and policy proposals
- As key recommendations were suggested a possible specific Smart village programme or sub-programme, increased partnership and consortium tools, innovation tools and simplified options Mainstream “Smart Villages” development in EU/national LEADER programmes. Increase funding.
- Leader strategies shall all include Smart Village actions

- **Build bridges between sectors**

- Innovation, smartness, and local development can be found in Finnish programmes as words, but it is not CLLD. Local or place-related actors are often not seen as potential partners. “Local” is often mentioned as the place for experimentation, piloting or being subject of capacity - building measures
- Cross-sectoral cooperation exists and there are interministerial activities like the community-led local development working group
- Interlinkages and synergies exist, but the cooperation as to (local) rural development is not yet there.