

## SMART VILLAGES WORKSHOP ON SUPPORTING SMART VILLAGES THROUGH LEADER

### Hungary, Budapest – 11 July 2023



#### Purpose of the meeting

The purpose of the workshop was to provide technical support to interested LEADER LAGs (Local Action Groups). The meeting aimed to clarify the relationship (differences and similarities) between the EU Smart Village initiative and LEADER, as well as provide guidance on how Smart Villages can be included and supported through the Local Development Strategies (LDSs).

#### Date of the meeting

11/07/2023

#### Location

Budapest, Hungary URBANFOOD

#### Participation

2 MA

4 HU CAP Network

23 LAGs

#### Main outcomes & lessons learnt (including deviations from initial plan)

The workshop took place with the participation of the Hungarian CAP Network, Managing Authority (MA), and 23 Local Action Groups (LAGs) from different parts of the country. The event began with an introduction to the Smart Rural 27 project and the Hungarian Smart Village taskforce, led by Edina Ocsko. Presentations focused on international experiences and connections between Smart Villages and LEADER.

The MA presented the current status of the Smart Village intervention within the Hungarian CAP Strategic Plan, covering beneficiaries, eligibility criteria, commitments, selection, budget, and financial aspects.

The workshop addressed the integration of Smart Villages into LEADER, allowing LAGs to exchange ideas, questions, and provide ideas on how to support local municipalities in



developing and implementing Smart Village concepts. The workshops presented effective approaches of Smart Villages and LEADER initiatives building on the previous experience and knowledge of the Smart Rural 21 project.

Based on the questions formulated during the session and the feedback after the session, LAGs emphasised the importance of having a sample concept for Smart Villages and sought clearer understanding about how the Smart Village initiative is linked to LEADER. The MA received numerous questions regarding the SV intervention. However, since the concrete implementation of the interventions have not yet started, there is still no clarity on the implementation details.

The participating LAGs emphasised the significance of such meetings for idea exchange and information sharing, underscoring the need for continuous support and assistance. They suggested comparing LEADER-funded applications with Smart Village (SV) funding applications in terms of support intensity and conditions. This could help the application process, collaboration benefits with local governments, and the extent of support. Additionally, they emphasised the value the possibility of ongoing training for LAGs about Smart Villages.

Although further discussions are needed, the event provided clarity on the differences between Smart Villages and LEADER. Most important it was discussed that while the LEADER principles also apply for Smart Villages, the main difference is that strategy is developed and actions implemented under the SV concept at the *local community level*, i.e. the aim is that LEADER LAGs work closely with municipalities supporting them to develop their own vision and strategy at the municipality level and helping them implementing smart actions.

Some LAGs see the possibility in supporting SV directly or integrating SV concepts into the LDS. Two options are proposed: supporting the creation of Smart Village Strategies with targeted funds and/or providing funding for the implementation of smart projects (e.g. through dedicated smart village calls).

### Next steps

The Smart Rural 27 project is ready to provide one-to-one guidance to LAGs if they request (contact: [smart-rural@e40.eu](mailto:smart-rural@e40.eu)).

Further discussions will be carried out with the MA and other stakeholders to support SV intervention / call design.

Further capacity-building events are foreseen for LAGs and interested municipalities (to be agreed with the MA) in early 2024.

## AGENDA

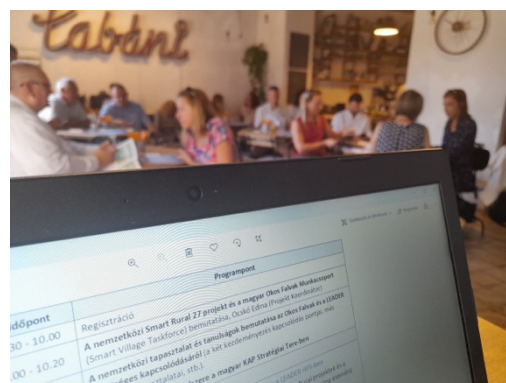
### THE LEADER and the Smart Villages Workshop

The Supported by the EU Smart Rural 27 project

11 July 2023 Budapest (Hungary)

The purpose of the event: The purpose of the workshop is to provide technical support to interested LAGs regarding the relationship between the EU Smart Village initiative and LEADER, as well as how smart villages can be supported through the involvement of LEADER LAGs via the LDSs. During the workshop, we will share international experiences related to the topic and methodological materials.

Location : [URBANFOOD](#) , Budapest 1013, Attila beat. 27.



Date	Programme item
09.30 - 10.00	Registration
10.00 - 10.20	Presentation and introduction about the international Smart Rural 27 project and the Hungarian Smart Village task force, Edina Ocsko (Project Coordinator)
10.20 - 10.45	Presentation about the international experiences and lessons and the possible synergies between Smart Villages and LEADER (points of connection between the two initiatives, countries experiences, etc.). The Smart Village its framework the Hungarian CAP Startegic Plan
10.45 - 11.00	Coffee break
11.00 – 12.00	1. <a href="#">Workshop work: The Smart Villages programming the LEADER in LDS</a> Introductory presentation covering international experiences and insights from Smart Rural projects. Discussion of "LEADER & Smart Villages" international online event held in June 2023. Discussion where LAGs can share their ideas and ask questions related to the integration and connections of Smart Villages within the LDS
12.00 – 12.15	Coffee break
12.15 – 13.15	2. <a href="#">Workshop: LAGs support for local municipalities Smart Village Concept in its design and in its implementation</a> Introductory presentation covering international experiences and insights from Smart Rural projects. Discussion of "LEADER & Smart Villages" international online event held in June 2023. Discussion on how LAGs collaborate with local municipalities, explore ways to support Smart Villages at the local level, and identify available good practices and methodological opportunities
13.15 – 14.00	Sandwich lunch and informal talk- end of event



## LEADER and Smart Villages Workshop

11 July 2023, Budapest

## Participants' list

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	NAME OF YOUR ORGANISATION
Balogh	Anita	E40 (Organiser)
Bayer	Orsolya	Csele-Borza Valley Association
Bíró	Anna	Hungarian National Rural Network
Falatek	László	Abaúj Leader Association
Fieszl	Csaba	Herman Ottó Institute/ Hungarian National Rural Network
Horváth	Zoltán	Hévíz-Balaton-Zala Hill LEADER Association
Hutvágnerne Kasper	Judit	"For Bakony" Rural Development Action Group Association
Kecskés	Éva	Mecsek Valley Hills Association
Kiss	Gáborné	Bihar-Sárrét Rural Development Association
Lengyelne Bencze	Viktória	Borsod-Torna-Gömör Association
Maác	Miklós	Ministry of Agriculture
Nagy	Attila	Ministry of Agriculture
Németh	Tamás	Pannonia Treasure LEADER Association
Ocsko	Edina	E40 (Organiser)
Ocsko	Emese	E40 (Organiser)
Ogár	Zoltán	Zemplén Regions Rural Development Association
Őri	Zsuzsanna Emese	Hungarian National Rural Network
Palotás	Flóra	Homokhát Municipalities Regional Development Public Benefit Association
Patakiné Balázs	Anikó	North Borsod LEADER Union Association
Péterfy	Lenke	'Valley Region' Community
Rácz	Judit	Upper Homokhát Rural Development Association
Susovits	Vera	Szigetköz - Moson Plain LEADER Association
Szabó	István	Lower Tisza Region Development Leader Association
Szalay Bakáts	Noémi	Bihar-Sárrét Rural Development Association
Székely	Rita	Hungarian National Rural Network



LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	NAME OF YOUR ORGANISATION
Szöllősy	László	Upper Tisza Valley Rural Development Association
Tardi	Csaba	Hungarian National Rural Network
Tarjányi	Ernő	‘Kiskunokért’ Association
Titonelliné Nemzetes	Gabriella	Velencei-tó Region Development Public Benefit Association
Vanó	Valentin	Galga-mente and Region Leader Association



## The event in pictures

