

# SMART VILLAGES CONTRIBUTION TO THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL, FARM TO FORK AND BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES

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More information:



## THE PURPOSE

- to help understand how rural communities consider their role in achieving the European Green Deal
- to examine whether the European Green Deal has encouraged villages to act
- to suggest priority areas for Smart Villages to contribute to the European Green Deal, paving the way for future Smart Village initiatives

## METHODOLOGY

Literature review, analysis of smart solutions and lighthouse examples, analysis of CAP Strategic Plans, stakeholder event and survey

## OUTCOMES

### Rural communities and the European Green Deal: Untapped potential and need for greater alignment

- Importance of **local approaches** to address global challenges
- Promote links between **local (social) innovation and the ecological transition**
- Successful smart solutions are **holistic**, address multiple challenges (economic, social, and environmental) and **align with local needs** and priorities

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Align** rural development priorities, Smart Village strategies and European environmental policies.
- Invest in **community building** as a foundation to implementing the European Green Deal.
- The **Just Transition Mechanism + Smart Villages** approach can help communities towards a zero-carbon future.
- Create a framework indicating possible **linkages** between the European Green Deal and Smart Villages.
- **Monitor and evaluate** the impact of Smart Villages on European Green Deal objectives.
- Foster **knowledge exchange and capacity building** among stakeholders implementing or that may implement Smart Villages.
- Guidance is needed on the **interactions and trade-offs** between agricultural yields, GHG emissions and biodiversity.
- Promote **cooperation** between rural development agents and farmers, local communities, small and micro businesses, and public authorities.
- Ensure that **socio-economic needs and a just transition** are embedded within environmental objectives.

## Priority areas for Smart Villages and the European Green Deal

### CLEAN ENERGY



### BIODIVERSITY



### FARM-TO-FORK



### SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

