

The Smart Rural 27 project & Smart Villages in the CAP Strategic Plans



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2nd MA STAKEHOLDER PLATFORM MEETING
15 February 2024

Supported by the



Purpose of Meeting

- Review SR27 work on Smart Villages – initial CAP analysis findings
- Review state-of-play of SV implementation under the CAP – initial CAP analysis findings
- Discuss: Final event & specific needs of MAs

Expectations

- Understanding other countries' preparation of Smart Village strategies
- “Experiences and good practices and most crazy and brave ideas”
- What is the difference between SV and other cooperation projects?
- How MAs can support LAGs during the implementation of SV projects?



Managing Authorities registered for this event

- Austria
- Bulgaria
- Czechia
- Finland
- Greece
- Hungary
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Romania

Agenda

9.30 – 11.00: Presentation of state-of-play (selected findings of CAP Synthesis report & discussion) & discussion

11.00 – 11.30: Presentation of Final Conference programme & discussion on current needs of MAs

State-of-play of SR27 work

- CAP report is almost finalised being laid out/ publication through EC process might take a bit more time
- MS Factsheets are being laid out in a visual format/ in the process of being translated
- Final event: 18-19 March 2024, Brussels



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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”.

The CAP MA Stakeholder Platform page

CAP Managing Authority Platform

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About the platform

Managing Authorities Platform aims to provide an opportunity to exchange about the design and implementation of Smart Villages interventions in the CAP Strategic Plans and allow CAP MAs to learn from each other and improve their own Smart Villages support frameworks.

The 1st Stakeholder Online Event was held on 20 October 2023 and the 2nd Stakeholder Online Event will take place on **15 February 2024**.

Stakeholder Online Event (20 October 2023)

• Purpose of Event

The purpose of the meeting was to launch the Platform for Managing Authorities. The platform is to provide an opportunity to exchange about the **design and implementation of Smart Villages interventions in the CAP Strategic Plans** and allow CAP MAs



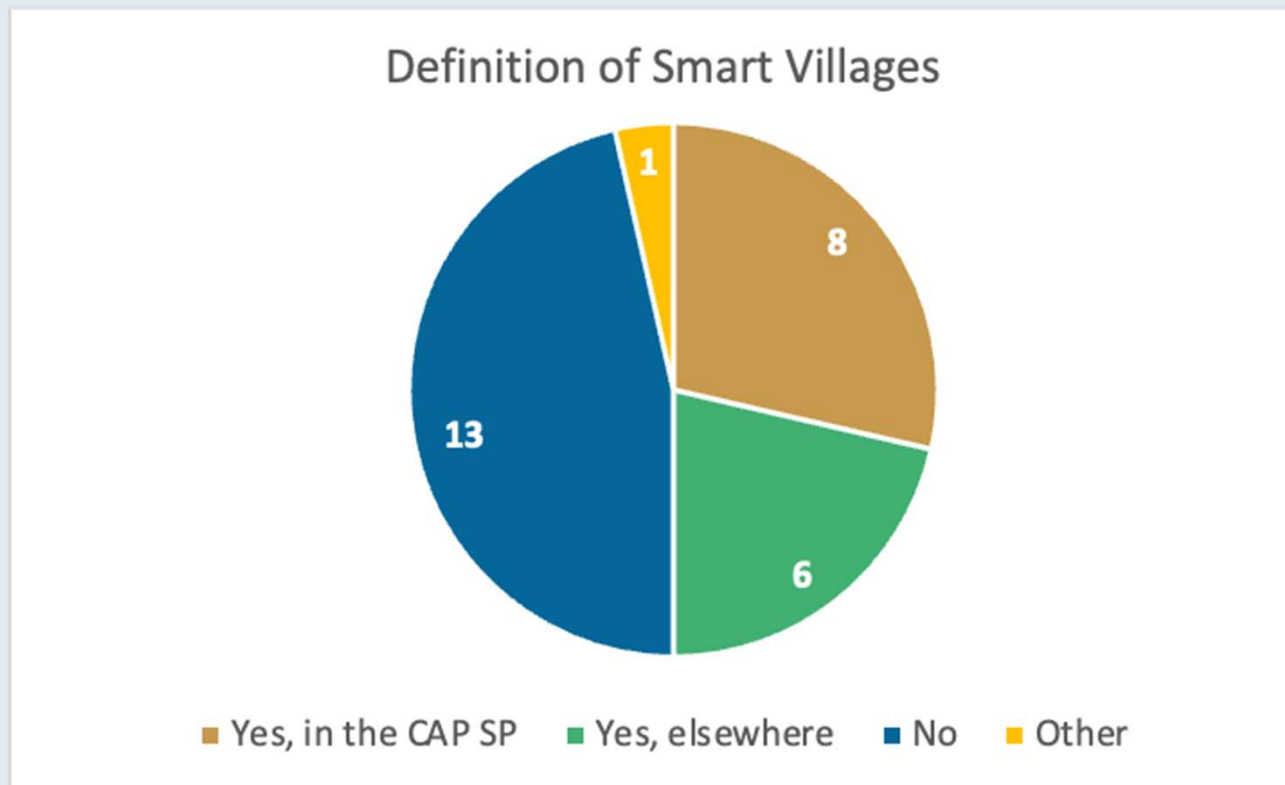
Definition of Smart Villages

EU Definition

Smart Villages are **communities in rural areas** that develop **smart solutions** to deal with challenges in their local context. They build on existing local strengths and opportunities to engage in a process of sustainable development of their territories. They rely on a **participatory approach** to develop and implement their **strategies** to improve their economic, social and environmental conditions, *in particular* by promoting innovation and mobilising solutions offered by **digital technologies**.

(Pilot Project on Smart Eco-Social Villages, 2019)

Smart Villages definition



Key elements in the definitions (CAP Synthesis, selected MS)

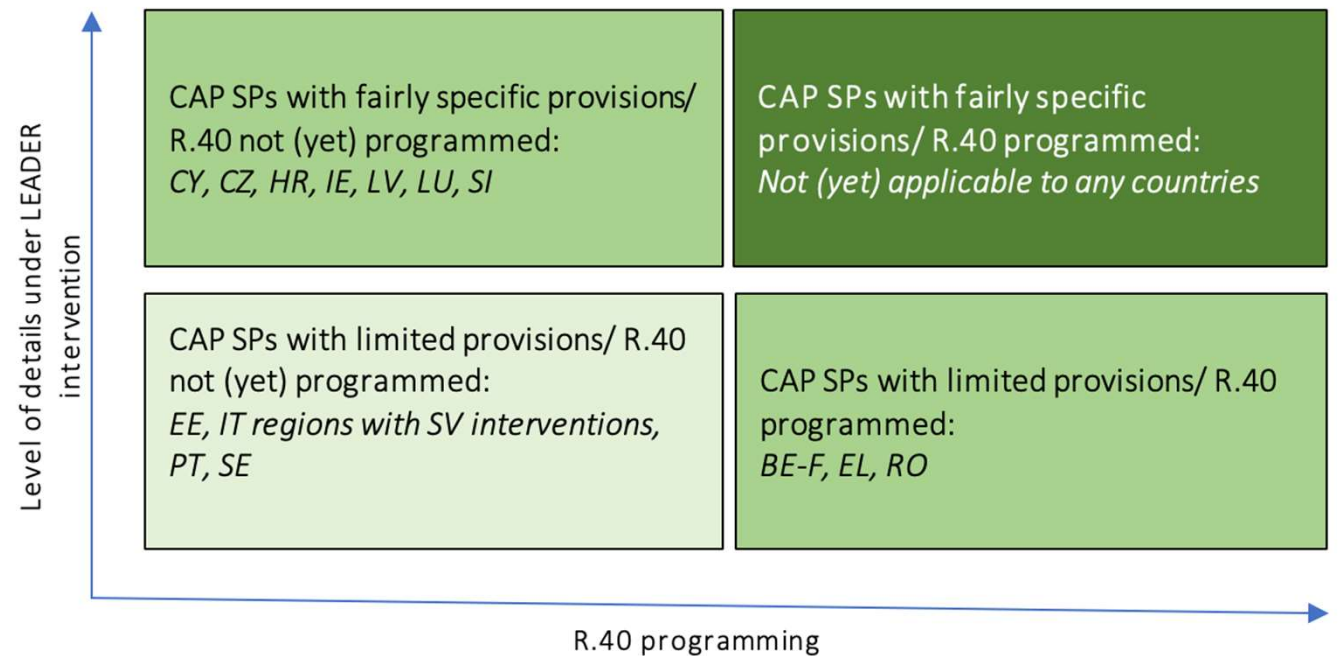
Country	Is there definition?	Innovative solutions/ Innovation	Digital	Smart Village Strategy	Participatory
Austria	Yes, in the CAP SP but also in a dedicated SV factsheet	innovative solutions	digital (inc.)	implement strategies	participatory approach
Finland	In the CAP SP	innovative solutions	digital (inc.)	implement strategies and projects	participatory approach
Hungary	Yes, in the CAP SP		digital (inc.)		
Latvia	Yes, elsewhere	making the most of new opportunities	digital technologies		local initiatives
Lithuania	Yes, in the CAP SP	systemic, change-oriented solutions	Technology & digital (inc.)	clear specific local objective	cooperation among rural populations
Romania	Yes, in the CAP SP	intelligent village development projects	Technology		

Programming Smart Villages

How countries programme SV?

- Dedicated SV interventions (non-LEADER): COOP & INVEST
- Within LEADER intervention:

Figure 7: Smart Villages support through LEADER



Smart Villages interventions (CAP Synthesis, selected MS)

Country	
Austria	Vacancy reactivation 77-04 (COOP) Rural innovation systems 77-03 (COOP) Supporting village and city centres (INVEST) LAGs as beneficiaries and/or animators of dedicated SV interventions
Finland	Smart Village Collaboration Projects Cooperation 07 (COOP) LAGs as beneficiaries and/or animators of dedicated SV interventions
Hungary	Rural Development cooperation to support the digital transition of small settlements (smart village) - RD56_D-03_SVC_77 (COOP) LAGs as beneficiaries and/or animators of dedicated SV interventions
Lithuania	Smart Villages - KP21sum (COOP) Implemented by LEADER LAGs SV intervention implemented by LAGs
Latvia	Fairly specific provisions / R.40 not programmed
Czechia	Fairly specific provisions / R.40 not programmed
Romania	Limited provisions on how SV implemented through LEADER / R.40 programmed under LEADER
Greece	Limited provisions on how SV implemented through LEADER / R.40 programmed under LEADER
Bulgaria	R.40 not programmed

- COOP
- COOP & INVEST
- LEADER
- NONE



Smart Villages interventions

(CAP Synthesis, selected MS)

The magic “R40”

Smart Transition of the rural economy: Number of supported
Smart **Village Strategies**

“To quantify the number of Smart Villages strategies or projects developed and/or implemented with CAP support.” (PMEF – Result indicators)

How definition and indicator is translated into calls/ criteria?

- What is **Smart**?
- What is a **Village (beneficiaries)**?
- What is a **Strategy**?

R.40 values in CAP SPs (CAP Synthesis, selected MS)

CAP SP	Is R.40 programmed?	Planned value
Austria	Yes, with target values	54
Finland	Yes, with target values	60
Hungary	Yes, with target values	52
Lithuania	Yes, with target values	25
Romania	Yes, but no target values specified (linked to LEADER)	n/a
Greece	Yes, but no target values specified (R.40 is under SO8 intervention logic, but not linked to logic of any of the interventions)	n/a
Bulgaria	No	n/a
Czechia	No	n/a

State-of-play of interventions

Country	State-of-play
Finland	Dedicated intervention: Already published calls Selected LDSs and have some information on how it is programmed
Lithuania	Dedicated intervention: Call planning started (expected Apr-May 24) LEADER: ?
Austria	Dedicated intervention(s): ? Selected LDSs and have some information on how it is programmed
Hungary	Dedicated intervention: Not yet started call planning Selected LDSs and have some information on how it is programmed
Greece	Selected LDSs and have some information on how it is programmed
Latvia	Selected LDSs but not yet reviewed how SV is programmed
Romania	Not yet finalised LDS selection
Bulgaria	Not yet finalised LDS selection
Czechia	Not yet finalised LDS selection

Questions for discussion

Dedicated interventions

1. Any selection criteria? (FI, AT, LT, [HU])
2. How CAP MA makes sure that the 3 principles of smart villages concept – or other defined by the national definition - are respected?
 - participatory approach
 - setting-up of a strategy (at which level?)
 - smart solutions

Questions for discussion: Smart Villages under LEADER intervention

1. Any guidance to / expectations from LAGs (on smart village strategy, projects, beneficiaries, participatory approach...)?
2. What do we know about LDSs and SV in Member States where there is information? (FI, LT, AT, HU, GR)
3. What are the next steps in terms of supporting SV implementation under LEADER? When will you specify values for R.40 under LEADER?