



# **Smart Villages in CAP Strategic plan Czechia**

*Factsheet*

The Smart Rural 27 project (2nd Preparatory Action on Smart Rural Areas in the 21st Century, 2021-24) aims at improving the Smart Villages support framework at both the local (rural communities) and regional/ national (policymaking) contexts.



# Smart Villages in the CAP Strategic plan Czechia

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### What are the basic SV components?



#### DEFINITION OF SMART VILLAGES

Definition of Smart Villages is included in the Smart Cities Concept defined by the Ministry for Regional Development. According to Smart Cities Concept the definition of Smart Villages is: “SMART villages are those villages that fulfill the seven principles: the principle of change of direction, the principle of short distances, the principle of resilience of people and communities, the principle of one solution with several equivalent effects, the principle of cooperation to achieve effective solutions, the principle of cohesion and complementarity, the principle of evidence-based decision-making based on open data and transparency of procedures.”

*Source: Smart Cities Concept, p.10, link: <https://budtesmart.cz/koncepce-smart-cities>*

**Is there a focus on digital innovation?** The Czech CAP SP deals with the concept of Smart Villages very marginally, so Smart Villages is not explicitly focused on digitalisation.

**Is rural area/village defined?** Rural areas are defined in the context of the LEADER indicator (R.38) as the whole Czech Republic with the exception of Prague and cities recording over 100,000 inhabitants until the beginning of 2021 (Brno, Ostrava, Plzeň, Liberec, Olomouc). (CZ CAP SP, p.218)

## Smart Villages in the CAP Strategic plan - Czechia



### Dedicated Smart Villages interventions

There is no dedicated Smart Villages intervention in the CAP Strategic Plan.

### Other relevant interventions

✓ LEADER (52.77, COOP)

**Mostly contributes to...**

**SO8: Promoting employment, gender equality, including the participation of women in farming, social inclusions and local development in rural areas.**



**R.40: SV strategies - Target**

R40 is not programmed.



### Other relevant programmes:

- **Smart Cities Concept** (European and National funding), led by the Ministry of Regional Development. The Concept includes Smart Villages. It is a multi-funded approach with a total of 16 components – for each of them a lead organisation/agency with cooperating entities is identified.

## SMART VILLAGES IN THE CAP STRATEGIC PLAN

### Strategic statement

There is no specific reference to Smart Villages in this section of the CAP SP.

### Assessments of needs and intervention strategy

There is no specific reference to Smart Villages in this section of the CAP SP.

## Specific Objectives

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### **SO8: Promote employment, growth, gender equality**

There is a direct reference to Smart Villages in the SWOT analysis of SO8: 'Promote employment, growth, gender equality, including the participation of women in farming, social inclusion and local development in rural areas, including the circular bio-economy and sustainable forestry', indicating as an opportunity "New technologies and concepts such as Smart City and Smart Village" (CZ CAP SP, p.108).

## Target plans

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R40 is not programmed in the CAP SP.

*"Following the approval of the LAG strategies, relevant results indicators including R.40 and R.41 will be added to the CAP SP"* (CZ CAP SP, p.729).

## Consistency of the Strategy and complementarities

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There is no specific reference to Smart Villages in this section of the CAP SP.

## Elements common to several interventions

### ...including the CAP Network

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No specific CAP Network support actions for Smart Villages have been identified in the CAP SP.

## Smart Villages interventions

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### **DEDICATED INTERVENTION**

There is no dedicated Smart Villages intervention in the CAP SP.

## OTHER RELEVANT INTERVENTIONS

### LEADER (52.77, COOP)

Smart villages are mentioned under LEADER intervention in the section Additional questions/information specific to the Type of Intervention, stating that *“deeper knowledge of the local environment and problems, the skills to target specific problems and the use of potential and local resources in the LAG’s area of activity are the added value of project implementation in the form of community-led local development that strengthens the principles of cooperation, motivation and trust. All these aspects allow LAGs to carry out consultancy activities in the preparation and implementation of specific projects and create space for unique, innovative and smart solutions in the spirit of the “SMART Villages” concept.”* (CZ CAP SP, p. 727).

## Modernisation: AKIS and digitalisation

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There is no specific reference to Smart Villages in this section of the CAP SP.

## Smart Villages in other EU funds and programmes

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### **Smart Cities Concept**, European and National funding

The topic of Smart City and Smart Village in the Czech Republic is lead by the Ministry for Regional Development. A comprehensive overview of possible sources of funding for all 16 components of the Smart Cities Concept (Smart Village included) has been discussed in the Annex to the Concept available here:

[https://mmr.cz/getattachment/4d8b83ed-5b9e-4c0e-9fc9-126f4e49b09e/Priloha-2\\_Moznosti-financovani-SC.pdf.aspx?lang=cs-CZ&ext=.pdf](https://mmr.cz/getattachment/4d8b83ed-5b9e-4c0e-9fc9-126f4e49b09e/Priloha-2_Moznosti-financovani-SC.pdf.aspx?lang=cs-CZ&ext=.pdf)

In aggregate form, these funding options include:

- National sources;
- Operational programmes;
- European and cross-border programmes;
- Other alternative approaches.

This annex explains in more detail the possible types of funding for Smart Cities, both the sources of funding and potential funding methods (see link above). CAP Strategic Plan contains only some of them these.

The Ministry of Regional Development of the Czech Republic (MRD CZ) has prepared a Smart City Concept that emphasises a holistic inter-sectoral approach, which is an essential document for smart solutions (including smart villages). MRD CZ is the leader of this Concept. From the organisational point of view, the Concept is an “umbrella” document for coordinating innovative sectoral practices of individual ministries. Its implementation therefore requires not only the cooperation of municipalities and regions, but primarily those of central state administration bodies and other organisations that implement their sectoral strategies.

The Concept has a total of 16 components, and for each of these components a lead organisation/agency with cooperating entities were identified. The Ministry of Agriculture, which developed the CAP SP has not been closely involved to date. The MRD CZ also organises Smart City group and makes recommendations for the municipalities. The implementation plan of the Smart Cities Concept aims to achieve a state where strategic documents at the national and regional level are effectively linked to the area. Currently, the Smart City Concept in rural areas is not focused on agriculture, but more generally on new social and technological trends (digitalisation, data, ICT, renewable resources, environment, resilience, sustainability, community, etc.). The implementation plan also contains resources for Smart Villages implementation.

## Ex-ante Evaluation

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There is no specific reference to Smart Villages in this section of the CAP SP.

*The overall analysis and the references are based on the original **Czech CAP SP version 1.1 approved on 24/11/2022**. The Factsheet is produced under Contract No AGRI-2020-0332 with the Union and the opinions expressed are those of the contractor only and do not represent the contracting authority's official position.*