



# Smart Villages in CAP Strategic plan Romania

*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 Romania

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### What are the basic SV components?



#### DEFINITION OF SMART VILLAGES

In the CAP SP of Romania, under intervention DR-36 LEADER CLLD it is stated that: *“Within the Local Development Strategies, Smart Villages can be supported, which involves intelligent village development projects aimed at leveraging the knowledge of local communities to identify solutions using technology and innovation in order to improve the quality of life in rural areas on topics such as reducing depopulation and demographic handicaps, improving the quality of local services within the health and citizens' safety, transition to a circular economy, with low carbon emissions or social / administrative / educational digitalization, etc.”* (RO CAP SP p. 957)

**Is there a focus on digital innovation?** Technology, innovation, and digitalisation are referenced in the description (definition) of the CAP SP, however, this is not the only focus of Smart Villages (SV), but other types of innovations (social, technological) are also mentioned.

**Is rural area/village defined?** Within the RO CAP SP, in section 4.7.2: ‘Definition of rural area and applicability’ it is stated that: *“In view of the national legislation — Law No 350/2001 on spatial planning and urban planning, as subsequently amended and supplemented, and Law No 351/2001 approving the National Plan of Territorial Planning, as amended, the rural area is represented by all communes with the villages component, at the level of Territorial Administrative Units (TAU), the municipality being the smallest TAU, level LAU 2. The eligible LEADER territory is specifically defined as consisting of TAU-common and TAU-small towns with a population of up to 20,000 inhabitants.”* (RO CAP SP p. 284)

**Is there a reference to smart village strategies?** No reference to smart villages strategies, it rather refers to smart projects/ initiatives.

# Smart Villages in the CAP Strategic plan - Romania



## Direct Smart Villages interventions

- LEADER - Community-led local development (DR-36, COOP)


## Other relevant interventions

- No other interventions with reference to Smart Villages have been identified.

**Mostly contributes to...**

**S08:** Promoting employment, gender equality, including the participation of women in farming, **social inclusions** and **local development** in rural areas.

**Direct financing:**  
**No dedicated budget for Smart Villages.**




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

**R40 is programmed under the LEADER intervention:**  
 Community-led local development (DR-36, COOP) but **no target values yet specified.**



**Other relevant programmes:**

- **Smart Growth, Digitization and Financial Instruments Operational Program** (Cohesion Policy): Projects in innovation and the adoption of advanced technologies in the context of digital transformation, e-government and digitization



## 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

The Romanian CAP Strategic Plan has no direct reference related to Smart Villages in the description of the SO. The **R.40 result indicator contributes to the achievement of this objective** (as well as the LEADER/CLLD intervention contributes to Smart Villages / R.40 and to SO8).

## Target plans

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There is no dedicated intervention on Smart Villages in the Romanian CAP SP but **R.40 is programmed under the LEADER intervention** (DR-36), which aims to contribute to both R.40 and R.42 (Promotion of social inclusion: Number of people targeted by social inclusion projects that benefit from support). The target will be established for R.40 and R.42, depending on the objectives set out in the LDSs.

## 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. Actions of the CAP Network include *“encouraging innovation in agriculture and rural development, as well as inclusion and interaction between all stakeholders in the knowledge exchange and knowledge consolidation process”* (RO CAP SP, p.266).

## Smart Villages interventions

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### DEDICATED INTERVENTIONS

#### LEADER - Community-led local development (DR-36, COOP)

Within the Local Development Strategies, **the concept of Smart Villages can be supported, which involves intelligent village development projects aimed at leveraging the knowledge of local communities to identify solutions using technology and innovation.** The supported projects aim to improve the quality of life in rural areas, on topics such as reducing depopulation and demographic handicaps, improving the quality of local services within the health and citizens' safety, transition to a circular economy, with low carbon emissions or social/administrative/educational digitalisation, etc. (RO CAP SP p. 957).

The LEADER intervention **contributes to 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'.

The LEADER intervention **contributes to reaching the target value that will be established for R.40** and R.42 after the selection of the LDSs, depending on the objectives that will be established through the local strategies.

### OTHER RELEVANT INTERVENTIONS

No other interventions with reference to Smart Villages have been identified.

## 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 Growth, Digitization and Financial Instruments Operational Programme (Cohesion Policy)

Smart Growth, Digitalisation and Financial Instruments Operational Programme (Programul Creștere Inteligentă, Digitalizare și Instrumente Financiare - PoCIDIF) supports projects in innovation and the adoption of advanced technologies in the context of digital transformation, e-government and digitalisation for the benefit of citizens and SMEs carried out through European Digital Innovation Hubs.

## Ex-ante Evaluation & Strategic Environmental Assessment

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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 **Romanian CAP SP version 1.2 approved on 7/12/2022**. 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.*