

Territorial development strategy 2022/2024 of the municipality of Saint-Marcel

The current strategy gives continuity to the lines developed by the previous administration. The main elements characterising the territorial development strategy of the municipality of Saint-Marcel for the years 2022 2023 2024 are structured around the theme of **energy transition**, the **regeneration of relational dynamics through the promotion of a hybrid community space** in the municipal territory, the experimentation of processes allowing the **reactivation of local production chains** (agricultural and forestry), as well as the theme of **promoting the active participation of young people** as local changemakers through the acquisition of the role of economic actors with a social impact.

Energy Transition

With regard to the theme of energy transition, a renewable energy community is being promoted in synergy with the municipalities of Nus and Fénis as well as with private enterprise in the area with the idea that the promotion of economic subjects with social impact (reference organisational infrastructure implicitly proposed in European directives) can be an excellent opportunity to regenerate the network of collaborative relations within the municipality on the one hand and on the other to promote generative dynamics to support energy transition.

Promotion of a hybrid community space

The functional recovery of the Saint-Marcel castle has been gradually oriented towards the structuring of a hybrid community space, a proposal for a territorial development catalyst already being tested in the neighbouring municipality of Nus.

The hybrid community space should also somehow include a shop selling local products to facilitate the involvement and participation of local economic realities in the dynamics of territorial development, as well as offering services and opportunities for the entire community in a multifunctional hub logic. The vision of future development of hybrid community spaces necessarily requires the activation of both a local and international reference network, which is why participation in European networking dynamics such as that of Smart Rural 27 is highly strategic for our municipality. At the same time, a path is being promoted to experiment with a local digital platform that can serve both to optimise the provision of services in a low-density area such as ours and to improve levels of citizen participation. Special attention in the process is given to the synergy that the development of new technologies can facilitate with respect to activities aimed at regenerating the relational networks of the territory. In fact, the reflection is related to how to activate digitalisation platforms that in some way can contribute to the consolidation of relational exchange dynamics in the territory and strengthen the centrality of hybrid community spaces.

Reactivation of local production chains

Particular attention from the point of view of economic development exists with respect to the reactivation of local production chains, especially linked to the theme of agriculture and forestry, which in recent years, given the dominant economic models and the gradual lack of actors and workers in these two economic sectors, has in fact almost brought these two typical territorial economic dynamics to extinction. The rapprochement of young people to the agricultural theme on the one hand and the evolution of the forestry market on the other, which once again makes it somewhat sustainable to think in terms of short supply chains, are the preconditions that currently allow the municipality to experiment with initiatives in this direction, which later will also have to be put into practice by promoting opportunities for the development of new economic realities in the area for young people.

Active participation of young people

The issue of young people is central to the current administration, which wants to promote it with a different logic, moving from the identification of recreational and aggregation spaces that are in some way characterised by youth policies to the offer of pathways that can in some way allow the acquisition of entrepreneurial skills that facilitate the birth of new economic entities in the area. In this direction, the theme of networking is fundamental, therefore, the exchange between young people through paths such as those of Erasmus Plus on the theme of youth entrepreneurship in order to reinterpret with other eyes the opportunities that the territory to which one belongs offers.