



European
Commission



EU Actions for Smart Villages 2014-2020

Jose Manuel Hernandez Luque
Conception and Consistency of Rural Development
Cohesion Policy in Mountain Areas
7 June 2017

Smart village concept

- New concept
- Referenced in the Cork 2 Declaration and Cork 2 Action Plan
- Aims at achieving synergies between different operations to addressed in future rural development strategies
- Integrates different approaches and stimulates interactions between policy areas in order to increase complementarity and coherence
- Builds on existing tools applicable under EU funds



Smart village concept



- Reverse outmigration from rural areas
- Attract young people
- Improve job opportunities
- Ensure basic services and infrastructure
- Develop the potential offered by improved connectivity and digitisation of rural areas
- Ensure a balanced territorial development
- Improve the quality of life in rural areas

EU Actions for Smart Villages

- A new document, which compiles actions to develop villages and countryside
- Focuses on policy tools supported by EU funds and helping villages to become "smart"
- Introduces digital technologies for rural businesses, in view of supporting entrepreneurship and enhancing quality of life
- Combines operations and actions of several Commission departments dealing with rural and agricultural policy, regional policy, transport, and connectivity



Related Events

- EIP-AGRI workshop in Bratislava in (early April 2017)
- Event in Ireland for Digital Innovation Hubs in the agriculture sector (June 2017)
- European Rural Development Network is running a "Thematic working group on Smart Rural Businesses"
- Launch of a pilot project on smart eco-social villages (April 2017)
- Innovation conference for rural areas in Lisbon (October 2017)

Thank you for your attention

