



Interreg
Alpine Space



SMART Villages
EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Recap and success stories of the Pilot Activities

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A quick recap of the Test Areas



Univerza v Ljubljani



SmartCityPlatform
Power to the people



Innovative



2,685,381 EUR



From April 2018 to April 2021

Smart Villages: the story of a successful cooperation



The **Milan meeting** helped us to **structure the process** aiming at **involving local stakeholders**, and at **defining what smartness is**, and **how we can assess it**.

- **Test Areas** have organised and animated **Regional Stakeholder Groups**, involving **local actors in a quadruple-helix logic**.
- **Test Areas** have cooperated in creating the **Smartness Assessment** procedure, and have assessed their own level of smartness and set aims for the project.
- **Test Areas** have also collected **good practices and success stories** during the covid-19 pandemic and the national lockdowns.



Integrated in the Digital Exchange Platform

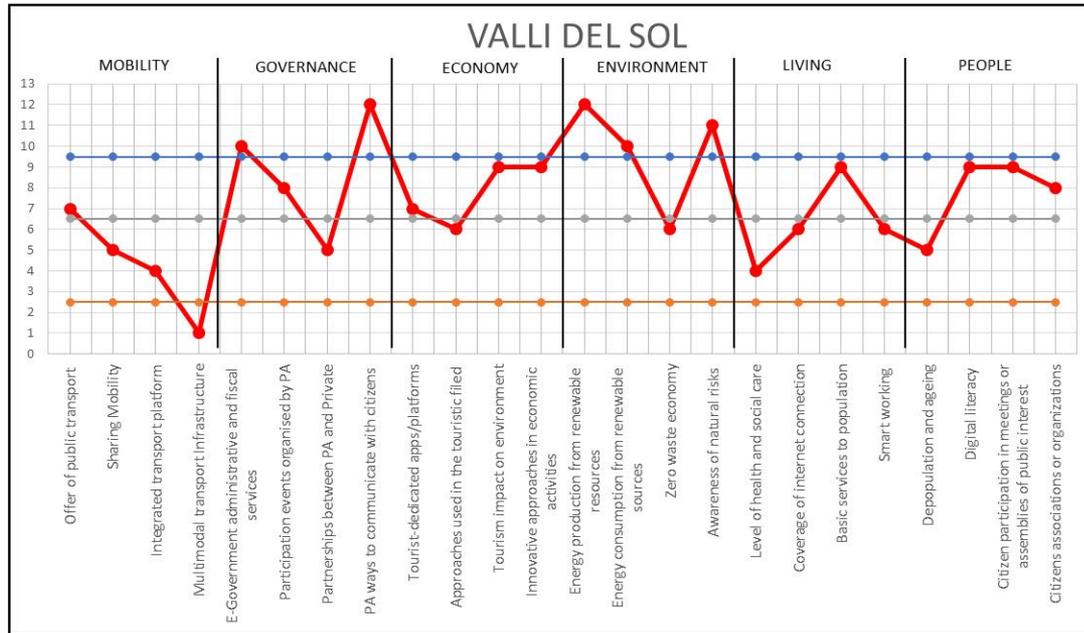
<https://smart-villages.eu/language/en/smartness/>

It allows any 'village' to self-assess its level of smartness:

- By administering a **survey of 4 questions** for each of the **6 dimensions of smartness – Economy, Environment, Governance, Living, Mobility, People**
- By applying a **decision support system** calculating scores in each of the **6 dimensions** and **globally**.
- By encouraging to **upload Good Practices in the dimensions in which one village is 'smarter'**, and encouraging to read and learn about **Good Practices in the dimensions in which one village is 'less smart'**.
- By **mapping villages** for **proximity** and **similarity**
- By linking with the project's **Toolbox** for participation and involvement methods.



An example of a result:



M	0,227304	22,73043
G	0,12981	12,981
Env.	0,153792	15,37923
Ec.	0,144987	14,49874
L	0,209495	20,94952
P	0,134611	13,46108



Experts: Augusto Astengo e Sara Pastorino

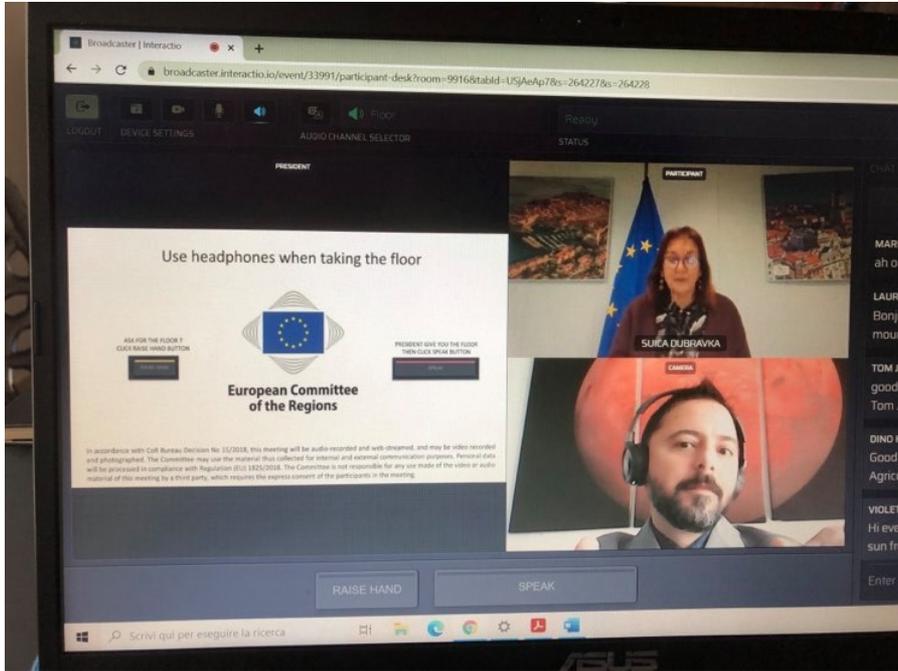
The **identification of weaker key areas** has led to the successful identification of **good practices** and actions to be implemented and co-designed by the **Regional Stakeholder Groups**.



The covid-19 coping strategies:

The current pandemic crisis has **exposed and exacerbated the consequences** of a number of threats faced by rural areas, and has added to the urgency for rural revival in regions across the **European Union**.

On the other side, the pandemic has encouraged **more local consumption and production patterns, remote working habits**, increased the importance of quality of life and **developed new forms of mobility**, which may open **new opportunities for sustainable jobs and growth in rural regions**.*



SmartVillages: A European agenda is urgently needed for rural areas after the covid crisis

Event co-organized by the **EU Committee of Regions and the RUMRA Smart Villages Intergroup at the European Parliament**. November 2020.



Smart Villages success stories and lessons:

- **The Smart Villages transition is feasible, and it is a great opportunity for rural and mountain areas!**
- **Smart Villages can be, in relation with themselves and urban areas:**
 - **'Equalisers'**, or areas that aim at offering the same work and life opportunities that urban areas can offer. Even better opportunities, in a pandemic context.
 - **'Linkers'**, or hubs for services in rural and mountain areas.
 - **'Partners'** , or areas cooperating with urban areas in the provision of services and economic activities to the populations.

In all cases, **Smart Villages can conceive themselves as active 'Players'** in shaping their own future, to maintain rural and mountain areas **livable, lived, attractive and re-attractive for all generations.**

Keeping our rural and mountain areas lived and attractive means keeping **century-long cultures alive**, and **safeguarding the environment**, to the benefit of non-urban and urban areas alike.

Grazie per l'attenzione
Thank you for your attention

Be smart! Stay smart! Become smarter!

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