Smart Villages
Integrated strategic approaches

Committee of the Regions, 29 January 2019

Integrated territorial development in 2021-2027
DG REGIO.03 - Inclusive Growth, Urban and Territorial Development
Cohesion Policy support to integrated territorial development in 2014-2020

Dedicated instruments and horizontal chapter in programming documents

- **Sustainable urban development (SUD):** 5% earmarking in national ERDF allocation
- **Integrated Territorial Investment (ITI):** new delivery mechanism for blending thematic objectives, OPs and funds
- **Community-led Local Development (CLLD):** first time introduced for Cohesion Policy
- Areas affected by poverty and social exclusion
- Contribution to cross-border and macro-regional initiatives
- Areas with geographic specificities and demographic challenges


EPRC
Integrated approaches of 2014-2020 Cohesion Policy

• In 2014-2020, ca. EUR 32 billion or 9% of Cohesion Policy budget is allocated to integrated territorial development and sustainable urban development.

• Support more than 1000 integrated urban and territorial strategies across Europe using territorial instruments (ITI and CLLD) or other delivery mechanisms such as multi-thematic priority axis.
Policy objectives 2021-2027

11 objectives simplified and consolidated to 5:

1. **A smarter Europe** (innovative & smart economic transformation)

2. **A greener, low-carbon Europe** (including energy transition, the circular economy, climate adaptation and risk management)

3. **A more connected Europe** (mobility and ICT connectivity)

4. **A more social Europe** (the European Pillar of Social Rights)

5. **A Europe closer to citizens** (sustainable development of urban, rural and coastal areas and local initiatives)

2 horizontal objectives:

- Administrative capacity building
- Co-operation between regions and across borders (embeds co-operation in mainstream)

Cross-cutting nature of Policy objective 5 is horizontal and can use all investment categories and indicators from PO1-4!
Cohesion Policy 2021-2027: "Europe closer to citizens"

A simpler and more flexible framework for integrated territorial development strategies

- New **policy objective dedicated to integrated territorial development** (Europe closer to citizens)
- **Simplified use of ITI and CLLD territorial tools**
- **Possibility to use other territorial tools** developed by Member States
- Possibility to combine activities **to address complex and interlinked development needs and potential** on the basis of a multi-themed policy mix
Focus on minimum requirements

- Investments must be based on **integrated, multi-sectoral territorial strategies**

- **Strategies** shall be drawn up under the responsibility of the **relevant urban, local or other territorial authorities** or bodies, involving relevant partners.

- Relevant local or territorial body shall select or shall be involved in the **selection of operations** (CLLD specific: tasks of local action groups in Article 27 CPR).
What is Integrated?

A **strategic approach**, which combines

- Multi-sectoral approach
- Multi-level governance approach
- Multi-stakeholder approach

+ Functional area approach
+ Community-led approach
Sustainable urban development will also bring benefits for rural areas

- ERDF will further strengthen focus on sustainable urban development: at least 6% must be allocated at national level to integrated development strategies in urban areas;

- Rural areas will also benefit of the emphasis placed on functional urban areas and urban-rural linkages;

- There is a specific objective for integrated development for rural areas and any other territories, e.g. for addressing geographic and demographic specificities.
CLLD in post-2020 period

- Common Provisions Regulation, Articles 25 – 28
- Lead fund option for support through multiple funds
- CLLD – if in urban areas can contribute to the min. 6% urban earmarking
Smart Villages in post-2020 Cohesion Policy

- There is political commitment on SV
- Post-2020 cohesion policy framework provides flexibility and responsibility for Member States and regions
- A favourable regulatory environment and easily accessible tools also for rural areas
- Approach that has added value and potential
Smart Villages in post-2020 Cohesion Policy

- Smart Village strategies integrated in and delivered by CLLD
- A full national strategy bringing together different EU and national funds supporting a number of integrated local smart village plans
- Smart Specialisation Strategies for rural communities
- Multilevel strategies for digitization of rural areas putting people at the centre - Broadband Competence Offices supported by COM can help
- Local strategies for energy transition, bio-economy etc. in functional urban areas fostering synergies between urban and rural areas
Thank you for your attention

Link to study report on integrated strategies (2017):