



# **Smart Villages**

## **Integrated strategic approaches**

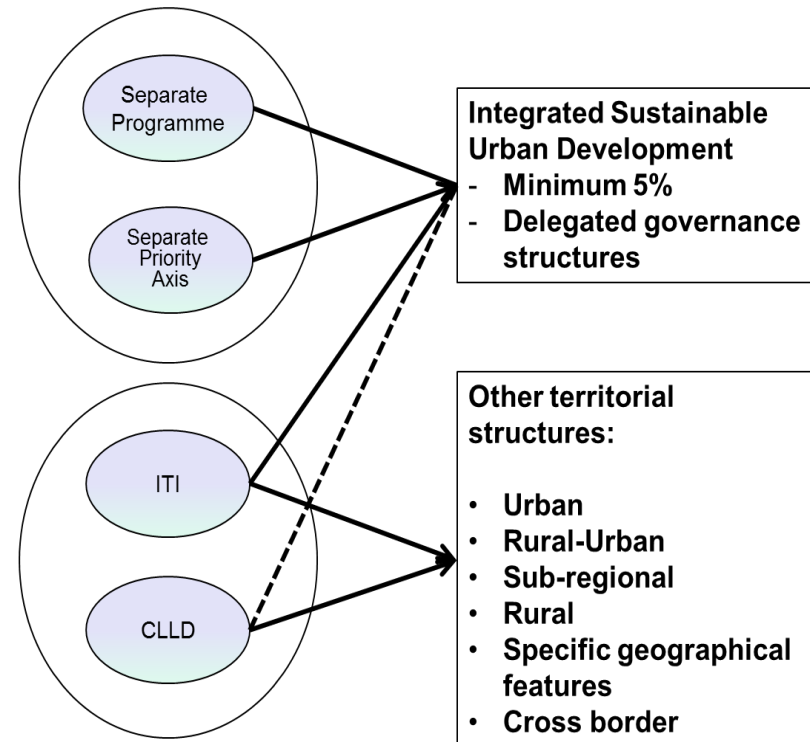
**Committee of the Regions, 29 January 2019**

**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



Source: Van der Zwet A, Miller S and Gross F (2014) A First Stock Take: Integrated Territorial Approaches in Cohesion Policy 2014-20. 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-thematic 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):**

**Integrated territorial and urban strategies: how are ESIF adding value in 2014-2020? (2017):**  
**[https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/information/publications/studies/2017/integrated-territorial-and-urban-strategies-how-are-esif-adding-value-in-2014-2020](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/publications/studies/2017/integrated-territorial-and-urban-strategies-how-are-esif-adding-value-in-2014-2020)**