



Territorial instruments (LEADER/CLLD, Integrated Territorial Investments, and Smart Villages): lessons for the future

22 April 2026

Agenda

Timing (CET)	Agenda items
09.00 – 09.15	<p>Welcome and introduction to the day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Outline of the event objectives and agenda Patricia Martínez, Rural Pact Support Office > The long-term vision for the EU's rural areas and integrated territorial development instruments Marie Lambert, European Commission (DG AGRI)
09.15 – 10.00	<p>Setting the scene: lessons learned on integrated territorial development instruments for rural areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Findings from cohesion policy evaluations: mid-term 2021-2027 and <i>ex post</i> 2014-2020 Davide Ceccanti, DG REGIO, European Commission > Multi-sector CLLD within CAP Strategic Plans: EU overview and case study from Poland Iwona Lisztwan, DG AGRI, European Commission > CLLD in fisheries and coastal communities: achievements and lessons Monica Veronesi, Fisheries and Aquaculture Monitoring, Evaluation and Local Support Network (FAMENET) > Lessons learned from the implementation of Smart Villages intervention Edina Ocsko, Smart Villages Network <p>Questions & Answers</p>



10.00 – 11.30

Learning from experiences to shape the future

- **Integrated Territorial Investments (ITIs):** improving uptake and impact in rural areas
 - > **Implementing ITIs through regional frameworks: the Future Regions model (Germany)**
Insa Schwob, Lower Saxony Ministry for Economic Affairs, Transport and Construction
 - > **A multi-fund ITI for territorial resilience: the Pinhal Interior approach (Portugal)**
Luís Matias, Pinhal Interior Territorial Development Agency
 - > **Supporting mountain transitions through ITIs: the Lombardy Alpine valley case (Italy)**
Leonardo La Rocca, Regione Lombardi
- **LEADER/CLLD**
 - > **Multi-funded LEADER/CLLD and territorial coordination: the Nouvelle-Aquitaine approach (France)**
Catherine Hua, Pays Périgord Vert, Léa Gautronneau, La Rochelle-Ré-Aunis, and Josselin Patron, Ouest Charente LAGs
 - > **Delivering social economy solutions in lagging rural areas through LEADER: the Užimtumo namai case (Lithuania)**
Gintė Ivanauskienė, Ukmerge region LAG
 - > **Partnership Agreement across administrative borders around the city of Kraków (Poland)**
Joanna Handerek, Task Force on the Cooperation of Smart Villages and Smart Suburbs, and Barbara Kawa, LAG Korona Północnego Krakowa
- **Smart Villages:** applying place-based approaches in rural development
 - > **From Living Lab to Smart Village strategies: the Someș Transilvan model (Romania)**
Laura Incze, LAG Someș Transilvan, Romania
 - > **Building local governance for Smart Villages: the Ballyboughal approach (Ireland)**
Ian Dempsey, Prescience, Ireland
 - > **Supporting the design and implementation of Smart Village strategies at local scale: the LAG EVV approach (Italy)**
Carlo Salot, LAG Escartons e Valli Valdesi

11.30 – 11.45

Virtual coffee break

11.45 – 12.45

Report back and stakeholder panel discussion: lessons for current and future implementation

- Stefan Kah, European Policies Research Centre (EPRC)
- Edina Ocsko, Smart Village Network
- Michael Schmitz, Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)
- Luis Chaves, Minha Terra, Portugal

Questions & Answers



12.45 – 13.00

Closing remarks

> **Next steps**

Patricia Martínez, Rural Pact Support Office

> **Closing words**

Marie Lambert, DG AGRI, European Commission

