



**European Committee
of the Regions**

NAT Commission

Smart villages : Integrated strategic approaches to innovation in rural areas

29 January 2019 – 14:30-16:30

JDE 51

14:30-14:40 – Opening

Ossi Martikainen (FI/ALDE), Chair of the NAT Commission of the CoR

14:40-15:30 - How to promote the smart villages initiative in all structural policies after 2020?

Moderator: Tom Jones, EESC rapporteur on Villages and small towns as catalysts for rural development, challenges and opportunities

Petre Daea, Romanian Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, How to promote the smart villages initiative in all structural policies after 2020? (tbc)

Frank Bogovic (SL/EPP), Vice-President of the Parliament's RUMRA Intergroup and the initiator of a Preparatory Action “Smart rural areas in the 21st Century” - How to implement the Bled Declaration for a Smarter Future of the Rural Areas in EU ?

Beata Adamczyk, DG AGRI : How the proposed new delivery model for the CAP will provide the ground for the further development of Smart Villages’ approaches ?

Eleftherios Stavropoulos, DG REGIO : How the new cohesion policy could promote the Smart Villages initiative ?

Discussion

15:30-16:20 - Inspiring projects and initiatives illustrating different aspects of smart villages

Moderator: Paul Soto, Senior Policy Expert in charge of the ENRD (European Network for Rural Development) working group "Smart Villages"

José Enrique Garcilazo, OECD Head of Regional and Rural Policy Unit : Ten technological and social megatrends which can unleash the growth potential of rural areas

Marie Clotteau, Director of Euromontana : Presentation of the SIMRA (Social innovations in marginalised rural areas) project

Marie Noël Neven, Director of Rurality – Environment – Development : Presentation of the ECORYS (Pilot Project on Smart Eco-Social Villages) project

Clive Peckham, Representative of ERUDITE (Enhancing Rural and Urban Digital Innovation Territories) project : Presentation of Digital innovation initiatives

Discussion

16:20-16:30 – Conclusions

Enda Stenson (EI/EA), CoR rapporteur on Revitalisation of rural areas through Smart Villages