

Smart Villages for a Green, Digital and Resilient Europe

Date and time: **Friday, October 1, 2021, 9:00 to 16:30**,
Location: **Rajhenburg Castle, Cesta izgnancev 3, Brestanica, Slovenia**

DRAFT PROGRAMME **Working version**

09:00 to 12:30: MORNING PLENARY SESSION (moderated by Bernarda Žarn)

9:00 to 9:45: Introductory video clip and introductions

Introductory speeches by hosts and co-organizers (16 minutes):

- **Franc Bogovič**, Member of the European Parliament (SLS/EPP) (3 minutes)
- **mag. Miran Stanko**, Mayor of the Municipality of Krško (5 minutes)
- **Igor Zorčič**, President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia (5 minutes)
- **dr. Jože Podgoršek**, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development, Government of the Republic of Slovenia (3 minutes)

Keynote Speech (10 minutes)

- **Dubravka Šuica**, Vice-President of the European Commission and European Commissioner for Democracy and Demography: *A long-term vision for EU rural development*

Note: up to a total of approx. 28 minutes are meant introductory speeches, an additional approx. 15 minutes include an introductory video clip, arrivals and departures of speakers from the stage, etc.

09:45 to 12:15: “Political” panel: Smart villages in the EU and Slovenia: A policy perspective on development European rural areas in the age of digitalisation (moderated by Tjaša Božič)

- **dr. Jože Podgoršek**, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development, Government of the Republic of Slovenia: *Common Agricultural Policy actions for the Development of Smart Villages* (6 minutes)
- **Franc Bogovič**, Member of the European Parliament (SLS/EPP): *Development of the Smart Villages concept in the EU and in Slovenia* (6 minutes)
- **Qu Dongyu**, Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) [video message]
- **Apostolos Tzitzikostas**, President of the European Committee of the Regions [online participation]

Roundtable discussion with ministers of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, Members of the European Parliament, representative of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and members of the European Committee of the Regions:

- **dr. Ivan Žagar**, Head of the Slovenian Delegation to the European Committee of Regions
- **Zvone Černač**, Minister, Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Development and Cohesion Policy
- **Janez Cigler Kralj**, Minister of Labor, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Government of the Republic of Slovenia
- **Jernej Vrtovec**, Minister of Infrastructure of the Republic of Slovenia, Government of the Republic of Slovenia
- **Elsi Katainen**, Member of the European Parliament, RE (Finland)
- **Marijana Petir**, Member of the Croatian Parliament, Chairwomen of the Committee for Agriculture
- **Goran Šoster**, DRSP, Local Action Groups

Discussion among all participating speakers, which also includes Franc Bogovič, minister Podgoršek & and EC vice-president Šuica (30 minutes)

Q&A with the audience (30 minutes)

Moderator's conclusions (5 minutes)

12:30 to 14:00: Lunch break

- Lunch / Tastes of Posavje
- LAG exhibitions
- Practical presentation of good Smart Villages practices

14:00 to 16:00: “Professional” panel - Smart Villages in the EU and Slovenia

Examples of good practices in the field of digitalization in various economic and social sectors

1. **BASF Europe & BASF Slovenia:** *Silvia Cifre-Wibrow, joint Managing Director, Bosch BASF Smart Farming: The role of precision agriculture in the transition to a low-carbon society (working title)*
2. **DRONES IN AGRICULTURE:** *Sergej Krajnc, director of the company Termodron, d. o. o., Maribor*
3. **LONG-TERM CARE** in the Municipality of Krško: *Smart Silver Village Senovo*
4. **CONNECTIVITY:**

- a. *Vivek Badrinath, CEO of Vantage Towers*
 - b. *Tony Jin, Huawei Chief Representative to Europe and to the European Institutions*
5. **MOBILITY:** *Sopotniki Institute and Toyota Slovenia - mobility of the elderly and mobility in rural areas*
6. **E-HEALTH:** *Telekom Slovenije*
7. **ENERGY:** *SunContract / Sonce*
8. **TOURISM:** *Tastes of Posavje and Posavje castles*
9. Presentation of good practices in the field of Smart Villages:
 - a. *SmartRural21 - Janja Jordan*
 - b. *Other proposals are submitted by the LAGs*

Audience questions - immediately after each presentation, not collectively at the end.

16.00 to 16.15: Conclusions by the Host

Franc Bogovič, Member of the European Parliament (SLS / EPP)