# EUROPEAN WEEK of Regions & Cities

*Strong Regions, Strong Europe*



#EURegionsWeek

# Grassroots innovations as drivers of territorial transformation

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**EUROPEAN WEEK** of Regions & Cities

*Strong Regions, Strong Europe*

*How can grassroots innovation influence regional, national and European policymaking?*







# RURACTIVE General information

**Topic:** HORIZON-CL6-2022-COMMUNITIES-02-01-two-stage

**Type of Action:** Innovation action

**Project Partners:** 29 partners from 12 countries

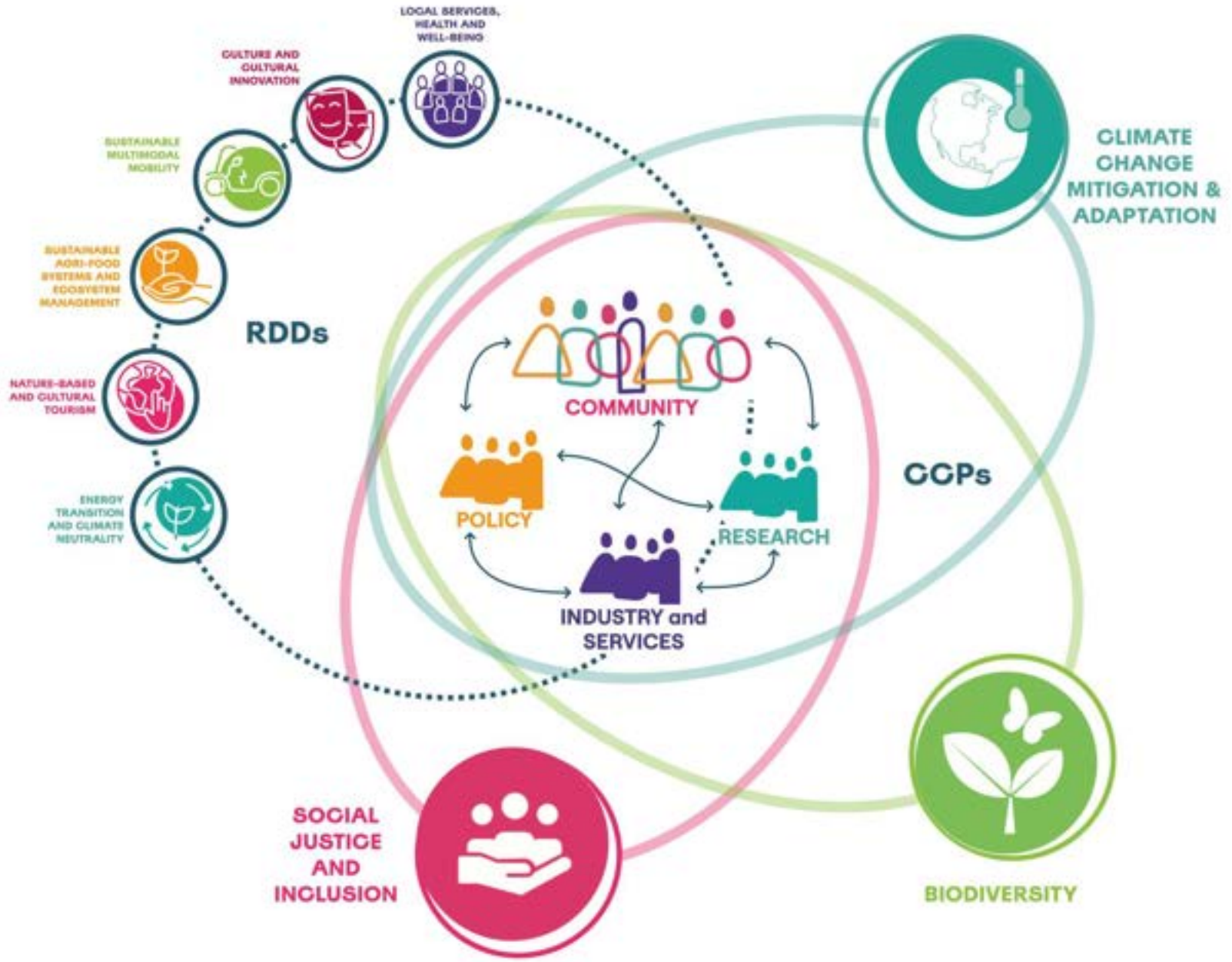
**Project Duration:** 4 years, 1st September 2023 - 31st August 2027

**Project Budget:** about 6.5 mil. – 1.2 million FSTP



# RURACTIVE Conceptual Framework

RURACTIVE works on six strategic sectors called **Rural Development Drivers** (RDDs) considering **3 Cross-Cutting Priorities** including 4 stakeholder domains forming the **Multi-Actor Rural Innovation Ecosystem (RIE)**



# Multi-Actor Rural Innovation Ecosystem

**People** (stakeholders), **places** (territories) and **practices** (current or planned solutions) that form collaborative environments to **identify local challenges** and **co-create place-based solutions**




**People**



**Places**




**Practices**

# Multi-Actor Rural Innovation Ecosystem

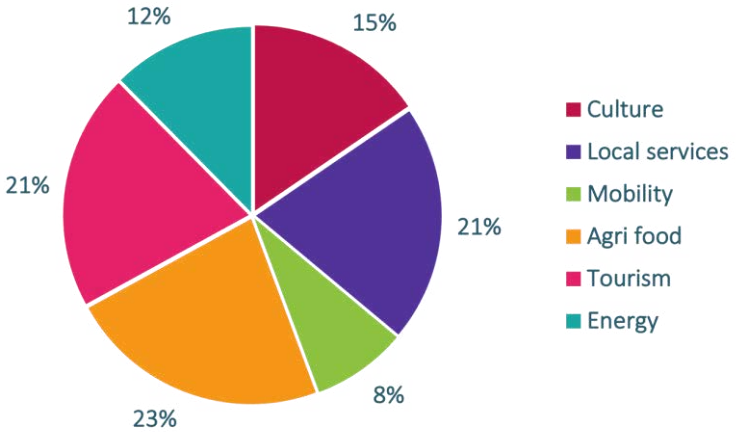






**Co-identify challenges and finding solutions**

**38** Place-Based Solutions




**16** Third Party Solutions

Funded through an open call for innovators that departed from co-created challenges

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# From Grassroots Innovation to Policies

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Strong Regions, Strong Europe




1
Northern Ostrobothnia
11
Gotland
4
North-East Scotland
Südburgenland
2
Törbel-Moosalpregion
12
7
Zakarpattya
9
Zadar
8
Fiastra Valley
10
Abruzzo
6
Zagori
Diputación Zamora
3
5
Andalucía

# Province of Zamora



# Province of Zamora

**Country**: Spain

**Anchor organisation**: Diputaciòn de Zamora

**Main stakeholders involved in co-creation process**: pharmacies and health services, elderly association, tourism organization, local media, LAG, farmers

**Main challenges:**

- Increasing pressure from climate change
- Social isolation among older people
- Limited accessibility of basic healthcare services
- Lack of intergenerational connections.



# Province of Zamora

**Three place-based solutions**




Smart crop



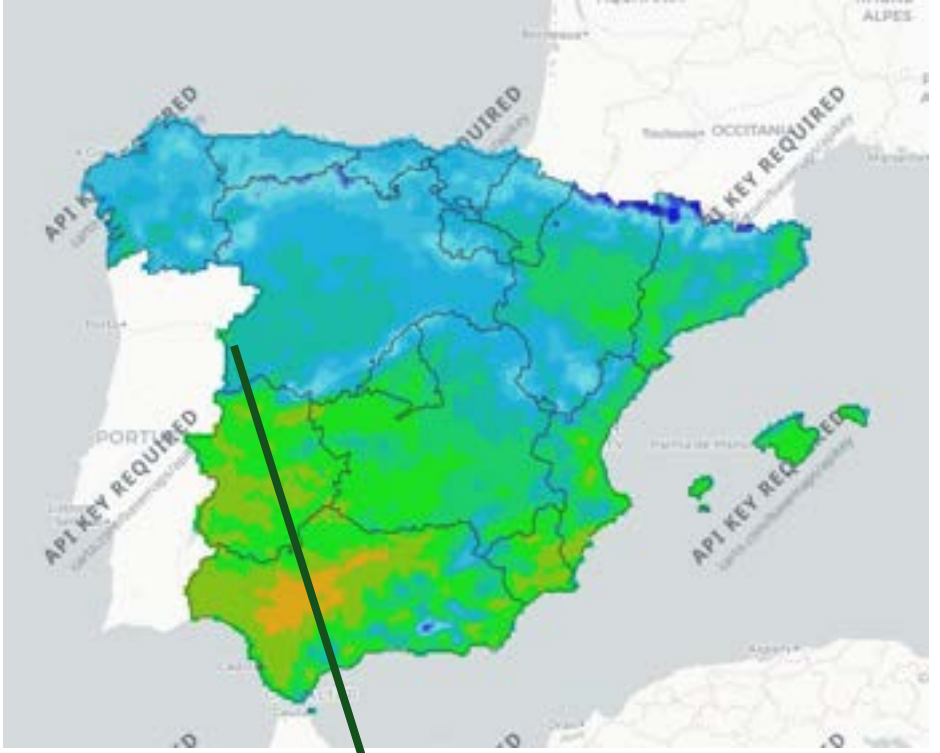

Silver camino

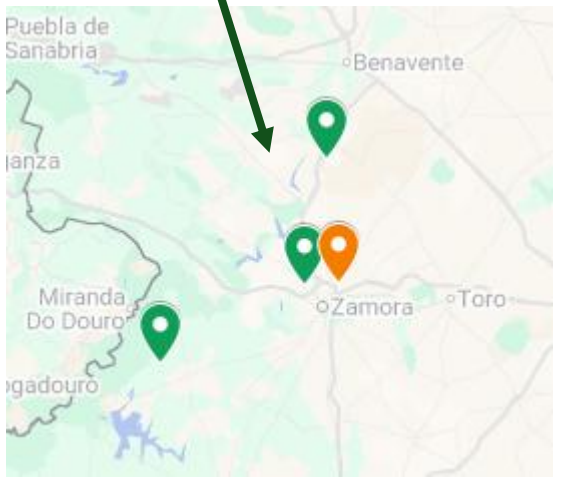


Silver Smart Corner

# Silver Smart Corner

- Supporting **climate adaptation** especially for the **most fragile** groups through the establishment of **public climate shelters**
- Deploy **distributed health services** to guarantee **basic needs** (e.g. pharmacies)
- Develop **place-based public caregivers' services**




Val di Fiastra

# Val di Fiastra, Marche Region

**Country**: Italy
**Anchor organisation**: Borgofuturo APS

**Main stakeholders involved**: Association working with people with disabilities, local municipalities, local and cultural cooperatives, hiking guides

**Main challenges:**

- Lack of affordable and sustainable housing and depopulation;
- Unsustainability of socio-cultural organizations;
- Lack of social and cultural activation of existing spaces;
- Lack of inclusivity for disadvantaged groups



# Val di Fiastra, Marche Region

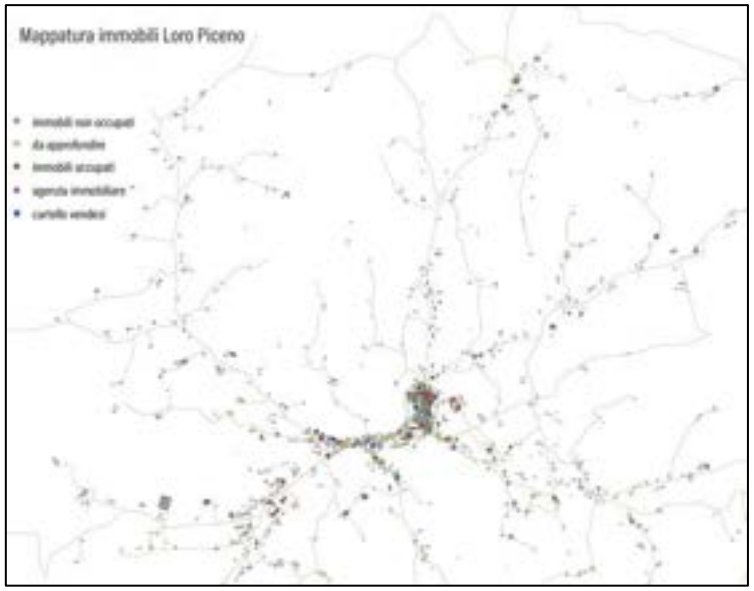
**Three Place-Based Solutions**



Val di Fiastra hiking ring management



Art of inclusivity




Housing common good

# Housing as a common good

- Awareness around the available **housing stock and its condition**
- Develop **solidarity-based housing models** for public-private/cooperative
- Possibilities of **matching abandoned land and abandoned houses**– repopulating through agriculture (?)
- Better link of **cohesion policies and CAP framework**
- **Prevent speculative actions** to support the Right to stay






# Main Conclusion

- Strengthen **place-based governance** and **community participation in service planning**
- Need of **integrated approaches for climate, biodiversity and social justice in rural transition**
- Recognize **culture as a pillar of rural transition** and integrate it into the **Right to Stay**
- **Recommendations** comes from **people, places and practices** – structured listening approaches are need

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# Thank you for the attention

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