

# COOPERATION IDEA

## *Fisheries Local Action Groups*

### Development of Smart Villages in coastal areas

We are looking for national/international partners from FLAG villages that are involved in implementing the concept of a 'Smart Village'. We would like to learn from good practice examples and can offer the possibility to see first-hand the implementation of specific smart solution initiatives in Latvian villages. Our objective is to initiate the concept of Smart Village in local coastal villages by using available local resources, thinking "out of the box", encouraging local cooperation, and using digital solutions as an empowerment tool.

We propose the following actions and expected results:

- 1) Conduct SWOT analyses of local coastal villages. Locals will come together and define/analyse the common challenges and resources (both material and human) they have in their respective villages.
- 2) Organise international exchange trips to other FLAGs across Europe. Village representatives will gain experience and inspiration from their visits in order to tackle the challenges of their own villages. The desired result is to have representatives from Latvian villages make two international visits.
- 3) Organise 'Idea Hubs' with partner villages in Latvia and abroad during the exchange trips. 'Idea Hubs' will enable local actors to come up with ideas and think about how to test them. Several challenges of the villages will be tackled by different groups of professionals and enthusiasts with the help of sector specialists. 'Idea Hubs' should lead to cooperation between villages.
- 4) Implement pilot projects. Each village will select the best ideas and implement them in their own area. This will lead to an opportunity for the international partners to visit the Latvian villages and experience the development of a new smart villages.

**Thematic categories:** Promotion and awareness-raising, Business support

**Looking for partner located around:** The Atlantic, Baltic, Black Sea, Mediterranean and North Sea.

### Cooperation idea proposed by:

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