



## INVITATION TO THE INSPIRE CLUSTERING EVENT

### Horizon Europe Project INSPIRE — Clustering Session "Building Synergies for Rural Social Inclusion: Clustering Horizon Projects under the INSPIRE Initiative"

 **Date:** 26 September 2025

 **Time:** 09:00–10:30 CET

 **Format:** Hybrid (onsite in Bucharest + online)

Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you to the **INSPIRE Clustering Event**, organised as part of the **Horizon Europe project INSPIRE** — *Supporting the inclusion, wellbeing, and growth of rural areas through multi-actor Smart Villages labs for enhanced governance frameworks.*

This session is part of the 21st European Rural Development Network (ERDN) Conference and is open to representatives of **Horizon Europe and other EU-funded projects** working on topics such as:

- rural social inclusion,
- digital and inclusive service provision,
- Smart Villages,
- social economy and innovation,
- sustainable territorial development.

### Objectives of the Clustering Event:

- **Identify shared goals and thematic priorities**  
– such as social inclusion in rural areas, Smart Villages, access to social services, and social entrepreneurship.
- **Facilitate exchange of knowledge and best practices**  
– including tools, methods, and pilot results relevant to rural development and social innovation.
- **Align project activities and timelines**  
– to avoid duplication and encourage joint initiatives, coordinated communication, or policy contributions.
- **Establish and strengthen networks and partnerships**  
– among EU-funded projects, public authorities, civil society organisations, researchers, and local actors.

- **Increase policy impact and visibility**
  - by jointly formulating recommendations for EU and national policy frameworks (e.g., CAP, Cohesion Policy).

### Potential Future Actions:

- Launch of **joint pilot initiatives** or comparative case studies across rural regions.
- Creation of **shared communication and dissemination tools**.
- Development of **joint policy briefs or position papers** for EU institutions.
- Signing of a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** to support long-term collaboration.
- Planning a **joint final conference** or follow-up clustering events.
- Design of a **common monitoring and evaluation framework**.
- Formation of a **cross-project thematic working group** (e.g., on social innovation or inclusive services).

We warmly encourage you to attend and contribute to this dynamic and solution-oriented session. Your experience and ideas can help shape the future of rural policy and practice in Europe.

 [Meeting link](#) (online participants)

 [Registration form](#) (onsite & online)



We look forward to your participation!

Warm regards,  
**ERDN INSPIRE Project Team**