

Coordinator looking for partners for rural dynamic

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- NEB friends since 2026.



Coordinator looking for partners for rural dynamic on :

Prior topic :

Approaches to reuse vacant, obsolete or underutilised spaces

- HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-03

Innovative approaches for the spatial design of neighbourhoods

- HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-02

Advancing sustainable maintenance and repair measures for existing buildings

- HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-REGEN-02

Context on our rural and remote territory

Challenge

The Nièvre, a département in western Burgundy, is struggling with population decline and both rural and urban "desertification," leaving many buildings and public spaces abandoned—visual symbols of missed economic and social opportunities.

Innovative Responses

Local communities, supported by architects and urban planners, are creatively repurposing derelict spaces—painting walls, transforming old petrol stations into play areas, and reviving cafés and schools as cultural or circular economy hubs—turning these efforts into inspiring models for revitalization.

Ideas for the call : Approaches to reuse vacant, obsolete or underutilised spaces

How to make empty, abandoned and often ugly spaces and places work for their communities and also give opportunities for innovation, entrepreneurship, social and community enterprise and social and community well-being and creation ?

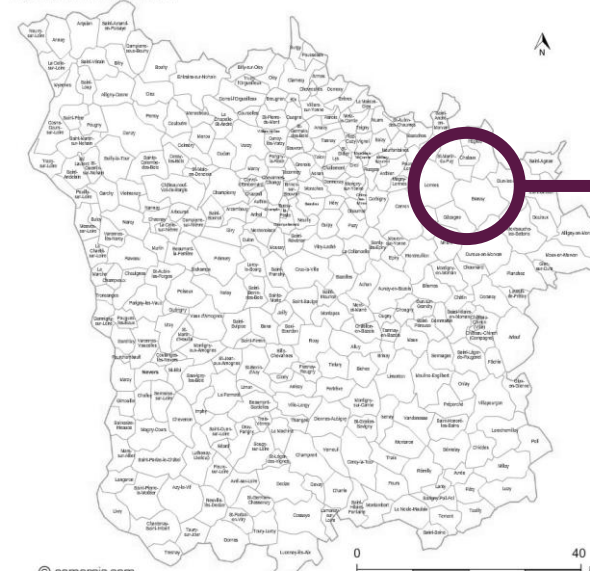
- ☐ better identification, classification, mapping and awareness of vacant buildings and spaces
- ☐ better understanding what is legally and practically possible
- ☐ citizen and stakeholder consultation and codesign processes (where appropriate) to create activities and uses that meet real priorities and which at the same time create social and economic opportunities and which enhance not degrade environments
- ☐ knowledge of and support for realistic financial and operational plans using traditional and community funding,
- ☐ helping local authorities to pay more than lip service to participatory processes and use them as a tool for regeneration and resilience
- ☐ using circularity as a tool for more resilient local or place-based economies but ones where they are part of wider knowledge and resource sharing communities
- ☐ ensuring that digital skills and opportunities are accessible everywhere and that tools developed or improved according to needs not profits.



Our local partner : Municipality of Lormes, « Small town of the future » – 5 third places for 1600 inhabitants



Image de présentation basse résolution



Lormes

Our expertise

- Development and coordination of partnerships between public (local authorities) and private entities at local, county, regional, national and European levels;
- Expertise in the challenges and solutions associated with digital innovation and transformation in rural areas and their urban centres and associated social and economic issues;
- Awareness-raising and supporting local authorities in policy and practice change;
- Project writing, diagnosis and evaluation;
- Advocacy and the organisation of research visits and stakeholder exchanges;



We are a trusted partner of local authorities to co-create and support collaborative initiatives.

We ensure effective coordination between local authorities, SMEs, non-profit organizations, and citizens.

Since 2012 we have been either Lead or Project partner
in over ten European cooperation projects

ERUDITE project (Interreg Europe)

- boost digital inclusion in rural and remote areas by expanding broadband access and ensuring universal, inclusive digital services for residents and SMEs.
- Introduced a co-creation framework (SEROI+) to design digital services with local communities, transforming underused spaces and addressing depopulation through participatory innovation.
- The project helped rural areas develop smart, sustainable models, making digital transformation a viable pathway for revitalization and social cohesion

CIVITEC (Interreg Europe)

- focusing on how CIVIC tech/Digital tools can enhance and support local participatory democracy

ENAIBLER (Interreg Europe)

- focuses on the how Artificial Intelligence (AI) can and should support the development and operation of public services at regional and local level. Nièvre Numérique is working in partnership with the Bourgogne-Franche-Comté Region on this project.

E6 Ecosystems for Extending the life of End-of-use Electrical and Electronic Equipment (Interreg North-West Europe) 2024-2027

- promotes the transition to a circular and resource efficient economy.
- move from a 'buy-first' to a 'repair-first' mindset.
- stimulates new repair and refurbishment services on the territory of Nièvre

