

Rural Roots, Smart Futures

Emilija Stojmenova Duh, Nataša Božić, Nina Cvar
Emilija.Stojmenova@fe.uni-lj.si

<https://smartera-project.eu/>



DESCRIPTION OF THE INNOVATION

SMART ERA empowers rural communities with **smart, practical** solutions that adapt to **local needs** - boosting well-being, strengthening resilience, and sparking innovation for a sustainable, community-led future.

VALUE FOR PRACTITIONERS

SMART ERA helps local practitioners collect **better data, measure digital progress**, and **design smart solutions with communities** - making rural development more effective, connected, and future-ready.

SCALABILITY AND TRANSFERABILITY

Our **co-design** approach and **community-based** methods make smart solutions easy to adapt and scale. The Smart Innovation Packages and tools can be transferred across regions—ensuring that technology is **usable, inclusive, and rooted in local needs**.

CHALLENGES AND RESEARCH NEEDS

Key challenges include unclear rules around **data governance, confidentiality, and security**. Future digital policies must better support and scale smart local solutions—ensuring they are safe, effective, and widely replicable.

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION:

Trentino IT

Šmarje - Padna SI

Sóller/Tramuntana ES

North Ostrobothnia FI

East Herzegovina BA

Devetaki Plateau BG

PROJECT PARTNERS:

25 entities

from 10 countries



PROJECT BUDGET:

€ 6.861 437, 50

NEXT STEPS:

Launch an **Open Call** to co-develop innovative pilot solutions and boost the uptake of social innovation. Enable pilot regions to design **action plans** that bring social innovation to life in their communities.

