

<b>Sustaining Rural Infrastructure and Services</b>
<b>Name of Facilitator</b> Deborah Clarke
<b>Name of Rapporteur</b> Jessica Morgan
<b>Vision of the theme</b> Sharing of policy
<b>Main issues</b> How we share information Balance between infrastructure and community needs and sustainability Invest not spend Better use of abandoned infrastructure Digitisation and connectivity – opportunity and tool – Supportive agencies to help – and trusting them Alternative innovative solutions, community owned Think long term Ownership – community ownership Terminology/ definition of infrastructure & what is economic development / health / social
<b>Suggested actions / policy – and who should implement</b> A facility/ way to share – all ERP stakeholders to participate – shared responsibility Start with what we are good at and share – ideas, case studies, experiences Developing active citizenship is important – young people feel a sense of belonging Funding should meet needs – community planning and needs SMART villages sharing ideas
<b>How should ERP work in the future in this theme? What is the role of the ERP partners?</b> Sharing ideas and case studies – regularly Learning the good and bad Creating conditions for communities to do this – organisations like PLANED/ ACRE/ LEADER What are the steps to do this? Making connections between actors For the ERP to make the case for investment in people
<b>Amendments or messages to the manifesto</b> Development of rural areas should not be project based in order to be sustainable
<b>Messages to the Venhorst Declaration</b> Interaction between urban and rural areas – different types of infrastructure Think long- not project based Frame discussion – that investing in rural communities benefits the whole, including cities Learn from Venhorst people – local people have taken on responsibility ‘shared action’
<b>Ideas and case-study examples relating to the theme</b> Various case studies were shared – there are many, good and bad Sweden looking at innovative social solutions