



Number of the workshop: **22**

Name of the workshop: **Job creation in rural areas**

Six participants from: Italy, Slovenia, Finland, Poland, Serbia

This workshop built on the examples presented during the study visits around Kielce region and will look for innovative ways of bringing jobs and incomes to rural areas:

- restored village hall providing services with bedrooms and meeting space
- cottages for rent
- saw mill – green energy production
- gastronomy (restaurant, ice-cream)
- Smart Village – servicing IT system
- organising public transport for women in textile industry
- health and care services

Our responses to challenges:

Stable and good quality jobs can be created for example in the following sectors:

- services for the local population
- business based on local resources
- attracting external visitors (accommodation, gastronomy, team building etc.)

There can be **positive spill-over effects** of business development in rural areas:

- buying local products and/or services, increasing incomes for other local businesses
- development of common spaces for co-working and community activities
- opportunities for tele-working

Our three proposals for decision makers, governments, EU

Invest in the creation of **suitable conditions** for job development in rural areas, notably in:

- energy and IT infrastructure, local (small) roads and public transport
- incubators for start-up businesses
- accessible education for young people (so they don't have to move to big cities)
- diversifying local economies into new (on-farm or non-farm)

Promoting good examples is very important, one successful business encourages others!

Legal mechanisms are needed to facilitate the **transfer of ownership** of farms to young successors.



Good ideas, practices, processes

Poland – from field visits:

- a local mayor encouraging public transport company to settle in the neighbourhood and provide transport to women in the textile factory
- wide range of new services, including IT, health, care & therapy
- effective incubators to process and sell local products

Serbia – renewing traditional skills and traditional products (e.g. rakija)

Slovenia – effective mechanisms of transferring farm ownership to younger generations