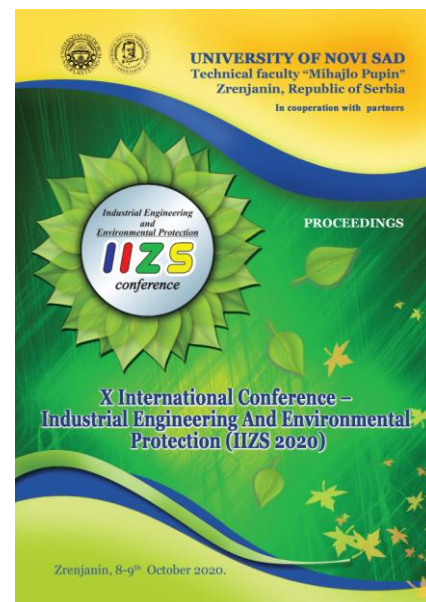


# PAMETNA I UMREŽENA SELA – INFORMACIJSKI SUSTAV ZA RURALNI RAZVOJ



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## SMART AND NETWORKED VILLAGES - INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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**Abstract:** The aim of this paper is to contribute to the setting of an information model for the development of smart villages in the Republic of Croatia with special reference to villages in five counties of Eastern Croatia. It considers (a) EU rural development policies (2014-2020), as well as broadband networks in EU countries, especially in the new EU Member States, and (b) the concept and policies applied in these sectors in the Republic of Croatia, especially within the Slavonia program. The results of the project "Slavonian Network - Development of Broadband Access in Eastern Croatia" are presented. The "Slavonian Network" project was launched in 2012, and the Panon Institute for Strategic Studies proposed (in published papers from 2013 to 2017) broadband development models with intensive involvement of local communities in terms of social and economic development of Slavonia. Based on the results of these analyzes, the concept of the information system "Slavonian smart and networked village" was proposed.

**Key words:** Territorial Development, Rural Innovation, Rural Services, Sustainability, Rural-Urban Linkages

### a) Smart Village implementation unit

Each village has its own specificities - natural resources, tradition and human capital, and 'smart village' development programs will be developed on these bases. This means that each village will have its own development program. However, many villages in the regional structure, by territorial and geographical features, will have a number of common elements on which to build their development programs. Therefore, it is advisable to propose the creation of so-called smart village concept implementation units - Fig. 6. - within which there would be one expert team for all villages in one implementation unit, in which, besides local experts (agronomists, etc.), there would be associate experts from surrounding cities (from related companies, associations, chambers, etc.) to ensure that all relevant areas of development are represented by a professional team structure.

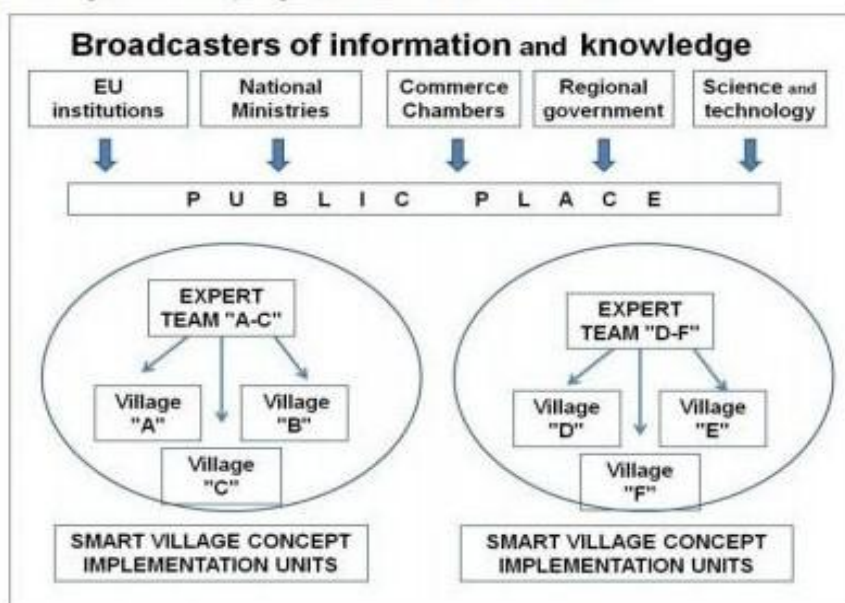


Fig. 6. Model of receiving, selecting and sharing information/knowledge through units for implementation of the smart village concept

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