



# SMARTA-NET Final Conference

## Building recommendations for Rural mobility 2.0

*Brussels, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024*



*Coordinated by:*



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# SMARTA-NET Final Conference

## 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024, Brussels

### Welcome note

**Brendan Finn,**  
**SMARTA-NET Project Manager,**  
**MemEx**



# Day 2 Agenda

## 24th October

### Building recommendations for Rural mobility 2.0



9.00  
9.30

Registration

9.30  
10.00

Opening Session

10.00  
11.15

First Thematic Session:  
Urban-Rural Linkages

11.15  
11.45

Coffee Break

11.45  
12.30

Second Thematic Session:  
Advancing Rural Mobility

12.30  
13.00

Closing session: Towards  
rural mobility 2.0

13.00  
14.00

Lunch at venue

9.00  
9.30

## Registration

9.30  
10.00

## Opening Session

**Welcome note**  
Brendan Finn, MemEx

**Keynote address from DG-MOVE**  
Eddy Liégeois, Acting Director, investment, innovative and sustainable transport, DG MOVE

**SMARTA-NET key achievements, including European Rural Mobility Network (ERMN) events, Guidance, and trainings**  
Andrea Lorenzini, MemEx

**What key messages did rural municipalities of the ERMN agree yesterday?**  
Edina Ocsko, E40

10.00  
11.15

## First Thematic Session: Urban-Rural Linkages

### Rural access challenges and solutions

**Rural Access Challenges and Framework of Solutions - Good Practice and Catalogue of Solutions**  
Elena Bargagna, MemEx

**Solutions within the public transport framework – Case of Alentejo, Portugal**  
Alexandra Correia, Alentejo Region, Portugal

**Solution based on community and volunteering – Case of Kusel District, Germany**  
Karl-Heinz Schoon, Kusel District, Germany

### Moderated Q&A

### Including rural aspects in Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans

**Incorporating rural aspects within Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs)**  
André Freitas, TIS

**An inspiring practice of Functional Urban-Rural transport planning**  
Neri di Volo / Alberto González Sánchez, JASPERS - EIB

### Moderated Q&A

## Panel Discussion on Rural Accessibility

Accessibility issues in rural areas, public transport deficits and transport poverty, what it is, the need to baseline (and measure) it and how it could influence policy choices.

**Moderator:** Edina Ocsko, E40

### Panelists:

- Helen McHenry, Western Development Commission, Ireland
- Pascale Van Doren, Rural Pact Support Office, Belgium
- Ute Wein, Policy Officer, DG MOVE
- Filip Boelaert, Secretary General Department Mobility and Public Works, Flemish Government

11.15  
11.45

Coffee Break

Join the conference online



at this link

<https://tinyurl.com/smartanetfinalconference>



11.45  
12.30

## Second Thematic Session: Advancing Rural Mobility

### Mobility in support of sustainable tourism in rural areas

Enhancing mobility in support of rural  
tourism, with particular reference to  
“tourism without my car”

Bente Grimm, NIT

Offering tourists mobility without the car –  
case from Greece

Vasilis Myriokefalitakis, Rethymno, Greece

Greenways and support to cycling tourism –  
case of Vidzeme Region, Latvia

Raitis Sijats, Latvia Greenways Association

### Moderated Q&A

### Establishing the ERMN and where does it go from here?

Overview and profile of the ERMN – purpose,  
activities, participants, training, concepts  
for future

Andrea Lorenzini, MemEx

Discussion on possible way forward with  
ERMN members

Carmelo Rivero, Barcelona Provincial Council,  
Spain

Declan Turnbull, Mayo County Council, Ireland

Adéla Pixová, MAS Sdružení Růže, Czechia

Moderated contributions from floor and  
online audience

12.30  
13.00

## Closing session: Towards rural mobility 2.0

(Policy) Recommendations from the  
SMARTA-NET Evaluation

Geert Koops, Panteia

Key messages from SMARTA-NET about  
goals, scale, funding, etc.

Brendan Finn, MemEx

Conclusions and closing: A couple of take  
aways

Isabelle Vandoorne, Deputy Head of Unit  
Innovation and research, DG MOVE

13.00  
14.00

Lunch at venue

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● **Share your opinion and perspectives**

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